

The BestStart with a big heart

With only 49 children, Raureka is one of BestStart's smallest early childhood centres.

But despite its size, the centre has been one of the biggest contributors to the annual BestStart Plunket Appeal, surpassing the bigger centres four of the five years the appeal has been running.

Whānau Āwhina Plunket Chief Executive Amanda Malu visited the centre today to personally thank the community for its generosity.

"Raureka is an exceptionally generous community, and we are humbled and deeply grateful to our Raureka whānau. This little centre has raised more than \$11,400 since 2016, and has been in BestStart's biggest contributor position for most of those years," Ms Malu said.

"Whānau Āwhina Plunket couldn't do what we do without the support of amazing people and organisations like BestStart, so thank you BestStart, and all the whānau and communities that get involved in the appeal every year. Together you're helping us to make a difference of a lifetime for our tamariki."

Rochelle Scott, BestStart Raureka's Centre Manager, said she was proud of the Raureka community's big heart.

"We are delighted that our generous whānau and passionate team get right behind the BestStart Plunket Appeal," Ms Scott said.

"We know we've got a great little centre, and every year we're humbled to see how generous and willing our community is to help others."

BestStart is the Star Partner of Whānau Āwhina Plunket and runs the BestStart Plunket Annual Appeal, as well as funding Whānau Āwhina Plunket's PlunketLine breastfeeding service.

BestStart centres have raised more than \$190,000 over the five years it has run the appeal, making it a significant funder of Whānau Āwhina Plunket community initiatives.

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For more information please contact:

Rachel Schicker, Senior Communications Advisor, 027 252 4178