



2024

Health and Social Services

ANNUAL REPORT



Prepared By: Rangikia Tracey O'Brien

Reporting Period: June 2023 – June 2024

APANUI



KUPU WHAKATAUKI (INTRODUCTION)

Rangikia Tracey O'Brien
Whānau Ora Manager

E ngā mana, e ngā reo, tēnā koutou katoa.

Over the past year, our Health and Social Services team has walked alongside our whānau through challenges, celebrations, and growth. This journey, from June 2023 to June 2024, has brought us together to support whānau through housing, health, wellbeing, and education initiatives.

We are proud of what we have achieved – not just through measurable outcomes but through the meaningful relationships we have nurtured. Every service, event, and program has been a step toward reconnecting people with each other, our culture, and the values that bind us.

The smiles on the faces of tamariki catching waves at Ōhope, the joy shared by Pakeke at Activity Days, and the sense of pride in new business ventures reflect the impact of our mahi. Together, we have created spaces for healing, learning, and connection to flourish.

We look forward to continuing this journey, guided by **manaakitanga**, **kotahitanga**, and **whakawhanaungatanga** – caring for one another, unity, and strengthening relationships.

Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

Rangikia OBrien



NGĀ KAUPAPA WHAKAHIRAHIRA ME NGĀ WHAKATUTUKITANGA

SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our focus this year has been on supporting whānau with crucial housing repairs, ensuring they have warm, safe, and comfortable homes. The demand for repairs has remained high, with many whānau needing essential maintenance. Our referrals reflect this growing need, and we are committed to ensuring whānau receive the services they require for their wellbeing.

A highlight was our work with the **Mahi Pai Foundation** (formerly Habitat EBOP), who held a Roadshow at Te Kaha Marae, where 70 whānau registered interest for funding and critical home repairs. We directed whānau throughout the process, ensuring those eligible were able to access this vital assistance.

The **Mahi Pai Foundation** completed **12 critical home repairs**, benefiting **32 whānau**. These repairs focused on essential areas like bathrooms, kitchens, laundries, and roofs, with a total project cost of **\$360,340.55**. This advocacy reflects our commitment to improving housing for whānau, especially those on **whenua Māori**.

KAHUI PAKEKE

- Activity Days
- Our **Pakeke Activity Days** have created opportunities for kaumatua to reconnect, share stories, and enjoy meaningful activities. These gatherings have fostered social interaction, belonging, and wellbeing.
- **Highlights** included bingo and lunch events, and pamper days with haircuts, massages, and creative activities. These events have also supported health education and strengthened community bonds.
- The **Matariki Luncheon** was a standout event, bringing whānau together with kai, laughter, and joy:
- *“What a beautiful day spent with whānau, lots of laughter and joy. Thank you, Te Rūnanga o Te Whānau!”*
- We also celebrated **Te Whānau a Apanui’s participation in the Tamararo 70th Anniversary** in Gisborne, where generations performed kapa haka on stage, honouring 70 years of tradition and cultural pride.
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NGĀ KAUPAPA HAUORA ME TE ORANGA

Health and Wellbeing Initiatives



We continue to support whānau through various health and wellbeing initiatives.

- **Community Transport Service:** Essential transport to GP and specialist appointments, ensuring whānau have access to medical care.
- **14 Oct 2023 - Hauora Day:** Gathering where whānau accessed health services, received valuable information, and enjoyed kai.
- **Trinity Koha Dental Services Oct 2023:**
 - 103 patients, 131 appointments
 - 280 extractions, 99 fillings, 51 cleanings
 - \$103,640 in free dental care provided
 - Puppet shows and 95 dental kits distributed to kura

Through **Te Ha Ora Hapu Wānanga**, expectant mothers reconnected with Māori birthing traditions. Healing workshops, such as the **Whakamomori Whānau Healing Days** and the **Te Poi Aranga Healing Collective**, offered spaces for reflection, mirimiri, rongōā, and holistic wellbeing, strengthening whānau connections and fostering healing.

Te Pātaka Kai

(Food Bank)

Under the leadership of **Louise Schroder**, our Food Bank has been a vital resource, providing essential support to whānau in need. Louise's dedication has ensured that kai is readily available for those facing challenging times, helping to alleviate immediate needs and support wellbeing across our community. The Food Bank remains an important part of our commitment to uplifting whānau and ensuring no one goes without.

TRINITY KOHA DENTAL CLINIC



TE HA ORA HAPU
WĀNANGA

NGĀ KAUPAPA MĀTAURANGA ME NGĀ HŌTAKA KURA

EDUCATION AND SCHOOL PROGRAMS



Our **school holiday programs** provided enriching opportunities for Tamariki and Rangatahi to develop new skills and enjoy meaningful experiences. Activities such as Paddleboarding, Waka Ama, and Surfing fostered teamwork, fitness, and a connection to the water.

A testimonial from one of our tamariki captures the spirit of these programs:

"This is the best ever! Can we do this every holiday program, please please?"

While individual Kids Club sessions were not held this year, we actively supported kura by providing transportation, sports coaching, and mentoring. These efforts ensured tamariki could fully engage in their activities, encouraging their growth, wellbeing, and participation in their communities.



NGĀ KAIMAHI ME TE WHAKAPAKARI Ā-RŌPŪ

WORKFORCE AND TEAM DEVELOPMENT



Our team has participated in workshops and training throughout the year, filling their kete with knowledge to better support and advocate for the whānau we serve. Team-building and networking activities have strengthened unity and fostered collaboration.

Andrea Fox joined the team as the Stop Smoking Practitioner and has transitioned into a permanent role as Kaiārahi. **Daine Perese** and **Kararaina Ford** returned from maternity leave, with **Manaia Sorenson** coordinating our programs and workshops during Kararaina's absence.

Special acknowledgment goes to **Toni Trinick**, who completed her **Level 6 Whānau Ora qualification** and is now exploring further studies the Whanau Ora Degree. The rest of our dedicated team includes **Natalie Ngamoki, Shona Matchitt, Daine Perese, Louise Schroder, Carol Trinick**, and **myself, Rangikia O'Brien**, as Manager. Together, we remain committed to growing, learning, and achieving positive outcomes for our whānau.

NGĀ TAUTOKO WHĀNAU ORA ME WHĀNAU DIRECT

This year, our **Whānau Direct services** continued to provide targeted support during pivotal moments, ensuring that whānau have timely access to assistance when it is most needed. Through these services, we have been able to help whānau address immediate needs, supporting their stability and resilience.

The **Whānau Tahi reporting platform** has streamlined our case management, enhancing our ability to document and track the broad scope of mahi undertaken by our team. This system ensures transparency and continuity, enabling us to better serve whānau across our rohe.

In addition, through **Ngā Whiri a Huia**, we have supported six whānau on their business journeys, offering mentorship and guidance as they work toward sustainable and empowering outcomes. This initiative has allowed whānau to explore new pathways and develop their skills, enriching their personal and collective aspirations.



NGĀ WERO ME NGĀ ARONGA Ā MUA

(CHALLENGES AND FUTURE FOCUS)

- **Housing and Home Repairs:** The need for warm, safe, and secure housing remains critical. Ongoing advocacy and partnerships will be essential to meet the growing demand for repairs and new developments.
- **Supporting Access to Specialist Appointments and Transport Services:** Living in rural areas, along with rising costs, can make it challenging for whānau to access specialist appointments. To ensure transport is never a barrier to good health, our **Community Transport Service (CTS)** will require additional funding, enabling whānau to attend essential appointments with confidence and ease.
- **Whānau Wellbeing and Education:** Supporting whānau through Whānau Ora will continue to be a key focus, with efforts directed at strengthening cultural identity, health, and overall wellbeing across our community.



WHAKAKAPINGA

The past year has been one of growth, connection, and service. Together, we have walked alongside whānau through both challenges and celebrations, ensuring they have the support and resources needed to thrive. The relationships we have nurtured and the progress we have made reflect our collective commitment to enhancing the wellbeing of our community.

As we move forward, we are excited to build on these successes, strengthen our connections, and deepen the impact of our mahi in the year ahead.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our volunteers, team members, community partners, and whānau for their dedication and support throughout the year. A special acknowledgment goes to our **Pakeke van drivers – Mary Groom, Meria August, Wiremu Maangi, and Desmond Yates**, whose commitment has ensured our Pakeke can travel safely to town for essential services and social outings. Your contributions have made a lasting difference, and we are deeply grateful for your mahi and aroha.

We would also like to thank **Liisa Wharepapa and her team at the Te Kaha Beach Hotel** for their generous support in providing beautiful kai for our hui and for the special luncheons they prepared for our Pakeke. Their commitment to serving our whānau with care and hospitality has been invaluable, and we are grateful for the quality and warmth they bring to each gathering.

Our sincere gratitude goes to **Manaia Sorensen** for stepping in while **Kararaina** was on maternity leave. Manaia, we wish you all the best in your future endeavours and know you will go on to achieve great things. Thank you for your time with us; it was a pleasure having you as part of our team.

Nga mihi

Rangikia OBrien