



21 MAY 2021

Tēnā koe

On 29 April 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *A breakdown of the number and value (\$) of Special Needs Grants (SNGs) issued by the Wairarapa Community Link for the quarter ending 31 March 2021? Can this data please be provided per SNG category?*

Please find **Table One** enclosed, which shows the number and amount granted for Special Needs Grants from the Wairarapa Service Centre for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 March 2021.

The principles and purposes of the Act under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachments on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

Bridget Saunders
Manager
Issue Resolution Service Delivery

Table One: the number and amount granted for Special Needs Grants from the Wairarapa Service Centre for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 March 2021.

Need Reason	Number	Amount
Dental Treatment	120	\$32,878.00
Drivers Licence (New and Renewal)	33	\$3,024.40
Emergency Housing	15	\$17,723.00
Emergency Medical Treatment (Fees and Prescription Charges)	18	\$2,306.34
Food	576	\$53,312.81
Health Travel Costs Client Only (Non-Recoverable and Recoverable)	15	\$1,040.00
Housing Support Products (HSP) (Rent Arrears and Bond grant)	27	\$31,384.55
Other	30	\$8,348.65
Other Emergency Grants	18	\$1,883.31
Total	849	\$151,901.06

Notes for **Table One**:

- To protect confidentiality the Ministry uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.
- This is a count of grants not clients. A client may have multiple grants in a period.
- The amount granted may not be the same as the amount spent.
- Service centre is based on the Work and Income site where the recommending case manager for the application was based at the time of the grant.
- Reason 'Other' includes:
 - Ambulance Fees (Non Subscription)
 - Assistance during an initial stand down and/or application process
 - Bedding SNG
 - Health Travel Costs with attendant (Non-Recoverable)
 - New Employment Transition Payment
 - Re-establishment Sole Parent (Other)
 - Seasonal Work Assistance
 - Sole Parent Study Assistance
 - Steps to Freedom
 - Transfer to NZ Super
 - Water Tank Refill