

From the Director's Desk

Ka tangi te tiitii, ka tangi te kākā, ka tangi hoki ko au. E ngā rangatira o ngā hau e whā, tēnā anō koutou katoa!

Kei te rere tonu ngā mihi aroha ki ngā aitua maha o te Tau Hou nei. Mai i te Hiku o Te Ika-nui-ā-Maui-tikitiki-a-Taranga tae noa ki tōna upoko, whiti atu i Raukawa-moana ki Te Wāhi Pounamu, rere tonu atu ki Te Wharekauri. Tae noa ki ngā kaihautu o ngā iwi; pērā i ā Te Kotahitanga o Waikato, i ā Wiremu Horomona o Ngāti Kuri/Ngai Tahu. Hāere koutou katoa e ngā amorangi; mā tātau o te hāpai ō ki muri ka pupuri tonu i wo koutou nei tumanako kia puāwai ai. Nā reira, ko koutou ki a koutou; ko tātau ki a tātau.

Tēnā anō tātau katoa!

"It's hard to believe we're already well into our second month of the year and really quite extraordinary just how quickly time gets away on us.

The team is involved in a number of very significant projects at the moment. The Client Management System Project is one of these. Chad Brown and Teepa Wawatai have 'road showed' the project throughout the country this month and we report on it in this issue of Māori Health Directorate News.

Another big project has been the drafting of the Māori Health Strategy consultation booklet and a brief update on where we are at with this is also included in this issue.

Applicants to the Māori Provider Development Scheme have been advised of the outcome of their applications. Forms for the 2001/2002 Māori Health Scholarships have also now been distributed. There are reports on both items on the following pages.

Also in this issue we seek to further assure Māori Providers of the priority we are placing on making the hand over of all contracts to the District Health Boards as efficient and as well supported as possible. National Contracts Manager, Kathy Grace, supported by team leader, Karina Elkington, and their small team, based in both Wellington and Hamilton, are totally focused on a very smooth transition.

In our last issue I indicated that a strengthened Māori Health Directorate team would come with the new year - one which would support the work and further development of all Māori health providers. I firmly believe this is where we are right now. As we put on new team members and settle into our new work environment we are



confident of our ability to put the processes in place that will adequately prepare the District Health Boards for the challenges that lie ahead for them in Māori health.

In closing, we were delighted with the response to our first issue of Māori Health Directorate News, which we intend to send out monthly until July 2001. If you read it, and are also reading this issue, but did not receive it as your own copy please contact Lisa Richter on (04) 495 4402, or e-mail her on lisa_richter@moh.govt.nz, with instructions to put you and/or your organisation onto our database to receive future issues."

Ria Earp
Deputy Director-General
MĀORI HEALTH

Successful MPDS Applicants Announced

All successful applicants to the Māori Provider Development Scheme have been advised. A total of 93 applications have been approved for funding. It is anticipated that this will benefit around 156 providers.

The MPDS team has been busy throughout February conducting contract negotiations with the providers, and drafting contracts accordingly. With providers located as far south as Bluff, and Te Kao in the north, the team has travelled far and wide.

Māori Health Directorate's Manu Keung says it has been very rewarding meeting with the providers. "It's been great being able to meet kanhoi te kanhoi, and meet the providers who are making a real difference in Māori Health. Providers who are receiving funding for the first time are very excited about how the funding will assist their organisations and we are thrilled to be able to assist them."

One first time recipient is Masterton - based Whaioara Whanui Trust. Services delivered by the Trust include tamariki and whanau ora, Māori disability support and Māori health promotion. Trustee Janice Wenn is absolutely delighted with the funding. "It gives us the opportunity now to really move forward as a dynamic service organisation."

The Trust is in the process of physically relocating to two side-by-side houses which Janice says will be like "taking our services directly to the people". Staff development and training, governance training for trustees, developing a kaupapa Māori model for service delivery, accessing self audit and peer review material and implementing more effective service integration are just some of the items on the Trust's 'must do' list. "We are very clear about where we want to go and how we're going to get there," says Janice. "The MPDS funding will allow us to develop the infrastructure and resources we need to most effectively meet the needs of our clients."

Dunedin based Te Roopu Taitoko ki te Tonga is also a delighted recipient. Chris Maxwell says, "the funding will support further training with Te Ngaru Learning Systems for Māori working in Māori health." Daryl Gregory, manager of the Christchurch based He Waka Tapu Trust says that the funding will go into infrastructure and staff training. The Trust's services include Men, Family and Violence, Tane Health, Smoking Cessation, Drugs and Alcohol, Fitness and Nutrition. Since December 1996 the Trust has grown from 1 to 8 (FTE) and has received MPDS funding for the past three years.

IN BRIEF

Indigenous HealthInfoNet Earns Accolades

The Health Leaders Network was formed in 1997 as an initiative of the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council and the New Zealand Ministry of Health.

Their monthly newsletter is e-Health News <http://www.hln.com.au>. In their January 2001 issue of e-Health News they recognised Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet as Website of the Month.

This website is a joint initiative of the Edith Cowan University and the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health. You can visit at <http://www.healthinonet.ecu.edu.au>.

Māori Health Website www.healthsite.co.nz/Hauora_Maori

Applicants Sought for Māori Health Scholarship

Students are invited to submit applications for Ministry of Health Māori Health Scholarships. There is \$950,000 targeted towards the Māori Health Scholarships, an amount that is almost three times greater than has ever been allocated before. Application forms have been sent to Māori providers, high schools, universities, wanangas and polytechs. Closing date is 21st March 2001.

Hauora.com

Following on from the hui held by Te ORA in Kirikiriroa last November, some key steps have been made towards establishing a Māori health workforce development organisation which is likely to be known as Hauora.com.

Establishing the Māori health workforce development organisation is a key goal. Once the organisation is operational it is transferred over, with Te Ohu Rata Aotearoa (Te ORA) maintaining a key

role alongside other Māori health professional organisations.

Certificate in Clinical Teaching

The Graduate Certificate in Clinical teaching delivered last year by Te ORA for Māori health professionals is being run again this year. The one year course in clinical teaching, mentoring, clinical and cultural supervision is being offered in the Auckland/Waikato region again and further south in Palmerston North. Two further certificate courses will be run along the same lines with block teaching at marae in the Auckland and Wellington regions.

The courses are designed to develop teaching skills in Maori health professionals so they can pass on knowledge in the working environment as colleagues, mentors or trainers.

Contact for the courses is Dr David Jansen, tel: 021 rawiri or email: rawiri@ihug.co.nz.

WHERE WE ARE AND HOW TO CONTACT US

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Primary Health Care Strategy Launched

The Primary Health Strategy was launched at Tapu te Ranga Marae in Wellington on 2 February. At the launch, Health Minister Annette King said, "the Primary Health Care Strategy looks forward to a time when doctors, nurses and others in the front line of health services are working closely together with their communities to improve health, avoid illness and make sure everyone gets care when they need it."

Mrs King also pointed out that the Strategy sets the framework for more preventative care services, better access to services, comprehensive care, and improved coordination between primary health care providers and secondary providers of services.

"The Strategy encourages the establishment of Primary Health Organisations and Māori Development Organisations made up of a wide range of health providers including doctors, nurses, and other health professionals working together. They will be not-for-profit organisations, funded by DHBs according to the needs of their enrolled populations."

Chief Executive of Hawkes' Bay's MDO, Te

Roopu Huihuinga Hauora, Joe Puketapu, is particularly encouraged to see Māori Development Organisations positioned alongside Primary Health Organisations. "This very clearly provides us with the opportunity to further capitalise on the document," he says. "I think a lot of very positive things will come of the Strategy and, coupled with the Māori Health Strategy, I believe we have a pathway for positive development."



ABOVE (from left to right) Dr John Marwick, Annette King, Bill Katene and Karen Poutasi. (Photo courtesy of Julia Stuart)

Māori Health Strategy Progresses

Much work has gone toward finalising the Māori Health Strategy discussion booklet in recent weeks. While Kathy Grace initially managed the project, Pania Te Whaiti and her Manager, Rachel Robson have now taken over, listening to, and incorporating the views of Ministers and advisors into the discussion booklet.

Rachel Robson says the ten person Sector Advisory Group has played a major role in ensuring that the draft strategy reflects Māori expectations and Government aims. "It is very important that the strategy accurately addresses the aspirations of Māori and of Government. To this end the Sector Advisory Group has proved invaluable."



FROM LEFT: Pania Te Whaiti, Kathy Grace and Rachel Robson.

Providers Profiled to Assist DHBs

In December of last year, Māori Service Development Manager, Kathy Grace, added the position of Acting Manager, Māori Health Development Localities, to her portfolio. In effect she became National Contracts Manager and, in this role, she is ably supported by Hamilton based Team Leader Karina Elkington. Under trying circumstances the team has coped well with the impact of restructuring and Kathy has been particularly successful in consolidating the new team as it develops the provider portfolio for the District Health Boards.

Kathy admires her team enormously. "They're totally committed to ensuring all Māori Health Directorate contracts are watertight by the time they are handed over to the District Health Boards." By

'watertight', Kathy means ensuring all contracts going to the District Health Boards will be current for at least twelve months, and up to two years, from hand over, and that each will be supported with a provider profile that gives the DHBs a full briefing on the provider. The contracting team aims to visit each region prior to 1 July.



ABOVE LEFT: 'The team' based in Wellington - (from left to right) Charlotte Cheriton, Isobel Aitken, Patti Lougheed, Kathy Grace, Beth Tupara and Delia Harrison. ABOVE RIGHT: Team member Hazel Webster with Team Leader, Karina Elkington - both Hamilton based.

It is now expected that the booklet will be released at the end of March. A series of hui are planned for May to give Māori whanau, communities and providers an opportunity to contribute to the development of He Korowai Oranga Whanau in person. Those who would prefer to submit their views in writing will also have until May 30 to do so.



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CMS Project Road Showed

Starting in Auckland on 7 February, Māori Health Directorate representatives, Chad Brown, Teepa Wawatai and Aroha Haggie updated the majority of Māori providers who have bought into the Client Management System, on where the project was at and where it needed to go from this point. They were accompanied by representatives from the preferred supplier who demonstrated the package.

From Auckland, the team went on to present in New Plymouth, Rotorua, Hamilton, Napier and Palmerston North, completing the roadshow in Blenheim, on 19 February. The hui were attended by a total of 59 providers. In Auckland the involvement of Hine Joyce-Tahere 'on the road' was requested and, as one of the most informed users from the Pilot Site at Papakura Marae, Hine's presence ensured there was someone present "giving informed provider answers to provider questions".

In addition to seeing the software demonstrated, Māori providers made the most of the opportunity to discuss everything, from contracts, licenses and intellectual property to roll out schedules, contributions and commitments. Each hui was designed to give providers the chance to look and assess before they were asked to indicate their commitment. The feedback has been very positive with comments from several saying "this is going to cut my work in half". Most providers enthusiastically endorsed the project, although some could not confirm their interest at the time, none of the attendees said that they did not want to participate.

Chad Brown says the Client Management System will give providers the tools to enable them to be the best possible providers of Māori health. He predicts that providers will quickly use the most basic of information and management tools to immediately and successfully impact service delivery while

enabling them to argue for, and develop, the best possible health resources.

At Papakura Marae, the CMS pilot site, Brian Joyce, who manages the health programmes, says that the process of entering hundreds of meticulously handwritten files has begun. Administration Manager, Peter Tahere, say there are approximately 500 childrens' files in the two Tamariki Ora units, 200 files associated with Family Support, and around 50 for the Mobile Unit. Sonia Moea is looking at around 500 files for her area, which is Health Promotion. Files on the computer will contain names, address details, birthdays, ethnicity and paternity heritage details, iwi and well child data. While Papakura Marae negotiates to add a GP Practice to its services, along with another Tamariki Ora unit, its health workers put in the hours at the beginning and end of each day to enter data.

Peter Tahere says, "at the moment we can only produce the most basic of reports, those which have been required by the HFA. With Com.Unity, which is what the software is called, the potential is enormous, the possibilities endless in terms of what we can analyse, measure and report on."



ABOVE LEFT: Chad Brown addresses the Māori providers who attended the first hui in Auckland. Chad leaves the Māori Health Directorate at the end of February. The Māori Health Directorate wishes to acknowledge the years of solid, strategic input Chad has invested in the Client Management Project and wishes him all the very best for the future. ABOVE RIGHT: Teepa Wawatai takes over the management of Client Management System from Chad Brown on a part time basis.

CMS PROJECT UPDATE

which the pilot will also be evaluated. As indicated in the latest CMS Update (issued in January from the Māori Health Directorate) the current priority for the project is getting the Front Office installed and used by all participating providers by 30 June 2001. The Back Office component, which will allow sharing and aggregation of information between and across Providers, will require more discussion between providers.

(Next issue of Māori Health Directorate News will report on the pilot site evaluation and update on the progress of CMS implementation)



ABOVE: Papakura Marae's Administration Manager, Peter Tahere, with Health Promotion Manager, Sonia Moea.

HAUORA.COM HUI INVITATION

The second hui to discuss the establishment of Haurora.com with Māori health professionals will be held:

Date: Friday 16 March
Time: 9:00 - 3:30
Venue: Fairfield College
Bankwood Road
Hamilton

The hui will be an opportunity to provide more information on this and future Māori workforce development plans.

Contact: Taima Campbell (025)381 953
Marty Rogers (025)805 189

PANUI CORNER

If you have a Panui you want posted - please send it to lisa_richter@moh.govt.nz.

OPEN HOME INVITATION

Te Roopu Taitoko ki te Tonga have moved to 6 Wolsely Street, Dunedin (PO Box 14923) and invite you to their official opening on 26 April. Everyone welcome.

Contact: Chris Maxwell (03)477 4670