

For immediate release

21 April 2008

HOMES OFFER RESPITE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION

For those in the community experiencing difficulties with mental health or addiction, Bainbridge House Charitable Trust offers recovery focused supported accommodation.

Kirsten Severinsen, Trust administration and funding coordinator, said the Trust has four homes available. Each house has three bedrooms and can cater for up to 12 people at a time. "One of the houses is set up for crisis respite care, where people can come for up to five days at a time. The other three houses are set up as a flatting situation where tangata whaiora / consumers run their own household. This includes cooking, cleaning, shopping and budgeting," she said. "Staff can provide the necessary information to model or teach these skills if necessary."

Miss Severinsen said that while the accommodation encouraged independence and autonomy, there was 24-hour support available if needed. "The qualifications and experiences of staff vary hugely enabling the various needs of those utilising the services of the Bainbridge Trust to be met. Bainbridge Houses are situated close to the centre of Rotorua so there is ready access to buses, shopping centres or for walking into town." Miss Severinsen said the houses provide an environment free from violence, illicit drugs and alcohol. "We also have access to independent advocates and cultural supports."

Access to the accommodation service is available through the Lakes District Health Board departments including Te Ngako, Ward 4, PET, Te Utuhina Manaakitanga Trust and CAF Mental Health Service Youth Speciality Service. "We support tangata whaiora and whanau throughout the Lakes District, including Rotorua, Taupo and Turangi," she said.

Bainbridge House Charitable Trust was one of seven local organisations to receive funding from the Rotorua Trust recently:

Athletics NZ Rotorua Marathon	\$10,000
Bainbridge House Charitable Trust Upgrade facilities	\$4,500
Rotorua District Council Rotorua / Taupo Industry Training Graduation	\$5,000
Rotorua District Council Youth speaker at Sister Cities Conference	\$1,400

Rotorua Stockcar Club Upgrade facilities	\$15,000
Toastmasters Rotorua National Conference	\$2,000
University Sport NZ Uni Games	\$10,000
Western Heights High School Multi Sports Tournament	\$7,500
Western Heights High School Role Models Student Scheme	\$1,300

Ends

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