



Otangarei

Te toia te haumatia – Nothing can be achieved without a plan, workforce and way of doing things.

Te Hau Āwhiowhio ō Otangarei Trust evolved from a merger between two founding members of Te Hau Āwhiowhio ō Otangarei Whānau Ora Collective - Otangarei Trust and Te Puawaitanga ō Otangarei Healthcare Centre. The values of whanaungatanga, manaakitanga, mana motuhake and kōtahitanga guide the Trust's practice.

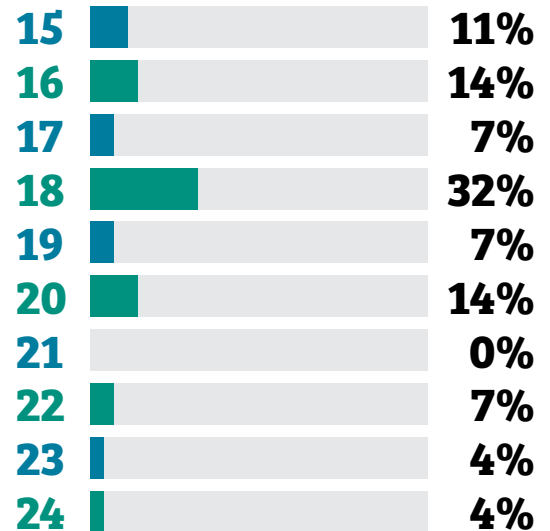
Te Hau Āwhiowhio ō Otangarei Trust was one of four providers selected to participate in a pilot programme in Te Tai Tokerau by Te Puni Kōkiri. The programme Taiohi Ararau engaged taiohi Māori aged 15-24 not in education, employment or training (NEET) and not receiving a benefit. Taiohi Ararau is a taiohi-centred, manaaki approach to obtain essential documents; birth certificate, IRD number, bank account, and driver licence, to increase eligibility and access to employment and educational pathways.

Te Hau Āwhiowhio ō Otangarei Trust exceeded the total number of 10 taiohi contracted for, with a total of 28 taiohi in the programme.

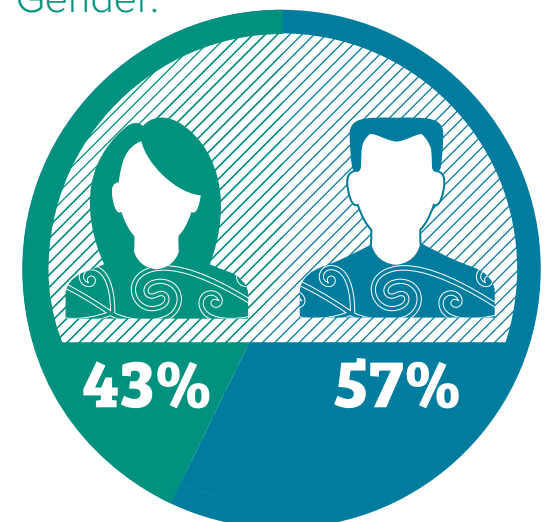
Kō wai rātou?

Who are they?

Ages:

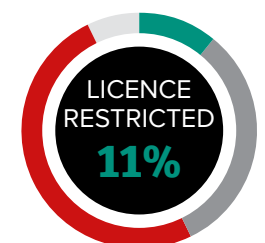
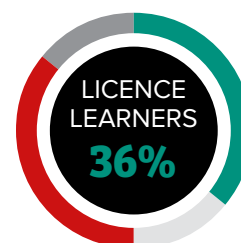
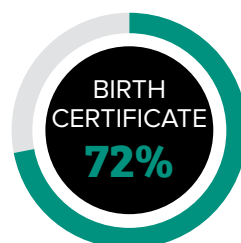
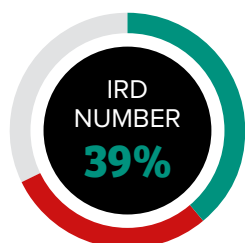


Gender:



Otangarei – Taiohi documents achieved:

■ OBTAINED ■ PROGRESSING ■ NO ■ N/A



Ngā Wero – Challenges



Historical Issues

In some cases taiohi came to Taiohi Ararau with set court dates, lack of knowledge about Te Ao Māori and cultural connectedness. These, along with numeracy and literacy concerns, have been identified as distinct barriers to taiohi progress.



Communication

Taiohi had limited access to phones, computers, internet access and transportation. Te Hau Āwhiowhio ō Otangarei Trust were proactive in providing taiohi with cheap, serviceable cell phones to address their communication issues with taiohi and provide contact information for potential employers. Communication was also maintained through home visits and seeing taiohi on the streets.

Ngā Rongoā – Solutions



Support

Taiohi were supported to attain key documents prescribed by Taiohi Ararau. Issues of literacy and numeracy were addressed through the providers' community networks, as well as local intelligence.



Positive Relationships

Reconnecting taiohi culturally was transformational and led to improved whānau relationships.

“Documents are key - Taiohi need those documents in order to even consider working. Half our taiohi can't read or write, I found out Vehicle Testing New Zealand supply taiohi with a reader writer on a Tuesday... to help them do their [drivers] licence. As a result, they feel a lot more self-worth. They have money in their pocket, and when mum says “go get a bread and milk” they can go do that now. It builds good tyres not just for themselves but for their families as well.” KAITONO

“There were a few times when we would go to rangatahi court, you have to stand up in front of the judges and lawyers and recite your pepeha. It's a very scary affair. Some taiohi didn't know their pepeha and the Judge would say “I want you to learn your pepeha and come back”. They would find out where they were from and we would take them back to their marae. It's powerful stuff. Then when we would go back to rangatahi court. They changed from the “wanna-be gangster” to now standing proud in front of everyone. They say their pepeha and at the end of it, the kuia are giving them kisses. The taiohi are connecting the dots, they're whānau. The growth was huge.” KAITONO

Ngā Hua – Impacts

“Girl power “They knew what they wanted and they had goals. There were a couple of girls that were so determined that they got a job in a month. There's a girl across the road, she was living inside her mum and dad's house. “I want my own whare!” So she got her a cabin, just outside her mum and dad's house. She pays for the cabin and gives her mum and dad a bit of pūtea for the power and stuff.” KAITONO

“A lot of them [taiohi] are better off now. I've been through the court system with them. Three of our taiohi were looking at going to jail for a couple of years. But they reached out...and their lives have changed. Taiohi have said “I've seen Judge down town and he was asking what I'm doing, and I told him I was working” and he goes “is that why I haven't seen you in my court room?” It's like they're a new person. They actually have money in their pockets now. When they're walking their whole āhua is different and they feel proud about themselves.” KAITONO