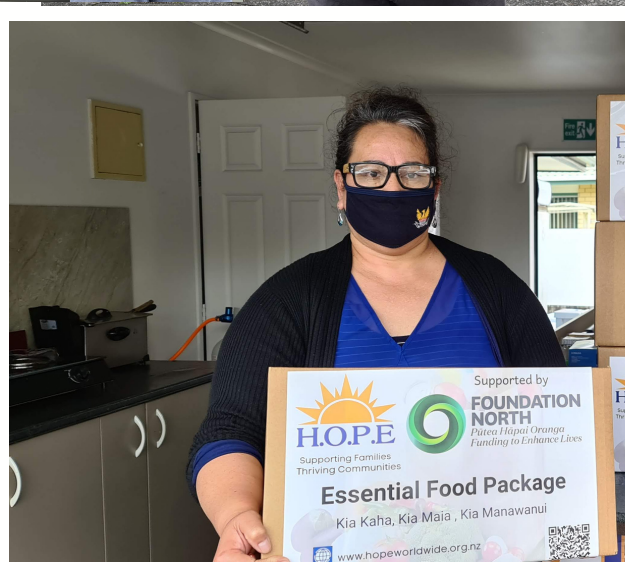




# FOOD WATCH PROGRAM





### COVID-19

## MORE PEOPLE HAVE NEEDED FOOD DURING COVID-19

**W**e have been living in a challenging time since the Covid-19 pandemic started. Hundreds of people have lost their jobs, the difficulty of finding one has increased and the bills do not stop. New Zealand has done a great job during the pandemic, but many people still seek help.

Jonne (not real name) is a young single mother of two baby boys: Saviour, 3 years old, and Harry 1 (not real names), and is pregnant with her third child. She just moved from Waikato to Auckland a few weeks ago and has not been able to find a stable job.

She visits HOPE to receive food that meets the requirements of a healthy diet for her family.

It is a big help to feed her children and nephews, she says.

"I think it is a good thing - very helpful for families in need," says Johanna, 21. Another young woman and her family, including her father, mother and younger sister, have been beneficiaries of HOPE packages in recent months.

"I have been coming here for the last 3 or 4 months and it's very good. I do not get enough food every week. It's really nice to know that people in the community help others and that people will be there for you in the time of need."



## HOPE BRINGS SUPPORT TO PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT CRISES

In the past year, the number of people needing a box of free and healthy food from HOPE has increased considerably. Between 2018 and 2019 around 60 and 70 families received food from the program every week, but in 2021 the number has increased to 100 families.



### 'FOOD WATCH PROGRAMME' IN THE BATTLE AGAINST PANDEMIC

**E**very Thursday, volunteers gather at the HOPE headquarters to begin the job of organising boxes and food that will be delivered to families in crisis because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

One young couple thankful for receiving support in the middle of the economical and emotional crisis they have found themselves in are postgraduate students from Mumbai, India.

After finalising their studies, they have found it challenging to gain full-time jobs that help them with their visa status and covers all their expenses. Covid-19 has been especially hard for many immigrant families, trying to get qualified jobs and more professional opportunities. HOPE offers them nutritious food and a hygiene kit. Any help is welcomed when you are unemployed without any extra support and surviving on your savings, the beneficiaries affirm.

"It's a good program especially for people who are struggling and who have no social income," says immigrant Avon D'Almeida. "It really means a lot and makes a difference especially in these Covid times."