



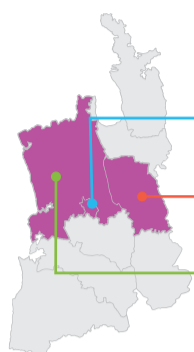
COMMUNITIES

Part A

Our manaakitanga, or caring, speaks to the strength and health of our communities. There are more of us involved in unpaid volunteering and caring work in our region than nationally, providing essential support and connections between people. As our population is ageing, these networks are increasingly important. Acknowledging and developing our volunteers and carers is a priority.

FAST FORWARD TO 2033

Our ageing population IS SOARING



POPULATION AGED 65+ BY 2033

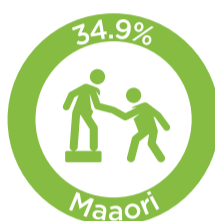


We have a very caring community. People will go further than needed to help others out, not just financially but with time, energy and caring.

Matamata Vital Signs community engagement participant

UNPAID CARING AND VOLUNTEER WORK*

is important to our community spirit, our people and our economy. **Maaori volunteer the most**, with over one-third involved in unpaid caring and volunteering.



*Source: Census, 2013.

LABOUR FORCE ENTRY TO EXIT RATIO IN 2033



By 2033, there will be more people leaving the labour force than there are people entering it outside of Hamilton City.

Waikato District	84	100
Matamata-Piako	88	100
Hamilton City	171*	100

*Hamilton City has a higher number of youth and less of a drop in its ratio due to its significant tertiary student population.

In 2015, Volunteering Waikato* registered **3,037 VOLUNTEERS**



*Source: Volunteering Waikato, 2016.

DID YOU KNOW - New Zealand is the third most generous country in terms of donating money, helping a stranger, and volunteering time. Burma (Myanmar) ranks first, followed by the United States of America.

Source: Charities Aid Foundation World Giving Index, 2015.

COMMUNITY VOICES - WE WANT TO:

Encourage more people to **volunteer time** and energy to our communities, making volunteering opportunities more accessible.

Value and **connect** with our ageing population.

Increase **links** between different community groups, to work together on our challenges.

FOOD FOR ALL

Every night at 6pm at the old David's Emporium building on Hood St in Hamilton, the doors open, welcoming anyone in need of a hot meal and a bit of company.

Behind the doors are an ever-growing team of local volunteers, people who supply and prepare food from their own pantries and kitchens to make dinner for people living on low-income or no-income, or who just need a place to connect.

Co-ordinated by the Hamilton Homeless Trust, the group offers a free meal every night of the week - and in the past two years they haven't missed a night yet.

Coordinator and trustee, Camilla Carty-Mellis, says despite the name of the group, they're not focused solely on rough sleepers or homeless people. "It's unconditional," she says. "We serve families who are going through a rough patch, those between jobs, students, and people new to the area."

Most nights between 50-60 people show up for a meal, sometimes up to 120. It's a balancing act, but they don't waste any food and everyone gets something to eat. People of all ages and backgrounds cook and provide the food - mothers with small babies in tow, older people, and many different ethnicities and nationalities all cook and serve together.

Local businesses, schools and community groups also pitch in, like the local restaurant who regularly prepares food to send down for serving. The Trust has also joined forces with food rescue service, Kaivolution, using rescued food to prepare meals each week supplemented by food from the volunteers.

Together they are providing unconditional support, filling bellies and hearts in our community.



Camilla Carty-Mellis - Hamilton Homeless Trust

How can we acknowledge, support, and celebrate our volunteers, to build a vibrant community?