

Partnering to support caregiver education and improving outcomes for children in grandparent and whānau care



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 16
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



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For immediate release

Zonta NZ forms partnership with Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Zonta International District 16 (New Zealand) is delighted to announce a two-year partnership with Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Charitable Trust NZ (GRG) to support caregiver education and improve outcomes for children that would otherwise be placed in foster care. Zonta NZ Governor Desirae Kirby says “over 90% of GRG’s primary caregivers are women. GRG’s vision and mission align well with Zonta’s focus on improving social, health and educational outcomes for women and girls.”

GRG provides support services and caregiver education programmes to over 5,300 grandparent and whanau care families nationwide. This represents over 9,000 caregivers and an estimated 16,000 children in circumstances where they cannot be raised by their parents. Around a third of primary caregivers are sole parenting, struggling on an annual household income of less than \$30,000. GRG’s vision and objectives are to empower grandparent care families with the vital support, information, advice, advocacy and education they need to help them achieve positive outcomes in their lives.

Zonta will provide funding to support GRG’s *Simply Acquired & Learned Techniques™ for Grandparents (SALT)* education programme. The programme provides practical insights and understanding of the impact of past trauma on children, who may also have troubling and challenging behaviour. Caregivers are taught effective parenting strategies that promote healing and a sense of

