



## My name is Eruera

My name is Eruera. I'm one of many Lifewise support workers who help people in need at Lifewise Merge Café.

I want to thank you for your generous support of Lifewise Merge Café. In my experience, people need safety and security first, before they can share any other struggles or troubles they may be facing. Walking into the café is an important first step for people seeking support, especially for someone experiencing homelessness.

I know what it's like because I have been homeless, too, and I can never forget how terribly lonely I felt. Thanks to your support and generous donations, Lifewise Merge Café can be the safe space for people in need to get a fresh, hot meal, and to find the support they need.



Find us on 435 K' Road,  
near the overbridge,  
open weekdays 7am-2pm.

**merge**  
DO GOOD FOOD



## Lifewise Merge Café

Have you been to the newly refurbished Lifewise Merge Café?



Thanks to your ongoing support, Lifewise Merge Café is now better than ever! Your regular patronage and donations have made the cafe even more welcoming.

There is a new coffee machine serving delicious, locally-sourced coffee, courtesy of Miller's, Auckland's best coffee roasters. The outdoor area has been spruced up and features a delightful edible garden.

REVIEW US ON **tripadvisor**



And thanks to generous donations from AUT and help from Circle IT, we now offer free computer access and wifi. Please come in and see for yourself.

Try a delicious cuppa, courtesy of Miller's coffee, and our fresh hot meals. We have vegetarian and vegan options available, too! Every dollar you spend here goes towards ending homelessness.

## Kia ora!

Lately you may have noticed a tidal wave of headlines about homelessness in the media. It is hard to ignore the magnitude of this problem. But I will tell you about the progress you are helping us make towards ending homelessness.



Lifewise is leading the **Housing First Project** in Auckland but we are not alone in this effort. You are an invaluable supporter of the Housing First Project.

Thanks to your backing and foresight, more and more people can see it is the most sustainable solution to end homelessness. Already, some of the most hardworking social and government agencies are on the Housing First Project Group – **Community Housing Aotearoa, Auckland City Mission, Housing New Zealand, and Ministry for Social Development**, to name a few.

An especially unique aspect of our Project is the people with lived experience of homelessness, they are helping co-design this Project. With their advice, the Housing First Project Group can better understand the needs of people who experience homelessness. And this will help us create a more informed, sustainable solution.

Thank you once again, for believing in Lifewise. Together we can turn lives around.

Warm regards,

**Moira Lawler,**  
Chief Executive, Lifewise



**4702**  
DONATIONS MADE

**\$400,000**  
TARGET

**\$333,489.87**  
RAISED

## The Biggest Result Yet!

Thank you for making the Lifewise Big Sleepout 2016 a record-breaking achievement!

On Thursday 7 July, the 7th annual Lifewise Big Sleepout saw 135 of Auckland's most influential movers and shakers brave one cold, wet wintry night to sleep rough.

There was thunder and lightning as the weather put on a display that only highlighted how vulnerable the city's homeless are to the elements and how difficult it can be to remain warm and dry without a home.

Thanks to your generous support, you not only raised awareness about homelessness but also helped these "rough sleepers" raise over \$333K to kickstart the Housing First Project. We are expecting to commence the first pilot of this programme in October this year, to pave the way for implementation in 2017.



## Come To The Big Sleepout Rotorua

This year, the Big Sleepout in Rotorua has a new name, new location, a new date, plus, everyone's invited!



In July 2015, 38 community, iwi Representatives and political leaders slept rough in Pukuatua Street car park to fundraise to end homelessness in Rotorua. The \$35K raised has been used to give back to the community via grants to Rotorua agencies Shake Up, Love Soup Rotorua, Salvation Army, Waiariki Women's Welfare League, and CFM Ministries.

This year, the event has been given a new name that better represents Rotorua's community based spirit. It will be held on **20 October**, coinciding with events around homelessness and mental health awareness in Rotorua. This year's **Lifewise Big Community Sleepout Rotorua** aims to increase

2016  
THE LIFEWISE  
BIG COMMUNITY SLEEPOUT  
ROTORUA  
Community collaboration to end homelessness

awareness of the Rotorua Homeless Action Plan. It's about collaboration, working with iwi and other agencies to end homelessness in Rotorua. All money raised during the Lifewise Big Community Sleepout Rotorua goes directly towards supporting non-funded projects from voluntary groups working with Homeless and or Rough Sleepers in Rotorua.

The Lifewise Big Community Sleepout Rotorua is open to anyone interested in participating. Go to [rotorua.bigsleepout.org.nz](http://rotorua.bigsleepout.org.nz) to register today (places are limited). Together, we can end homelessness in Rotorua.

## New Funding For Housing First

Hon. Minister Paula Bennett announced new funding for the Housing First project over the next two years. Lifewise will bid for funding from this pool.

You believed in Housing First. And now the government believes in it, too! Thank you so much for your support.

"This is a major step forward," says Moira Lawler, Lifewise Chief Executive. There has been little government funding dedicated towards a sustainable approach to ending homelessness. But now Lifewise along with Auckland's most hardworking social and government agencies, can put in place the Housing First model.

Housing First follows a simple guiding principle. A person who is experiencing homelessness needs a home first. After that, wrap-around services can address other needs. For example, mental health counselling, finding a job, or coping with addiction. While the funding is definitely a shot in the arm, it is not enough to solve a problem as complex as homelessness. This funding cannot cover the costs of housing every homeless person. We will need to continue looking for ongoing resources and we will continue to need your support.

**HOUSING FIRST**  
Ending homelessness in Auckland.

Housing is a basic human right. The current responses will not end homelessness.

We need to do something different to get a better result. Housing First as an effective and proven model to end homelessness.

**HOUSING FIRST CORE PRINCIPLES**

1. Immediate access to permanent housing with no housing readiness requirement
2. Consumer choice and self-determination
3. Focus on recovery
4. Individualised and client-driven supports
5. Social and community integration

Housing First is a highly successful model that is being applied around the world. It is well researched in the US and Canada with consistently positive results.

Our goal is to adapt the Housing First model to fit the Auckland context while maintaining its principles.

## World Homeless Day

World Homeless Day is on 10 October. Preparations are underway to mark World Homeless Day in Auckland city centre's Aotea Square. There are over 200 people in Auckland's city centre who are homeless.

Lifewise together with the city's social agencies and local government work and with your support we can work in partnership with the homeless!

Come to Auckland's Aotea Square on 10 October to visit us and talk to us in person!



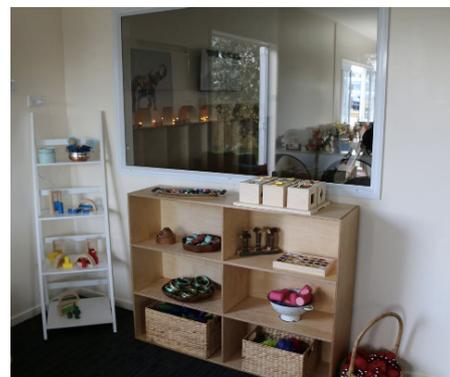
## Now Open: Vital 5 Glen Eden

A new Lifewise Early Childhood Education Centre is now open on West Coast Road. With the support and encouragement of the Glen Eden Methodist Church, Airedale Property Trust, and the Ministry of Education, a new "home" for children is almost ready.

We will be enrolling preschool aged children, but we would welcome any families with young children to spend time in our centre, connecting with people and learning alongside their children. It will be a special place for our vulnerable tamariki within our community and Lifewise whanau.

Come visit us at  
302 West Coast Road  
Glen Eden.

For more information,  
go to [vital5.org.nz](http://vital5.org.nz)



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