

From the Director's Desk

E ngā rangatira puta noa i Aotearoa
whānui nei, tēnā anō koutou katoa!

Kei te haere tonu te tau nei; kei te rere
tonu ngā poroporoaki ki ngā aitua maha
o te marama kua pahure ake nei. I rere
ao rangi te kakahu taratara i runga i
tana hāerangi kōpikopiko ki te Raki, ki
Rāwhiti, ki te Uru, ki te Tonga. E kore
e mutu, engari e kore e ngaro ngā
kākano o rātau ngā kairuirui o nehera.
Ka tū tonu te ohāki o rātau mā hei
whakapiripiri tonu mai i te iwi mamae
noa nei. Tena, ko rātau ki a rātau; ko
tātau ki a tātau.

Nā reira, tēnā anō tātau katoa!

The beginning of April sees the introduction of five new faces into the Māori Health Directorate and we have now welcomed them to the Directorate. The addition of new people is very welcome and many of you will appreciate how excited we are by their arrival. We introduce you to each of them in this issue of Māori Health Directorate News.

Māori Health Strategy

We are progressing slowly with the Māori Health Strategy. All going well, the draft strategy will have been approved for release as this newsletter goes to print. If so, we hope to have the published document out to you by the end of April. Consultation is planned for May. We know it's important to give as much notice of consultation hui as possible. Rest assured that we will keep you informed on all developments as well as hui dates.

CMS Project

The CMS project continues at pace with the implementation phase now well underway. As promised in our last issue of Māori Health Directorate News, we have another update on CMS in this issue, which is also echoed in the April issue of Mana magazine. We have very high hopes for positive and 'endless possibility' outcomes with the CMS project now that installation and training has started.

Also in this Issue

Ministry of Health project manager, Michelle Mako reports on a new programme targeting Māori youth suicide prevention. There is little doubt that this issue is a high priority for Māori and the Taitamariki Suicide Prevention Community Development Initiative is another step on the path to



addressing this painful issue. I commend the article and Michelle's work to you.

Minister's Column

Finally - I am delighted that our Associate Minister of Health, Hon. Tariana Turia has contributed to this issue of Māori Health Directorate News and promises to continue to do so for future issues. It's also important to note that the Minister's concerns go beyond her Health portfolio, and to appreciate what is happening in other areas of Māori affairs is entirely appropriate for those of us working in Māori health.

Ria Earp
Deputy Director-General
MĀORI HEALTH

**'LIVING WITH HEART FAILURE'
GET THE VIDEO**

The video 'Kei te mate to manawa – Living with heart failure' can be obtained by contacting Te Hotu Manawa Māori, PO Box 17160, Greenlane, Auckland, ph (09) 571 9018, or fax (09) 571 9019.

More from the Minister

If you would like to receive Tarina Turia's press releases and speeches via email and fax only, please contact Keri Iti (press secretary) (04) 471 9386 or email keri.iti@parliament.govt.nz

HAUORA.COM UPDATE

The second Taumata hui to discuss the establishment of hauora.com was held at Te Aratiatia Marae Kirikiriroa on 16 March.

For health workers and national Māori organisations the hui was a chance to further discuss the functions of hauora.com and Māori health workforce development issues.

TAUMATA - HAUORA.COM

The key role of hauora.com will be to facilitate and co - ordinate health workforce activity to meet the needs of the Māori health workforce. The driver is Māori health gain and hauora.com aims to prepare the Māori health workforce to contribute to improved Māori health outcomes. Māori health workforce development is also consistent with Māori development goals which means improving access to education, improving health workforce participation (recruitment and retention) and employment rates.

The legal and organisational structure of hauora.com will be a trust and the proposed purpose of the Taumata is to provide guidance and advice to the trustees on strategy, programme specifications and desired outcomes.

As a new organisation, hauora.com will be looking to build relationships with Māori health organisations and providers. Some of this has already started with the Te Wheke Alliance and the hui held so far. Establishing the Taumata is another strategy for developing relationships further.

There are some key reports and resources

COLUMN COMMENT

As this is my first column in the Māori Health Directorate News, I would like to say thank you. To all our Māori health workers working with our whanau, hapū and iwi toward improving their health and wellbeing, thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

Recently, I was invited to launch a new health promotion video resource, 'Kei te mate to manawa – Living with heart failure'. It is always more meaningful to hear the stories of those who suffer from particular illnesses, tell their own story which is one that all whanau can relate to. They talk of how they manage their lives and through their experiences, what they do in a practical sense to keep themselves healthy, which is one that all whanau can relate to.

I am concerned however in the number of Māori people who have sat with me and talked about being involved in a medical process that they did not understand. The use of technical language, the behaviour and attitude of doctors towards whanau are critical issues that need addressing.

What I would like to see is enough information which is easily understood, being provided to our whanau to ensure they are able to make fully informed decisions.

It always takes someone who has the confidence of the people to get their



Associate Minister of Health,
Tarina Turia

participation and in this case Julia Carr has played a major role. David Tipene Leach and Tania Riddell continue to make an enormous contribution to the health and wellbeing of whanau and the video is but another.

The video could not have been made without the participation of those people who agreed to share their stories. They have offered their personal wisdom and in doing so, give others strength and confidence.

We need more health promotion resources of this quality. But most of all we need a highly skilled and diverse Māori health workforce so that resources such as this video can be followed up with on-going support that is accessible to all whanau based within their hapu and iwi.

available on hauora.com and Māori workforce development - outlined in the progress Update 2 - March 2001.

Request the Update from Taima Campbell (025)381 953, or Marty Rogers, (025)805 189 mrogers@hapai.co.nz

WAIKATO DHB FRAMEWORK

Congratulations to Waikato DHB who have published their framework "Toward Māori Health Gain." The framework is aimed at demonstrating the commitment of this DHB to Māori health gain, to formal decision making relationships with Māori, and to delivering culturally safe as well as clinically effective health services. For more information contact Janise Eketone, (eketonej@hwl.co.nz) or Bee

Pears, Communications Co-ordinator, (pearsb@hwl.co.nz). Address for both is Health Waikato, PO Box 934, Hamilton.

RESOURCE PACKAGE DEVELOPED

The Ministry of Youth Affairs has developed a resource package for rangatahi and Māori communities - a training video about working with young Māori men and women, 'E tipu e rea'; and a paper written by Teoronogonui Josie Keelan, 'E tipu e rea: A framework for taiohi Māori development'. Youth Affairs will be "testing" the package before it is widely distributed. If you have queries or are interested in "testing" the package, you can contact, Te Tari Taiohi - The Ministry of Youth Affairs, PO Box 10300, Wellington, phone (04) 471 2158, fax (04) 471 2233 or email info@youthaffairs.govt.nz

New Programme for Taitamariki Māori Suicide Prevention



"With the rates of Māori youth suicide increasing, it is important that we put in place a range of strategies for Māori now, that target not only those in crisis but to look to strengthen the whānau and communities that taitamariki grow up in. The real challenge is understanding the processes that will protect and develop our youth."

LEFT:
Project Manager,
Michelle Mako.

Government has allocated funding for a major new project to target Māori youth suicide prevention.

The Taitamariki Suicide Prevention Community Development Initiative is based on the goals of Kia Piki te Ora o te Taitamariki. It builds on the needs assessment report that Dr Keri Lawson -Te Aho completed late last year which underlined the need for a community development approach to addressing taitamariki suicide prevention.

The initiative has two main components. The first is the development of information resources and putting a skills development package in

place for communities which focuses on taitamariki suicide prevention.

The other component is putting a Māori community development programme in place at selected sites across New Zealand.

Ministry of Health project manager, Michelle Mako says that the initiative is designed to build Māori community development and workforce capacity and strengthen community action. "We also hope to raise awareness in the population of the need to build resiliency in young people, especially taitamariki."

The Ministry has established two Māori reference groups to assist in the development and implementation of the programme. The Ministry will be holding hui with Māori communities and interested groups over the next few months to facilitate the tendering process and aims to have contracts with providers by June 2001.

NEW FACES IN MĀORI HEALTH DIRECTORATE

Kiri Simonsen - (Whakatohea, Ngai Te Rangi). Analyst in Policy Team. Master of Social Science. Previously worked at the Ministry of Justice in the research team.

Harold Wereta - (Ngā Puhī, Te Rarawa, Ngāti Raukawa, Tuwharetoa, Ngai te Rangi). Analyst in Policy team. Diploma in Māori & Management. Currently studying towards an MBA via Massey. Previously Policy Advisor at Dept of Corrections, Policy Advisor and Project Analyst, Te Mangai Paho.

Gina Paerata - (Ngāti Mutunga). Analyst in Policy team. PGDip in Management, Honours degree in Health Development and Policy. Previously Manager for Kaupapa Māori Service.



ABOVE FROM LEFT: Kiri Simonsen, Harold Wereta, Gina Paerata, Rose Kahaki, Geneva Harrison.

Rose Kahaki - (Ngāti Porou, Ngā Puhī). Project Manager in the Contracting Team. Registered General/Obstetric Nurse with PG Diploma in Health Service Management. Previously Executive team member of Ngāti Porou Hauora, Manager Mental Health Services, Public Health Nurse, Consultant Advisor for Māori Mental Health.

Geneva Harrison - (Ngāti Kahu, Te Aupouri, Te Rarawa). Project Manager in Contracting Team. LLB, B.Soc.Sc. Previously General Manager at Ngāti Kahu Social Services which provides mental health support services to Te Hiku o Te Ika rohe (far north).

WHERE WE ARE AND HOW TO CONTACT US

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Māori Health Directorate
HAMILTON
Level 3
BNZ Centre
354 Victoria Street
Ph:(07) 858 7000

Ministry of Health
WELLINGTON
133 Molesworth St
Thorndon
Wellington
Ph:(04) 496 2000

ROLLOUT STARTS

Rollout of the Client Management System to Māori providers commenced in March with installations completed in Taranaki, the Far North, Wellington, Blenheim, Nelson and the Central North Island. Project manager, Teepa Wawatai observes that some providers have waited so long for this project to deliver a good product, it almost seems as if some of them might not have believed that it really was coming.

"Just as well in fact that John Simpson joined the project full-time on 1 March," says Teepa. "One of John's main responsibilities has been to 'provide readiness', ensuring that Māori providers are ready to receive the soft ware when Intrahealth Services turn up to install it."

Two Teams for Installation & Training

Using two teams, successful vendor, Intrahealth Services Limited (ISL) is installing the software and training providers

to use it. The 'training team' goes ahead of the 'installation team' so that within a few days of receiving their first lot of training the soft ware is installed at their site.

Experience, Skills and Development

Teepa Wawatai says that initially the purpose of the training cycle is to give providers enough training to be able to use the system. "The training then focuses on building experience and skill levels and assisting provider development. We have received some very good feedback from the providers regarding the training being provided by ISL. Rollout is progressing and is on track to meet our target date of 30 June, at which time ninety Māori providers throughout the country will be up and running with CMS."

LEFT: Isobel Blackman, (right), Maori Disability Facilitator with Maria Ihaka, Administrator, from Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o te Ika a Maui Inc now up and running with CMS.

CMS PROJECT

UPDATE



District Health Board Shared Support Agencies Established

Shared Support Agencies have been established to provide regional service planning, purchasing and contracting functions for the District Health Boards and to streamline the administrative functions of the five District Health Boards

They are also designed to encourage co-operative work amongst the Boards and provide them with the stability and continuity to develop funding and purchasing skills and capacity.

Four Shared Support Agencies

The first of four DHB Shared Support Agencies went into place on 21 February, following the transfer of eighteen staff from the Ministry of Health's Hamilton office to HealthShare Ltd, a company owned by the District Health Boards of Bay of Plenty, Lakes, Tairāwhiti, Taranaki and Waikato.

Working toward the establishment of the three other Shared Support Agencies

continued through February and March. The three Auckland-based District Health Boards will own their Shared Support Agency, with Northland District Health Board still working through its relationship with the Agency.

The Agency that is being established to support the following DHB's - Wanganui, MidCentral, Hawke's Bay, Wairarapa, Hutt and Capital & Coast - is going to focus on technical support such as regional and local needs assessment.

The South Island District Health Board Shared Support Agency will serve all District Health Boards in the South Island and will be based in Christchurch.

Accountable to their Boards

The four District Health Board Shared Support Agencies will differ in focus and configuration. HealthShare, for example, will be able to purchase services on behalf of its District Health Boards, while the

Central Region Technical Advisory Service, will focus mainly on technical advice. Regardless of focus however all Shared Support Agencies are accountable to the District Health Boards they serve.

Māori health perspective

Deputy Director General: Māori Health, Ria Earp notes it is important to be aware that the Agencies are being developed to assist District Health Boards as they build capability to consider wider regional health and disability needs.

"The Agencies will be accountable to the DHBs who make the final decisions on the health services of their regions. As the Agency's roles differ from region to region it will be important for providers to be aware of the key people, and their roles, in the Agencies. This will become clearer as the DHBs take up their positions in the new environment."