

Weekley, Ilona

**FAMILIES FIRST TRUST, TRADING AS QUEENSTOWN LAKES FAMILY CENTRE
WAKATIPU**

6 Other Comments

Would you like to comment on any other aspect of this draft 10 Year Plan?

Queenstown Lakes Family Centre has been providing essential services to vulnerable children, young people and their families in the Wakatipu since 2004. Demand has increased each year in our last Financial Year we received 289 referrals and provided services to 414 children. With continued high population growth demands on community services such as ours will continue to increase. As for many non profit organisations securing adequate funding to address community need remains our greatest challenge particularly since the GFC. The operational grants Queenstown Lakes Family Centre has received from QLDC 10 year plan for our rent has been a critical funding stream. The long term commitment provides stability. We are seeking continued support over the next 10 years for rent in the short term we will remain at 16B McBride Street. Our landlord is currently reviewing our rent which has not increased in the last 5 years, currently \$26,400. Though at rent increase in 2015/16 is likely our landlord has agreed to sponsor the difference in the first year by way of a charitable donation. Thus in 2015/16 we are seeking a grant to fund our rent at \$26,400. With increases in line with market value rent increases in the following years. Longer term we are looking at the potential of a collective impact model with other community providers in the Wakatipu which would see the exploration of the feasibility of a "community house" for co-location of services. It is envisaged that with shared areas and improved utilisation of space that the overall cost of rent will be cost neutral. This work is in its infancy at present and a full business plan will be developed if the project is feasible. We thank you for your ongoing support and consideration of this submission.