

Usually our centre is buzzing with activity like a bee hive however, like many others across our nation right now we are being asked to stay home and save lives. This seems like a tall ask when Transform Aotearoa is a people business but we are all doing our bit so we can get back to normal whatever that looks like.

We are making the most of the situation and have taken on the challenge to do our ladies sessions Live on the internet. So far this has been successful and we are continuing to meet a very real need in the community even if it is remotely.

It has given us time to reflect on the time we have already had over the last financial year, the impact we have in the community and the ability to focus on what our future could look like moving forward. We know our God has a purpose and a plan to prosper Transform and the people we minister to, he is in control. We are always expectant to see lives changed and destinies fulfilled.

We have seen some amazing things that the Lord has and is doing in the lives of people throughout Putaruru.

Our weekly Heart-Warming Friday emails are testament of this. Lives that have been positively impacted or transformed because of their connection with us and most importantly the power of God.

The feedback and references we have received from government and private agencies has been humbling. We can finally see that our hard work and prayers have forged a path that we could only have ever dreamed of, is now becoming a reality. An example of this was the article about our WOW ladies in the February Edition of New Zealand Readers Digest Magazine.

We have had a strong emphasis this year to see our people gain employment. To facilitate this we have offered Barista coffee making, Heavy Transport Licensing class 2 and soon class 4 which provide our clients with a globally recognised qualification. Giving our locals a step up into meaningful employment which increase self-confidence and mana. Something we believe everyone deserves to feel.

Thank you to every one of you that supports Transform even in its smallest meas-

ure. We are so grateful for every donation that comes in so we can continue to be a light in this little but significant rural community. Our success is your success.

### ***Team Transform Aotearoa Charitable Trust***



**Driving Lessons with Lamen**



**Stronger Together**



**HT Class 2 Drivers**



**HT Class 2 Driver Jack Henare**

## HEART-WARMING FRIDAY EMAIL

Confidence booster...

This week we delivered a Barista coffee essentials course in the community. One lady said she was amazed at how well she did and was able to keep up with the practical and theory components of the course. She was surprised by her own ability. She said if it wasn't for Transform and the ladies program she would never have had the confidence to even try and do a course like this. She left feeling really proud of herself which she hadn't felt in a really long time.



Shine Girl Putaruru College

***“Transform Aotearoa’s worth cannot be measured in statistics, it cannot be quantified, but I will put my neck out and say that without Transform’s help my role would be a lot more difficult and the community would be in a darker place”.***

**Sergeant Daniel Peat  
Putaruru.**

Impact Over 12 Months

290 Attended Programmes

17 Community Programmes

106 Driving Lessons

41 Learner Licenses Issued

28 Trained Baristas

31 Men Graduated

79 Women Graduated



Women's Program Graduation



[www.transformaotearoa.org.nz](http://www.transformaotearoa.org.nz)

## HEART-WARMING FRIDAY EMAIL

Positive impact...

This week three of our new ladies at the Te Moana Kura group have seen the support that is offered at Transform in other programs that we offer and each of them have been brave and put their names forward to move towards a full drivers licence. These same ladies have also put their hands up for the Barista coffee essentials course that will give them an internationally recognised certificate.

This is so exciting for us as we watch individuals come into Transform and over time find their confidence to stretch themselves and develop new skills that will only help them to have better opportunities in the future.

One of our strategic priorities here at TA is to “Positively impact this community of Putaruru”. I think it's safe to say we are doing our best to make this happen.





Love Bomb Putaruru The Plaza



Women's Program Graduation



Men's Program Graduation

***I have always found Transform Aotearoa staff professional and engaging and frequently meet with them, with regards to their program content and the need of our mutual clients.***

***Ann-Maria Vine  
Probation Officer,  
Department of  
Corrections***

## HEART-WARMING FRIDAY EMAIL

It is what it is...

This week one of our loved, valued and appreciated ladies was involved in a serious domestic violence dispute with her partner. She is lucky to be alive and on route to Wai-kato the ambulance personnel attending her said it is the worst they have seen in many years and she was lucky to be in an ambulance and not a hearse. She is being looked after and relocated by the women's refuge for her own safety. She had been in contact with one of the facilitators and a fellow class mate and thought she may stay away from class for a couple of weeks until the bruising had gone down. However battered and bruised she still braved coming to class. Not wanting this to define her or stop her from living her life. She said that if it wasn't for Transform in her life she would have been a blubbering mess at home isolating herself from the world. She said it is what it is and I can't do anything about it. She fluctuates between laughter and tears to deal with situation. Coming back to class was her way of choosing to move forward and be where she knows she is supported and loved. She said over the last 5 days she has felt loved and valued more than in the past 5 years. Transform presented



Our Moment to Shine

her with a big bunch of flowers during class and we showered her in love. She said I'm 24 and these are the first bunch of flowers I have ever received. She was completely overwhelmed when they were placed in her arms.

I think TA should have "Door of Hope" printed on the front door. It blesses my heart that even at the worst moment of her life she knew where she could turn to get support and love to help her through. Transform has become a light on a hill for so many of our clients past and present and we know there will be many more in the future.

(Permission was granted to share this story)





Barista Training Practical



Barista Training Theory

***I have involvement with many organisations offering programmes in the community and I can honestly say that Transform is one organisation which I will refer people to as they get results and positively impact the community.***

**Constable  
Verity Torrington,  
Youth Aid Officer Putaruru**

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***They are a well-respected and trusted community agency that I am proud to work alongside to bring about change in our community. Having these programme opportunities available for our families has been a critical resource and I anticipate that what is being taught to families now will have a flow-on effect for future generations.***

**Linda Steel  
Youth Justice Social Worker  
Oranga Tamariki**

**HEART-WARMING  
FRIDAY EMAIL**

Keep calm – don't explode...

Another lady shared in our ladies group this week that coming to Transform has helped her to parent more positively. Recently one of her children came home from school stoned. Instead of exploding and giving him the bash and then giving the school an ear full. She said she calmly talked to him about the pros and cons of his action. Mostly the cons and the life altering ramifications of this if he decided to continue with this habit. She then went down to the school and calmly talked to them about the situation. Belena was amazed at how this lady had changed so much. She even wondered how much she had really learnt from the previous class as she spent a lot of the time giggling with her friend. But it goes to show we can never underestimate what people pay attention to. When asked about this she said 'coming here I have learnt to do things differently'.



Te Reo Maori



Vision Boards

These stories excite me. Life change cannot be forced on anyone but when they choose to put it into practice miracles happen. We watch miracles happen every week at Transform and it is a privilege to watch as people learn and grow in themselves and decide that there has to be a better way of living.