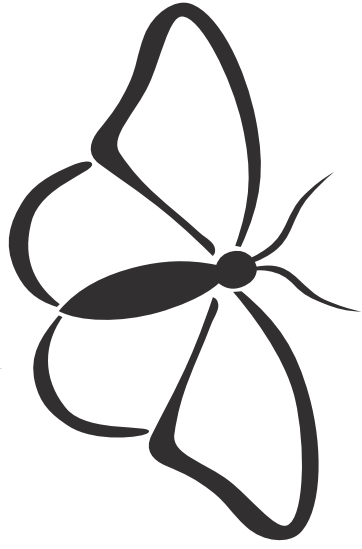




Annual Report

2019 - 2020





Contact details

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Mission statement and purpose

“People First New Zealand
Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi is here to
empower and support people
with learning disability to be
strong and valued individuals
in New Zealand.”

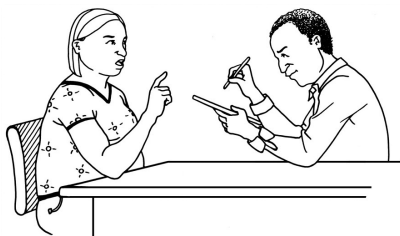
People First's commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi – the Treaty of Waitangi

Māori are the Tangata Whenua
of Aotearoa and we will support
the rights Māori have under the
Treaty of Waitangi.





People First New Zealand is here to:



- make sure that people with learning disability can speak out and be heard on the things that are important to them - in services, in communities and in government.



- represent people with learning disability who cannot speak up for themselves.



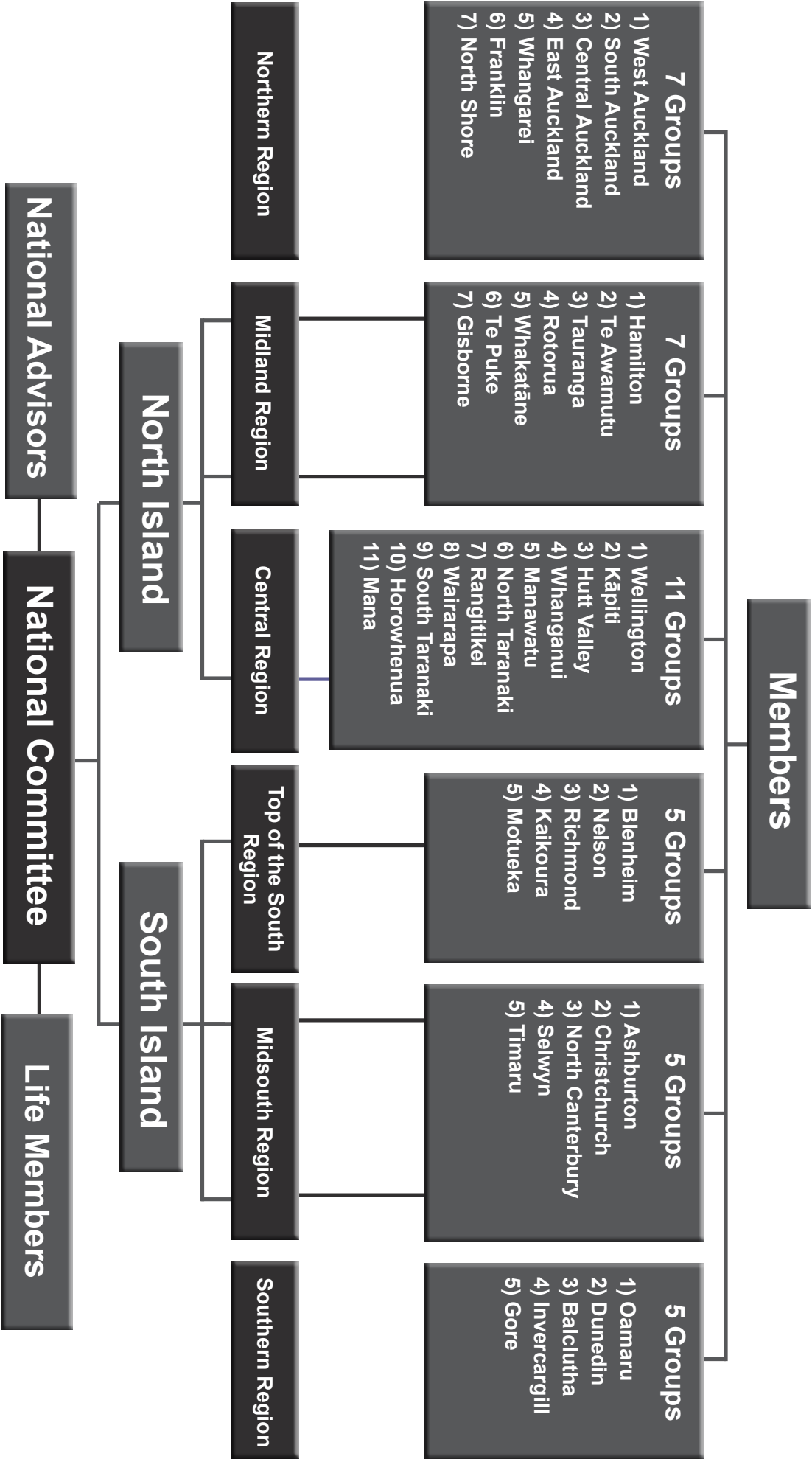
- promote the rights of people with learning disability.



- make sure people with learning disability are listened to.

People First New Zealand Inc.

– Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi Governance Chart





The People First National Committee

The National Committee meets 3 times a year to make decisions about People First's money, and report on the work of the:

- **National Chairperson**
- **Regional Presidents**
- **Member representatives on advisory boards.**

The National Committee also invites guest speakers from other organisations to its meetings, to keep up to date with what is happening in the disability community and in government.



National Chairperson: Penelope Banfield

Vice Chairperson: Kris Roguski

Northern Region President: Ronnie Sione

Midland Region President: Kris Roguski

Central Region President: Jason Donovan

Top of the South Region President:
Penelope Banfield

Midsouth Region President: Shane McInroe

Southern Region President: Cheryl Wallace



National Advisors:

Brigit Mirfin-Veitch and
Gordon Boxall

National Chairperson's report - Penelope Banfield



This year has been busy and challenging for People First New Zealand.

I have enjoyed my role as National Chairperson. I have been to lots of meetings throughout the year. To keep doing my role during COVID-19, I have had to learn to use Zoom.

A big highlight was hearing about our Life Member Robert Martin getting knighted through the 2020 New Year Honours List, and becoming a Sir. When I heard this news, I felt very excited and pleased for him.

Another highlight for me was the South Island Forum we held in Christchurch in November 2019.

At the forum, members learnt more about their rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and about being a leader.

It is always great to get together at our forums, and to see the members grow through having these opportunities.

COVID-19 has certainly brought challenges to all of us. The People First New Zealand National Committee has had to make some hard decisions about stopping face-to-face meetings, courses and events to keep everyone safe.

I am really proud of what People First achieved during COVID-19. It was great that the staff reached out to members, and members reached out to each other, to make sure they were well supported.

The Make it easy team worked very hard, putting lots of government information about COVID-19 into Easy Read so everyone could have access to information in a way that worked for them.

We also raised issues our members were facing with the government.



Even in a pandemic, it is important we continue to speak up about issues that affect us. COVID-19 revealed some long-time issues for people with disabilities, such as not having cell phones or other devices, not having enough money to buy what they need and to pay for the internet, and not having good support from some disability services.

I am proud to be part of the Disabled People's Organisations (DPO) Coalition. It is great to work alongside the other DPOs and the government through the important work of the DPO Coalition. We are all working towards making the rights under the United Nations Convention a reality.

I want to thank the National Committee for working together as a team and keeping People First strong. Thank you also to the Advisors to the National Committee, Brigit Mirfin-Veitch and Gordon Boxall, for sharing your time and advice.

And a big thank you to all the People First staff, volunteers and contractors throughout New Zealand for your hard work and assistance.

Remembering our friends

It is important to remember those who have walked the path before us so that we can honour them in all our future work.

People First New Zealand remembers and says thank you to the members who have passed away this year.

We remember in particular:

Richard Ashton, from Blenheim, who passed away in June 2020. He was the Treasurer for both the Blenheim Local Group, and for the Top of the South Region.

Andrew "Andy" Harwood, from Dunedin, who passed away in December 2019. He very much enjoyed being part of the People First community in Dunedin, and his friends say he had "the best smile".

Haere haere haere nga Rangatira o tatou

kaua e titiro whakamuri mai

Haere haere haere.

Farewell, our leaders. Don't look back, you can leave us now. Farewell.

Regional reports



Northern Region

Ronnie Sione

My name is Ronnie Sione, and I am the President of the Northern Region. This is my second Annual Report for the Northern Region.

2 things we are proud of from the last year:

- In October 2019, we had a course on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Members came from the South Auckland and Franklin groups to attend the course. I was co-facilitator.
- People First New Zealand is a foundation member of Access Alliance. In December 2019, Access Alliance held the People's Choice Accessibility Awards in Auckland. Myself and Leia, one of our Local Assistants, attended and represented People First. It was an inspiring event!



What we are working on doing better:

- We want to make Goal 4, which is "People First respects and welcomes people from all cultures", a reality in the Northern groups.

On behalf of the members of the Northern Region, I would like to thank:

- Kaeti Rigarsford, who was Northern Regional Coordinator, and who taught me how to be a proper leader
- Yi Small, the Acting Northern Regional Coordinator, who worked hard to support our region from a long distance
- Our Local Assistants Robyn (Whangarei), Leilani (South), and Leia (Central and Pukekohe), who have kept our Local Group meetings happening and have helped our groups grow
- Our funders for supporting the Northern Region
- Our friends and whānau for their support.



Midland Region

Kris Roguski

Hi, my name is Kris Roguski. I am the President for the Midland Region. This was my third year as the Midland President. This year, the Midland members have done very well at working towards our goals.

2 things we are proud of from the last year:

- In October 2019, we ran a course on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) in Gisborne, with help from Te Pou. All 12 members who attended enjoyed it and learnt a lot. Special thanks to Gisborne Local Assistant Anna Richards, who helped make the course happen.
- In March 2020, the Whakatāne Local Group got involved in Inclusion Bay of Plenty's Beach Mat project. This project was about making the beach accessible for people with disabilities. A photo of the members involved in the project was included in the third report of the Independent Monitoring Mechanism of the UNCPRD 2014–2019 called "Making Disability Rights Real Whakatūturu Ngā Tika Hauātanga".



What we are working on doing better:

- We have been working hard to grow the membership and promote the Te Awamutu and Hamilton groups.

On behalf of the members of the Midland Region, I would like to thank:

- Regional Coordinator Yi Small for building my leadership and self-advocacy skills
- Our Local Group Assistants and volunteers– who all work tirelessly to build a strong Midland Region and make People First more well-known
- Our funders for supporting the Midland Region
- Our friends and whānau for their support.

Central Region

Jason Donovan



My name is Jason Donovan, and I am the Central Region President.

2 things we are proud of from the last year:

- We are very proud that Hamish Taverner, long-time People First member from Manawatu, received the Leona Gitmans Te Aranga Self-Advocacy Award for 2019. It was a great recognition for the many years of service he has given to the disability community and to People First New Zealand.
- In November 2019, we held a course on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Lower Hutt. Members attended from Wairarapa, Hutt City and Wellington. I co-facilitated the course, with assistance from Local Assistants Yvonne, Susanna and Phil. It was enjoyable being part of a small group, as we were able to talk in depth about our ideas and understanding of our human rights.



What we are working on doing better:

- The Central Region applied for and got some funding to help build up our membership. Members are talking to local colleges and service providers to promote People First. We are working at being more out and about in our communities

On behalf of the members of the Central Region, I would like to thank:

- The National Committee, our National Advisors and National Office staff, who have supported me as the Central Region President and our members
- Our Regional Coordinator Sandy Ryan
- All of our Local Assistants and volunteers who support our groups
- Our funders for supporting the region.



Top of the South

Top of the South Region

Penelope Banfield

My name is Penelope Banfield. I am the President for the Top of the South Region. We have had another busy year in our region, with lots of great things happening and lots of challenges – especially the lockdown.

2 things we are proud of from the last year:

- In September 2019, the Top of the South members enjoyed a great day at our Regional Meeting held at Whakatu Marae in Nelson. Mark Davies, the Master Carver for the Marae, was the guest speaker. He gave a talk about all the carvings.
- In November 2019, each Local Group President travelled to Christchurch for the South Island Forum. This was a great success. We also delivered a Money Smarts Made Easy Course in August and September 2019, held in Nelson.



What we are working on doing better:

- The Motueka and Kaikoura groups have not been meeting in the last year. We are talking to families, services and community organisations in these areas about starting the groups again.

On behalf of the members of the Top of the South Region, I would like to thank:

- Brigit Mirfin-Veitch and Gordon Boxall, our advisors on the National Committee
- People First New Zealand National Manager Cindy Johns for all her hard work, and the team at National Office that work so hard behind the scenes
- Pam Shanks (South Island Team Leader) and Patrick Doherty (Regional Coordinator)
- Our funders that support the work we do (Nelson City Council and COGS).

Finally, a big thank you to all the People First members that continue to speak up!



Midsouth Region

Shane McInroe

Hi, I am Shane McInroe, the Midsouth President. This year, we have all had to learn new skills because of COVID-19. We learned to use Zoom, and People First members and staff kept in touch remotely to pass on information and support.

2 things we are proud of from the last year:

- In March, a group of our members went to the Show Your Ability 2020 trade show in Christchurch. We had an information stall, and gave out lots of Easy Read information.
- Members and staff in Midsouth have been very involved in groups promoting the Enabling Good Lives principles. In the last year, Midsouth members have:
 - » represented People First on the Waitaha Regional Leadership Group, and
 - » attended the Disabled Persons Core group.



What we are working on doing better:

- We want to get a Local Group up and running on the West Coast.

On behalf of the members of the Midsouth Region, I would like to thank:

- Pam Shanks, South Island Team Leader, and Marg Matheson, Regional Coordinator
- Our Local Assistants Kathryn Bryant, Sue Kerr, Sharon Glavish, and Dan Cresswell
- Our volunteers Warren Cresswell and Bette Corliss
- Our Funders: Christchurch City Council and the Rata Foundation.

Your support helps to keep the Midsouth Region strong.



Southern Region

Cheryl Wallace

Hi, I'm Cheryl Wallace, President for the Southern Region.

2 things we are proud of from the last year:

- We are really proud of the great work the Invercargill People First members having been doing down in Southland. The members have been very active in their community in the last year. The Local Group hosted one of the Regional Meetings, and did a presentation on internet safety.
- We are also very proud of the Dunedin People First Committee. It has grown bigger and stronger, with more young members stepping up, wanting to be involved and wanting to learn leadership skills.



What we are working on doing better:

- We are working on getting our Gore Local Group up and running again.

On behalf of the members of the Southern region, I would like to thank:

- Our Local Assistants Barb Ross-Davis, Anne Pattinson and Stephanie McLaren
- Our Dunedin volunteers Felicity Bond and Lisa Ward
- Our volunteer driver Robin Wightman
- South Island Team Leader Pam Shanks and Southern Regional Coordinator Lee-ann Wightman
- National Advisor Brigit Mirfin-Veitch, who supported me in joining the National Committee meetings on Zoom
- Our funders (Invercargill City Council and COGS).

National Advisors



Gordon Boxall and Brigit Mirfin-Veitch


2019/20 has been very much a year of two halves.

The first half was business as usual - with a mix of new and longer-standing National Committee members working together to govern the work of People First New Zealand.

A highlight was having the auditor attend a National Committee meeting. We had a great discussion about how auditing works: checking the money we receive is all used as it is meant to be used. We plan to have the auditor come to a National Committee meeting each year.

As advisors, we see how hard National Committee works. People First has an increasingly important role as a Disabled People's Organisation, looking to hold government to account for how its policies impact the lives of people with learning disability. New Zealand will be judged again soon by the United Nations on how well it has done to make rights real for disabled people - which it agreed to do by signing up to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

National Committee members represent People First on committees that progress the rights in the UNCRPD. They also represent the organisation in many interconnected groups, which stand up for the rights of people with learning disability in areas such as transport, housing, and employment. National Committee members and other leaders represent People First, and report back to the organisation on progress. The amount of work in these areas is increasing, and it is very important for funders to realise how much time and effort this work takes for both members and staff.



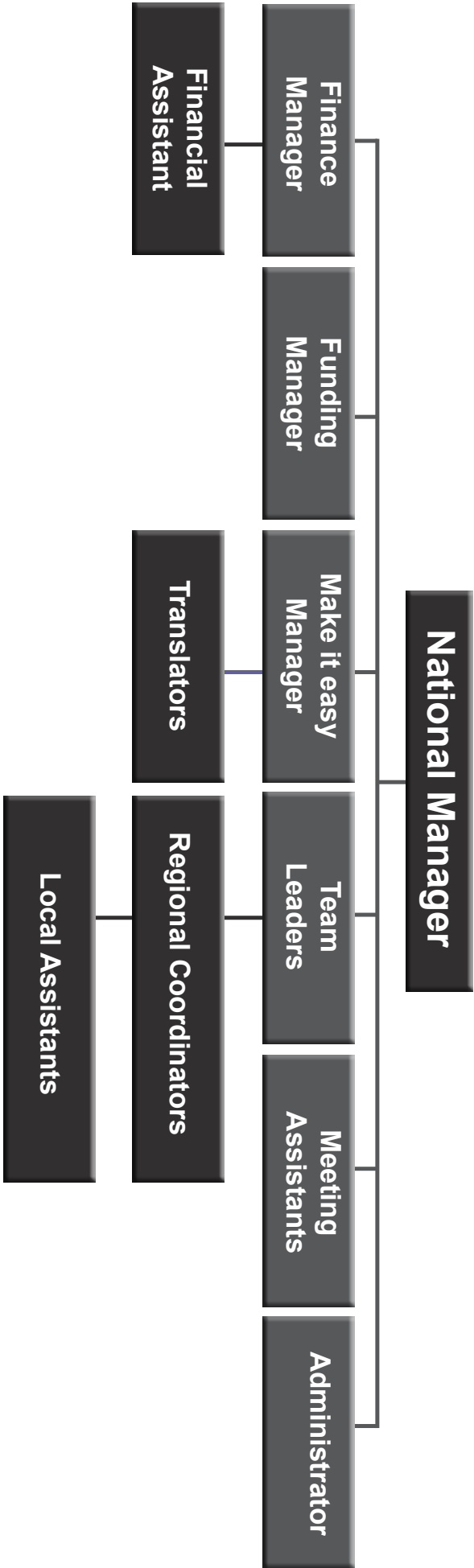
In early 2020, COVID-19 hit. National Committee has had to work in a different way in the second half of the year, as it couldn't meet in person. As always, National Committee members adapted brilliantly, and found ways to make sure we could stay connected and hold meetings via Zoom.

National Committee made the decision to delay regional elections by a year. This decision has made sure that the current committee can stay and work together through this ongoing difficult time. We are very impressed with how hard they and the People First staff are working to keep all members connected and supported.



People First New Zealand Inc.

– Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi Management Chart





National Manager's Report

Cindy Johns

As National Manager, it has been a privilege serving People First New Zealand members over the past year, and working with a dedicated team of staff, members and volunteers.

It has certainly been a year of two halves. We were holding meetings and forums, delivering courses, planning for events - and then COVID-19 came along. COVID-19 made us all think hard about the health and safety of members and staff. National Committee had to make some hard decisions, such as stopping all meetings, courses and face-to-face events in Alert Levels 2, 3 and 4. We needed to try new ways of connecting, both within People First and with other organisations and government.

I am pleased to report that, even in a pandemic, our organisation has had many highlights.

Highlights have been:

- Recognition of People First Life Member Robert Martin, who was knighted through the 2020 New Year Honours List.
- Seeing our members developing confidence, skills and knowledge, and having opportunities to speak up.
- Being part of the New Zealand Disabled People's Organisations (DPO) Coalition and its work with the New Zealand Government to make an even better Disability Action Plan. As a member of the DPO Coalition, People First is a partner in the Independent Monitoring Mechanism (IMM). The IMM is putting Articles 4.3 and 33 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into real action.
- The great work of the Make it easy service – which puts information into Easy Read – and the fact more government departments and organisations are making their information accessible through the Office for Disability Issues Accessibility Charter. The Make it easy team worked exceptionally hard during COVID-19, and produced huge amounts of government information in Easy Read.

- The amazing support of our members by all staff during the different levels of COVID-19.
- The free People First helpline we set up with IHC New Zealand Inc. and The Personal Advocacy and Safeguarding Adults Trust.
- Using Zoom for team meetings and to connect with our members.
- Doing submissions with members straight to government officials via Zoom.

I want to thank:

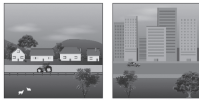
- All our members for making People First a great organisation and, in particular, those who reached out to other members during the different COVID-19 Alert levels.
- National Chairperson Penelope Banfield, National Vice Chairperson Kris Roguski, National Committee members Cheryl Wallace, Ronnie Sione, Jason Donovan and Shane McInroe for their commitment and decision-making, especially during COVID-19.
- National Advisors Gordon Boxall and Brigit Mirfin-Veitch, for their time, advice and wisdom.
- Our volunteers, who assist with Local Groups and driving members to meetings.
- Past and present Make it easy managers Alexia Black and Kath Parrish, and all the translators, who always work hard to make great Easy Read content. During COVID-19, the team worked with total commitment to make sure people with learning disability had the most up-to-date government information about the pandemic in Easy Read.
- Our staff, local, regional and national, for their great work and dedication, especially during COVID-19.
- Our funders, without whom we would not be able to make real changes in the lives of people with learning disability.

Together we achieve a lot and make a difference.





People First New Zealand: Goals for our organisation for 2019 – 2021



1. People know about People First New Zealand:

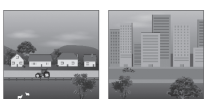
- at the local level – in the towns or areas where we live
- at the national level – all over New Zealand
- at the international level – around the world.



2. People First New Zealand has strong leaders.

3. People First New Zealand speaks up for the rights of people with learning disability:

- at the local level – in the towns or areas where we live
- at the national level – all over New Zealand
- at the international level – around the world.





4. **People First New Zealand respects and welcomes people from all cultures.**



5. **People First New Zealand has an Easy Read translation service that is:**

- well run
- excellent.

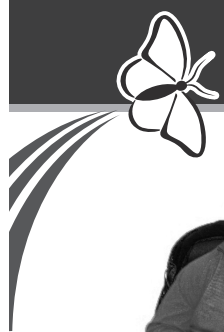


6. **People First New Zealand has courses for people with learning disability that are:**

- well run
- excellent.



People First New Zealand is a strong Disabled People's Organisation.



Goal 1: People know about People First New Zealand

Every year, more and more people get to know about People First New Zealand.

Getting the word out

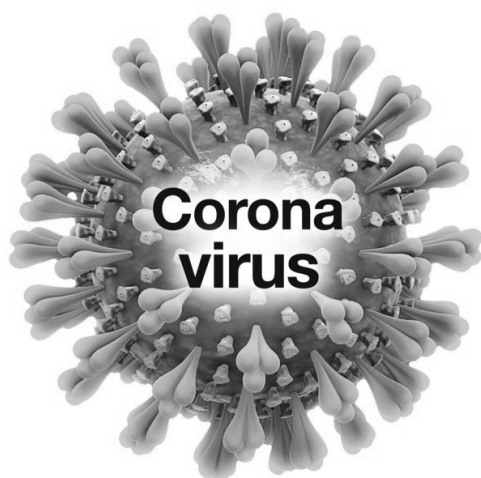
This year, People First had a very busy and active Facebook page. On the page, we posted lots of government information about COVID-19 in Easy Read, which members, their whānau and visitors to the page found very useful.

We posted interviews with National Committee and other members, and good news stories about our members and Local Groups. We also shared stories and news articles about people with disabilities from around New Zealand and overseas.

Our posts on Facebook got **2534** likes.

The People First website has a range of information, including COVID-19 updates, Easy Read information and resources, and the latest news from the organisation. This year, the website was used **9930** times.

We also made **2** Butterfly Express newsletters and gave out **1700** copies altogether.



Wash your hands before you go out



Water and soap

20 seconds



Dry hands

Disability information and advisory service

People First New Zealand has a disability information and advisory service.

This means we answer questions that members and others in the community may have about disability issues. These include questions about:

- issues people with learning disability face
- their rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- how to speak up for your rights as a person with learning disability
- services for people with learning disability throughout New Zealand.

We give out information to a lot of different people, including People First members, people with learning disability, their whānau and support workers, and other interested people.

People First also has its own helpline, freephone 0800 20 60 70, which people with learning disability and their whānau can call for advice and information.

This year, we received **1230** phone calls to the helpline.





Conferences and expos

Every year, People First members speak at conferences on different topics that affect people with learning disability, such as:

- People First being a Disabled People's Organisation
- self-advocacy
- supported decision-making
- school and work
- health
- keeping safe
- money.

We also hold information stalls at conferences and expos, where we show all the information we have available and talk to people about their rights.

This year, People First members attended:

- The Show Your Ability trade show in Christchurch
- The I-Lead National Youth with Disabilities Conference in Wellington
- The Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability Conference 2019 in Adelaide.





Goal 2: People First has strong leaders

Leadership Forum 2019

In 2019, People First held a 2-day South Island Forum in Christchurch. Over 30 members from the 3 regions in the South Island attended the forum.

Members heard from guest speakers, such as Life Member Sir Robert Martin KNZM, and took part in activities on:

- Human Rights
- The Treaty of Waitangi
- The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- The Health and Disability Code of Rights.

It was a great opportunity for members to meet, connect, and learn about rights and leadership together.

Invercargill member **Teresa Hammond** had this to say about the forum:

“I felt more confident about getting up and talking in front of others. This is the first time I have felt comfortable to talk in front of others, and I made lots of new friends.

“It has been good that I have been asked about my opinion and ideas on disability rights. It would be great if more People First members got the same opportunity to be part of a great forum like this.”



Leona Gitmans Te Aranga Self-Advocacy Award 2019

Leona Gitmans was passionate about people with learning disability knowing about self-advocacy. When Leona passed away, her parents asked family and friends to make donations to People First, rather than bring flowers to her funeral service.

We would like to say a big thank you to the Gitmans family who, in Leona's memory, support People First to this day.

The People First National Committee gives an award every year to a person with learning disability who has been a strong leader in self-advocacy in New Zealand.

People First New Zealand was thrilled to present the Leona Gitmans Te Aranga Self-Advocacy Award for 2019 to Manawatu member Hamish Taverner.

Hamish was presented with a beautifully carved pounamu (greenstone), a certificate, and a cash prize.

Congratulations, Hamish, and thank you for your mahi (work).





Goal 3: People First speaks up

Advisory group work

Members from around New Zealand represent People First on many local, regional and national advisory groups and committees dedicated to disability rights.

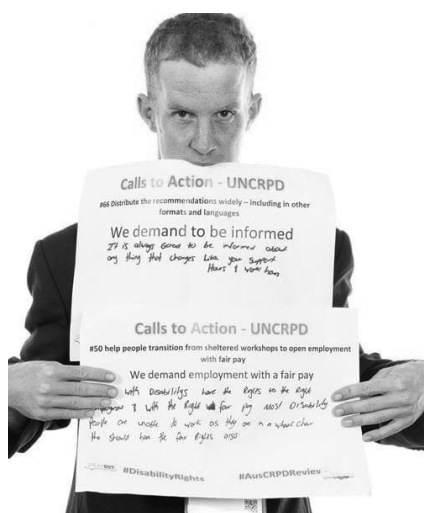
Their role is to be a voice for people with learning disability, and make sure all policies and ideas for change will assist people with learning disability to lead good lives.

People First New Zealand provides trained Meeting Assistants for members who represent People First on advisory committees.

This year, People First members were on **12** national advisory committees. Topics discussed by these committees included:

- employment
- supported decision-making
- justice
- making disability supports better.

People First New Zealand would like to thank everyone who has worked as a Meeting Assistant over the last 12 months. Your work allows people with learning disability to have an equal voice when speaking up for their rights.





Making submissions

People First New Zealand makes submissions to the government when it is thinking about making new laws. Knowing what New Zealanders think helps the government choose what to include in these laws, and how they affect people's lives. We think it is important that the government hears from people with disabilities.

This year, People First has made submissions to:

- The New Zealand Disability Employment Action Plan
- Kainga Ora's draft accessible housing policy
- The Ministry of Transport's road safety surveys
- The NZ Transport Agency's Accessible Streets consultation.



DPO Coalition

People First New Zealand is part of a group called the DPO Coalition.

DPO stands for Disabled People's Organisations.

Coalition means a group that works together.

The DPO Coalition meets every month, and its goal is to make the rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities a reality in New Zealand.

People First is represented at these meetings by National Chairperson Penelope Banfield and National Manager Cindy Johns.



Through the DPO Coalition, People First speaks up on a lot of issues affecting people with learning disability, including:

- employment
- education
- transport
- access to services.

Sir Robert Martin KNZM

People First New Zealand is extremely proud that Life Member Robert Martin became a Knight through the 2020 New Year Honours List. We believe he is the first person in the world with learning disability to be knighted.

As Sir Robert continues in his role as an independent expert on the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, he continues to be assisted by People First.

His work usually takes him to Geneva, Switzerland, twice a year, but COVID-19 meant one of his trips was cancelled. The United Nations committee he serves on looks at the countries that have signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to see how well they are putting the rights within the Convention in place.

Sir Robert's term on the committee runs to the end of 2020. He is up for reelection for another 4-year term.





Goal 4: People First respects and welcomes people from all cultures



Visit to Whakatu Marae

In September 2019, People First members from the Top of the South Region had a visit to Whakatu Marae in Nelson. The members were welcomed on to the Marae with a pōwhiri, and spent time learning about:

- Te Reo Māori.
- Whakairo – Māori carvings. They got to meet the Master Carver, Mark Davies, who talked about the carvings in the Marae and their meaning.

This was a great opportunity for our members to make better connections with local iwi. It was also an opportunity for members to share time together, learning about each other and tikanga Māori.





Goal 5: People First has an Easy Read translation service

Easy Read is a way of making information accessible for people with learning disability. Easy Read uses everyday words, large print and pictures to make complex information easier to understand. Easy Read can also help other people, such as those who have low literacy, are older and use English as a second language.

People First's Easy Read translation service is called Make it easy. In the 2019/20 financial year, the Make it easy service translated **118** documents. This was a lot more documents than the year before.

People First is part of the Accessible Formats Working Group, which is led by the Ministry of Social Development. This group works hard to make sure government services know about the Accessibility Charter. The Accessibility Charter says that New Zealand government services need to display their information in 5 accessible formats: Easy Read, New Zealand Sign Language, Braille, large print and audio. This means the Make it easy service is now getting a lot more government documents to translate.

Putting government information about COVID-19 into Easy Read kept our Make it easy team busy. We are very proud of this work. We know a lot of people, particularly our members, found the Easy Read information very helpful.





We want to thank past Make it easy translation service manager Alexia Black, who left People First in June, for her hard work growing the Make it easy service.

Thank you also to current Make it easy manager Kath Parrish and to all our current and past translators for their fantastic work. We also want to thank all the agencies and services who have used the Make it easy service to make their information more accessible.



Make It Easy award 2019

Every year, the National Committee gives out an award to an organisation or person who has made a great commitment to displaying their information in Easy Read.

At the 2019 AGM, People First gave the award to Napier City Council. The council was the first local authority in New Zealand to display its Draft Disability Strategy in Easy Read. Well done, Napier City Council.



Goal 6: People First has courses

Learn With Us is the education arm of People First New Zealand. Members and staff write and teach courses together.

People First knows how to teach and organise courses in a way that works for people with learning disability.

This year, COVID-19 made it difficult for us deliver all the courses we had planned. However, the courses we were able to run were very well-received by the members who attended.

In 2019/20, Learn With Us delivered:

4 Money Smarts Made Easy courses, which **45** people attended altogether

3 UN Convention courses, which **31** people attended altogether

2 Keeping Safe Feeling Safe courses, which **27** people attended altogether

1 Work and Your Rights in New Zealand course, which **10** people attended.

Here is some feedback from people who attended this year's courses:

"I enjoyed the classes. I learnt so much information about money matters!"

"Thank you to the tutor for helping me learn about money matters."

"I learned lots of things about myself and about my rights."



“I learnt I am a citizen and about the Treaty of Waitangi. I have learnt new skills and how to solve [problems].”

“I learnt about the using the Disability Convention in my life, learning about how to make a complaint, the 8 outcomes of the NZ Disability Strategy, and the Treaty of Waitangi. I learnt a lot and I did the quiz.”



A big thank you to the staff and members involved with Learn With Us this year.





Goal 7: - People First is a strong DPO

Strong Governance

The National Committee of People First New Zealand, which meets at least 3 times a year, provides strong governance and leadership. Throughout COVID-19, National Committee members learnt to use Zoom, and held more meetings to talk about how to keep People First members safe during the different COVID-19 Alert Levels.

People First staff work hard to keep the organisation strong at all levels - local, regional and national - through having good systems, policies and practices in place.

The People First Funding Manager makes applications to get funding to:

- support Local Groups
- cover costs such as rent and stationery
- run Learn With Us courses
- start and complete regional and national projects.

During COVID-19, People First staff all worked very hard and:

- reached out to members during the various Alert Levels
- ran a helpline through the free 0800 number
- worked alongside the government to distribute information and resolve issues facing people with learning disability
- distributed Easy Read information.





Annual General Meeting 2019

Our 2019 AGM was a great event that celebrated People First New Zealand's work and achievements from the last year. Members from all over New Zealand came to the meeting, held in Christchurch.

Reports were presented to the members, including reports from the:

- National Chairperson
- Regional Presidents
- National Manager
- Funding Manager.

A report was also presented on People First's financial performance for 2018/19.

The members voted that Moore Markhams would be the auditor for People First New Zealand for the next year.

National Advisor Brigit Mirfin-Veitch was given a long service award for serving People First New Zealand as a volunteer for over 10 years. In her role as National Advisor, Brigit assists and provides advice to the National Committee.

National Manager Cindy Johns was given a long service award for working for People First for 10 years.

Regional Presidents Cheryl Wallace (Southern) and Kris Roguski (Midland) were the guest speakers. They talked about their recent trip to Adelaide to attend the 2019 Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability Conference.

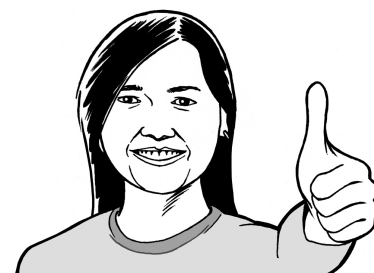


People and organisations that People First New Zealand would like to thank

Thank you to the members of People First New Zealand.

Thank you to the staff, volunteers and contractors of
People First New Zealand.

Thank you to the organisations that People First
New Zealand has worked with this year. These are:



Access Alliance

The Australasian Society for
Intellectual Disability

Badminton Oceania

Balance Aotearoa

Blind Citizens NZ

CCS Disability Action Auckland
CHANGE

Christchurch Community House

Community House Whanganui

Deaf Aotearoa

Disabled Persons Assembly

The Donald Beasley Institute Inc.

The Gitmans Family

The Health and Disability
Commissioner

Hearing Nelson

Hot Ice Travel Limited

IHC New Zealand Inc.

Kāpo Māori o Aotearoa

Moore Markhams

Muscular Dystrophy Association of
New Zealand

The New Zealand Disability
Support Network

The New Zealand Federation of
Disability Information Centres

New Zealand Human Rights
Commission

Office for Disability Issues

Office of the Ombudsman

Ohnyx IT Solutions Ltd.

The Personal Advocacy and
Safeguarding Adults Trust Inc.

Photosymbols Ltd.

Primeproperty Group Ltd.

Promohouse

Red Pepper Print

Sam Corliss

Tahi Design

Workbridge



Thank you to all the organisations who give us funding to do our work

Anstiss Garland Charitable Trust

Bay Trust

Christchurch City Council

Department of Internal Affairs -
Lottery Grants Board

Dunedin City Council

Eastern and Central Community
Trust

Frozen Funds Charitable Trust

Invercargill City Council

The Lion Foundation

Mana Whaikaha

Ministry of Health

Ministry of Social Development

New Zealand Disability Support
Network

Nikau Foundation

Office for Disability Issues

Rata Foundation

Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust

Tauranga City Council

Tauranga Energy Consumer Trust

TECT

Te Pou o te Whakaaro Nui

Te Tahua Mā Ngā Whakahaere
i Ngā Hapori: Community
Organisation Grants Scheme
(COGS)

Te Tahua Mā Te Minita Anō Te
Tohatoha: Lottery Minister's
Discretionary Fund

Upper Hutt City Council

Waitaki District Council

WEL Energy Trust

Wellington Community Trust

Western Bay of Plenty District
Council

Whakatāne District Council

Whanganui District Council



**For the full financial performance report, please contact the
People First New Zealand National Office on:**



Phone:

04 381 3242

0800 20 60 70

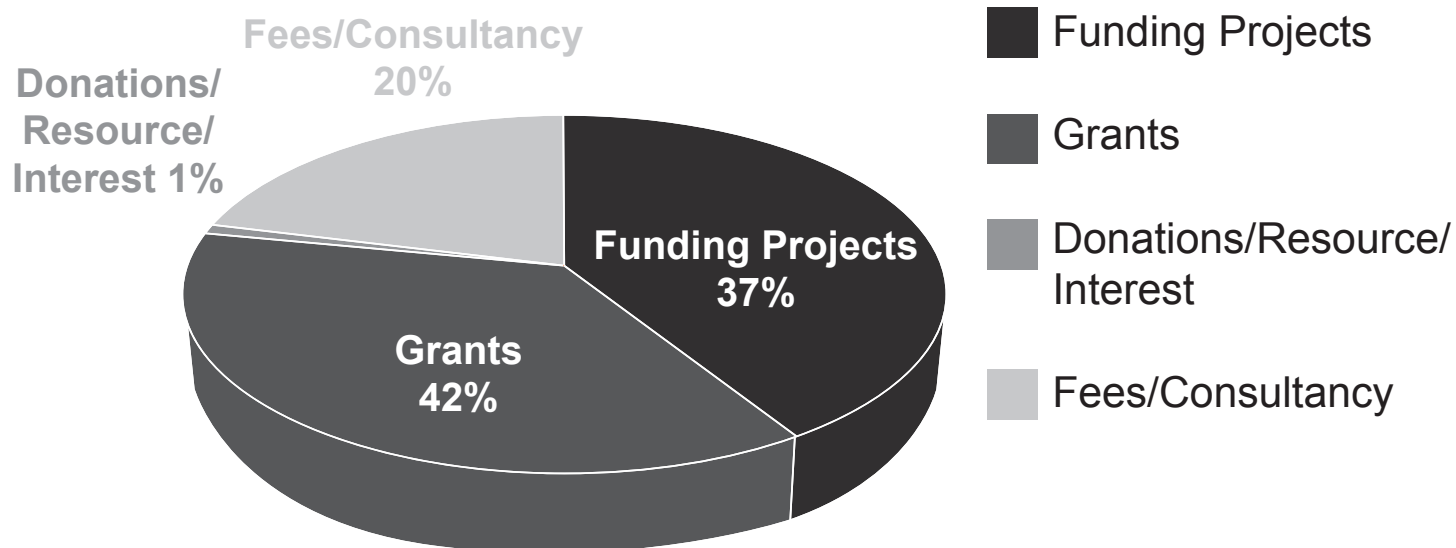
This number is free to call from anywhere
in New Zealand.



Email: ask@peoplefirst.org.nz

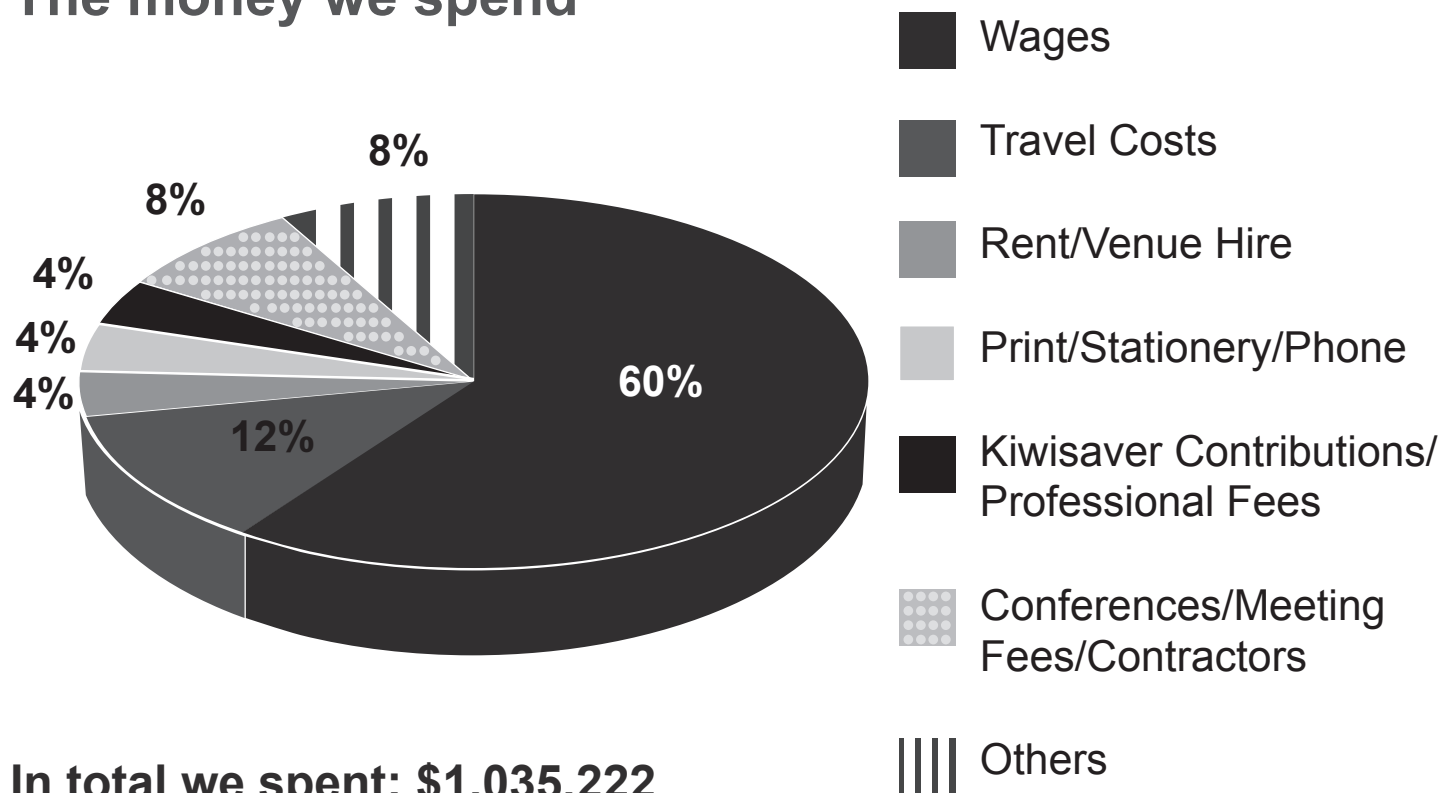


The money we get in



In total we got: \$1,112,355

The money we spend



In total we spent: \$1,035,222

Statement of Financial Position

Current assets	\$1,168,126
Fixed assets	\$20,734
Total Assets	\$1,188,860
Less	
Current Liabilities	\$341,906
Total Liabilities	\$341,906
Net Assets	\$846,954



What these words and numbers mean

Current assets

These are the things that People First owns, which change over time - such as the amount of money we have in the bank.

At the end of this year, the money amount of these things is 1 million, 1 hundred and 68 thousand, 1 hundred and 26 dollars.

Fixed assets

These are the things that People First owns, which do not change – such as computers and office furniture.

At the end of this year, the money amount of these things is 20 thousand, 7 hundred and 34 dollars.

Total assets

These are things that People First owns, such as money in the bank, computers and office furniture.

If we add our current assets and fixed assets together, this gives us our total assets.

At the end of this year, the money amount of these things is 1 million, 1 hundred and 88 thousand, 8 hundred and 60 dollars.

Current Liabilities

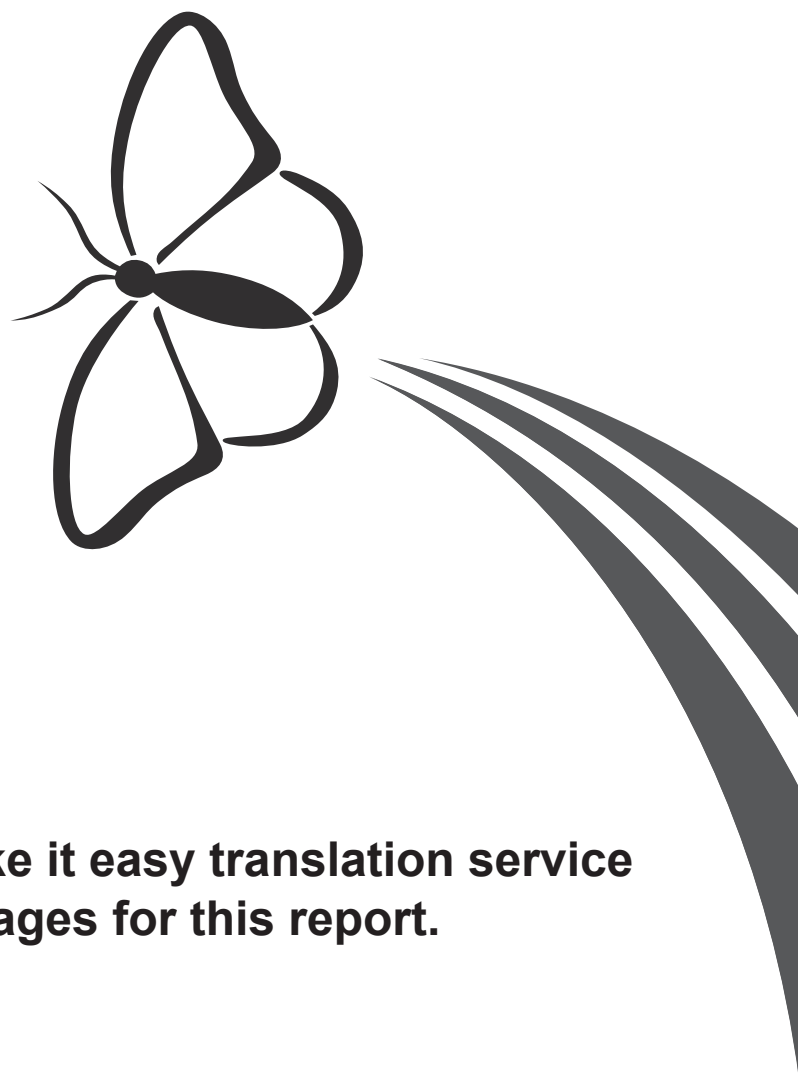
These are the things that People First owes to other people or organisations.

At the end of this year, the money amount of these things is 3 hundred and 41 thousand, 9 hundred and 6 dollars.

Net assets

This is how much money People First can say it has, after taking away the money it owes.

At the end of this year, the money amount People First has is 8 hundred and 46 thousand, 9 hundred and 54 dollars.



People First New Zealand's Make it easy translation service has provided the Easy Read images for this report.

Make it easy uses images from:

- Changepeople.org
- Photosymbols.com
- Sam Corliss



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