



2021 THE YEAR OF OPPORTUNITIES

by Juliana Chang

While the rest of the world still struggles with the pandemic and the results of it, Aotearoa New Zealand is able to start a new year fresh, motivated, and ready to accomplish great things, while remaining safe.

Volunteer Central shares this optimism and we will work to bring new ways to connect and support our communities, to promote volunteering opportunities, and get people together in this chain of good. We aim for a Connected Future.

We invite you to think about which opportunities you want to take in 2021. Improve knowledge by enrolling in a course? Find a new job? Do some exercise? Travel? Choose a hobby?

Everyone can make a difference, either in their own lives or in the lives of others. All we need to do is start. Happy 2021!

WITHIN
THESE
PAGES:

02 *PAST EVENTS*

03 *NEXT EVENTS*

04 *VOLUNTEERING
DAY*

05 *VRE2021*

Don't forget to follow us on Social Media to have access to our weekly news and info:



Volunteer Central



@volunteercentralnz



www.volunteercentral.nz

Sewing bee - SuperGrans Manawatu

10 February, 2021

SuperGrans organised an event to sew blankets for pēpē (babies) sleeping in wahakura (hand-woven, safe sleep spaces for pēpē up to 6 months of age). They allow co-sleeping and are part of a Māori approach to combat Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (SUDI).

The upcycling of blankets is an ongoing activity. If you want to get involved flick an email to admin@sgmanawatu.org.nz. You can also help by donating resources: woollen blankets or satin ribbons.



SuperGrans
Manawatu

“

I have almost no experience sewing. I bought my first sewing machine during the lockdown and I learned how to do a few pieces by watching youtube tutorials. I got motivated to attend this event because it is such a good cause and my skills were enough to accomplish the task. I don't have much time to commit, so a one-off event was perfect and I hope to have the opportunity to do it again. It was fabulous practice. The other volunteers were more experienced and walked me through all details and processes. I felt welcome and part of the team right away. They kept checking on me, encouraging me and when I finished it was a team achievement more than an individual accomplishment. That's what volunteering is all about. People helping each other, helping an organisation, helping the community. It's a chain of good in which everyone has a role. Nothing is too small or too big.

Every contribution is valid and is valuable. - Juliana -

”

Beach Cleaning

26 February, 2021

As part of Keep New Zealand Beautiful 2020, Volunteer Central registered to do a beach clean, however, due to weather conditions we had to postpone it to 2021. Last week our team was at Himatangi Beach and it was a great experience. We were surprisingly impressed not to find a lot of rubbish: one bag in 2 hours. It means visitors at Himatangi are doing their part: having fun but also cleaning afterward. We'll do it again on Clean Up Week running 13-19 September 2021. Would you like to join us? Keep an eye on our Social Media.



Horowhenua Volunteering Expo

To kick off the year, we are hosting the Horowhenua Volunteering Expo 2021.

Organisations: Spaces are limited so register asap to save your spot! eventmanager@volunteercentral.nz

Volunteers: This is an amazing event to get to know the organisations that provide services to the community and the broad range of volunteer positions they have available. Join us! Free Entry.

Thursday, 11 March 2021
10am - 2pm
Te Takere, 10 Bath St, Levin

HELP US SPREAD THE WORD!
TELL YOUR FRIENDS, WHANAU, COLLEAGUES!



Unite
against
COVID-19

This event will only happen under Alert Level 1

Connecting with Youth

On 24th Feb we were at UCOL Connect Day and on the 25th we were at MUSA Mega Market talking to students about how Volunteering can assist in gaining skills, connecting with the local community, and expanding their work/life experience. Also how it is a fun and rewarding activity, with a broad range of opportunities.



UCOL Connect Day



MUSA Mega Market

NEW

Volunteering Day

Each month Volunteer Central will gather a group of volunteers for a one-off project with one of our member organisations. Come along!! Register by email: eventmanager@volunteercentral.nz. A new way to have a taste of volunteering, a chance to ask questions, and get to know different organisations.

MARCH



CAMELLIA HOUSE

Camellia House provides accommodation and support for hundreds of women, and continue to work towards their mission "Enabling Women into Independence". Camellia House has been home to numerous young women and their children providing a safe, caring, learning, living environment, offering education programmes and support services.

They will welcome a group of volunteers to help organise a shed (move furniture, sort kitchen items, clothes, and toys). If you want to support this organisation, join us! Register now to receive more details: eventmanager@volunteercentral.nz

APRIL



MANAWATU PRISONERS AID

PARS provides social support to alleviate isolation and discrimination to prisoners and ex-offenders who need help with practical day-to-day issues. They also support family/whanau to assist with prison visiting applications, information, and support with any concerns about someone in prison.

Do you want to volunteer but want to know more before applying? This is for you! Come to a morning tea with the volunteers of PARS, get to know the roles available, the tasks involved, time commitment, and ask all questions you might have. Register now: eventmanager@volunteercentral.nz

Keen to participate?



If you are a volunteer keen to attend any of these events or if you are an organisation keen to receive a group for a fun day, please get in touch with us: eventmanager@volunteercentral.nz



15 MAR - 21 MAR 2021
STUDENT VOLUNTEER WEEK

Student volunteers **give** a hand to the community, **grow** as they gain knowledge and create valuable changes, and **connect** with others.



COLLECTIVE IMPACT
GIVE.GROW.CONNECT

If you are a student and want to get involved in a group volunteering event during Student Volunteer Week 2021, get in touch with eventmanager@volunteercentral.nz to be connected to a clean-up/sampling event that we are collaborating with Palmy's Plastic Pollution Challenge (PPPC) on.

8th Volunteer Recognition Event



Nomination

Keep an eye on our next emails!!

Nominations will open soon!!

Start thinking of whom you will nominate this year.

Sponsorship - Make it happen!

Are you able to sponsor this event or know someone who can?

We are looking for proud sponsors - businesses who want to show their support to volunteers by enabling this celebration.

Contact eventmanager@volunteercentral.nz for further information.



Collaboration

We are looking for people/organisations willing to collaborate by shooting and editing a video about our nominee's stories to be presented at the event. Inspiring stories are meant to be shared and we want to do it the best way possible. With limited knowledge and resources, we are hoping to find the right volunteers for this task. Are you able to help or know who can? Get in touch with us: eventmanager@volunteercentral.nz