



## PINK RIBBON APPEAL SUPPORTED BY CHB DISTRICT COUNCIL STAFF

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The Pink Ribbon Street Appeal will take place today and tomorrow, Friday 13 October and Saturday 14 October in Central Hawke's Bay at FourSquare in Waipawa and New World in Waipukurau.

Staff at Central Hawke's Bay District Council have donated their time to support this worthy cause. Several Council staff will be wearing pink along with the volunteer sash and collecting donations to help raise breast cancer awareness, fund vital research and support New Zealanders with breast cancer.

1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with Breast Cancer in New Zealand every day. Last year on the 11th April Council staff member Ngai Deckard was that one. A year and a half down the track, Ngai says she is still benefiting from the programmes put in place due to the support and donations received by the public.

"While its main goal is fostering awareness about early detection, the NZ Breast Cancer Foundation (NZBCF) does fund research at the Cleveland Clinic, the Mayo Foundation, and the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center" says Ngai.

"Research like this has already benefited my family by giving us an idea of what my children and husband may have to face in the future by having the BRCA gene test. This is a blood test that uses DNA analysis to identify harmful changes (mutations) in either one of the two breast cancer susceptibility genes — BRCA1 and BRCA2".

Ngai's daughter Ana Deckard is grateful for all the support her family has received and in return has taken on the role of Area Co-ordinator for the 2017 Breast Cancer Pink Ribbon Street appeal in Waipukurau and Waipawa. Ana will be on hand to support the volunteers over the weekend and ensure all the spaces are filled.

Last October, Council staff organised a raffle to raise funds for NZ Breast Cancer Foundation and were able to present a cheque for \$1,200 to the foundation.

This year staff are encouraging the public to come along to FourSquare in Waipawa or New World in Waipukurau and give generously to this wonderful cause. People can also donate by texting PINK to 4499 to give \$3 to the NZ Breast Cancer Foundation.

Chief Executive, Monique Davidson who has supported the staff giving up their time says "It is great to have an energised team of staff who are so committed to involving themselves in community volunteer opportunities; it is a great opportunity for the community to see staff away from their desk and supporting an issue that has so closely impacted one of their colleagues.

"I want to particularly acknowledge one of our staff members Ana Deckard who has taken it upon herself to be an Area Coordinator, step up and provide leadership in this way. Ana is a great example of Council staff going above and beyond and looking for that extra opportunity to make a difference"



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