



# Wakatipu Youth TRUST

"Take care of our children. Take care of what they hear:  
take care of what they see: take care of what they feel. For  
how the children grow, will be the shape of Aotearoa"

- Dame Whina Cooper -



*We have chosen this photo of our sailing programme in remembrance of our Trustee, Merv Aoake, who had a passion for life, sailing and supporting rangitahi to thrive among many many other great legacies.*

## Annual REPORT 2020



*This report identifies key areas of work that have been continued, introduced and developed from January 2020 to December 2020 and explains how **Wakatipu Youth Trust** has added value to the lives of our community members.*

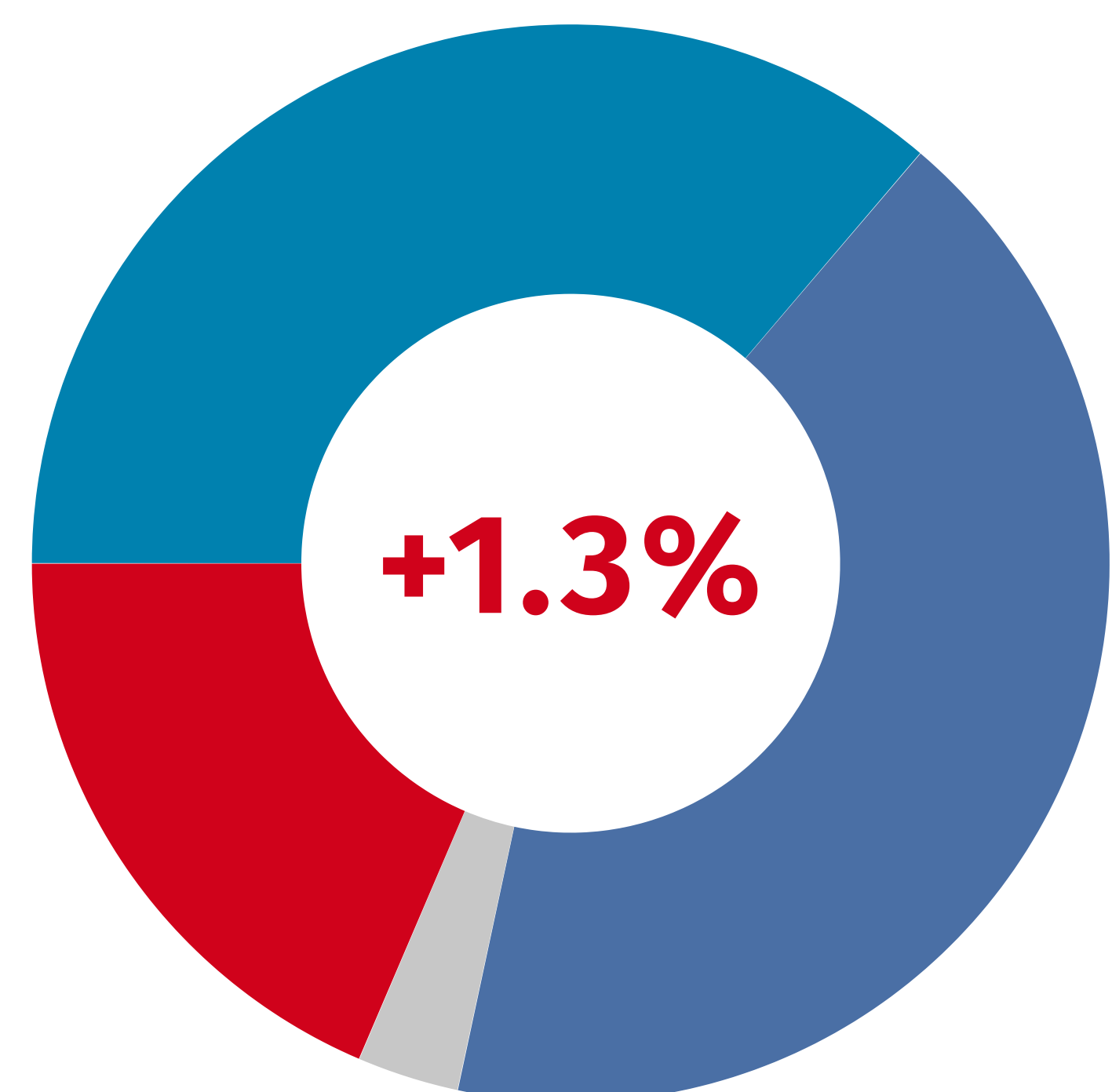
## Our commitment

Wakatipu Youth Trust is a well-established, significant part of the Queenstown and surrounding districts community and substantially contributes to young peoples, aged 10 - 24 years, positive development through a wide range of initiatives, opportunities and engagement that aim to grow our young people into thriving, self-assured, contributing citizens.

2020 has seen our highly motivated, passionate, and hardworking team working to our collective strengths to ensure youth throughout the Wakatipu are having their developmental needs met. This has resulted in a successful combination of well-developed opportunities and initiatives that increases our community profile, presence, breadth, and depth of reach for youth, their family, whanau, and our wider community.



### TOTAL REACH



■ Events (36.25%) ■ Programmes (42.13%)  
■ Holiday Programmes (3.04%) ■ Youth Centre (18.58%)

**Total Interactions: 13,211**  
Previous 12 Months: 13,032  
**Increase of 1.3%**

## Services Provided

### Schools

Youth Workers in Schools (YWIS) is one of our ongoing initiatives that has youth workers actively engaged and working closely with eight Wakatipu Basin schools from Glenorchy to Arrowtown on a weekly basis. Access to students within school hours and throughout the year continues to be a vital part of our ability to reach out to youth in their key social environments. These relationships are valuable as they allow us to do preventative and early intervention work through providing opportunities, positive engagement, mentoring as well as life education programmes. Relationships with our schools are strong as we increase our profile, presence and ability to help with and deliver programmes within the schools.

### Programmes

We have a range of ongoing programmes that run across the year, helping team members develop individual relationships with a vast array of young people. A brief summary of the programmes broken down by term and what they consisted of follows below:

### Events

We deliver or are involved in a number of events throughout the year. These experiences help to raise our profile, engage youth and our wider community and create significant opportunities for our taiohi.

Events are short contact time but highly effective for youth engagement. They familiarise people with what we do, and provide real life opportunities and authentic experiences for many of our taiohi to connect with their wider community.

### Mentoring

The Mentoring Programme is a prevention or early intervention programme for young people between the ages of 12 and 24 years. Each referral is considered on an individual basis. Areas of referral: • Bullying • self esteem • Peer relationships • Low-level behavioral issues • General health support/guidance • Career support and advocacy

### Holiday Programmes

Our holiday Programmes are always action packed with a wide variety of fun for everyone. These are well attended and frequently book out within days of advertising. Thanks to generous sponsorship from community businesses we can offer activities for all at a low cost so that anyone can attend and money isn't a barrier to youth connecting and participating.



## Community Youth Centre - The Loft

Our Youth Centre, The Loft, continues to be very much our heart and a central hub to all that we do in our community and a well-utilised resource.

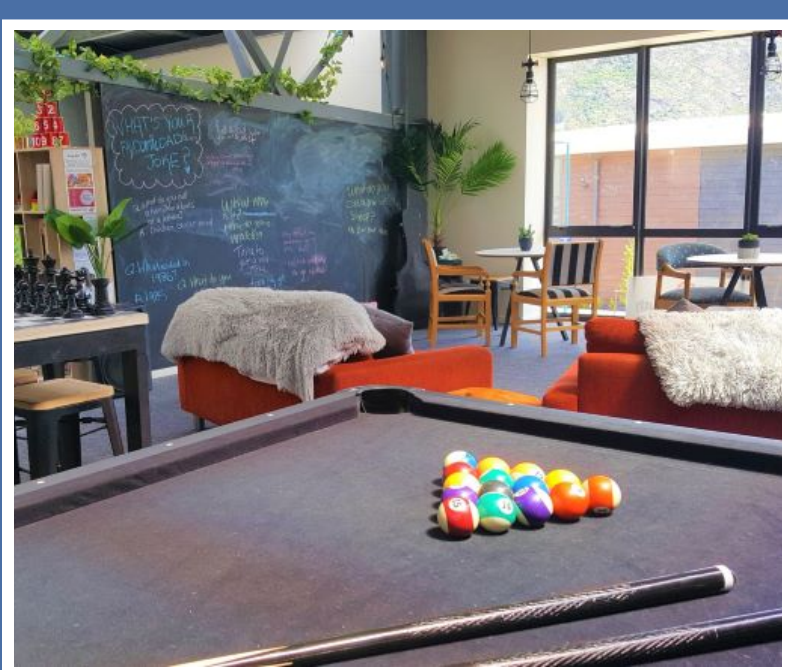
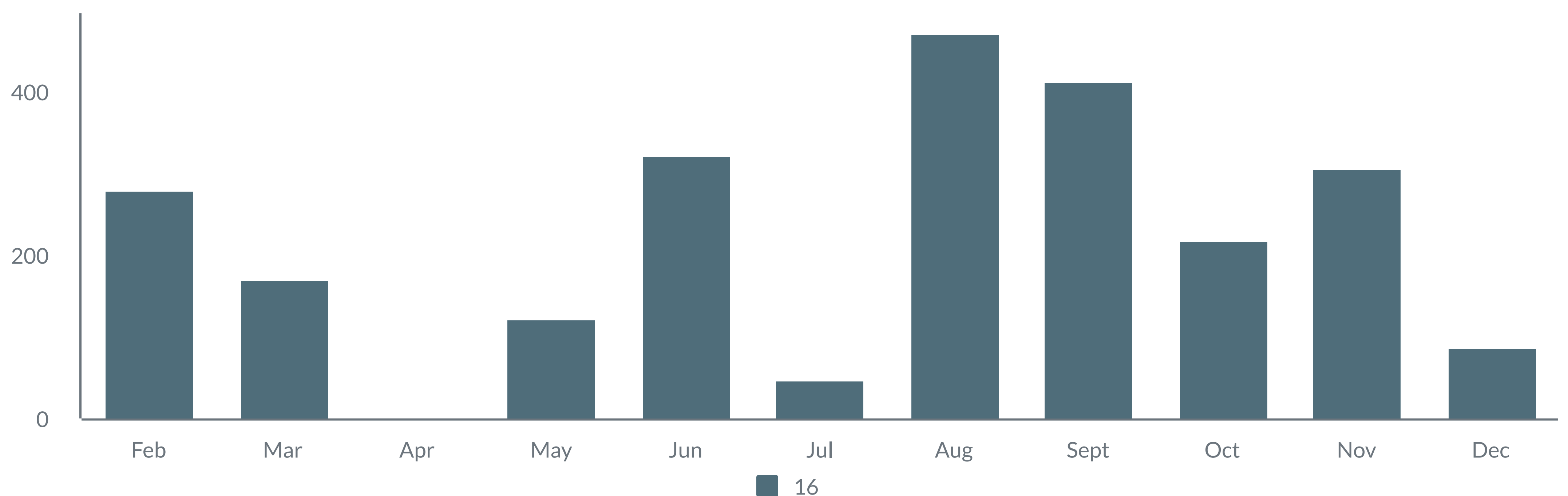
Our 'Drop In' programme averages numbers of between 20 and 30 youth through the door each day with many of our young people feel it is a home away from home and they are there most days. The Youth Centre also hosts many of our other programmes, events, and activities that see small to large numbers of youth engagement and being a space for other community groups, organisations, and schools using our facility.

Wakatipu High School operates its 'Offsite Education' programme Monday through Friday during school hours and term times. This sees young people who are experiencing multiple difficulties in school engagement and need a space to learn and develop new tools to positively reintegrate back into school or transition to employment.

The Central Otago Youth Employment Programme (COYEP) also operates out of our space and is also utilised for Supervised Visits, Interagency meetings, Sector training and workshops.

We have a membership system in place to ensure enhanced communication and information pathways are optimised between our youth, their families and whanau. We have our Kaupapa to maintain the culture, responsibility and accountability of all who participate at our youth centre, programmes, activities and events.

**Youth Centre Total Interactions: 2454**  
**Previous 12 Months: 1734**  
**Increase of 41.5%**



# What we have achieved?

In order to achieve the objectives as laid out in the Wakatipu Youth Trust deed in alignment with the Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa (YDSA), over the past year we took part in the following areas of engagement with Wakatipu youth (keeping in mind Covid 19 restricted or cancelled our engagements):

## School Engagement: Youth Workers in Schools (YWiS)

- Wakatipu High School (weekly visits)
- Queenstown Primary School (weekly visits)
- Remarkables Primary School (weekly visits)
- Arrowtown School (weekly visits)
- St Joseph’s School (weekly visits)
- Glenorchy School (fortnightly visits)
- Shotover School (fortnightly visits)
- Kingsview School (weekly visits)
- Wakatipu High School Orientation Day (all Year 9s)
- Small Schools Cross Country Event
- Year 6 talks across **all** Primary Schools

- Wakatipu High School Participation Day (Whole school )
- Remarkables Primary Sex education talk
- Athletics day with St Joes and Kingsview
- Branches Camp
- Primary School Athletics Day
- LGBT+ talks
- Porn Education - all Year 9s
- Branches Camp - all Year 10s
- Greenstone Camp - all Year 9s
- Wakatipu High School Haka Waiata Competition

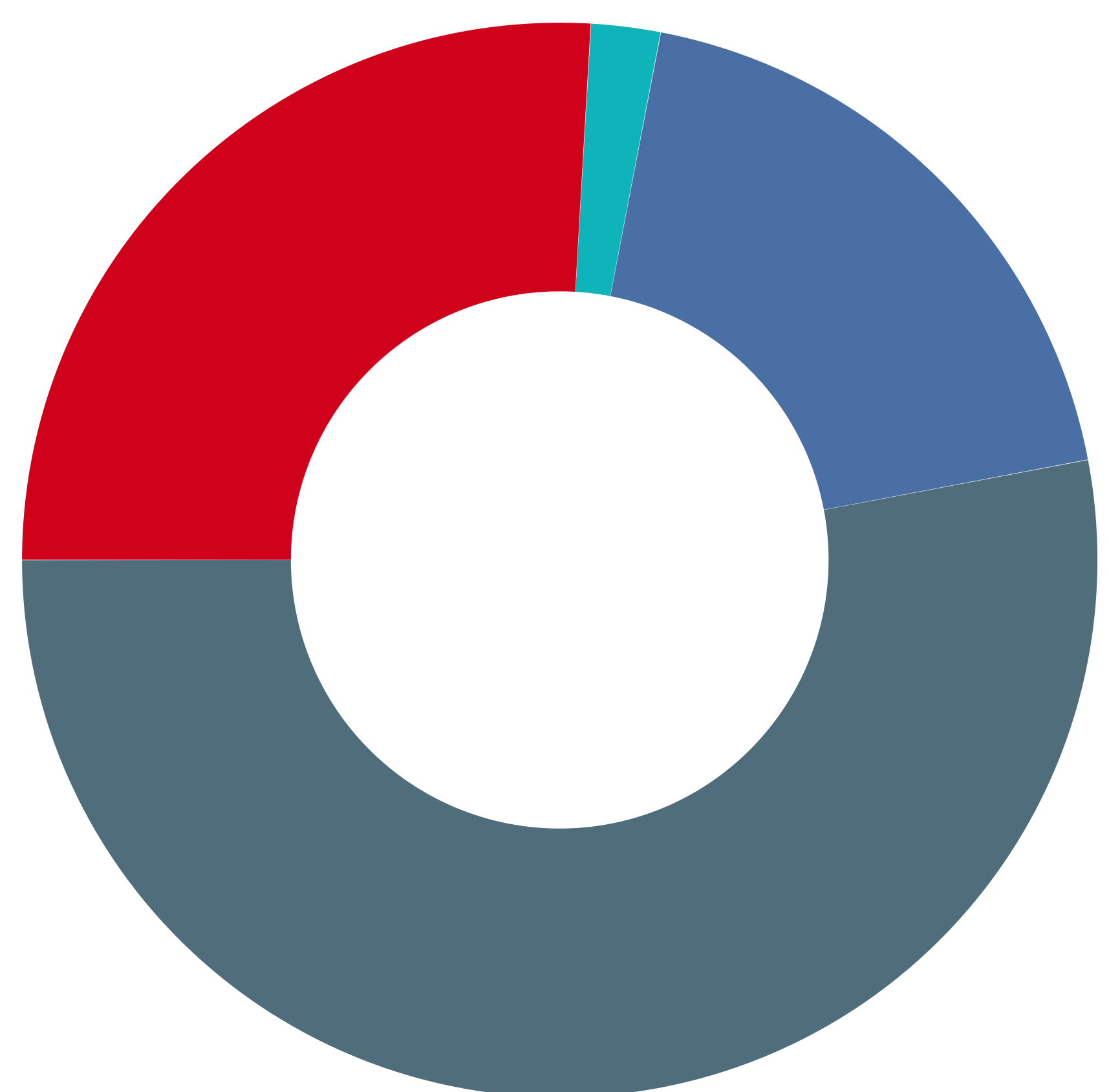
## Events

- Youth Week activities
- Central Sound Wave (youth music competition)
- Winter Pride events
- Saturday Club Sessions
- Youth Service Expo

## Mentoring:

- One to One
- Face to face and telephone contact
- School and Agency Referrals
- Self-referrals
- Immediate response
- Engaging remotely during Covid19 lockdown

## Event engagement graph



■ Term 1, 2020 (25.93%)    ■ Term 2, 2020 (2.09%)  
 ■ Term 3, 2020 (19%)    ■ Term 4, 2020 (52.98%)

**Total Interactions: 4789**  
 Previous 12 Months: 4461  
**Increase of 7.4%**

# What we have achieved cont.

## Programmes:

- Year 7 & 8 Late Night programme
- LGBTQIA+ support group (The Spectrum Club)
- Dungeons and Dragons Group (DnD)
- Wakatipu Youth Council
- Summer, Winter, Autumn and Spring Holiday Programmes
- Interest Block Groups
- Online youth groups, activities, competitions and fun during Covid19 lockdown
  - Zoom Drop In' (5 days each week)
  - Zoom Yr 7&8 youth group (5 days each week)
  - Zoom Wakatipu Youth Council
  - Zoom mentoring
  - Zoom DnD
  - Zoom Spectrum

## Community Social Service Partnerships

- Central Otago Youth Workers' Network
- Queenstown Interagency
- Bluelight Central Otago
- Strengthening Families Local Managers Group
- Central Lakes Mental Health and Addiction Network
- Postvention Suicide Committee
- Southland & Otago Psychosocial Support social service network
- Queenstown Psychosocial Support Group

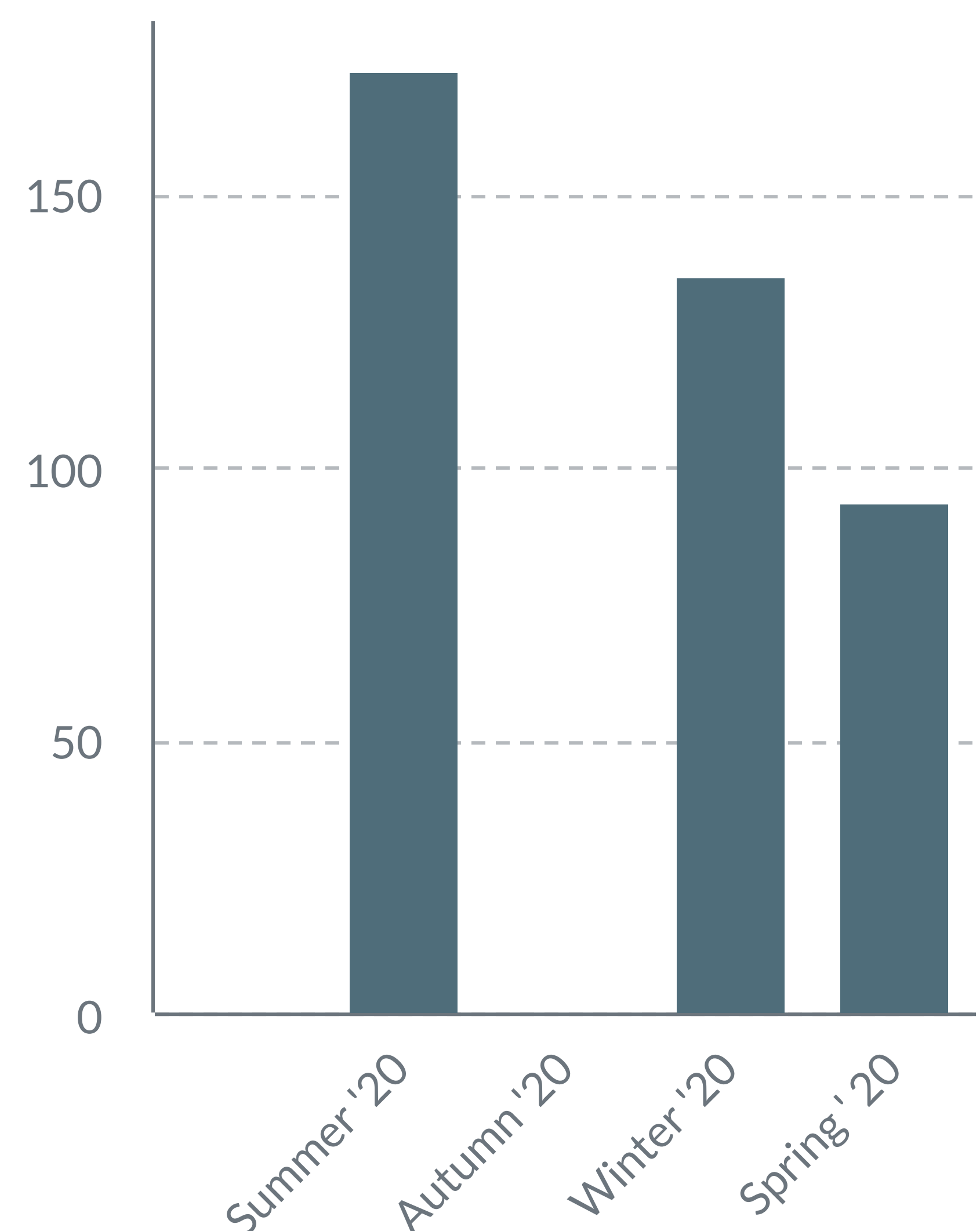
## Programme Engagement graph



■ Term 1, 2020 (26.88%)    ■ Term 2, 2020 (18.18%)  
■ Term 3, 2020 (29.54%)    ■ Term 4, 2020 (25.4%)

**Total Interactions: 5566**  
 Previous 12 Months: 6440  
**Decrease of 14.4%**

## Holiday Programme graph



**Total Interactions: 402**  
 Previous 12 Months: 397  
**Increase of 1.3%**

## Managers Report

*2020 undisputably is a year that no one on Earth will ever forget in this lifetime and with the impact of a global pandemic leaving no place unscathed by its far-reaching effects, Queenstown has been by no means exempt from Covid's touch*

*The Wakatipu was already experiencing a number of issues arising in the youth community prior to Coronavirus's appearance as a result of wider economic and social factors that had negative impacts on family and flattening households. These included but were not limited to increased family dysfunction, stress-related mental health issues, drug and alcohol abuse, family breakdowns and factors affecting general health and wellbeing and impacted by low wages, high living costs and high levels of continued population growth. These elements have had a significant level of impact for some time and then Covid19 has turned our community upside down in a different way adding to existing stresses and creating new issues.*

*We worked closely with local Social Service agencies to develop Psychosocial support and new initiatives as part of a wider Covid19 response and recovery plan that supported our youth, their families and whanau. We developed a 'quick glance guide' for local and national support services for distribution alongside our existing brochures which were picked up at a local council level. We ran a survey across our youth during Youth Week 2020 to see how they were impacted by Covid and lockdown.*

*We have been consistently involved with assisting schools and social services in addressing concerns in our community and are recognised as a valuable resource that can support other agencies with creating a multi-faceted, strengths-based approach to assisting youth with different situations.*

*We have both developed and delivered initiatives in response to identified gaps such as LGBTQIA+ community awareness campaigns and events, youth arts and sport opportunities and Life Skill education to name a few. During Lockdown we created online programmes to engage our youth and provided them with fun activities, support and stability amidst the uncertainty and unprecedented times. This was greatly appreciated by our families as they were dealing with their own issues and knew their young people had a safe space and safe people to engage with.*

*Due to the increase in service need in our youth community we increased our team from four to five youth workers being Noah, Dakota, Mairead, Rhys and Jaqs to help meet increased demand and continue to value our admin star, Stacey.*

*The continued dedication of our volunteers who offer their time freely each week, contributes to streamlining and expanding services and ensures that we have the time to invest into delivering quality youth work, new opportunities and ongoing projects.*

*Looking ahead, we are planning to further extend our reach in the community and develop progressive opportunities for as many young people within the Wakatipu region as possible. With huge population growth happening in the Wakatipu and the flourishing development of the Frankton community, one of our strategic goals is to bring youth services together into a hub, where we can collectively provide more cohesive support for our young people. We are confident that there are many people in our community who will be highly supportive of this venture and we hope will consider investing in the future of our youth and the belief that it takes a village to raise a child.*

*As ever, our work is made possible through the time and energy donated by our eight trustees. The team are truly grateful and wish to thank them for making it possible for us to achieve what we do and to make a positive difference to the Wakatipu community.*

## Funding and Sponsorship

### Funders:

(In alphabetical order):

- Central Lakes Trust
- Community Organisation Grants Scheme
- Community Trust South
- Creative Communities Scheme
- Kathleen Dorothy Kirkby Charitable Trust
- Lottery Grants Board
- Ministry of Social Development
- Olive Hutchins Charitable Trust
- One Foundation
- Queenstown Lakes District Council
- Scotlands Te Kiteroa Charitable Trust
- SkyCity Queenstown Community Trust
- The Kingston Sedgfield (NZ) Charitable Trust
- The Southern Trust
- United Way

### Donations and Sponsorship:

(In alphabetical order):

- Bluelight
- Chipmunks
- Cookietime
- Dominoes
- Family Adventures
- Fear Factory
- Ferg
- Game Over
- Industrial Fitness
- Kip McGrath
- Kiwiharvest
- Lululemon
- Maya Music
- Moonlight Stables
- NZ Ski
- Paintball Central
- Raeward Fresh
- Rockformation
- Salvation Army
- Shipleys Audiovisual
- SITE trampoline
- The Mule
- The Playground
- The Recording Room
- Thrill Zone
- Trail Journeys
- Winter Pride
- Yonder

*"There are many more awesome people, businesses and organisations who donate their skills, resources and time to supporting Wakatipu Youth Trust and our youth community"*



## Evaluation feedback

### Year 7&8 Lockdown Zoom Youth Group

"During lockdown the programme you were running for the Year 7&8s was excellent. Our son logged on a lot of the days at lunchtime. It just gave him a great outlet to catch up with peers and have something fun and refreshing to do. You have endless ideas and from a parents perspective it lightened the load."



### Parent Feedback

"My son has flourished at WYT, he enjoys the social interactions with other youth and the mentoring of the youth workers. There is always lots to entertain him and his social skills, independence and maturity is developing at a rapid rate. This has definitely been cultivated by the talented and caring Team who run this amazing centre."



### Youth Services Expo Agency feedback

"Great job, what a fantastic experience for the children to know who is available for them to talk to in their community."



### Drive to Survive Expo

"I feel that after listening to the talks and seeing the effects of a car crash after everything we had learnt throughout the day really put everything into perspective and made me realise what could happen if I make bad decisions on the roads."



### Parent feedback

"I can not thank the staff of Wakatipu Youth Trust enough for their care, guidance and large part in shaping my daughter's confidence and future. Her life has truly been enriched."



### Parent feedback

"The activities my son took part in were things he wouldn't otherwise try and so this helped his confidence whilst making new friends before starting high school. Thank you very much, you all did a wonderful job. My son came home talking about how he will be a volunteer when he's older as he really enjoyed spending time with the older kids who were very positive examples. thanks again."



*A massive*  
**THANK YOU**  
to all our funders, supporters and  
local community.

*We couldn't do it without you!*



Annual  
**REPORT**  
2020

  
**WakatipuYouth**  
TRUST