Brainwave Trust Aotearoa
Impact Report 2026

Brainwave™

A word from our leadership

Introduction

Tēnā koutou katoa,

We are excited to share the highlights of our last twelve months with each of you! As always, a focus on our relationships with communities across the country is central to how we connect and engage. We know from the feedback provided to us, the wānanga, talanoa and workshops make a real impact on how people intentionally prioritise the needs of tamariki and young people.

At Brainwave our mission is to reach everyone who has an impact on the lives of children; this is a big and broad mandate. We also have an organisational strategy created by our board of trustees that has four key pou; Building Te Tiriti partnership capability, strengthening partnerships with others, increasing education and advocacy & amplifying our communications.

Everything we do is measured against both our mission and our strategy. Brainwave has a new board of highly experienced trustees, with a breadth of professional experiences and connections to a range of communities across the country. We are so grateful to each of you for bringing your expertise to our kaupapa. Some highlights I'd love to share with you all include the appointment of Dr Hinemoa Elder as an additional Patron in February 2026. Dr Elder has a deep understanding of the needs of tamariki and mokopuna. She brings a strong connection to both Te Ao Maori and the clinical worlds, and we are extremely appreciative of her patronage alongside Judy Bailey.

Brainwave has existing relationships with a range of Māori social service providers and Hauora organisations; in some cases, we even share staff with deep connections to their own communities and the evidence-based knowledge Brainwave has. Brainwave's mahi with whanau Māori has grown from 9% in 2019 to 65% in 2025.

All of this activity – and more, is helping us to amplify our communications into new spaces, and to refine how we reach our loyal supporters. We are excited moving into this new financial year and look forward to your ongoing interest in Brainwave.

Moving Into the Future

We have diversified our relationships to engage with the corporate sector; this is a whole new foray for us. The purpose here is to look at how we can exchange expertise. This helps us to create stronger business cases, highlighting the impact of our mahi – and the difference it makes in the lives of tamariki and their whanau. Relationships take time, and importantly, need to be of benefit to both parties; we offer our workshops as a part of a corporate wellbeing package to our partners and wish to thank KPMG for their connection to a wider group. We plan to extend our mahi with professionals, through partnerships with the corporate, academic and clinical sectors.

Dr Rob Thompson joined our Knowledge Team as a researcher and writer. Rob's first article in late 2025—The Lifetime Effects of Child Maltreatment—was used by the Mana Mokopuna Commission to design a campaign calling on all adults to commit to raising tamariki and taiohi with nurturing care. Rob is also supporting the advocacy space where we are now able to be more active, while preparing other articles for distribution. We intend to grow our partnerships and reach into the advocacy space to increase the impact of evidence based knowledge in decision making.

Piki te ora,

Huia Hanlen

CEO | Kaihautū

Brainwave Trust Aotearoa

Ngā Uara | Brainwave Values

Ngā Uara guide our approach providing a roadmap for how we do things, affirming our commitment to our vision and mission. Our Brainwave Values challenge and inspire us to be the best we can be and align with our commitment to advance the needs and aspirations of Māori as tangata whenua while creating greater equity to those most affected by inequities in our communities - with particular focus on Māori and Pacific.

At Brainwave we value:

- **Whanaungatanga |** The importance of connection and relationships
- **Ako |** Reciprocity in sharing of knowledge, learning and experiences
- **Whakapapa |** Acknowledging and building on Brainwave's history
- **Auaha |** Creativity and innovation
- **Manaaki |** Intentional care to enhance the mana of all people and environments

Ngā Whāinga Rautaki | Strategic Priorities

Look out for the colour key to see which focus areas different pieces of work relate to. We are focused on contributing to the vision of Whakamana I te tamaiti! All tamariki in Aotearoa are valued and nurtured to reach their full potential. The outputs cut across the four focus areas of the Strategic Plan 2024–2027.

- **Building Te Tiriti Partnership Capabilities**
- **Strengthening Partnerships with Others**
- **Increasing Education and Advocacy**
- **Amplifying Our Communications**

Brainwave Trust Aotearoa

Statement of Service Performance for Year Ending 31 March 2026

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Building a Network of Support Around Our Young People

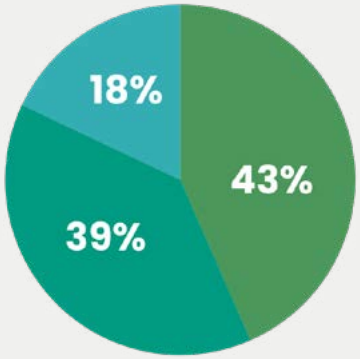
For nearly three decades, Brainwave has shared knowledge throughout Aotearoa, working with a wide range of organisations. Our regionally based Kaiako hold trusted relationships within their communities. This enables us to deliver wānanga and strengths-based education sessions to help equip parents and caregivers with the knowledge and confidence to nurture strong, healthy futures.

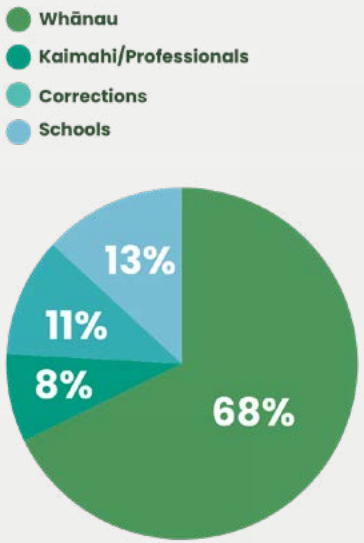
We also facilitate workshops and wānanga empowering kaimahi (professionals) to understand the scientific, cultural and social environments that influence the circumstances of the young people they work with — often in high stakes environments — like health, social work and education.

We also run specially designed programmes including for those in the care of and working for the Department of Corrections, schools and in Teen Parent units.

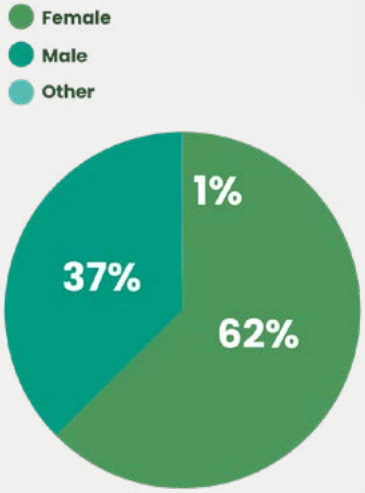
To support our visibility and growth this year we updated our website to provide a comprehensive overview of our education suite for both workforce development and whānau education. **Find out more here.**

This pie chart shows the distribution of workshops booked for each audience in FY2026.





This pie chart shows the distribution of workshops for our peer group audiences delivered in FY2026.

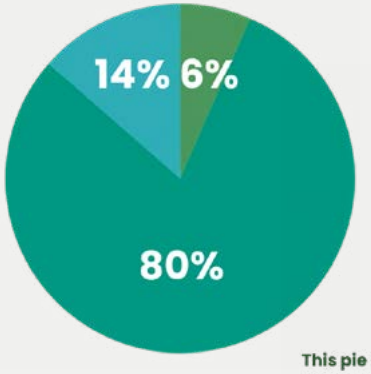


This pie chart shows the gender of workshop participants for FY2026.*

*This information is based on feedback from audiences, not every participant provides feedback.

- Early Years
- Adolescence
- Adolescence and Early Years

FY2026 financial year total deliveries by region. This map indicates the regional distribution of workshops.



This pie chart shows the distribution of workshop focus topics booked in FY2026.

Key:

= workshops for whānau

= workshops for kaimahi

In FY2026 our whānau workshops achieved the following:

5,834 *individuals attended our workshops*

145 *wānanga with whānau Māori*

82 *talanoa with tagata Moana*

418 *workshops for whānau groups across the motu*

"Being a kaiako has truly opened my eyes to the value of time and the importance of being intentional with it. Time is not always on our side, and that awareness has deepened my passion for facilitating meaningful workshops —sharing messages about building strong, healthy young brains, while also honouring indigenous practices that continue to guide and ground us today. This work fills my cup in a way that's hard to put into words.

We all want the very best start in life for our children. The messages we share in our talanoa and workshops are simple, yet deeply meaningful. One of the most common reflections we hear is that these are things families have been doing all along. But when they begin to understand the true significance of those everyday moments, something shifts. It inspires a deeper sense of intention in how they love, nurture, and show up for their children.

Nurturing and responding to children with care and presence helps them feel truly loved and seen. And that feeling, though it may seem simple, is everything. It lays the foundation for who they become and how they move through the world."

Oriana Avei-Suaesi – Brainwave Kaiako

Partnering with Frontline Supporters

Resources

With the support of our funders, we're able to distribute free resources to parents through organisations working alongside whānau the length of the country.

In the past year, we delivered **3,150 pamphlets and booklets to 25 community organisations nationwide**, supporting:

- **Early years parenting**
- **Violence prevention**
- **Stronger whānau outcomes**

Our resources are embedded in trusted settings—including midwifery, community health, early learning, and whānau services—ensuring support reaches families early, when it matters most.

We're grateful to The June Grey Charitable Trust, Chenery Memorial Trust and Four Winds Foundation, whose support has kept these resources free for the communities who need them most.

Together, we're supporting the foundations for thriving tamariki and whānau.

Community-Led Impact

We share a strong alignment with equity-focused delivery:

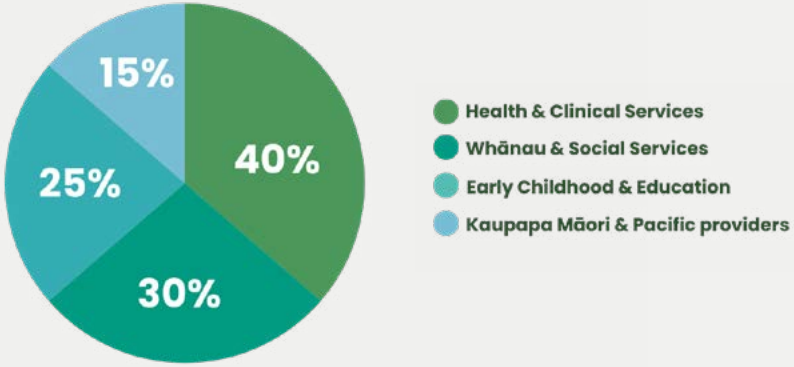
- **Family Start providers**
- **Whānau Ora collectives**
- **NGOs and community trusts**

Strong Health Sector Reach

Resources are embedded in early intervention and maternal wellbeing pathways through these organisations:

- **Midwives and maternity services**
- **Hospitals and community health teams**
- **Mental health and addiction services**

This pie chart shows the distribution of Brainwave pamphlets & booklets across community sectors FY2026.



How Our Resources Are Used

> *"At Nest, we work alongside social workers, midwives and many community organisations to ensure vulnerable babies and their families are supported in their parenting journey. These community partners request packs on behalf of their clients, which we make up to suit their needs. Included in every Nest pack are the essentials for the first year of life (and beyond) and include the critical necessities to reduce material hardship and support parents. We always include the Brainwave Trust flyer **A Great Start for Pēpi**, which is clear, appropriate, and research-based to help parents of young pēpi. We include a mug and a few chocolate treats to encourage a parent to sit, have a cuppa and read the flyers we include in our pack."*
>
> ***Shirley Wilson, Co-Branch Manager, The Nest Collective*** *(Wellington)*

Workforce Partners

Our strategy exists to help all tamariki thrive and be nurtured. The ways in which those working with children and young people respond to the needs of the child can make a huge difference to their long-term outcomes.

In the past year we have made a concerted effort to increase visibility and outreach to organisations who have the greatest influence on outcomes for tamariki outside of the families they live with. By partnering with organisations working with children and their families, we are influencing the environments surrounding tamariki.

Te Pā Tū Rangatira

In early 2026 we introduced a framework of mokopuna protection: 'Te Pā Tū Rangtira' and developed a new series of professional development workshops under this kaupapa, tailored for kaimahi Māori working closely with tamariki and whānau. Our first workforce partner for this programme was 'Te Whare'.

Brainwave Trust Learning Designer, André Ngāpō, says the wānanga draws on the imagery of a pā tū rangatira – a strong, protective pā surrounding and uplifting its people. "We explore what it takes to collectively nurture and protect tamariki. The pā is a symbol of the relationships, values, and environments that help our young ones stand strong in their mana motuhake."

Participants are encouraged to reflect on the role they play — as whānau, kaimahi, and community — in upholding whakapapa, tapu, mana, and mauri, and standing as the 'village' that provides the aroha, rongoā, advocacy and support needed to thrive.

"We look at how relationships, caregiving environments and wider systems can support resilience and wellbeing, and we encourage organisations to reflect on the practical ways they can help create nurturing spaces for tamariki and whānau," says Ngāpō.

Te Whare CEO Elizabeth Walker says the partnership feels like a natural fit. "Our mahi is grounded in Te Kawa o te Marae, a kaupapa Māori wellbeing framework that helps whānau understand the roots of harmful behaviours in themselves and others. Working alongside Brainwave Trust, who share a similar focus on supporting tamariki and whānau, just makes sense."

"Combining our strengths means we can build kaimahi capability to address the challenges facing our families and create the kind of environments where tamariki truly flourish," says Walker.

Regional Partnership

Deepening Early Years Equity in Tāmaki Makaurau and Te Tai Tokerau

The first years of a child's life shape the whole of it. Yet the knowledge that protects tamariki has too often been kept from the whānau who need it most, or offered in ways that treat their own culture as a deficit. Brainwave's regional partnerships exist to close that gap, working alongside funders who share our commitment to equity at the level where it begins.

Our Partnership with Foundation North

In 2025, Foundation North invested $100,000 in our early years kaupapa with whānau Māori and Tagata Moana in South Auckland and Te Tai Tokerau, aligned to their Hāpai te ōritetanga | Increased Equity focus area. The funding supported wānanga and talanoa through He Hīkoi Mahara, Malaga o Mafaufauga, Tiakina te Tamaiti and Moana – Thriving Tamariki, led by kaiako who are connected to these communities.

What Partners Told Us

One partner kaupapa in Tāmaki Makaurau reflected that participants had found deep value in connecting te taiao to their work, had gained insights into how their own upbringing shapes how they parent today, and felt confident reconnecting and embracing traditional practices as a positive direction forward. That shift, from doubt to confidence grounded in whakapapa.

Deepening the Mahi

In 2026 we will be extending this work into West Auckland, with new funding supporting culturally grounded wānanga and talanoa for urban Māori and Tagata Moana caregivers across South and West Auckland.

The Foundation North funded workshops delivered the following outcomes:

19 *community organisations hosting wānanga*

338 *whānau reached*

All **50** *sessions received an average rating of 'Excellent' by participants*

Delivery across South Auckland communities and into the Far North, working with marae, kura, kōhanga reo, community trusts, teen parent units and women's refuges.

Kaitoi created artworks for whānau across the year as tools for carrying the kaupapa into homes and wider circles

Workforce Education

Brainwave works alongside organisations and professionals who support tamariki and whānau every day.

Our workshops are designed to strengthen the knowledge, confidence, and practice of kaimahi working across health, education, social services, and community settings. This knowledge supports more informed decisions, deeper empathy, and stronger relationships with the children and families they serve.

Testimonies From Workshop Participants:

> *"I will now approach children/adolescents with a different view. I will be more aware of the brain, trauma, interactions and story behind behaviour and seek more background information to understand why people act and think the way they do."*
>
> *Understanding Adolescence — Family Support, Timaru*

> *"This workshop has given me some great tools to see what I could do better in my mahi. I will try and put some of what I have learnt into practice and give more time for rangatahi to emotionally regulate before any kōrero takes place."*
>
> *He Rangatahi Hei Raukura — Te Ropu Tautoko Ki Te Tonga, Dunedin*

> *"My key takeaway is that as service providers, understanding neuro-development can make a difference for tamariki and taiohi to their wellbeing and overall future development. I liked drawing on the wisdom of our tūpuna to guide us in being kaitiaki of the pā, in ways that support children's development. This workshop has given me more understanding of our value within Kaupapa Māori to support our Tamariki, Mokopuna and many more generations to come."*
>
> *Te Pā Tū Rangatira — Te Whare Ruruhau o Meri Trust, Auckland*

In FY2026 kaimahi/professionals workshops delivered the following outcomes:

38 *workforce development workshops booked*

more than **150** *hours invested to upskill kaimahi working with children, young people and their families*

19 *organisations booked worksforce training with us*

416 *kaimahi upskilled in evidence-informed training, impacting communities*

> *Brainwave kaiako delivered professional development training for kaimahi in Auckland, Canterbury, Gisborne, Northland, Otago and Waikato.*

Impact Through Corrections

For the past six years we have been working in partnership with the Department of Corrections, inside Prisons and Community Corrections facilities nationwide to reduce family violence and reoffending through two whānau-centred educational workshops — 'Tiakina te Tamaiti' and 'Growing Great Brains'.

These workshops help those under the care of Corrections to understand the development of the child during pregnancy, the first 2,000 days, and adolescence and helps parents and family members to recognise the things that support or can get in the way of healthy development.

Participants in these programmes develop insight into the impacts of their own early experiences and the motivation to break the cycle of offending for their tamariki and those within their wider whānau. This programme supports whānau-centred decision making and encourages participants to reflect and address ways to improve their relationships and emotional management.

In FY2026 Corrections Workshops delivered the following outcomes:

304 *hours were spent with Corrections participants*

50 *total workshops*

400 *people engaged in our Corrections workshops*

Corrections workshops were delivered in Prisons and Community Corrections locations across Canterbury, Auckland, Hawkes Bay, Manawatu, Whanganui, Northland, Southland, Otago, Waikato and Wellington.

Testimonies From Corrections Workshop Participants:

"I will change the way I personally behave towards my children by being present and conscious about how I behave around them"

Participant from Springhill Prison

"I will be better at communicating and being more aware of my child's environment he gets put through"

Participant from Invercargill Prison

"I learnt that I should be more honest and to just listen and be there for my kids"

Participant from Springhill Prison

"I will nurture and nourish my family better and give them more of my time and appreciate my blessings because they are worth it."

Participant from Mt Eden Prison

"My key takeaway is that knowing and connecting with whakapapa plays a huge part in who we are and gains a huge sense of identity."

Participant from Arohata Prison

"I want to be more open to my kids, more attentive and tell them how proud they make me. I will stop blaming everyone else for my actions and be mindful of my pitch and tone while my kids are around."

Participant from Northland Region Corrections Facility

"I learned you need to feed the baby's brain as much as you can with love and compassion."

Participant from Christchurch Mens Prison

"I will go home and lead by example in a more positive way and continue to open the space for communication"

Participant from Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility

Research and Advocacy

We continue to match our science base with evidenced whānau pūrākau and Mātauranga Māori research. In 2025 staffing was reinforced, to support our scientific research output and advocacy. As a result we have published a number of articles responding to the evidence suggesting that policy and wider environmental factors contribute directly to the circumstances surrounding child welfare. This advocacy research is especially useful for our professional audience — those working in policy, and engaging with whānau. The underrepresentation of social responsibility and over-representation of the individual responsibility as it applies to child wellbeing, is often associated with worse outcomes. This difference is an important one to substantiate, as it erodes the trust between our most vulnerable and those in a position to support them.

Where We Show Up

We have boosted our capacity to advocate for tamariki on proposed law changes, that evidence shows, would give effect to detrimental outcomes for tamariki in Aotearoa New Zealand including:

Regulatory Standards Bill (2025)

Keep the Alcohol Industry Out of Policy-making for Alcohol Harm Reduction (2025)

Our research is also promoted more widely through our relationship with award-winning podcast 'Real Parents', bridging the gap between the information we socialise and the practical advice sought from a trusted source — the evidence based knowledge — that parents and caregivers so often grasp for when they are looking for answers.

Socialising Scientific Findings

Our website bridges the gap between complex science and everyday life. Historically, vital research has been locked away in academic institutions or lost in translation. At Brainwave, we make evidence-informed information accessible and easy to understand for whānau and those who support them, ensuring everyone has the knowledge necessary to help children thrive.

Our research articles are the most visited pages on our website, most commonly discovered through organic 'topic' searches.

94,000
webpage views

71,000
sessions on our website

49,000
total users

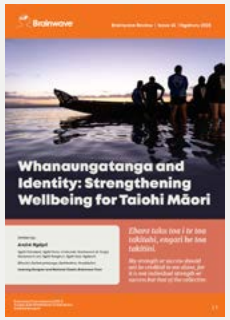
Website Reach FY2026

How Our Users Find Us

Often relating to adversity and trauma, our best performing articles remain consistent across the years, with increasing interest in our newly published mātauranga Māori research content:

- **Adverse Childhood Experiences—Understanding Their Effects (5,287 views)**
- **Family Violence, Children Get Hurt (3,904 views)**
- **Risk and Protective Factors in Child Development (3,817 views)**
- **The Impacts of Child Poverty (3,120 views)**
- **Whanaungatanga and identity: Strengthening Wellbeing for Taiohi Māori (2,853 views)**

Published Research Articles



This year we shared updated pregnancy research from an ao Māori perspective and in the adverse effects of prenatal alcohol. We shared the latest research on maltreatment and the research around adversity and how it shows up in adolescence. We looked at the ways in which belonging and identity strengthen taiohi wellbeing today. We launched a kaupapa/protective framework for mokopuna from āo Māori —'Te Pā Tū Rangatira.

We also took a close look at what the evidence says causes child poverty and how we might be able to do better as a country with effective policy change, better social support and community level recognition of the evidenced shifts required to bring children out of poverty.

- **Understanding Rangatahi Who Have Experienced Adversity**
- **Whanaungatanga and Identity: Strengthening Wellbeing for Taiohi Māori**
- **Ahakoa he Iti, he Pounamu—a Precious Time for Our Tiniest Treasures**
- **Understanding Prenatal Alcohol Exposure**
- **The Lifetime Effects of Child Maltreatment**
- **Te Pā Tū Rangatira: A Kaupapa and Framework for Mokopuna Protection and Potential**
- **The Impacts of Child Poverty**
- **He Tikanga Aroha, He Aroha Tuku Iho – Aroha Across Generations**

Telling Our Story

Communication Strategy

Brainwave Trust and the science behind our work has changed over the past 25 years. Last year we engaged the support of Māia, a kaupapa driven communications studio in Aotearoa, to help us develop a Communication Strategy in alignment with our current strategic priorities while still honouring the whakapapa of Brainwave's legacy.

This Communication Strategy and Messaging Framework has already supported our internal cohesion and will form the basis for ongoing improvements in our resource development, workshop content and messaging.

Social Media Strategy

For the size of our operations team here at Brainwave, we pride ourselves on the impact we make, but have not always shouted to the rooftops about the work we do. With a renewed focus on sharing our story more widely to our supporters we have rolled out a social media strategy that has resulted in more visibility around the daily impact we make and the advocacy work we do. This has resulted in higher levels of engagement and an increase in followers across LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram.

National Hui

Reciprocal Learning —Ako ki te Ako

Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae, South Tāmaki Makaurau, was host to our biennial National Hui. Our small but mighty team is based around the country and works remotely for the majority of the time. The National Hui is a highlight in our work calendar—an opportunity to sharpen our focus, roll out strategy and share stories, methodologies and insights between kaiako, operations team, and board members. This full day together and overnight hui, strengthens the resolve of many kaiako working remotely.

Our Learning Designer facilitated a thought provoking two-day programme, with opportunities for personal reflection, manaakitanga, trustee introductions as well as strategic updates.

A third day of the National Hui saw kaiako undergo training for workshop facilitation, implementing new research and collaborating on developing facilitation techniques.

While together our kaiako were asked to share what it means to them to be working for Brainwave.

Here Are Some of Their Whakaaro (Thoughts):

"It's an opportunity to share information and engage with an audience around the information that Brainwave has—and the purpose of that, from my perspective—is around changing lives. So it's about addressing the intergenerational harm that we've seen in our Aotearoa and breaking that cycle. Giving parents and professionals the information and some of the tools to make that difference, change the trajectory of so many kids' lives. And on a professional level, in my other role (NZ Police), I've seen the harm that is done to these children. I've seen the impact that it has on their lives. So being given an opportunity to make a difference or change that trajectory is really important to me."

Jim Sole — Brainwave Kaiako

"I feel a real honour and privilege to work for Brainwave. I've been with Brainwave since 2014 and I always looked at Brainwave as an organisation that was inspiring and motivating as a parent. Just hearing these messages about children, their developing brains and their bodies and just all of this amazing information was really useful for me and really helped me to feel more confident as a parent. Working as a kaiako and being able to spread that message and information was a real honour. Stepping into the role of Learning Designer and Coach, means helping tamariki to reach their potential and helping whānau to look after their tamariki in the ways of our tūpuna Māori and in the ways that resonate—I think, with all people—with love and kindness and generosity. We call it ngā waha. Empathy, compassion, with the love and the limits there as well."

André Ngāpō — Brainwave Learning Designer | Kaiako | National Coach

"I was thinking about how long I've been involved in the Kaupapa and I think it's probably about 20 plus years, I've seen the shift and the change in that where the research information that's premised of mātauranga Māori is just as valid as the western science. And what I've seen is the evolution in terms of how to simplify the information in a way that it actually reaches the audience. And so what was more important for me in this day and age is to actually facilitate a process rather than present information. Connect in a way that's really relevant to people, but in a way that actually shares that they are the experts.

I love Brainwave Trust because I feel like it is a validation. And I feel like I've watched the evolution by being involved in it. Someone told me, our people deserve the best, if you are not bringing excellence then you need to check what you need to do to change that. Whatever our people look like they deserve the best. And I might have information about how children grow and develop, but I will never know their baby the way that they know them."

Deb Rewiri — Brainwave Kaiako

Ngā mihi

We're so grateful for everyone who supports our mahi. Every partnership formed, grant awarded and donation gifted helps us deliver evidence-based education to the regions and the communities that need it most. A special thank you to the individuals who've donated and championed our kaupapa this year.

It's through partnership and collaboration that our cause reaches more communities and has a greater impact. Whether through joint initiatives, co-delivered programmes, shared advocacy, or media coverage—the expertise of our collaborating partners strengthens our work and expands our reach. We thank each of our partners for walking alongside us.

Our Generous Supporters

Thank you to the generous granting bodies, philanthropic individuals, community funders and trusts for continuing to keep our work in the child wellbeing space accessible for those who need us most. We wouldn't be able to do it without you. And to those who gave their time, we are so grateful to you.

Auckland Airport Community Trust
Bay Trust
COGS Community Organisation Grants Scheme
Foundation North
The John Bethell Trust
June Gray Charitable Trust
The Lion Foundation
Lotto NZ Lottery Grants Board
The LW Nelson CharitableTrust
Māia
mas
One Foundation
Perinatal Anxiety & Depression Aotearoa
Pub Charity
Rātā Foundation
real parents
Storytime Foundation
The Southern Initiative
tākai
The Tindall Foundation
WEL Energy Trust
tewhare
Whāraurau
Wilde & Freeman
Wright Family Foundation

Brainwave Trust Aotearoa

Financial Report for Year Ending 31 March 2026

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Statement of Financial Performance | Brainwave Trust Aotearoa | For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026	2025
Revenue			
Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue	1	274,967	62,765
General grants	1	108,538	107,468
Revenue from government sources	1	267,566	498,094
Non-government service delivery grants/contracts	1	354,096	266,763
Interest revenue		10,289	27,427
Other revenue		149	2,400
Total revenue		**1,015,605**	**964,917**
Expenses			
Expenses related to fundraising		101	3,988
Employee remuneration and other related expenses	2	923,759	834,540
Volunteer related expenses		-	4,722
Other expenses related to service delivery	2	122,477	169,382
Depreciation and other expenses		19,269	24,759
Total expenses		**1,065,606**	**1,037,391**
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		**(50,001)**	**(72,474)**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the auditors report thereon.

Statement of Financial Position | Brainwave Trust Aotearoa | For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026	2025
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		557,376	642,310
Debtors and prepayments		25,542	27,508
Total current assets		**582,918**	**669,818**
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4	10,212	12,578
Website and CRM	4	1,047	4,982
Total non-current assets		**11,259**	**17,560**
Total assets		**594,177**	**687,378**
Liabilities			
Creditors and accrued expenses		33,615	45,527
Unspent contract income and grants	3	119,975	156,537
Employee costs payable		44,910	39,636
Total liabilities		**198,500**	**241,700**
Total assets less total liabilities (net assets)		**395,677**	**445,678**
Accumulated Funds			
Accumulated surpluses	6	395,677	445,678
Total accumulated funds		**395,677**	**445,678**

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the auditors report thereon.

Leanne Otene

Trustee

12th October 2026

Date

Trustee

12th October 2026

Date

Statement of Cash Flows | Brainwave Trust Aotearoa | For the year ended 31 March 2026

	2026	2025
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Cash received:		
Donations, koha and other general fundraising activities	273,744	62,717
General grants	128,418	38,348
Government service delivery grants/contracts	187,224	435,246
Non-government service delivery grants/contracts	382,200	292,705
Interest	10,289	27,427
Cash payments:		
Employee remuneration and other related parties	(931,821)	(856,847)
Other payments related to service delivery	(121,917)	(177,705)
Other payments	(5,284)	(13,803)
Total cash flows from operating activities	**(77,148)**	**(191,912)**
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Payment for property, plant and equipment	(7,785)	(1,038)
Total cash flows from investing activities	**(7,785)**	**(1,038)**
Net cash flows	**(84,933)**	**(192,950)**
Cash Balances		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	642,310	835,260
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	557,376	642,310
Net change in cash for period	**(84,933)**	**(192,950)**

Statement of Accounting Policies

Brainwave Trust Aotearoa | For the year ended 31 March 2026

Basis of Preparation

Brainwave Trust Aotearoa has elected to apply the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard on the basis that total expenses are less than $5 million and the entity does not have public accountability. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report has been prepared on a going concern basis, under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

Measurement System

The measurement system adopted is that of historical cost.

Property, Plant, Equipment and Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment are initially recognised at acquisition cost, including any costs directly attributable to bringing the assets to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the Trust's management.
Property, plant and equipment are subsequently measured using the cost model, cost less subsequent depreciation and impairment losses.
Depreciation is provided to spread the cost of the asset over the expected useful life of the asset, using a structured method such as straight line or diminishing value. Depreciation method, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

Major depreciation rates have been applied as follows:
Database - 12.50 -40%
Plant & Equipment - 25 - 50%
Website and CRM - 12.5 - 50%

Accounts Receivable

Accounts Receivable are stated at their estimated realisable value.

Accounts Payable

Accounts payable is those amounts expected to be paid by the trust within 12 months from the date of these statements.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The entity is registered for GST. All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for debtors and creditors which are stated inclusive of GST.

Income Tax

Brainwave Trust Aotearoa is wholly exempt from New Zealand income tax having fully complied with all statutory conditions for these exemptions.

Bank Accounts and Cash

Bank accounts and cash in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise cash balances and bank balances (including short term deposits) with original maturities of 90 days or less.

Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefit will flow to the Trust and revenue can be reliably measured.

Donations

Donations are recorded as income when the income is banked.

Grants

Insignificant general grants are recorded as revenue when cash is received.

Government and non-government service delivery grants revenue from the provision of services is recorded as revenue by reference to the stage of completion of the services at balance date, based on the actual service provided as a percentage of the total service to be provided. Revenue not yet recognised is recorded within the Statement of Financial Position as unspent grants. The income is then subsequently recognised within the Statement of Financial Performance as the stages of completion are met.

Interest Income

Interest income is recognised on an accrual basis.

Revenue from Government Sources

Income from government contracts is invoiced according to the payments schedule in the respective contract or as services have been completed. For contracts with a payment schedule the income is recognised within the Statement of Financial Performance as the performance conditions are met. Revenue not yet recognised is recorded within the Statement of Financial Position as unspent contract income.

Revenue from Providing Services

Revenue from providing services is recognised when the services have been completed. Amounts received in advance for services to be provided in future periods are recognised as a liability until such time as the service is provided.

Changes in Accounting Policies

Effective for the reporting year ended 31 March 2025, Brainwave Trust Aotearoa changed its accounting policy from Tier 3 Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting Standard – Accrual (PBE SFR-A) to Tier 3 (NFP) Standard – Reporting Requirements for Tier 3 Not-for-Profit Entities, on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses equal to or less than $5,000,000. This change was made in accordance with the Standard's mandatory effective date of 1 April 2024, as specified by the External Reporting Board.

1. Analysis of Revenue	2026	2025
Donations		
Philanthropic foundation donations	250,000	-
Other donations	24,967	62,765
Total donations	**274,967**	**62,765**
General grants		
Community Organisation Grants Scheme - Manukau	3,848	3,848
Community Organisation Grants Scheme - Waikato West	1,500	1,500
Community Organisation Grants Scheme - Whitireia	3,880	2,120
New Zealand Lottery Grant Board	58,741	70,000
One Foundation	9,503	-
Pub Charity	30,000	30,000
The June Gray Charitable Trust	1,066	-
Total Revenue from general grants	**108,538**	**107,468**
Revenue from government sources		
Oranga Tamariki Contract Income	87,758	346,104
Department of Corrections Contract Income	179,808	151,990
Total revenue from government sources	**267,566**	**498,094**
Non-government service delivery grants/contracts		
Foundation North	53,647	-
Wright Family Foundation	218,755	107,894
The Sir Thomas & Lady Duncan Trust	-	3,861
MAS Foundation	49,451	141,660
Rata Foundation	8,330	-
Auckland Airport Community Trust	10,000	-
Workshop Programmes	13,913	13,348
Total revenue from non-government services delivery grants/contracts	**354,096**	**266,763**

2. Analysis of Expenses	2026	2025
Employee remuneration and other related expenses		
Independent contractor related costs	408,749	252,170
Employee related costs	515,010	582,370
Total employee remuneration and other related expenses	**923,759**	**834,540**
Other expenses related to service delivery		
Workshop Programmes & Partnerships	63,768	96,752
Coaching & Training	9,502	3,626
Programme Marketing & Resources	13,150	23,758
Scientific Research & Review	2,485	3,199
General & IT Expenses	33,572	42,048
Total Other costs related to providing goods or services	**122,477**	**169,382**

3. Unspent Contract Income and Grants	2026	2025
Contract income		
MAS Foundation	-	49,451
Oranga Tamariki	-	87,758
Total unspent contract income	**-**	**137,209**
Grants		
Bay of Plenty Community Trust	15,000	-
Community Organisation Grants Scheme - Whitireia	-	880
LW Nelson Trust	6,500	-
Foundation North	46,353	-
New Zealand Lottery Grant Board	16,259	-
Rata Foundation	1,670	-
The Lion Foundation	4,500	-
Wel Energy Trust	10,000	-
Wright Family Foundation	19,693	18,448
Total unspent grants	**119,975**	**19,328**
Total deferred Revenue	**119,975**	**156,537**

4. Property, Plant and Equipment, Website and CRM	2026	2025
Plant and equipment		
Plant and equipment	61,078	55,311
Accumulated depreciation - plant and equipment	(50,866)	(42,733)
Total plant and equipment	**10,212**	**12,578**
Website and CRM		
Website and CRM	25,784	45,338
Accumulated depreciation - website and CRM	(24,738)	(40,356)
Total website and CRM	**1,047**	**4,982**
Total property, plant & equipment, website and CRM	**11,259**	**17,560**
Movement in property plant, equipment, website and CRM	**2026**	**2025**
Opening Book Value	17,560	36,189
Additions - Plant and Equipment	7,785	1,038
Disposals	(12)	-
Current Year Depreciation	(14,075)	(19,667)
Closing Book Value	**11,259**	**17,560**

5. Grants Received during the period	2026	2025
Auckland Airport Community Trust	10,000	-
Bay of Plenty Community Trust	15,000	-
Community Organisation Grants Scheme - Manukau	3,848	3,848
Community Organisation Grants Scheme - Waikato West	1,500	1,500
Community Organisation Grants Scheme - Whitireia	3,000	3,000
Foundation North	100,000	-
The Lion Foundation	4,500	-
LW Nelson Trust	6,500	-
New Zealand Lottery Grant Board	75,000	-
One Foundation	9,503	-
Pub Charity Limited	30,000	30,000
Rata Foundation	10,000	-
The June Gray Charitiable Trust	1,066	-
Wel Energy Trust	10,000	-
Wright Family Foundation	220,000	100,000
Total Grants Received during the period	**499,917**	**138,348**

6. Accumulated Funds	2026	2025
Opening Balance	445,678	518,152
Surplus(deficit) for the year	(50,001)	(72,474)
Total Accumulated Funds	**395,677**	**445,678**

7. Contingent Liabilities, Commitments and Guarantees

There were no contingent liabilities at year end.

8. Related Parties

Trustee expenses of $1k (2025: $3k) were incurred in the financial year. A Springford (Trustee) donated $1,500 to the Trust in FY2025.

9. Events After the Balance Date

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report (Last year - nil).

Murray Audit

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Trustees of Brainwave Trust Aotearoa

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying Performance Report of Brainwave Trust Aotearoa, operating as Brainwave, on pages 2 to 35, which comprises the Entity Information, the Statement of Service Performance, the Statement of Financial Performance and Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2026, the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2026, a Statement of Accounting Policies and Notes to the Performance Report including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying Performance Report presents fairly, in all material respects:

- the entity information for the year ended 31 March 2026;
- the service performance for the year ended 31 March 2026, in that the service performance information is appropriate and meaningful and prepared in accordance with the entity's measurement bases or evaluation methods;
- the financial position of Brainwave Trust Aotearoa as at 31 March 2026, and its financial performance, and cash flows for the year then ended,

in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board of the External Reporting Board (XRB).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Accounting Policies and Notes to the Performance Report in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)), and the audit of the Entity Information and Statement of Service Performance in accordance with New Zealand Auditing Standard 1 (Revised) 'The Audit of Service Performance Information' (NZ AS1 (Revised)). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report section of our report. We are independent of Brainwave Trust Aotearoa in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 'International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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Murray Audit

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, Brainwave Trust Aotearoa.

Restriction on Responsibility

This report is made solely to the Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 42F of the Charities Act 2005. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Trustees' Responsibility for the Performance Report

The Trustees are responsible on behalf of the entity for:
(a) the selection of elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions and measurement bases or evaluation methods that present service performance information that is appropriate and meaningful in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard;
(b) the preparation and fair presentation of the Performance Report which comprises:

- the Entity Information;
- the Statement of Service Performance; and
- the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Accounting Policies and Notes to the Performance Report in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard, and

(c) for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a Performance Report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Performance Report, the Trustees are responsible on behalf of the entity for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Performance Report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance ISAs and NZ AS1 (Revised) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this Performance Report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS1 (Revised), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Murray Audit

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Performance Report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Obtain an understanding of the process applied by the entity to select its elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions and the measurement bases or evaluation methods.
- Evaluate whether the selection of elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions and measurement bases or evaluation methods present an appropriate and meaningful assessment of the entity's service performance in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
- Evaluate whether the service performance information is prepared in accordance with the entity's measurement bases or evaluation methods, in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Trustees and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the Performance Report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the Performance Report, including the disclosures, and whether the Performance Report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Trustees regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Kudos Murray Audit
Kudos Murray Audit Limited

Auckland
13 October 2026

Entity Information

The trust deed which established Brainwave in 1998 was updated in 2023 to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose, and is available here. Brainwave is governed by a board of trustees that ensures we operate within our trust deed particularly within our objectives, meeting at least six times a year.

Governance

The last couple of years has seen a refresh of the board as long-standing trustees have retired. At year end, the trustees of Brainwave were:

Darren Folau | Co-Chair

Leanne Otene | Co-chair

Natasha Flavell | Treasurer

Germaine Philippsen | Trustee

Dr Josh Tiro | Trustee

Mārama Stewart | Trustee

Alex Greaves | Trustee

You can learn more about our Governance team here.

Patrons

Brainwave has two patrons, co-founder Judy Bailey ONZM and recently we welcomed Dr Hinemoa Elder MNZM as our second patron.

Registration Number

CC40312

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Website

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Facebook

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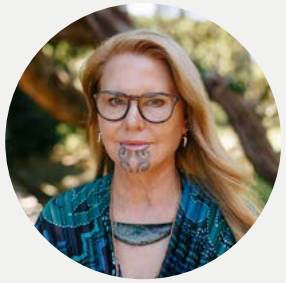
Instagram

www.instagram.com/brainwavetrustaotearoa/

Linkedin

www.linkedin.com/company/brainwave-trust-aotearoa/



Hinemoa Elder MNZM | Patron

Judy Bailey ONZM | Patron

Brainwave™