

Nāku

NEWSLETTER FOR NEW ZEALAND TENANTS ISSUE 7 DECEMBER 24

Home *in* Place



PHOTO GALLERY

Christmas Events

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A MESSAGE FROM LARISSA

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS ARE BACK!

HOMES FOR PEOPLE PARTNERSHIP

AND SO MUCH MORE!

Kia Ora and Meri Kirihimete!

A warm welcome to the final Home in Place newsletter of the year!

As we approach the holiday season, I am excited to share this special edition with you all. First, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your continued support and engagement throughout 2024.

It's been a great year for Home in Place, as we were able to welcome new members into our community as we developed more homes – with more in the pipeline for 2025 – and I'm thrilled to be leading such a dedicated team that works tirelessly to ensure our communities thrive.

In this issue, we have some wonderful stories and updates to share. We're featuring a heartfelt tenant story about Mikaere, who has truly reclaimed his life, his culture, and his sense of self. We also have some festive cheer with our 12 Days of Christmas giveaways, as well as a huge thank you to everyone who participated in our recent feedback survey – and share the lucky winner!

I'm also excited to introduce myself as the new CEO of Home in Place. I'm looking forward to connecting with you all more in the months ahead, having already started to do so at some of our wonderful Christmas events – check out some of the pictures in this edition of Nāku.

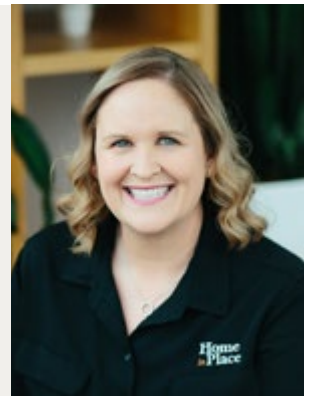
As we head into the holiday season, please make sure to read through the information on our Christmas operating hours and other important reminders, including who to talk to about rent and updates to your contact details.

I hope you enjoy this final newsletter of the year, and I wish you all a safe, joyful Christmas and a well-deserved break. Thank you for being part of our community!

Ngā mihi,

Larissa

CEO Home in Place (New Zealand)



**YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT LARISSA ON THE
[HOME IN PLACE NZ WEBSITE](https://homeinplacenz.org/news-and-reports)
[HOMEINPLACENZ.ORG/NEWS-AND-REPORTS](https://homeinplacenz.org/news-and-reports)**

TENANT SPOTLIGHT **Mikaere**



For Mikaere, his Tā moko is not just ink on skin, it's a powerful symbol of personal transformation.

"It took a few years to really find myself," he says. "I had a past like everyone else, but violence was a big part of mine. I knew I needed a change."

Mikaere's life growing up was filled with violence. His father was a brutal and violent man.

"I never knew love without violence, I was too busy being beaten up to learn what love really was.

Seeking stability, he joined the military in the 1980s.

"The military kept me on track, away from gangs and drugs. It gave me discipline, self-respect, and a way to protect my family."

However, even in his adult life, the echoes of his childhood experiences of violence often resurfaced, making it hard to fully escape the past.

Mikaere reflects on how his upbringing and the influential women in his life shaped him. Their strength and guidance ultimately inspired him to take the step of applying for housing with Home in Place, despite the mistakes of his past.

"When the call came from Bec from Home in Place offering me a home, I couldn't believe it. I thought it was a joke," Mikaere admits. "I didn't think I'd ever get another chance at social housing."

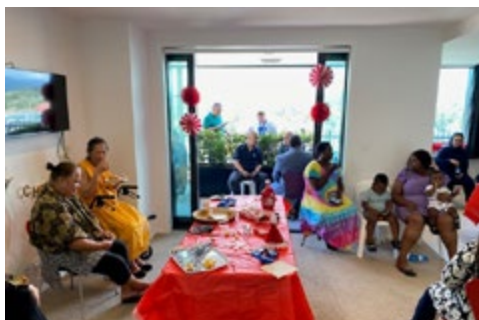
His Home in Place-managed Westlight apartment in Glen Eden has become his sanctuary, his "marae in the sky."



**[READ MORE OF
MIKAERES STORY](#)**

Christmas Events

WESTLIGHT | GLEN EDEN | PALMERSTON NORTH



Homes for People

PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT

Tenancy Relations Officer Renee attended the Te Korowai o Rangitāne Retreat at Rangimarie Marae, and the Palmerston North Social Wellbeing Forum.

The Social Wellbeing Forum happens every two years in Palmerston North. Various social service agencies attend to network and develop strategies and share data that assists Palmerston North City Council to better look out for and support the community. Housing is an issue across the board that affects all areas of social structures and all walks of life, so it's great to be involved in this.

The Te Korowai o Rangitāne Retreat at Rangimarie Marae was the first of its kind and was hosted by Homes For People with Rangitāne iwi to give back to housing providers and agencies who deal in the housing space. It was also a great opportunity to network and each agency shared information about their housing and upcoming endeavours.

The 12 Days of Christmas are back!

That's right - our 12 Days of Christmas Giveaways are back for 2024!

We'll be drawing a tenant from all across our network to win great prizes in daily prize draws.

The winning has already started with Geoff from Auckland taking home a Prezzy card as our Day One winner!

Will you be next?

Stay tuned to our Facebook page to see each day's lucky winners!

Are your details up to date?

It is very important that your personal details are up to date!

Emergency Notifications

In case of emergencies, such as maintenance issues or community alerts, we need to reach you quickly. Updated contact information ensures you receive timely notifications.

Community Updates

We share important information about events, services, and changes that affect you and your home. Stay informed by keeping your details accurate.

Personalised Support

If we need to reach out for any reason—whether it's regarding your lease, repairs, or support services—we want to ensure we can connect with you easily.

How to Update Your Details:

It's quick and easy! You can update your contact information by calling us on 0800 124 663 during our office hours or emailing us at newzealand@homeinplace.org with your updated information, and we'll take care of the rest.

Want to talk about Rent? That's MSD.

Home in Place does not decide your weekly rent payments, and cannot increase or decrease your rent payments.

Every 12 months (or sooner if your household income or make up changes) the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) reviews your rent payments to make sure you're paying the right amount of rent.

MSD will advise you in writing if your rent changes. Typically, they only change it if there is an increase of \$5 or more, or a decrease of \$1 or more per week.

If you disagree with a decision about your rent, you should talk to MSD directly.

Stay in Touch

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