



# Excellence

## IN FOSTER CARE AWARDS

### THE EXCELLENCE IN FOSTER CARE AWARDS RECOGNISE THE EXTRAORDINARY EFFORTS OF CAREGIVERS.

Each year awards are given to a caregiver or a caregiving couple. The awards are open to any New Zealander caring for a child not born to them, be that through Oranga Tamariki, a non-government agency, a family/whānau arrangement or permanency. They are recognised for their extraordinary commitment, not only to the children in their care but also to their community

Your nomination is an opportunity to introduce your chosen caregiver or caregiving couple and explain who

they are, what their caregiving journey has been about, and what makes them stand out.

Recipients of the awards travel to attend the awards ceremony in person and enjoy two days of rest and relaxation. Award recipients, if not a couple, are able to bring a support person with them.

The awards were established in 2007 by Caring Families Aotearoa (then known as NZ Family and Foster Care Association). They are now joint awards hosted by Caring Families Aotearoa and Oranga Tamariki to celebrate excellence in caregiving.

#### To Enter

It's easy to be eligible – your nominee can be anyone providing a home to a child not born to them (excluding step parents). This includes whānau and kin carers, grandparents raising grandchildren and people with permanent care of a child or young person. The nominee does not need to have an agency.

To enter, please complete all sections of this nomination form and email the PDF document to [events@caringfamilies.org.nz](mailto:events@caringfamilies.org.nz) by

Tuesday 3rd November 2020



## The selection panel

A panel made up of representatives from NGO's, Oranga Tamariki and Caring Families Aotearoa meets to consider each application.

## Guidelines for writing your nomination:

- Describe the strengths of the nominee.
- Describe how they go above and beyond for the children in their care and the care community.
- Describe their commitment to learning.

## Completing and submitting your nomination:

- Download the PDF nomination form from the website and save this onto your computer.
- Open the PDF form and start filling out the details. You can complete the form in stages, remembering to save the changes as you go. When you re-open the form check you are working from your latest version. Once you have completed the form check that

every question has been answered.

- If you are wanting to include supporting evidence, please ensure this is saved into a separate PDF document.
- You can upload a single video file with your entry of no longer than five minutes, to the video-sharing site Vimeo. Please see contact us if you need help to do this.
- Email your completed PDF nomination form along with your PDF document with supporting evidence (if you are providing) as attachments on an email message to [events@caringfamilies.org.nz](mailto:events@caringfamilies.org.nz).
- Or, post your completed form and supporting information to Hayley Pedersen, Caring Families Aotearoa, PO Box 30188, Lower Hutt 5040.

## Confidentiality

Your nomination form and any supporting information you submit will remain confidential and will not be published.



## NOMINEE'S DETAILS

**Please provide the details for the caregiver or caregiver couple being nominated for an award.**

First name:

Surname:

Preferred name:

Date of birth:

Gender:            Male            Female

Ethnicity:

Mobile no:

Iwi:

Email address:

First name:

Surname:

Preferred name:

Date of birth:

Gender:            Male            Female

Ethnicity:

Mobile no:

Iwi:

Email address:

Street Address:

Suburb:

City/Town:

Post code:



## NOMINATOR'S DETAILS

**Please provide the details of the person nominating the caregiver or caregiver couple for the award.**

First name:

Surname:

Email address:

Contact no:

Organisation  
(if relevant)

Street address:

Suburb:

City/Town:

Postcode:

What is your  
relationship to  
the  
caregiver(s)?

How many  
years have you  
known the  
caregiver(s)?



## ABOUT THE NOMINEE(S)

**Please tell us about the nominated caregiver(s) current caregiver status.**

Are they currently caregiver(s)?      Yes                              No

How many years have they been caregiving for?

What type of care do, or did, they provide?

Do they provide care for Oranga Tamariki, Ministry for Children?      Yes                              No

If so, please confirm the Oranga Tamariki site      Site:

Do they provide care for a non-government agency?      Yes                              No

If so, please confirm the name.      Name:

They do not provide care through an organisation.      Yes



## ABOUT THE CAREGIVER(S)

### Introduce your nominee

1. **Let us get to know your nominated caregiver and why you think the selection panel should choose this caregiver (couple) to receive an Excellence in Foster Care Award.**

### 2. **Tell us about their current environment**

Please write a paragraph to describe their current care whānau which may include:

- How many children are in their care and how long they have been with them
- How many children they have cared for
- Do they have biological children?



### **3. Supporting the needs of the children in their care**

Please write about how the caregiver meets the needs of the children and young people while they are in their care. This may include:

- How children are welcomed into the family.
- How the caregiver advocates for the children in their care.
- How the caregiver supports the child to establish, maintain and improve their whānau connections.
- How the caregiver supports the child's sports, recreation and community activities?

### **4. Write a brief statement about the strengths and achievements of this caregiver (couple)**

Please write a paragraph to describe their personal strengths and how they play out in their whānau and community.



**5. Please describe how the caregiver(s) provides a positive image of caregiving in your community.**

For example - mentor, leader, support to other caregivers, has positive relationships with social workers and other stakeholders.

**6. Please demonstrate their commitment to ongoing learning**

Please list the trainings that the caregiver(s) have attended in recent years.

<b>Course name/Topic:</b>	<b>Year attended:</b>





## 7. Supporting evidence

Please supply up to a maximum of three relevant pieces of information that further supports their nomination and will help the selection panel understand how extraordinary these caregivers are. Please present the evidence in a way the panel will find interesting; this may include letters of support, references, photographs or a short video. If you are including letters or references, please make sure they highlight the caregiver's strengths and achievements.

## SUBMITTING YOUR NOMINATION

### Checklist, approval and submission

Confirm the content of your entry and that all the information is complete.

Are the contact details for the nominee and nominator complete and accurate?

Have you completed questions 1 – 6 of this nomination form?

Have you included your supporting evidence (if you are providing it)?

Video file. Are you submitting a video file with your entry?

If you're submitting a video entry via video-sharing site Vimeo please provide the URL (link) and password below. Please refer to the FAQ's on the website for more information

URL (link):

Password:



## Confirmation Statement (to be signed by the caregiver)

I/We confirm this entry is a true and accurate record to the best of my knowledge.

I/We agree to being nominated for this award.

If I/we have an agency (OT or NGO) I/we give approval for the panel to get endorsement from my/our agency for my nomination, if the nominator is not from my/our agency.

If successful, I/we wish to be celebrated in news stories This may include national news, regional news and social media sites.

Signature:

Date:

### Submit your nomination

The final date for nominations to be received is **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**.

To send us your entry please email this completed document with your supporting evidence (if you are providing this) to [events@caringfamilies.org.nz](mailto:events@caringfamilies.org.nz) or post your nomination (must arrive by Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020) to Hayley Pedersen, Caring Families Aotearoa, PO Box 30188, Lower Hutt 5040.

**THANK YOU FOR NOMINATING AN OUTSTANDING  
CAREGIVER.**



**Excellence**  
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