

ADVOCACY REPORT

Sept-Dec 2020

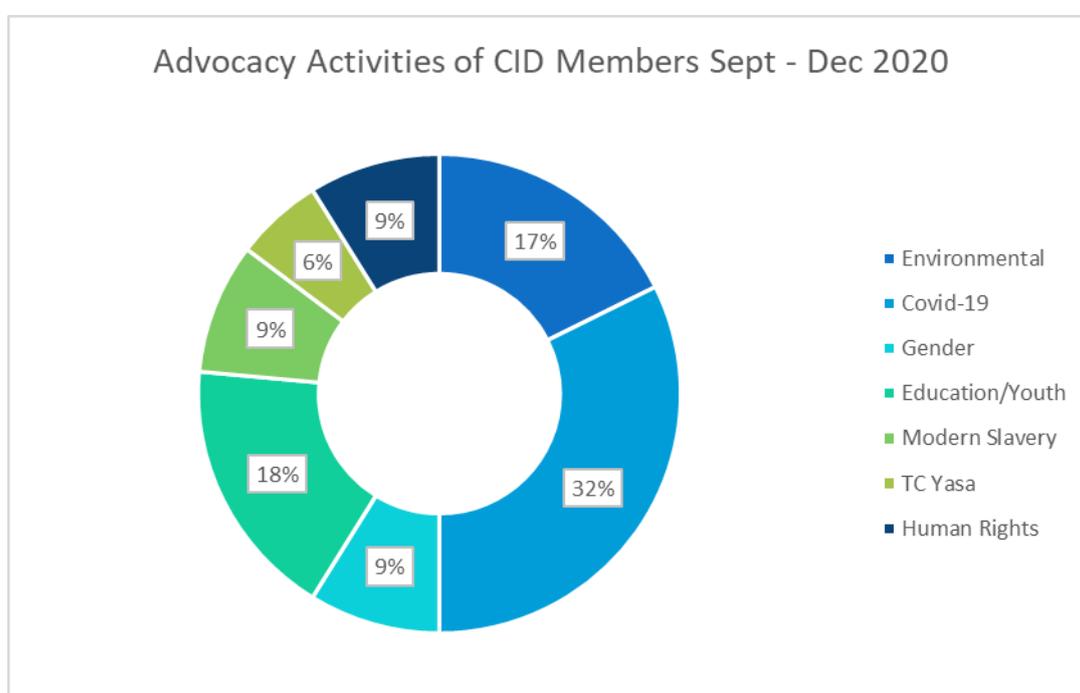


COUNCIL *for*
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

Summary

The September – December 2020 period saw a number of new and continued advocacy activities in the sector, including a growing shift towards more collaborative activities, and some clear themes being identified. This report collates these activities, firstly the standout collaborative activities, and then the activities led by CID’s member organisations.

The activities detailed in this report are based off a survey conducted in January 2021, asking members to provide an outline of their organisation’s advocacy activities over the September – December 2020 period. Complementary to this, desktop research was also conducted to identify other activities not disclosed in the survey. Note that the activities outlined in this report are not extensive, however are intended to depict the current main advocacy focus areas of CID member organisations over the studied period.



As shown above, Covid-19 related advocacy activities still dominate members’ focusses, with over 30% of members’ activities related to aspects of Covid-19 advocacy including vaccinations, vulnerable communities, and relief efforts. However, this has decreased from the previous May – August period, which saw almost half of advocacy activities related to Covid-19. The focus of activities included in this report has now shifted more towards a much wider spread of activities, with members increasing their educational/youth related advocacy activities, as well as environmental activities. This period also saw the continuation of the Big Hearts, Connected World campaign, with the mid-2021 deadline to influence the New Zealand government’s budget approaching soon, as well as a new campaign for legislation to prevent Modern Slavery starting up just before Christmas.

The full breakdown of the significant collaborative activities and CID members’ advocacy activities is shown below.

COLLABORATIVE Highlights

[Big Hearts, Connected World](#)

The Big Hearts, Connected World campaign is coordinated by Oxfam New Zealand, working closely with World Vision, Christian World Service and The Anglican Diocese of Wellington, and supported by 11 other INGOs. The campaign is centred around promoting the Collective Resilience Plan - a roadmap for building a strong global community through New Zealand's overseas aid and climate action, including a 20% boost to NZ's overseas aid budget, doubled finance for climate action overseas and a commitment to increasing international development spending to 0.7% of NZ's gross national income by 2030. This campaign was established mid 2020 and will continue until mid-2021.



[Joint call for overhaul of OIA](#)

In September last year, a range of NGOs partnered together to issue a joint call for a review of the Official Information Act. This work is also ongoing as we continue to call for a review. The organisations involved in the initial joint call were Amnesty International NZ, NZ Council for Civil Liberties, JustSpeak, Greenpeace, NZ Forest and Bird and the Child Poverty Action Group.

[Call to prioritise children in Covid-19 recovery](#)

Child-based organisations ChildFund, Save the Children, UNICEF and World Vision joined forces to call on world leaders, including New Zealand's Prime Minister, to prioritise children in their COVID-19 recovery plans. The organisations pushed the message that the NZ government's national plan must prioritise children here in New Zealand - particularly those who have had to leave school to take on work, or whose parents have lost their jobs, as well as children with mental health issues exacerbated by the crisis. They also called on the government to prioritise children in vulnerable communities around the world.

[People's Vaccine Open Letter](#)

42 different groups and noted experts, including Oxfam NZ, Amnesty International Aotearoa New Zealand, Christian World Service, Tearfund, UnionAID, and World Vision signed a letter calling on Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern to support a "people's vaccine" by supporting a waiver to WTO intellectual property rules for Covid-19 vaccines. The letter outlined how supporting the WTO waiver for a people's vaccine will increase the global supply of vaccine doses, making COVAX a faster and more effective system overall.

MEMBER Highlights

ADRA New Zealand

[ADRA Campaign](#)

ADRA advocates for fair and equal access to education for all children. They have released a petition in hope of getting 1 million signatures to encourage world leaders to commit to ensuring that all young people have access of quality, free, and equitable education. In campaigning for fair and equitable education, ADRA seek to empower girls, refugees, and children with disabilities.

Ākina

[Ākina Impact](#)

Ākina continues to advocate for the development of organisations in their ability to impact the environment around them and the growing impact economy in the most positive way. Ākina's impact model outlines how they help businesses and organisations achieve this and continue to create change that will make New Zealand a better place.

Amnesty

[Prisoners' Rights Advocacy](#)

Amnesty International Aotearoa are concerned about serious human rights issues in the prison system and have started work on a long-term campaign focused on changing the dominant narrative and seeking the adoption of key policies to protect the human rights of vulnerable or marginalised groups. Actions to date have included investigatory work, advocacy, and public facing campaigning, as well as the ongoing establishment of a civil society run watchdog.

Anglican Missions

[The Lenten Appeal 2020](#)

The Lenten Appeal 2020 was a year-long appeal that advocated for better access to quality medical equipment to improve its diagnostic and screening capacity to prevent expensive treatment of illnesses down the track. It advocated for the training of rehabilitation staff in a child disability centre in Jerusalem, and lastly, the appeal sought to support the request of roofing churches in Tanzania. A total of \$42,960 was raised and put towards these three focus areas of the Lenten Appeal 2020.

[Tropical Cyclone Yasa Emergency Appeal](#)

In partnership with TearFund, Anglican Missions have responded to the category 5 cyclone that hit Fiji on the 17th of December 2020. The sustained 250km/h-350km/h winds caused waves of up to 12m and resulted in more than 23,000 people retreated to evacuation centres in the aftermath. Anglican Missions sought to assist the most vulnerable in the immediate aftermath of the cyclone and launched appeals to help fund the support of response.

Caritas

[State of the Environment Report](#)

Caritas' annual State of the Environment for Oceania report for 2020, *Towards New Horizons*, was released through a global webinar on Friday 2 October, followed by an online Mass on Sunday 4 October hosted by the Catholic Diocese of Auckland.

The *Caritas State of the Environment for Oceania* report series has monitored critical issues affecting the life and wellbeing of Oceania and its peoples since 2014. The five main issues Caritas monitor are rising seas and coastal erosion, extreme weather, access to safe local food and water, offshore mining and drilling, and climate finance.

Christian Blind Mission

[The Miracle of Sight in PNG](#)

Christian Blind Mission established a cataract eye surgery clinic in October 2020 in East New Britain, an island off the east coast of Papua New Guinea. 160 cataract eye surgeries were performed within five days of the clinic opening up which is an amazing accomplishment for the surgical team and for the island of Papua New Guinea who previously struggled with the need for cataract surgeries far outweighing the availability of the eye surgeons.

ChildFund

[Helping Vulnerable Children Around the World Survive COVID-19](#)

ChildFund has announced that 6 months after the launch of a COVID-19 Response Plan in April of 2020, they are directing nearly \$80 million USD to relief efforts and have reached more than 5.6 million children in more than 60 countries worldwide. ChildFund's COVID-19 Response Plan centres on four key areas: stopping the spread of COVID-19 to families and children; keeping children safe from violence; providing food for children; and helping children continue their learning.

[ChildFund Projects](#)

In addition to the Covid-19 response, ChildFund have been advocating for the prioritisation of healthcare for new-born babies and mothers, access to safe water in Sri Lanka, and children's rights to play, learn, and grow. They are also seeking to expand their work in Asia and the Pacific through a new partnership with MFAT with the hopes of reaching over 100,000 children in the coming five years.

Christian World Service

[Covid-19 Emergency Appeal](#)

Christian World Service has an ongoing Covid-19 response plan where staff are working to support Iraqi, Palestinian, and Syrian refugees, provide emergency food parcels, hygiene kits, and cash vouchers to families in Gaza, India, the Middle East, and farmers living on the West Bank. CWS are also supporting their overseas partners that are working in India, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Uganda, to provide food and water supplies.

[South Sudan Appeal](#)

CWS continues to work on their South Sudan appeal for newly displaced people who lack food, medicine, water, shelter, hygiene equipment, and schools. The near collapse of South Sudan's oil industry that accounts for 98% of the country's income, has been disastrous for the local people. Additionally, the constant threat of violence, rape, frequent attacks, and widespread uncertainty mean that the necessary crop have not been planted to sustain the country, leaving 4.8 million people in desperate need of food. This insecurity has displaced more than 1.6 million people. CWS is supporting their partners to do what it takes to save and better the lives of displaced South Sudanese people.

[Lebanon Recovery Appeal](#)

Christian World Service have also continued their Lebanon Recovery Appeal to support communities through the devastating blast in Beirut. Several major grain silos containing 85% of Lebanon's grain supply and several major hospitals have experienced severe devastation and been reduced to rubble. CWS has sought to provide families with relief supplies, including cash vouchers, food, school kits, materials to rebuild their homes, shelter, and other necessities.

Circuit International

[Circuit International Covid-19 Response](#)

Circuit International has focused their Covid-19 relief efforts towards communities in Myanmar. Myanmar's heavy dependence on China in the tourism industry, in agricultural exports and manufacturing supply chains, has meant that they were impacted economically, right from the beginning. Circuit International has been working hard to educate people about their health and how to prevent the spread of the virus, as well as providing equipment to the communities. With the ever-changing pandemic situation and consequences, Circuit International will continue to advocate for healthy communities in Myanmar in addition to their ongoing missions of supporting and establishing grain drying facilities, loaning money for farmers to buy seeds, and developing the coffee growing business in Myanmar.

Engineers Without Borders

[Engineers Without Borders Vision and Mission](#)

Engineers Without Borders keep their focus in the South Pacific and operate with the idea that quality of achievement and success is best measured by the strength of their partnerships. They advocate for access to engineering capabilities and leadership that leads to a life of opportunity and frees people from all forms of poverty. Through quality, respect, learning, and innovation, communities can come together and make sustainable changes and additions to societies to improve the quality of life for everyone.

FairTrade NZ

[FairTrade Addressing Global Issues](#)

FairTrade seeks to empower millions of workers and farmers around the world by tackling poor working conditions and poverty as well as protecting the environment in hopes for creating a better future. Supporting FairTrade allows them to better work towards alleviating the issues they advocate

for: gender equality; the environment; fair play; the sustainable development goals; preventing modern slavery; and addressing child labour.

The Family Centre

[The Family Centre Work](#)

The Family Centre uses their social policy research to aid their family therapy services and community development work. They are also involved in international research collaboration and education and training with the purpose of learning more about social policy and educating society.

Family Planning

[International Projects](#)

Family Planning campaigns for the easy and accessible use of sexual and reproductive health information, education and training, clinical services, and research. They keep their international work focused on our neighbours in the Asia Pacific region with work being carried out in Kiribati, Vanuatu, Tuvalu, and the Cook Islands. These projects serve to increase awareness and advance the sexual and reproductive health and well-being of people in Pacific countries.

The Fred Hollows Foundation NZ

[Pacific Outreaches](#)

The Fred Hollows Foundation advocates for the training of health professionals in order to reach a wider range of people needing eye care. Their teams regularly visit communities through the Pacific and perform cataract and other sight-restoring surgeries and establish outreach clinics. Unfortunately, due to the impacts of COVID-19, the Fred Hollows teams have not been able to reach as many patients and carry out their much-needed specialised work over this last year. However, after controls were placed over Fiji to combat the pandemic, training programmes and eye mobile clinics have been able to resume.

Global Development Group

[Responding to the Impacts of COVID-19 in our Communities](#)

Global Development Group have done their part in supporting their partners and overseas communities through the pandemic by fundraising to help with the distribution of food and hygiene packs. Additionally, their educational projects have been remoulded and developed to continue student's learning through lockdowns and temporary closures of schools. These developments include take home packs of educational resources and keeping in contact with students through social media, home visits, and radio programs. These efforts will continue while there is still a need.

[Empowered Women Build a Stronger Community](#)

Global Development Group also seek to bring hope and healing to vulnerable women and children in Uganda and South Sudan through empowerment programmes. This advocacy work has gained community engagement and co-operation and is moving towards positive steps in integration and better outcomes for beneficiaries.

Habitat for Humanity

[Habitat for Humanity work](#)

Habitat for Humanity helps those who have been struck by disaster and support and partner with international projects to provide sanitation and clean water to communities. They seek to provide a foundation for a better life and empower people by improving their living conditions and livelihoods. Habitat for Humanity continue to advocate for independence in home ownership and empowerment of communities in the wake of disaster and need.

Hagar New Zealand

[Hagar's Advocacy](#)

Hagar works towards helping individuals who have survived and suffered from severe abuse by supporting them in overcoming their trauma and ultimately serving to reduce the existence of slavery, abuse, and human trafficking. They provide survivors with safe accommodation, long-term tailored support, trauma counselling, medical care, education, legal support, and job training and placement.

[Afghanistan Cambodia Vietnam](#)

Through the pandemic, Hagar have been working in Afghanistan, Cambodia, and Vietnam to introduce people to paid work so they can support their families during the difficult time. Additionally, Hagar distributed emergency funds to help those who were desperately struggling to cover the basic needs.

Himalayan Trust

[New Bupsa Water System](#)

In October 2020, the Himalayan Trust completed the establishment of a new water system in Bupsa. The water sources on the mountains are not easily accessible so in order to deliver water to the village houses, lodges, and vegetable patches, a engineered pipeline was built. Providing clean water and sanitation is only one way that the Himalayan Trust help the people in Nepal. In addition to this, they work to improve healthcare and education, rebuild houses that are not earthquake proof, and provide young people with scholarships to encourage the next generation of health workers, teachers, and leaders.

[Covid-19 Response](#)

The Himalayan Trust also did their part in Covid-19 emergency relief. This has been an ongoing appeal since May of 2020, and has resulted in the supply of many more community clinics and hospitals than originally planned. As tourism is a main source of income for the Solukhumbu District, humanitarian support is anticipated for the medium to long term.

Hope Street

[Hope Street Work](#)

Hope Street have been working with local partners in Kenya, Uganda, and Myanmar to combat the spread of Covid-19. Through public funding, Hope Street have been able to increase awareness of hygiene and prevention of the virus through local radio, posters, and social media, and are working on projects to install handwashing stations. Hope Street are also seeking to keep beneficiaries safe during the absence of routine face-to-face social work. Hope Street are also doing their best to continue their existing programmes of child sponsorship, educating children and families; and providing healthcare to the vulnerable amongst other things.

International Needs Humanitarian Aid Trust

[Covid-19 has had a small impact on our little island nation](#)

The advocacy work of International Needs is founded upon the Christian faith and the Bible which is portrayed in their values of Gospel proclamation, holistic development, and national leadership to name a few. Although Covid-19 has locked down most of the world, International Needs has still recently managed to establish three new churches in the Buin District (South of PNG). The missionaries and pastors have completed their Bible training and were sent to PNG to launch these churches and the Kidron Papua New Guinea missions centre and work in November. They work to bring the word of God to the communities in PNG and see lives transformed through the message.

The Leprosy Mission New Zealand

[No Child with Leprosy by 2035](#)

The Leprosy Mission advocate for the prevention of leprosy and minimisation of its impact by primarily addressing extreme poverty. The ongoing campaign is for no child to have leprosy by 2035. In order to defeat the transmission, The Leprosy Mission have partnered with organisations like the World Health Organisation under the Global Partnership for Zero Leprosy. They are continuing their work in Bangladesh, Bougainville, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, and Papua New Guinea.

New Zealand China Friendship Society

[Promoting Goodwill](#)

In November 2020, the national president of the NZ China Friendship Society gave a presentation to Wellington members, in honour of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, that reminded members of China's historic journey from the bottom to its current position as a global power. The presentation reminded the members of the main things that the organisation advocates for: understanding and goodwill between the people of NZ and China by encouraging visits and trade; fostering interest into the study of China; supporting aid projects in China; promote the study of the Chinese language by New Zealanders; foster on-going development of all connections between NZ and China; and assist new migrants and visiting students from China that require help fitting into NZ society.

New Zealand Ethnic Women's Trust

[NZ Ethnic Women's Trust Projects](#)

NZ Ethnic Women's Trust advocates for easy resettlement and integration of refugees and migrants into New Zealand. This is achieved through parenting programmes, employment support, sewing schools, play groups for young children, and business enterprise activities such as cooking and handcrafts. Furthermore, NZ Ethnic Women's Trust, through their programmes, seek to provide a safe place where women can freely express their views in a supportive environment.

Orphans Aid International

[Covid-19 Response](#)

Orphans Aid International has an ongoing Covid-19 Emergency Appeal that seeks to respond to the huge demand of resources required due to the global lockdowns, pandemic, and financial crises. They seek to alleviate hunger, fairly distribute food, and provide protection for children that are living in extreme conditions. Advocacy for children through the Covid-19 pandemic is another way that Orphans Aid International is able to reach out to children across the globe and improve the living conditions of children internationally as outlined in their organisation mission.

Oxfam

[Fighting inequality in the time of COVID-19: The Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index 2020](#)

In October 2020, Oxfam published the Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index, which looked at what policies governments have in place to stop inequality, and ranked 157 countries for their commitment to inequality reduction. This third edition of the CRI Index report recommends that all governments adopt strong anti-inequality policies on public services, tax and labour rights, to radically reduce the gap between rich and poor. It also recommends that the international community must support them with Special Drawing Rights, debt relief and global solidarity taxes.

[Standing with the Frontlines Climate Finance Report](#)

Oxfam's report *Standing With The Frontlines*, released ahead of the Climate Ambition Summit in December 2020, presented analysis which suggested that out of 23 high-income countries, New Zealand's level of climate finance funding ranks just 21st when calculated on a per capita basis. It provides recommendation for increasing climate finance, and emphasises the message portrayed in the Big Hearts campaign.

[Power, Profits, and the Pandemic Policy Paper](#)

Oxfam also published a paper demonstrating how large corporations have put profits before workers' safety, pushed costs down the supply chain and used their political influence to shape policy responses. The paper also shows how the pandemic has left low wage workers and women to pay the price of the pandemic without social or financial protection, and that COVID-19 should be the catalyst for radically reining in corporate power, restructuring business models with purpose and rewarding all those that work with profits, creating an economy for all.

Rotary New Zealand World Community Service

[Rotary Work](#)

Rotary New Zealand primarily advocates for the relief of poverty, sickness, hunger, the provision of emergency assistance when the need arises, and the economic development of developing countries which involves ensuring access to clean water and sanitation, raising educational standards, preventing disease, health programmes, conflict resolution, and promoting equality. They can carry out these values and missions through a series of programmes and projects including the “Rotarians Against Malaria: The Vanuatu Malaria Elimination Program” where they help to fund the provision of bed nets throughout Vanuatu.

The Salvation Army New Zealand, Fiji, and Tonga Territory

[Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Response Strategy](#)

In September 2020, the Salvation Army launched Fight for Freedom which is a new International Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Response Strategy. Every day during September, inspiring videos, messages, resources, and tools will be shared and released to motivate and mobilise the global Salvation Army to partake in this Fight for Freedom. The purpose behind this strategy is to create, implement, and ensure that sustainable and strong slavery response is taken in all regions, communities, territories, and commands of the Salvation Army.

Save the Children

[Children Wellbeing](#)

Save the Children, as they advocate to improve child wellbeing and ensure children’s rights and voices are heard, have worked on a number of projects and worked towards the funding of many current projects since September 2020. These included raising money to continue funding the refugee shelters in Thailand, helping thousands of children to learn to read in Indonesia, and emergency response in Ambae, Vanuatu. Save the Children also have 8 long term projects being carried out across the Asia Pacific region that seeks to rescue children from poverty, trafficking, and the effects of climate change.

SurfAid International

[12 Days of Improved Nutrition in Laggigi, Mentawai](#)

In October 2020, SurfAid carried out 12 days of improved nutrition in Laggigi, Mentawai. This was done with the intention of following up on the health outcomes of local children and preventing and reducing the rate of stunting and malnutrition in the village. It was discovered that 14 out of 73 children in the area were malnourished. Over the 12 days, the nutrition post offered activities including weight monitoring and cooking demonstrations. Families were educated on the importance of adequate nutrition and by the end of the 12 days, results showed that 70% of children under five has gained weight. It is hoped that this advocacy work can be carried out again if needed.

Tearfund

[2020 Covid Fashion Report](#)

Tearfund's primary advocacy work is concerned with Ethical Fashion. This is based around researching and publishing an annual ethical fashion guide, which typically grades NZ fashion and clothing outlets based on the strength of their systems to mitigate against the risks of forced labour, child labour, and exploitation in their supply chains. The report found that the global pandemic had been the biggest crisis the fashion industry had ever faced, disrupting entire supply chains, and exposing vulnerable workers to more risk.

UnionAID

[Changing live and livelihoods in Tamil Nadu](#)

UnionAid is committed to supporting action taken to build unions, take collective action, and provide skills training that work to improve the lives of people in neighbouring countries. UnionAid advocates for the empowerment of working people in the Asia-Pacific region to achieve a life free of poverty. They help by providing financial support to their partners overseas that have made recent progress in places such as Tamil Nadu in India where shrinking debt and increasing incomes have become a greater reality.

UN Women NZ

[16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#)

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. It was started by activists at the inaugural Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and continues to be coordinated each year by the Center for Women's Global Leadership. The campaign invited individuals and organisations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls.

Volunteer Service Abroad

[VSA COVID-19 Impact and Work](#)

VSA recruit New Zealander's from a wide range of backgrounds and professions to transform lives and create a fair future for Pacific neighbours. Although Covid-19 has meant that many of VSA's advocacy and volunteer services have been postponed, VSA is still able to maintain e-volunteering practices in order to reach the people that need assistance and continue efforts in their advocacy work that bring about lasting change. E-volunteering has been taking place in Melanesia, Polynesia, and Timor-Leste to create positive change and build capacity within Pacific communities.

WWF

[Lime and WWF Work Together to Create Healthier, More Liveable cities](#)

On 27 November, WWF partnered with Lime to bring the Ride Green initiative to New Zealand. This initiative seeks to promote cleaner modes of transportation as well as local advocacy to develop more sustainable urban mobility and liveable cities. Ride Green includes three pillars: education that

expands the awareness of conventional mobility's air pollution impacts; advocacy for global conservation and reduction of climate pollution in mobility options; and carbon innovations that push towards a carbon-free future.

Youth with A Mission Ships Aotearoa

[YWAM KOHA Ship](#)

YWAM Ships Aotearoa is working on the repurposing of the ship they were gifted in order to serve dental, medical, pharmaceutical, and surgical needs as well as provide classroom facilities. Through this ship, YWAM hope to empower isolated Island communities and improve the future of New Zealand's Pacific neighbours. The KOHA is being worked on by volunteers from a range of professions and advocates for empowering healthy futures for all people.