

Media Release
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Sunflower/01

CHALK YOUR SUPPORT ON SUNFLOWER SUNDAY

Aotea Square will become a field of sunflowers on Sunday the 2nd of December with Aucklanders being invited to come and chalk a flower on the square in support of New Zealanders living with Disabilities.

Sunflower Sunday is being hosted by Spectrum Care and is set to be a fun filled celebration of the United Nations International Day of People with Disabilities.

Festivities included face painting and a visit from the Sunflower Fairy. Chalk will be provided.

Throughout November, Spectrum Care has worked on spreading the message of the day to Auckland schools through the creation of the *Sunflower Quilt*.

Students from five Auckland schools drew sunflowers which were sewn together to form a unique quilt, a symbol of New Zealand's commitment to the care of our disabled people.

The quilt will be on display at *Sunflower Sunday*, where it will be presented to a UN representative.

The school programme culminated in a visit by Auckland band Spacifix to Arohanui Special School in Te Atatu where they helped the students to complete their illustrations.

As one in five New Zealanders live with a disability, Spectrum Care Chief Executive, Chris Harris believes *Sunflower Sunday* is a brilliant opportunity for Aucklanders to show their support.

"New Zealand has been a world leader in modernisation of the care of the disabled and we hope that our children will carry on this legacy."

The celebration has been named *Sunflower Sunday* because of the symbolism associated with the flower. Like people with disabilities sunflowers can only achieve their full potential when they are fully supported.

Spectrum Care is an independent charitable trust that provides services for children, young people and adults with an intellectual disability. The organisation supports people

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living in residential homes in the community throughout the greater Auckland and Waikato area.

Sunflower Sunday takes place in Aotea Square, 2 December, 10-12pm, Rain or shine.

Ends.

For more information please contact:

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