



HARIKOA

NEWSLETTER

Creating communities where everyone can feel empowered



MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

Dear Friends,

I am thrilled to share Harikoa Life's journey with you. Our mission is to transform disability services and housing in New Zealand, creating a more inclusive and supportive community for everyone.

Over the past few months, we've been diligently laying the groundwork for Harikoa Life. We've engaged with parents and experts, collaborated with advocates and government officials and conducted extensive research to ensure our services meet the needs of our community. We've also been building a passionate team dedicated to making a real difference.

I want to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of parents of people with disabilities. Your dedication and advocacy have been instrumental in shaping our vision. We understand your concerns about your children's uncertain future once you are no longer around to support them. The risk of loneliness and poverty without proper support is a significant worry. Harikoa Life aims to address these concerns by providing a secure and connected mixed community where individuals with disabilities, in particular, can thrive independently.

One key learning from our recent trip to North America was the success of some disability communities in Canada. These communities thrived because they encouraged the autonomy and independence of their members. The sector operated in unity, working towards the shared goal of providing a safe and connected place for people with disabilities to live. Their genuine commitment to achieving these objectives and their extensive collaboration were striking, and this level of cooperation is something we aspire to replicate in New Zealand.

Our next steps are crucial as we move closer to our launch. We are finalising our service offerings, developing support programmes, and building partnerships with key organisations. We aim to provide services that empower individuals with disabilities to lead meaningful and independent lives.

However, we need help to achieve this vision. Your support and involvement are not just important; they are crucial to bringing Harikoa Life to fruition. Your contribution will directly impact the lives of individuals with disabilities, making a significant difference in our mission.

Together, we can transform disability services in New Zealand, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Thank you for your interest and support. Let's make a difference together.

Warm regards,

Herman Potgieter

Founder and CEO, Harikoa Life



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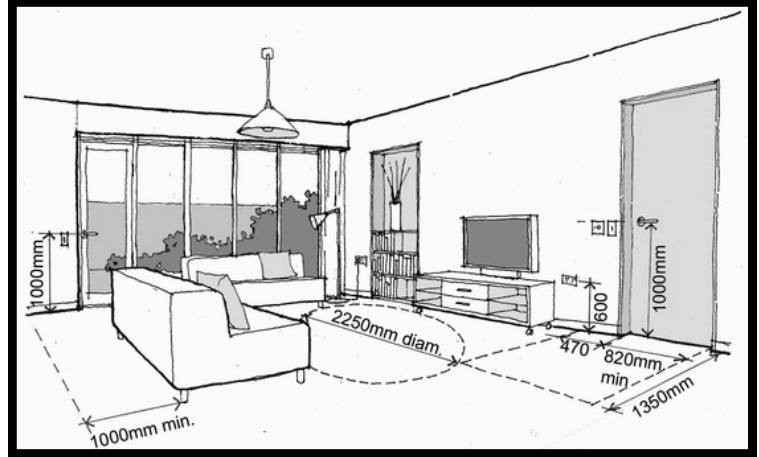
LEARNING FROM SUCCESSFUL MARKETS

In April, we embarked on a trip to North America to learn best practices in housing and services for people with disabilities. We met with organisations such as CLS and Baci in Canada, whose work inspires us to improve the disability sector in New Zealand. While there, we explored inclusive communities and spoke directly with residents to assess their level of happiness. Here are some key learnings from our visit:

- People with disabilities were happier than the general population in these inclusive communities.
- The thinking, values, and attitudes of residents, service providers, and families significantly influenced positive outcomes.
- Natural support, relationships, and "just enough" support from service providers resulted in better wellbeing.
- Creating common areas that encouraged natural friendships was essential.
- Maintaining healthy relationships with family and parents was crucial for happiness.
- Unless severely impaired, individuals with disabilities had complete control over their lives.

One standout observation was the high level of collaboration among agencies and service providers to advocate for the rights and wellbeing of people with disabilities. This united approach would greatly benefit the New Zealand disability sector.

We would love to hear your thoughts on these learnings. Your feedback is invaluable as we strive to implement what we have learned. Please stay connected with us through our social media channels. Your involvement, feedback, and support are crucial to the success of this initiative.



IN SEARCH OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

We are in discussion with developers and real estate companies about building solutions that will help us achieve our objectives.

As we meticulously navigate the process of identifying the perfect partners, we draw from the valuable insights we gained from our overseas trip. This ensures that the solution we develop together will not only deliver the optimal design layout and accessibility but also create inviting and welcoming common living areas.

We plan to start our residential pilot within the next six months and would like to invite expressions of interest from people who are willing to participate or are interested in investing.



While we navigate the residential facet of the Harikoa Life initiative, we will start to provide services to people with disabilities who are interested in innovative solutions to their everyday needs. We can assist with:

- At-home Disability Support
- Human Resources Management
- Meaningful Experiences
- And much more

Contact us today to discuss your needs and how Harikoa Life can help you live a fulfilling and happy life.



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REGISTER NOW >



HELP US DEVELOP TAILORED SERVICES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF NEW ZEALANDERS

Your participation is crucial in shaping the future of disability services and housing in New Zealand. Join one of our online workshops and make your voice heard.

Overseas, the mixed community concept has often achieved higher levels of wellbeing among people with disabilities compared to the general population. Inspired by these successful international models, and with input from people with disability and parents in New Zealand, we formulated a highly integrated approach that ensures the wellbeing of people with disability, even when their parents and family are no longer there. The workshop aims to obtain feedback and further input to refine the model before roll-out. We will look at what it means to foster positive attitudes among community residents, service providers, and families.

At the workshops, we will delve into some of the key differences in the underlying thinking, the importance of natural support systems and "just enough" assistance delivered by service providers, promoting greater independence and overall wellbeing. We will also look at the critical role of creating communal spaces that encourage organic friendships among individuals of various abilities, nurturing a supportive and inclusive environment.

Together, we can make a difference. Let's build a more inclusive society where everyone has the opportunity to lead self-directed lives and control their own future. Be part of this transformative journey towards a brighter, more equitable future for all.

When: Wednesday 17th July or 24th July

Time: 7 pm

Where: online

To register, go to www.harikoa.org.nz/Events.

A calendar invitation with a session link will be sent out close to the time.

We look forward to seeing you online.

JOIN US IN TRANSFORMING DISABILITY SERVICES IN NEW ZEALAND

Harikoa Life is looking for parents of people with disabilities and members of the public who are interested in investing in this venture. Your financial contributions will directly impact the development and implementation of this initiative. By investing in Harikoa Life, you are helping to create a more inclusive and supportive community for individuals with disabilities. Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference. If you would like to know more about investment opportunities please call us on:

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www.harikoa.org.nz



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