

Operation Blue Santa Taranaki

Kia Ora Koutou

Roderique Hope Emergency Housing Trust in conjunction with the Police Family Harm team and Tu Tama Wahine o Taranaki are rolling out Operation Blue Santa in Taranaki for the 4th year in a row.

Operation Blue Santa is the opportunity for Police to identify high risk families who are likely to have a Police Family Harm call out over Christmas or are struggling in severe hardship and poverty. Prior to Christmas Police and Social Services visit the family with a laundry basket full of food and Christmas treats. They check in on the family to ensure a safety plan is in place, should a situation arise over the Christmas break while services are closed for the holidays.

Family Violence is still a huge issue in our Taranaki community with Police attending over 1200 family harm incidents since July 2019. This is a 15.4% increase from the same time period in 2018. By the end of 2019 Police anticipate that they will have attended over 5000 family harm incidents in Taranaki and over half of these call outs will include children being present.

First hand I have seen this level of generosity bring people to tears. All too often the Police are there to pick up the pieces and only see people in times of grief and trauma. Instead of going to an address to serve a summons, arrest a perpetrator, or break bad news, Operation Blue Santa provides front line staff opportunity to shine a little light on people's hard circumstances and show that this community cares.



The cost of an Operation Blue Santa Basket (contents on page 2) is \$85. This year we will be working alongside the team at Countdown Spotswood again, who have generously provided us with some great bulk buying deals.

Funds can be deposited into the Roderique Hope Trust account and a receipt, personal or business will be posted to the donator at the end of the financial year. Personal donations can claim back one third of their donation via IRD.

The contents of a basket can be purchased and put together by a family, church, community group or business, or donations of food for the baskets can be dropped into Tu Tama Wahine where the baskets will be assembled.

All completed Operation Blue Santa baskets must be delivered to Tu Tama Wahine, 62 Powderham Street, New Plymouth by **Monday 9th December 2019**.

Operation Blue Santa made a tangible difference in the lives of over 350 families in Taranaki in 2018 and a whopping \$24,000 was generously donated by the Taranaki community to make this possible. This was as a result of the phenomenal collaboration between the Police, Community Organisations, Community Groups, Businesses and families in our community putting their hand up and saying, I want to be part of the solution.

This year our goal is to reach 400 families including families extending to those seeking the assistance of the Taranaki Retreat and residing in Emergency Housing. Our goal by the 9th December is to have raised over \$30,000 to complete this project.

We believe that together, we can grow Operation Blue Santa and continue to make that difference for families in our city.

For more information please feel free to contact Michelle Ramage on 0275907116, at roderiquehope@gmail.com or www.roderiquehopetrust.co.nz.

Nga mihi,



Michelle Ramage
Roderique Hope Trust/Operation Blue Santa

Account details

Roderique Hope Trust
TSB – 15 3953 0821231 00
ref: Blue Santa



Basket contents

2 Baked Beans	Macaroni pasta	Pancake shaker mix – 350g
2 Spaghetti	2 Diced Tomatoes cans	Shampoo – 200ml
Two minute noodles 6pk	2 Jars of pasta sauce	Conditioner – 200ml
2 Peaches	2 packets of biscuits	Bar of soap (Protex/Dove)
Tomato sauce	Potato chips	Toothpaste
Peanut Butter	500g Weetbix	4pk toilet paper
Jam	Reduced cream	Dishwashing liquid
Teabags	Maggi onion soup	Washing powder – 500g
Coffee	Jelly crystals	Cadbury Favourites
Milo	Fruit O Ice Pop's – 10pk or similar	Christmas Crackers (6-8pk)
Long grain rice	Raro Sachet 3 pack	Packets of Candy Canes
Penne pasta		Christmas serviettes