

A Guide to Leaving a Legacy

How you can care and support future generations through a gift in your Will

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*It isn't the size of
the gift that matters,
but the size of the heart
that gives it.*

Eileen Elias

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A gift left in your Will is a wonderful way to support the work of Tōtara Hospice beyond your lifetime. It's a gesture of kindness which means a great deal to the people we care for, and ensures our service remains free to all.

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

We fully understand that a gift left in your Will to Tōtara Hospice is an investment in our future and benefits future generations of patients and their whānau.

We promise that we will:

- Not put pressure on you to give a gift in your Will – it is your decision.
- Never ask you the size or type of gift if you decide to support our work this way.
- Recognise that those closest to you come first in your Will.
- Never ask your intentions – we respect your right to privacy.
- Understand that personal circumstances change and there might be a time when you must take Tōtara Hospice out of your Will.
- Use your gift wisely.

Honour living, dignify dying.



“ *What an incredible organisation you are, words will never express my deep gratitude for the wonderful care you gave my late husband, for the last 5 weeks of his life.* ”
~Family member

No one should meet death unsupported; instead our focus is on quality of life for our patients ensuring they are supported with comfort, care, and dignity.

ABOUT TŌTARA HOSPICE | TE KAHU PAIRURI O TŌTARA

Tōtara Hospice was established in 1982 by Reverend Francis Fennell and his wife Beatrice; their vision was that no one with a terminal illness within their community would meet death unsupported. We are entrusted to continue to safeguard and evolve their vision, whilst being dedicated to securing Tōtara Hospice's future.

Tōtara Hospice provides free palliative care services throughout the South and South-East Auckland region, one of the largest and most diverse regions in New Zealand. Each year we touch many lives; one in three people will use our services on their final journey through life. Our focus is on quality of life for patients living with a terminal illness and ensuring that they are supported with comfort, care and dignity. The Tōtara Hospice workforce is passionate about caring for patients and their whānau to achieve the best outcome during an incredibly difficult time in their lives.



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It was such a relief to have people I could call at any time. At night and weekends when you couldn't call the GP's office, Tōtara Hospice was there.

~Aradhna

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The Padayachie Family: Kuben, Aradhna, and their son Sahil.

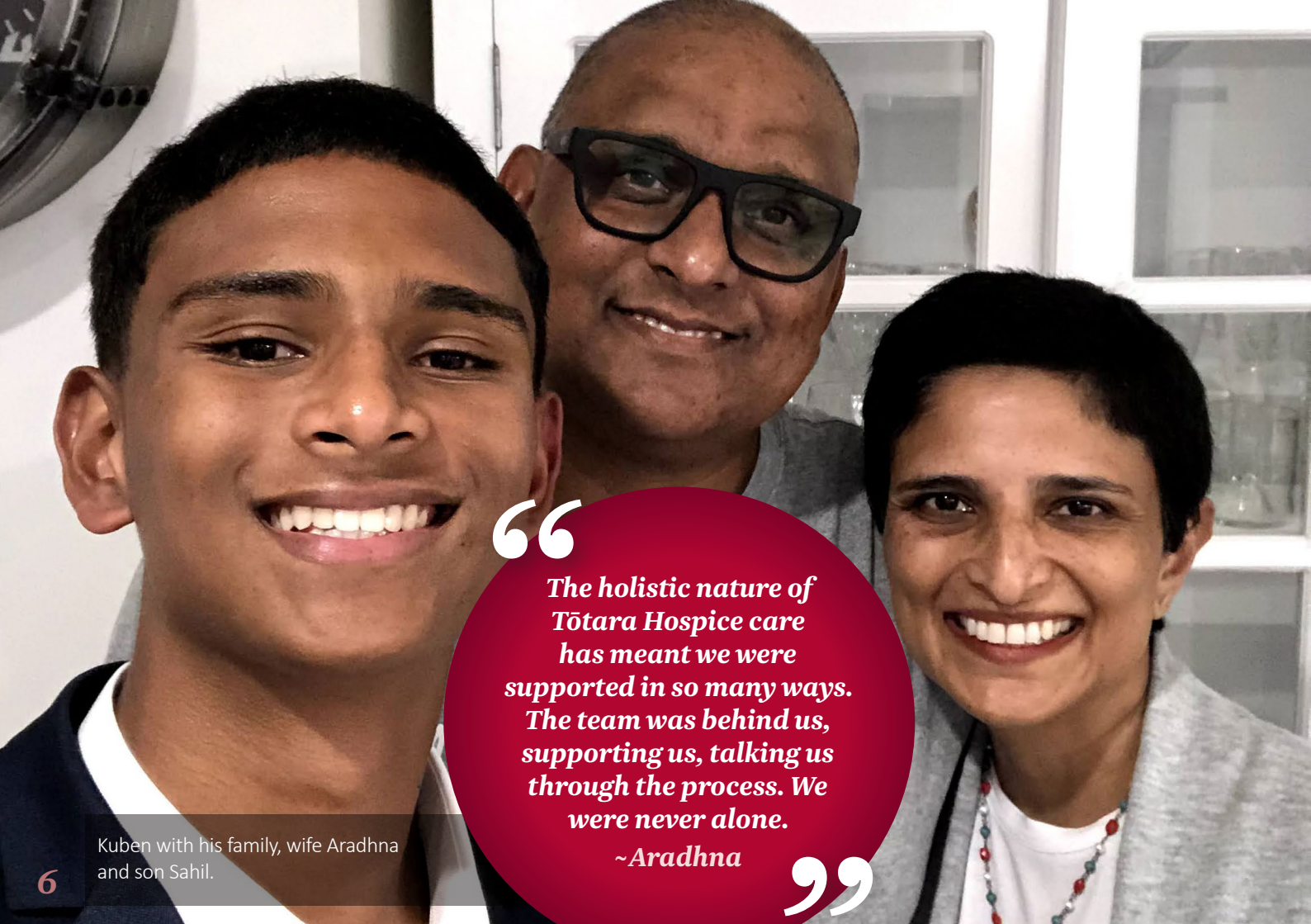
TŌTARA SUPPORT: KUBEN AND ARADHNA'S STORY

When Aradhna's husband, Kuben was first diagnosed with pancreatic cancer after experiencing ongoing stomach pains, Hospice was discussed, and a few months later the family made contact. "From that point on there was a team of people supporting us at every stage."

HOSPICE IN THE HOME

While Kuben was at home, the Tōtara Hospice nurses would visit. Initially, the nurses helped with pain management, then later would offer practical support and guidance when complications would arise. These checks became more frequent until the nurses were a daily fixture in their home. Other clinical specialists, such as a physiotherapist supported Kuben with exercises for his circulation when he was unable to get out of bed.

Aradhna reflects, "Every person we were in touch with was so compassionate and caring. They gave us guidance and support on both a practical and emotional level, from delivering supplies and organising prescriptions to just being on the end of the phone to give advice."



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The holistic nature of Tōtara Hospice care has meant we were supported in so many ways. The team was behind us, supporting us, talking us through the process. We were never alone.

~Aradhna

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Kuben with his family, wife Aradhna and son Sahil.

ENTERING THE HOSPICE UNIT

When it came time to plan for end-of-life care Tōtara Hospice provided practical knowledge and emotional support. The Hospice counsellor helped the family talk through funeral planning and where Kuben would like to be in his last days. This let Aradhna know exactly what Kuben wanted and made those decisions easier.

Kuben made the decision to be in Tōtara Hospice for his final days.

Aradhna remembers “We were treated with so much dignity, respect, and compassion. I could not think of a better place for us to be in that week. Everyone there talked to us like we were old friends and there were so many little things they did that showed empathy. We were constantly checked on but also felt like we were given space and could care for Kuben in the way we wanted to.”

In his final days, Kuben’s pain was managed and it was the most serene, calm, and respectful time. “On Kuben’s last night, the nurse sat with me. She talked me through each stage and what to expect, it made those final hours a little less overwhelming.”

Once Kuben passed, Tōtara Hospice continued to provide the family with support and guidance, including grief support. “The availability of counselling through Hospice has let me talk things out and work through grief. It has taught me that it’s okay to ask for help and that there is no time limit on grief.”



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*A gift left to a charity
says a lot about your
values and how you will
be remembered*

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Many of our donors like to make a gift in their Will, as it is simple to do, it doesn't impact their current financial situation, and gives them assurance knowing that their future gift will be responsible for giving leading-edge palliative care and comfort to the next generation and beyond.

WHY LEAVE A GIFT TO TŌTARA HOSPICE?

Tōtara Hospice is only partially Government funded, which means each year we need to raise several million dollars to continue to provide palliative care services to the terminally ill. Your gift to Tōtara Hospice, no matter the amount, will help make Hospice happen in the community.

Providing care both at home and via the Inpatient Unit, the Tōtara Hospice clinical team is made up of skilled and committed doctors, nurses, social workers, counsellors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, pharmacists, spiritual support, and cultural liaisons. Alongside the clinical support the Hospice team help identify and explore the physical, emotional, cultural, and spiritual challenges that invariably accompany a terminal illness, and are dedicated to providing support to patients and whānau.



START YOUR LEGACY

When you create your Will, you are leaving a legacy for future generations, and including a gift to Tōtara Hospice in your Will is a generous way to extend that legacy from your family to the wider community. We encourage you to share with your family your desire to leave a gift to a charity, as this can prevent personal and legal struggles if your Will is challenged, and ensures that your wishes are carried out as you intended

MAKING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

If you wish to leave a gift in your Will, your solicitor will be able to advise you of the steps to take. If you have an existing Will, this can be easily updated by your legal representative (using a codicil), to include your bequest to Tōtara Hospice.

It is essential to have a legally binding Will, to ensure that family and friends are provided for, and peace of mind to know that your wishes will be carried out as intended.

A residue gift



You can leave part or all of your estate to Tōtara Hospice.

A percentage gift



You can leave a percentage of your estate to Tōtara Hospice.

A specific gift



You can leave a specific gift of money, jewellery, real estate, shares or any other gifts to Tōtara Hospice.

INFORMATION FOR YOUR SOLICITOR

Regardless of whether you are making a Will for the first time or making changes to an existing one, below is some suggested wording to make a gift towards the general running costs of Tōtara Hospice.

“I give to Tōtara Hospice (Charity Commission Number CC21683), [the residue of my estate] [percentage of my estate] [a specified sum of money] [or write a description of property or assets] for its general [charitable] purposes. The receipt of the Chief Executive or other proper officer shall be full and sufficient discharge to my trustees.”





As Tōtara Hospice is unlikely to receive your gift until far into the future, it is most beneficial to those we are helping if its terms are as general as possible, given that needs and priorities change over time. Not being too specific in your Will as to how you want your donation used allows Tōtara Hospice to apply the funds to the areas of greatest need. However, we do want to allow you to bring your legacy to life, so if you do have a specific request to support a particular Hospice service or aspect of care, please let us know so that we can work with you to make this happen.

If you need help finding a solicitor, you can visit the Auckland District Law Society website at www.adls.org.nz to search the online directory of lawyers in your local area. Alternatively, you can visit the New Zealand Law Society website at www.lawsociety.org.nz or contact them on (04) 472 7837. You can also enquire at your local Citizens Advice Bureau or Community Law Centre.

Thank You

If you have made the decision to leave a gift to Tōtara Hospice in your Will, or plan to, please do let us know as we would love to be able to thank you personally for your generous support, and to show our appreciation.



Tōtara Hospice Legacy Team

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