



Kaikohe

Te Kotahitanga E Mahi Kaha Trust's priorities include improving youth health, education and employment readiness. This is part of a wider programme of development services for Māori within the rohe of Ngāpuhi.

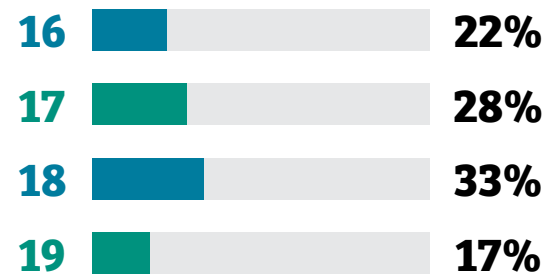
Te Kotahitanga E Mahi Kaha Trust was one of four providers selected to participate in a pilot programme in Te Tai Tokerau by Te Puni Kōkiri. The programme Taiohi Ararau engaged taiohi Māori aged 15-24 not in education, employment or training (NEET) and not receiving a benefit. Taiohi Ararau is a taiohi-centred,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

Te Kotahitanga E Mahi Kaha Trust exceeded the total number of 10 taiohi contracted for, with a total of 18 taiohi in this programme.

Kō wai rātou?

Who are they?

Ages:

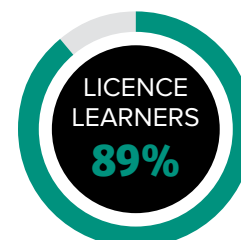
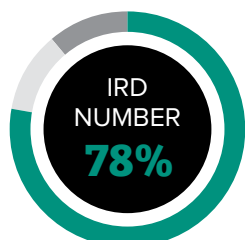


Gender:



Kaikohe – Taiohi documents achieved:

■ OBTAINED ■ PROGRESSING ■ NO ■ N/A



Ngā Wero – Challenges



Communication

The geographical and rural spread of taiohi within this rohe and access to phones, reliable cell and internet coverage has tested Kaitono in their attempts to maintain regular contact with taiohi.

“The only way I could get a hold of one taiohi was on Facebook. Even then it was hardly ever, she never had a phone, so she would go to the library once a week and she would answer me back...two weeks later. My barrier, I found with some of them, was contact.” KAITONO



Literacy and numeracy

Were identified as a barrier for taiohi progression.

“For those who were really keen to get their education back on track we had Kip McGrath come in once a week.” KAITONO

Ngā Rongoā – Solutions



Innovative

Kaitono were creative in their efforts to maintain contact and communication with taiohi and would often have to travel to support them.

“I’d go out and visit them all the time. If they needed to be somewhere for an interview and they couldn’t get there I’d pick them up... and take them back. It also got us doing our mentoring time together. I’m not only a mentor... I’m also a side-line friend if they need one! I’m available to them 24 hours whenever they need me.” KAITONO



Driver’s licence training

In an act prompted by foresight and a response to what the community and specifically taiohi needed, Te Kotahitanga E Mahi Kaha Trust invested in Kaitono driver’s licence training.

“I went to Wellington to do a course at the Police College in Porirua it was very intense! I worked hard knowing that it was going to be helpful for us in the community and our young ones. It gave me my ticket to be an instructor in teaching how to drive and doing licences. The Trust has branched out and made my services available to just about everybody.” KAITONO

Ngā Hua – Impacts

Impact 1 > Taiohi are equipped to take action and pursue their chosen path.

“After I finished Taiohi Ararau, they [the Trust] opened up the new course He Poutama Rangatahi. I did that one and got 16 credits. It was an employment training scheme. If you didn’t want to [work at] the farm, they would help you with your career pathways. I started at the early child care course and it’s been awesome.” TAI OHI

Impact 2 > Seeing the positive change in their taiohi, whānau are changing too.

Whānau connected with the kids and what they’re doing. You know like “If they can do that, I can too!” When one of our taiohi started the programme, she was at home caring for her mum at the age of 16-17. Her mum had a hip replacement, didn’t drive and unable to do much for herself. When she saw what her daughter was doing, she got motivated and is now really active. She has thrown away her walking chair, walks around, drives around, it’s boosted her confidence as well.” KAITONO