Web accessibility grant report

Thank you for completing your funded initiative.

This form will be placed on our website for transparency and enables us to understand and share the work you have completed. If you prefer to use your own formatting, you can provide a report to us via email.

Please submit your report no later than the date stipulated in your funding agreement. If you cannot meet the deadline, contact us to arrange an alternative date by emailing <u>funding</u> <u>@internetnz.net.nz</u>.

You may not be eligible to apply for further grants from InternetNZ if you do not submit a report. Someone with intimate knowledge of the funded initiative should oversee the writing of your grant report.

Final report

* indicates a required field

Host organisation * Independent Living

Website * https://www.ilsnz.org Must be a URL

Provide a summary of the work undertaken. *

The work undertaken from this grant has been to add alt-text to every single image on our Independent Living website. The goal of this being to make our website as functional and accessible as possible for users. Given that a large core of our audience live with a Disability, and that a key role of Independent Living as an organisation is to share important information, it is of the utmost importance that our website can be used by those who need this information most.

Until this work took place, the Alt-text on images on our website were lackluster and on the majority of images, non-existent. So, the first stage of the process was to implement an Al software onto our site that automated alt-text for all images on our site. The reason for implementing this as the first step was because of the size of our site and the number of images (in the site, there is over 61 standard pages, 66 blog posts and over 750 product pages). So this created a nice base for us.

From here, our web and marketing partners Origin Studio started the process of going into each page to edit and review the alt-text that this AI software implemented to make sure that a) the alt-text matched what the image was displaying, b) made sense in a New Zealand and disabled context and c) was thorough enough - and not overly simplified.

It is important to note, that this part of the process is taking longer than we initially expected, and so it is not yet complete. This has prevented us from moving to the next and final stage of the work. As part of this, we are requesting an extension to our project in order to finish the work required (we will not require further funding, but just more time).

Web accessibility grant 2023/24 Web accessibility report 2023/24 Application No. WA001602023 From Ms Karen Beard-Greer

Form Submitted 30 Mar 2024, 8:54AM NZDT

The final stage of this work will be to go through the final review/consult process. This will see us getting feedback from our internal team (with lived experience of Disability) and the i-Lead team at Yes Disability, on the alt-text we have implemented and then making final tweaks to the alt-text based on this feedback.

As above, we are requesting extra time in order to ensure that this project is done as thoroughly as possible. We estimate that in order to get to where we want to and to complete the process with the final review and consult, we require another 3-4 weeks. We would be extremely grateful for an extension to this important mahi.

Tell us about the activities carried out in this initiative to improve web accessibility.

What impact has this work had? *

The impact of this work once completed, is such that it will make the images on our website accessible for all users. As mentioned, for us as a provider of important Disability information and resources, we need our website to be accessible. This piece of work will mean any person using a screen-reader on our site, or needing to use alt-text on images, will be able to do so.

The processes we have gone through for the work also means that we are making a sustainable change, whereby our website will constantly stay updated, so that any new image we add to the site from this point forwards will have alt-text and be accessible. So, we aren't just impacting our current site, but have made changes that will keep the alt-text on our site accessible for the future too.

You may like to share any feedback you have received or describe changes you have noticed, for example, who and how people are able to engage with your website.

	Provide evidence of the improved accessibility of your website. For example before and after images, screen recordings, testing or feedback.		
Upload files	Filename: Alt-text Grant work examples.pdf File size: 4.5 MB		
Upload files	No files have been uploaded		
	and/or		
Web link	Must be a URL.		
	and/or		
Provide additional details			
Are you happy for us to share these as examples for others to learn from?	○ Yes ○ No		

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Which population group/s were affected by this project or program? *

Health > People with disabilities Please choose only the group/s that were at the very core of this project/program.

What did you learn during this project? *

We've learnt that creating a site that is truly accessible is no easy feat. And for a site that is the size of ours, there needs to be ongoing work done to ensure that it continues to be accessible.

It has also helped us to understand the time and resource commitment needed for certain web tasks such as this.

Further, we have learnt that there are many things that we can continue to do from this point, beyond just alt-text, to improve the accessibility of the site. So once this project has been completed, we will be reviewing how else we can improve our site accessibility within the resource we have access to.

Share anything that might help others who are also looking to improve their web accessibility.

Financial report

* indicates a required field

Please provide details of funds received and spent in relation to this grant.

Income description	\$ amount	Expenditure description	\$ amount
Web Accessibility Grant	\$6,000.00	Implementation fees for website team and consulting fees of Independent Living team + iLead team at YES disability	\$6,000.00
Independent Living Marketing Budget Al- location	\$2,000.00	Implementation fees for website team	\$2,000.00
	\$		\$
	\$		\$

Total Income Amount

\$8.000.00

Total Expenditure Amount Income - Expenditure

This number/amount is calculated.

\$8.000.00 \$0.00

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Feedback

You are almost at the end of your final report. Before submitting, please take a few moments to provide some feedback.

Indicate how you found the report process:

● Very easy ○ Easy ○ Neutral ○ Difficult ○ Very Difficult

Do you have any feedback about our funding processes?

InternetNZ is a membership organisation. Would you be interested in hearing more about becoming a member?

 \odot Yes please \bigcirc No thanks \bigcirc I am already a member

Are you interested in joining a gathering with other grantees?

○ Yes please ● No thanks