

# Forming an alliance



**Te Ohu  
Whakawhanaunga**

## *Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga Sponsoring Committee*

The Sponsoring Committee is an ad hoc gathering of groups that are committed to creating a broad-based organisation. The sponsoring committee is not the organisation.

Its job is to sponsor the building of Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga. Members of the sponsoring committee come together to incubate, credential, and build the

effort, answering questions like, “What are you doing? Who invited you to do this?”

They invite other groups to join the organising effort as eventual fees-paying members. They approach and invite the right mix of diverse institutions, so that Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga out as broad and diverse as the community it seeks to organise.

*Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga will affiliate to a global network of alliances, the 75-year-old Industrial Areas Foundation, started by Saul Alinsky.*

**Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga begins with a sponsoring committee that oversees the work of the community organiser/s. These organisers develop relationships with civil society organisations dedicated to poverty reduction, such as churches, community groups, unions and other relevant groupings.**

The sponsors will endorse a framework that includes:

1. developing the capability of community leaders through education and action;
2. establishing core teams within organisations for leadership development, listening campaigns, and research;
3. organising diverse groups from across civil society into relationship with
4. each other around their shared interests;
4. shaping a programme of work representing collective concerns;
5. engaging in public dialogue with decision-makers for structural and systemic change;
6. evaluating outcomes and learning from practice.

*The object of alliances is to stand for the whole. The issue is how to prioritise the people, whose voices needed to be magnified and heard.*

**– Joe Chrastil, IAF**

# A charitable trust

A Trust has been formed to oversee a Peter McKenzie Project grant for the next 3 years. It will operate until the member organisations take ownership of Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga at its founding assembly. The aim of the Trust is the relief of poverty in Aotearoa so families and communities flourish.

It aims to:

1. facilitate the organisation of communities in Aotearoa toward a future where children and families flourish;
2. encourage and promote systemic and structural change that will result in the alleviation of poverty;
3. raise public awareness and understanding of the issues associated with well-being in the communities of Aotearoa;
4. develop the capacity and skills of the members of communities to engage in active citizenship for the revitalisation of democracy.



## Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga

**tautoko (support) – awhi (embrace, assist) – manaakitanga (care) – utu (reciprocity)  
aroha (love) – mahitahi (working together for the common good)**

### Trustees

Annie Newman  
Margaret Martin  
Susan Adams  
Prue Kapua  
Ian Hutson  
David Hall

### Peter McKenzie Project

Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga is funded by the Peter McKenzie Project.

*“Imagine an Aotearoa New Zealand where all our children, young people and mokopuna flourish.*

*He oranga tamariki, he oranga whānau, he oranga tāngata.”*

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