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## MEDIA RELEASE

### Oticon Foundation offers Grants for Hearing Loss Projects

*Improving classroom acoustics, supporting training of hearing care specialists and furthering information about the incidence of hearing impairment and deafness in New Zealand are a few of the projects that received funding from the Oticon Foundation in New Zealand in 2001.*

The Oticon Foundation in New Zealand is now calling for new applications from groups and organisations seeking financial support. Projects that disseminate knowledge about hearing and hearing loss; help remedy hearing loss among children and adults; improve the quality of life for hearing impaired individuals and their families; and/or break down the stigma of hearing loss will be considered. Last year, the Oticon Foundation granted \$120,000 to projects that ultimately benefit the lives of New Zealanders with hearing loss.

The Oticon Foundation Secretary, Ms Karen Pullar said that The Oticon Foundation was established in 1976 as a charitable trust of Oticon New Zealand Limited. Income generated from the sale of Oticon products is distributed through the Oticon Foundation.

"Oticon is a socially-responsible business, that develops, manufactures and sells innovative and highly advanced products and solutions that help improve the quality of life for the hearing impaired. Oticon New Zealand does business in a way that positively contributes to benefiting society from its success." said Ms Pullar.

Applications for financial grants close on 31 March 2002 with further information able to be obtained from [info@oticon.org.nz](mailto:info@oticon.org.nz)

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