

Sargood Bequest  
PO Box 5546  
Dunedin, 9058

Dear Friend,

I am delighted to have the opportunity to write and thank you for your support of Lifewise. We have achieved so much in recent months. I am really pleased to be able to bring you an update on just what your support has meant to us.

**The generous support from Sargood Bequest toward our work has made a tangible difference in the lives of Aucklanders in need. It has been directly applied to highly practical services that ultimately lead to better lives and strengthened communities.**

In my role I have the opportunity to talk to many people who have been faced with a range of very difficult life circumstances. It is wonderful to be able to pass onto them news of all the valuable support generous people like you are providing to our critical services.

Recently, I came face to face with the need for our services when I spent a night 'sleeping rough' at our recent Lifewise Big Sleepout event – an event aimed at raising awareness and funds for the issue of homelessness. The experience, as you will read, was an eye-opener to me. Gaining a glimpse of the daily hardship faced by this community certainly enlarged my heart for the cause and deepened my commitment to finding a resolve for this preventable issue. It made me exceedingly proud to be a part of an organisation so committed to providing an effective solution.

I would like to draw your attention to the snippet in the newsletter that speaks of our work providing an employment pathway for some of Auckland's homeless. Initiatives like this highlight our commitment in supporting members of the homeless community into positions of independence, a focus that can be seen across all of Lifewise' services. I will be following the continued roll-out of this initiative with great interest, reporting back to you about its progress when we speak again.

I also encourage you to read about the work we do in other areas of pressing social need, areas that also require a compassionate and committed response. For example, there's an article concerning the recent funding obtained by Lifewise to launch an initiative in response to Auckland's family violence issue – a serious issue in need of a targeted response. Then there is Maureen's story of how support received from Lifewise is enabling her to live independently.

**We have countless stories of lives turned around as a result of support received from Lifewise, stories that speak directly to our commitment to provide services that empower and support individuals and communities. I look forward to continuing to share these stories with you.**

It is without question that funders such as you make our work possible. I can assure you that the grants you have given to Lifewise have been working hard to make a tangible difference in the lives of New Zealanders in need.

**I am so grateful that you have supported our work here at Lifewise and would like to thank <company> once again for all that you have helped us to achieve. We simply could not meet the growing demand for our services without you.**

I look forward to sharing with you again soon about the difference that your support is continuing to make.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Murray', with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

John Murray  
Executive Director

P.S. This year Lifewise celebrates 160 years of committed service to the Auckland community. An exciting milestone that makes us almost as old as the city itself! Established in 1851 by an ardent group of Methodists, our community services were once run out of a simple wooden chapel located in the heart of what is now Auckland's CBD. We are immensely proud of the contribution we have made to addressing the social concerns of this city of ours over so many years and we cannot wait to celebrate this in our next communication with you!