

Tūhononga : Manaakitanga : Umanga

Connections | Support | Careers

**Empowering Māori career and employment aspirations  
so that our whānau can flourish**

## Our Pou Whakahaere/ Chief Executive's introduction



Tanya Anaha - Pou Whakahaere

### Tēnā koutou katoa,

Ngahuru (Autumn) is here; Ngahuru is the traditional name for harvest, the number 10 and the 10th month in the Maramataka (Māori calendar).

The saying 'Ngahuru, kura kai, kura tangata' (harvest-time, wealth of food, the wealth of people) reminds us that food is plentiful in autumn.

During harvest times we reap in the results of efforts made during previous months, in order to prepare for the future. This is a fitting whakataukī as after months of planning in January we moved into our new tari in Ngāmotu, with our collaboration partners Tupu-ā-nuku.

We're excited about the potential of this space which we see becoming a hub for career development in Taranaki. You can read more about it in this issue.

As we navigate our way through the Covid-19 Omicron outbreak, our aim is to support and protect all of our whānau. With the help of the Ministry of Health we are organising support packs for our taura. To help raise rangatahi awareness, with their support, we are sharing their "My Why" korero across our social media. You can about read this here and also on our FB page.

In this issue we also talk about our new partnerships, share more whānau successes and introduce you to Sherrie Flanagan, our new Operations Manager, a mother, surfer and songwriter!

Soon the days will be shorter. While the daylight is still here, we hope you can safely get to do whatever "fills your cup". Something Sherrie recommends!

Noho ora mai

Tanya Anaha  
Pou Whakahaere (Chief Executive)



For our  
whānau

**Our Kaiārahi have been filling their cup and doing their part to support our Community. The team have continued their Manaaki, checking in with our taura during this current Covid-19 Omicron outbreak in Taranaki.**

**Care packages have been dropped off to those rangatahi and their whānau who are currently in isolation.**



# OUR NEW TARI



We are very pleased to announce that Why Ora (Whakatipuranga Rima Rau Trust) and Tupu-ā-nuku (a Taranaki environmental workforce development programme led by Te Kāhui Maru) have opened a new shared office space in the heart of the New Plymouth CBD.

Our Kaiārahi and Kaimahi teams are now based at 46 King Street, New Plymouth. Staff from Taranaki Mounga Project will also hot desk in our new shared office.

Why Ora (Whakatipuranga Rima Rau Trust)

Email: [olivia@whyora.co.nz](mailto:olivia@whyora.co.nz)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WhyOraTaranaki>

Website: [www.whyora.co.nz](http://www.whyora.co.nz)

Postal address: PO Box 676, New Plymouth 4340



Tupu ā nuku

Email: [tupuanuku@ngatimaru.co.nz](mailto:tupuanuku@ngatimaru.co.nz)

Website: <https://www.maru.nz/>

Postal Address: PO Box 202, Inglewood 4347



TUPU Ā NUKU

Tupu ā Nuku, Te Kāhui Maru, Te Kāhui Māori

## OUR NEW KAIĀRAHI



"I wanted to work with our whānau to help decrease the disparities across employment and tertiary education amongst our rangatahi Māori "

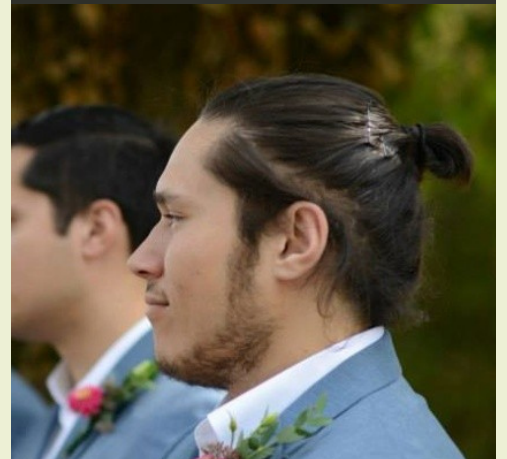
- **Rory Maxwell**

"I am passionate about showing our rangatahi opportunities and broadening their chances for self-growth in our Community"

- **Katie Walsh**



"Tēnā koutou, ko **Trent Hohaia** tēnei e mihi atu ana ki a koutou. One of the core beliefs I hold is that being Māori is a gift, to us and to others. Working with Why Ora and our rangatahi is about providing space for rangatahi to explore the challenges and chances that come from them deciding the life they want for themselves, their whānau and our people. "



Our Kaiārahi have a core focus of attracting, engaging and providing intensive support to our Why Ora whānau and proactively developing, co-ordinating and delivering Why Ora programmes.

# COLLABORATING TO SUPPORT RANGATAHI INTO MEANINGFUL CAREERS

Why Ora has formed an exciting collaborative with two Taranaki organisations: Learner Me and Tupu ā nuku, to help guide rangatahi into meaningful careers, put their needs first and tailor the right support and training for each individual.

Through our combined networks, together we'll explore shared opportunities to meet rangatahi needs, including initiatives such as sharing pastoral care personnel, providing driver licensing solutions, and building cloud-based software that each organisation can utilise. Our leaders explain more about the ideas behind the collaboration below:

"Working together gives the ability to extend our reach as well as develop better solutions to meet the long term aspirations of all three organisations. Each organisation has specific expertise and knowledge, we lever off this expertise to ensure we meet the needs of those rangatahi not currently engaged in employment, education or training. We want to change the narrative of "leaving school early or not going to tertiary means your choices to a career are limited". We work together and with our networks to create pathways for rangatahi to obtain not just employment, but a meaningful career."

Tanya Anaha, Pou Whakahaere/Chief Executive, Why Ora

"We've found similarities in the challenges our rangatahi face, for example, in Taranaki, which has limited public transport, we have long wait times for driver licensing, so we are looking to fast-track this for those rangatahi who need it. Similarly, we are collaborating on wellness and pastoral care support—making sure it is comprehensive and consistent."

Simon Singh, CEO of Learner Me

"We've got three organisations with similar, if not the same, values around the aspirations of our whanāu and rangatahi so it made sense to come together and pool resources to collaborate and maximise the training opportunities for our rangatahi and getting them into sustainable employment.

It's not about a quick fix; it's about long-term career pathways, giving rangatahi the skills and supporting them into the right work for them. We've got Why Ora for health and education, Learner Me for IT and Tupu ā nuku for conservation. It could be that we have a rangatahi come into our conservation programme but they show an interest in the health or education sector or tech, through this collaboration we can better facilitate this."

Ānaru White, Programme Manager at Tupu ā nuku

All three organisations have gained support towards their initiatives from He Poutama Rangatahi, through the Ministry of Social Development and are getting underway with projects.

For more information about our organisations visit:

Why Ora: [whyora.co.nz](http://whyora.co.nz)

Tupu ā Nuku: [maru.nz/tupu-a-nuku-2](http://maru.nz/tupu-a-nuku-2)

Learner Me: [learnerme.ac.nz](http://learnerme.ac.nz)

## 1ST YEAR TERTIARY

### EDUCATION

Aaliyah

Aharina

Alajo

Harmony

Jasmin

Jet

Morgan Aorangi

Nikita

Sapphire

William

Kere Rako

Prime-Rei

Taha

Vedder

Tyler

Toopi

Tupe

Ploeg

Barrett

Polgrain

Ngāpuhi

Ngāti Tama

Ngāti Maru -Taranaki

Te Whānau a Apanui

Ngāti Mutunga

Ngāti Kahungunu

Ngāti Maniapoto

Waikato

Massey University

Te Wananga o Aotearoa

Te Wananga o Aotearoa

Otago Polytechnic

Te Wananga o Aotearoa

Waikato University

Educare Training

AUT

Waikato University

## HEALTH

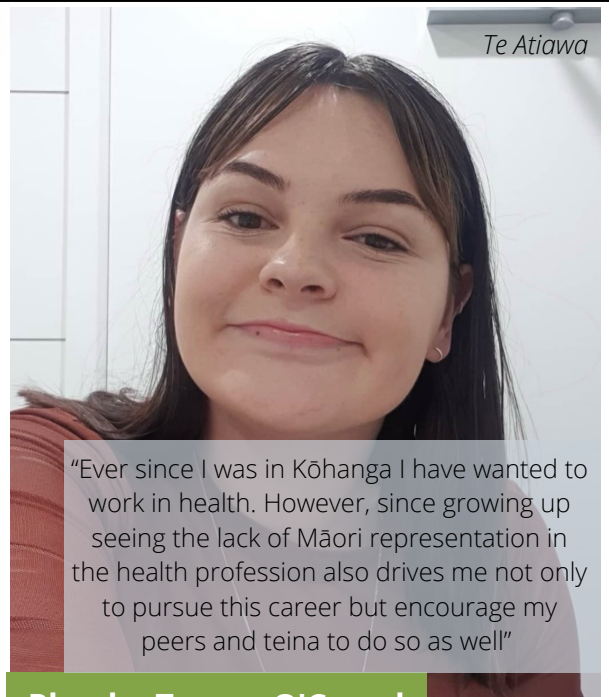
Bailee	Manukonga	Ngāti Ruanui	Massey University
Brydee	Hunt	Te Atiawa -Taranaki	Otago University
Caitlin	O'Connell	Ngāti Raukawa Tonga	Otago University
Jack	Alleman	Tainui	Auckland University
Jenna	McCarthy	Te Atiawa -Taranaki	Auckland University
Madeleine	Hall	Te Atiawa -Taranaki	Auckland University
Maia	Henderson		Praxis
Nikita	Katene	Ngāruahine	Wintec
Phoebe	Turner-Ocaroll	Te Atiawa -Taranaki	Auckland University
Robert	Ropitini	Whakatohea	Victoria University
Tarian	Luke	Ngāruahine	UCOL
TePutu	Paikea	Tainui	Waikato University
Xarah	Kempton	Ngāruahine	Victoria University

## "WHY I WANT TO STUDY TERTIARY"

### Stevie Broughton

Ngāti Ruanui

"I have chosen to study a bachelor of science majoring in psychology because I enjoy learning about how the human brain works and why people have certain tendencies compared to others, I find it interesting to understand why peoples brains function differently and I also chose this career path to hopefully help and support people in need with ther mental health. "With this pathway I hope to make a positive impact by supporting and helping those in need."

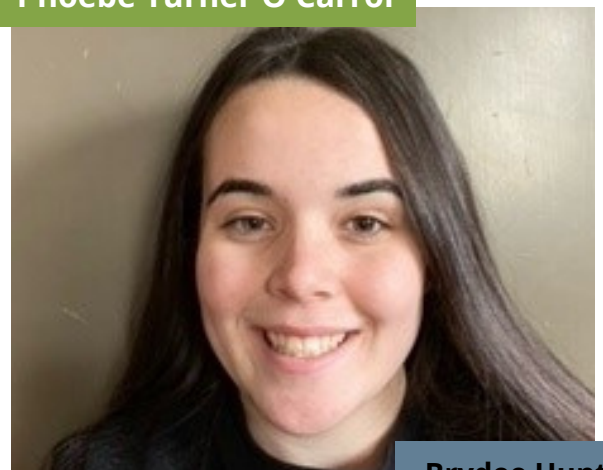


Te Atiawa

"Ever since I was in Kōhanga I have wanted to work in health. However, since growing up seeing the lack of Māori representation in the health profession also drives me not only to pursue this career but encourage my peers and teina to do so as well"

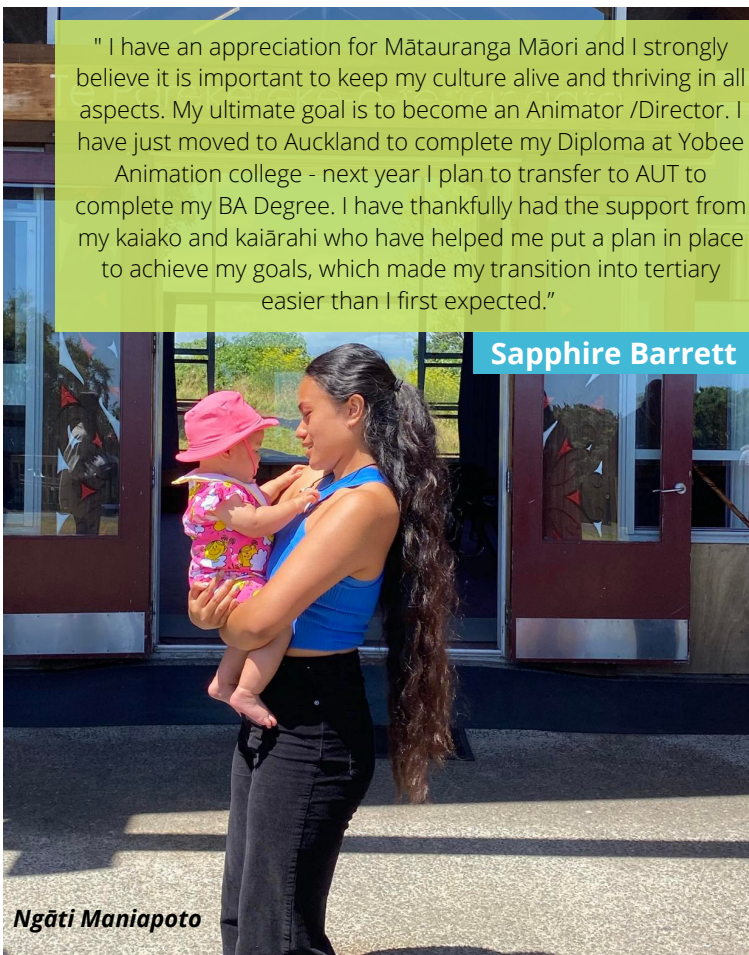
### Phoebe Turner O'Carrol

" I have an appreciation for Mātauranga Māori and I strongly believe it is important to keep my culture alive and thriving in all aspects. My ultimate goal is to become an Animator /Director. I have just moved to Auckland to complete my Diploma at Yobee Animation college - next year I plan to transfer to AUT to complete my BA Degree. I have thankfully had the support from my kaiako and kaiārahi who have helped me put a plan in place to achieve my goals, which made my transition into tertiary easier than I first expected."



Brydee Hunt

"Kia ora, my name is Brydee Hunt and I have chosen to begin studying Foundation Health Science because it is a program that will prepare me and give me my best chance at a career in medicine. I want to pursue a career in medicine so that I can impact peoples lives all whilst being a positive role model to other Māori students who have gone through challenging circumstances regarding their health like myself."



### Sapphire Barrett

Ngāti Maniapoto

# MEET OUR TEAM

## SHERRIE FLANAGAN - OPERATIONS MANAGER

I am a mother of two active boys, wife of an amazing husband and opportunist. I was born in Hastings and grew up in Masterton in the Wairarapa. I come from a blended whānau and my Mum worked so hard to make sure we had what we needed. I got involved in everything I could at school. I went to Wairarapa College and started working part time as soon as I could to help out.

I left home early and went to live in Palmerston North. Like so many rangatahi I had no idea what I wanted to 'be'. However, the only goal I really had was to work in an office. I applied for what felt like 100 jobs, but because of my age and experience I didn't get any interviews. I couldn't access financial support and felt stuck. I tried to keep my education going with Trade and Commerce to gain credits while looking for work.

After registering with an employment agency, I was offered an interview. I was determined to get it so prepared really well. I knew if I didn't, I'd have to go home. I begged the woman to give me a chance and said I wouldn't let them down. She saw my potential and gave me a 6-month contract working at Student Services (Studylink) in the mail room. I felt like I'd made it. I was on the right path!

I built great relationships with my co-workers and took every chance to learn. This helped when applying for a permanent job. My first ever corporate interview in front of a panel was scary and intimidating but I got the role.

I'm naturally a long-term planner, if I can see what I want I move towards it. I could see all the opportunities in the public service and made the most of them. I gained my public service accreditations and a diploma as a community advisor. During my 18 years' service I worked across multiple locations across Aotearoa and government organisations.

Finally landing in Taranaki for the last 14 years.

Eventually I got to a point in my own career where I needed to move on but wasn't sure what that meant. So, I entered the Taranaki Start Up competition, a chance to test my abilities in an environment with people that was unfamiliar. It was 72 hours and a real challenge! I felt out of my depth with people who had amazing qualifications and backgrounds, but soon realised the strengths I brought to the table from my life experience and all those years in the public service. I was so grateful to be part of the winning team and walked out with my heart so full!

After this experience and feedback from whānau I realised it was time to hang up my hat in the public service. I took some time out with my whānau and to explore what was next and try something new.

*I whanau mai au ki Heretaunga  
I tupu ake au ki Wairarapa  
Kei Opunake ahau e noho ana  
Ko Tainui te Waka  
Ko Raukawa te moana  
Ko Whitireira te maunga  
Ko Porirua te tai te awa  
Ko Ngāti toa, Ko Ngāti Mutunga  
o Wharekauri te iwi  
Ko Takapuwahia te marae  
Ko Hani Kamu te hiko te tupuna  
Kei Why Ora ahau e mahi ana  
Ko Sherrie Flanagan tōku ingoa  
Tēnā koutou katoa*



During this time I opened the Sugar Bach (holiday accommodation) in Opunake in July 2020. I decided to study and did a level four business certificate. I learnt how to surf which supported my own well-being. I got involved in my community with the Opunake Boardriders Club, Opunake Players, focused on my music with Right of Way, Heatwave, Moemoeā and support my sons with school activities. I basically created a list of the things I always wanted to do but never had time for.

I was invited to apply for government roles, but decided not to. Then there was a knock on my door and it was Tanya (from Why Ora). Tanya knew my story and offered me an opportunity to grow and use my strengths. So that is how I came to be here at Why Ora.

I love the kaupapa, I'm passionate about working with and supporting Māori rangatahi and whānau to flourish, and helping people aspire to be more.

I manage operations and lead the Kaiārahi team here. Values and staff wellbeing are really important to me.

Some of what I've learnt from my experiences that I can share is:

- Learn to understand your triggers (what bothers you) and put things in place to make sure you "fill your cup"
- You can bathe in your mistakes, or you can pick them apart and take the learnings with you, but don't waste time repeating them!
- Comparison can be dangerous – just do what is right for you

Six months into the job, I'm looking forward to watching Why Ora grow; growing our team capabilities, our presence in the digital space and our reach across Taranaki.

There's a huge opportunity for 'Mana Māori', to grow our connections, and share our whānau success stories to inspire our next generation for brighter futures.

# WAIHO I TE TOIPOTO, KAUA I TE TOIROA

LET US KEEP CLOSE TOGETHER, NOT FAR APART.

## My Why CAMPAIGN

Our My Why campaign ran from 2 February till 24 February 2022 and focused on the voice of our rangatahi, taura and tangata and sharing their reasons for vaccination as well as health messages from our partners such as Taranaki District Health Board, Tui Ora, Te Kāhui o Taranaki Iwi. We also shared of supportive whakataukī that were relevant to our current environment. We had 7 Participants in this campaign.

Check out our Why Ora Facebook page to see what our rangatahi had to say about their "My Why" - [WhyOra Facebook](#)



THOMSON MATUKU

“

My why is that I wanted to look after my niece and nephews as they are too young to get it. I also wanted to continue to do the things I love safely - which is to play sport and travel around the motu and see my extended whānau and friends. I was a bit unsure at first, but after doing my own research and listening to the advice of health professionals I decided to get it and have not regretted my decision.



*"my why is because it allows me to continue to do the things I love and am passionate about like playing basketball but also keeps my whānau and I safe while we are in these uncertain times. Also it allows me to tautoko the tamariki through my mahi as a teacher aid."*

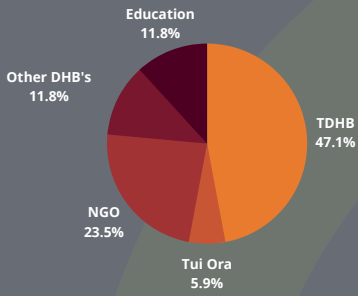
Haize Walker

## SAVANAH HISLOP

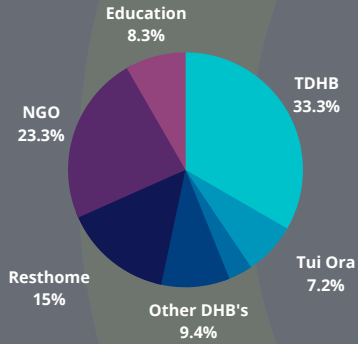
"My why is you guys, I chose to do it to look after others, my friends, whānau, tamariki and my patients. It's for the bigger picture, not just about me it's about looking after all of us. I'm protecting those who can't protect themselves and those who would be impacted more than others. It's so we can return to a "normal" life where we can share kai and visit our elderly without the risks."



EMPLOYED 2022



EMPLOYER



**1ST YEAR TERTIARY**

1 Medical	4 Allied	8 Certificates
2 Nursing	8 Teaching	26 Other

(2021 -113 Year 13 students)

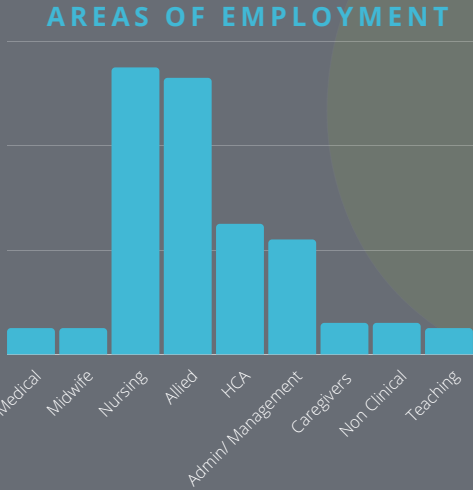
**MANAAKI ORANGA**

Kanohi ki te kanohi	224
Covid Manaaki	180
Covid-19 Manaaki - care packs	71
Scholarship Grant applications	21

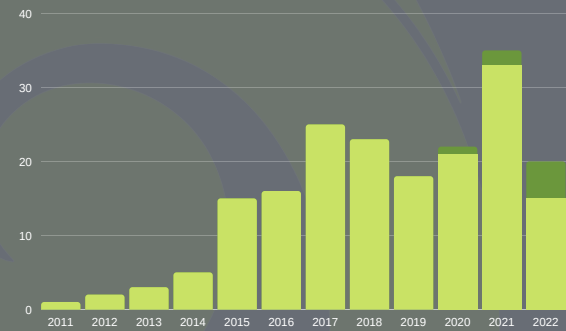
103 Year 12    130 Year 13    14 NEETS

COMPLETING STUDIES 2022

4 MEDICINE	3 ALLIED	6 CERTIFICATE
8 NURSING	4 TEACHING	



EMPLOYMENT BY YEAR



TOTAL EMPLOYMENT  
**185**  
HEALTH 177  
EDUCATION 8

**Secondary**  
**247**

**Tertiary**  
**77**

**Employment**  
**185**

**THANK YOU**

Why Ora is very grateful for the contributions made by funders to support our kaupapa of empowering Māori career and employment aspirations so that our whānau can flourish.

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