

Summer 2025

Nau Mai and Haere Mai to all residents and whānau at CHT Hillcrest!

We warmly welcome our new residents who have recently joined the CHT Hillcrest whānau. Summer in Aotearoa New Zealand is both beautiful and full of adventure. The long, bright days bring a refreshing change, allowing plants and trees to bloom in vibrant colors and showcase a variety of beautiful flowers.

We've had some exciting events at CHT Hillcrest, and we look forward to sharing inspiring stories with you all!

Activities and Celebrations

Welcome

Visit to Auckland Museum



The 360Tautua Community Group invited Hillcrest residents to the Auckland Museum in February, along with other elderly members of the community. The residents spent the day exploring Pacific and Māori arts as part of our Waitangi Day celebration. Morning tea and lunch were provided, and the residents felt a strong connection to the museum. This trip gave them the opportunity to engage with the outside world, socialize, and enjoy mental stimulation.

The MCGI Church group and Seluselema, along with other church groups, continue to visit us monthly, providing a vital spiritual connection. These visits are truly valued by our residents, offering them comfort and a sense of belonging. They

help build a unified and compassionate church community.

In January, residents celebrated Grandparents Day in Mangere Town with a joyful walking bus outing. The event featured bingo, crafts, haircuts, and nail care, followed by a delicious hangi for lunch and pineapple pie for dessert. Residents were also treated to massages by volunteers.

For our summer BBQ, we had Mike the entertainer bring joyful music, along with Jadee and Taylor, who returned to perform. The residents thoroughly enjoyed the music, which positively impacted their well-being. This event, organized in the dementia unit, demonstrated how musical interventions can help create a calm environment for our residents. Grandparents Day



Improvements and Initiatives

Graduation



The second group of seven staff members took the initiative to enroll in the workplace communication program. The course helped boost their self-confidence, enabling them to interact more effectively with colleagues, residents, family, and whānau, while also helping to build a supportive network. The program was held at our facility, and graduation took place on December 3rd 2024 with each participant receiving a certificate to contribute to their professional development.

Hillcrest

newsletter

To enhance safety and security in the car park, we installed additional cameras. This included replacing two old cameras and adding two new ones.

Resident Stories

Sam was born in Samoa in 1953 and had a lively childhood, enjoying school, church, and playing rugby. At the age of eight, he moved to New Zealand with his family to be closer to the Mormon church. Later, they returned to Samoa so Sam could attend high school, as his father had a well -established job there. While on holiday in New Zealand, Sam met Sandra, and after six months of correspondence, they married in 1986. At the age of 58, Sam suffered a stroke that left him paralyzed on his left side, requiring full-time care. He now enjoys weekly visits from his family. Sam moved to Hillcrest in January this year and he greatly appreciates the kitchenette in each wing, valuing the ability to prepare his own drinks. According to Sam, the staff provide excellent care, and he finds the food de-



licious. The exercise classes led by the physiotherapist are exceptional and something he looks forward to.

Note from the Care Home Manager

We are excited to warmly welcome the newest members of the Hillcrest team! Joining us are RN Sandeep Kaur, and AC team members: Jess Deng, Sam Leong, and Priya Radhakrishnan. On the care staff front, we also welcome Deepa Rani and Tupou Sese. We are confident that the diverse talents and experiences our new staff members bring will greatly enhance the quality of life for our residents. We would also like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone for their unwavering support and kindness. We warmly welcome your feedback and encourage you to share any concerns you may have at the earliest opportunity, so we can address them promptly and effectively. Together, we will continue to create a nurturing and supportive environment for all.

Ngā manaakitanga Best Wishes Acting Care Home Manager, Suja Varghese <u>Suja.varghese@cht.co.nz</u>