



26<sup>th</sup> April 2011

Sargood Bequest  
PO Box 5546  
DUNEDIN

To the Trustees

On behalf of the Blue Light Canterbury Youth Development Programme Trust, I would like to write to you formally to express our gratitude for your recent, generous and very significant, grant. Your contribution will go a long way in supporting our 'Re-focus' programme, and we sincerely thank you for your assistance and your belief in us.

Our most recent graduates from Term One are ready to attend mainstream school next term, and they have the support structures in place to assist them through this time of transition. It was wonderful, too, to have the presence of John Blennerhassett at the graduation as our special guest. Given the circumstances we kept the graduation deliberately low-key, but John spoke extremely well, and engaged with many of the young men and their families.

The change in the young men was epitomized for me when within 36 hours of the earthquake on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, five of the young men volunteered to accompany the work crew in digging silt and liquefaction from the streets and properties on the eastern side of Christchurch. For more than two weeks they worked alongside other volunteers, digging and helping out wherever they could, at a time when many of their peers were not attending school. They consistently worked hard, and felt the gratitude of the people they worked with. The increase in their self-esteem and sense of self-worth was wonderful to see.

We have been heavily over-subscribed for referrals for Term Two, which is both sad in that we have had to turn many down, but also encouraging for us in that it demonstrates that we are clearly meeting an urgent need for schools and the community.

Thank you again for your support. With assistance such as this we will continue to be able to make a difference in the lives of young people, and their families and communities.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Mike Field  
Director, CYDP

OUR YOUTH, OUR FUTURE, OUR RESPONSIBILITY