

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



Greetings

from our General Manager

Kia ora koutou katoa

As I'm writing this, Spring weather is definitely here!

Like so many people in community organisations across Aotearoa, for the past month we have been juggling our mahi and whānau commitments with life amidst a Covid Response. We knew it was going to be a matter of when (not if) and so we were well prepared for it.

Our growing team kept well connected. Not able to meet our taura and whānau face to face we prioritised during lockdown manaaki of our Why Ora whānau through other channels. As we head through the levels, we are getting ready to engage kanoahi ki e kanoahi once again – with our masks on!

This month it is Mahuru and we are getting involved by coming up with ideas to increase our use of Reo. We encourage you to too.

Are you up for the reo Māori Challenge? Find out how you can get involved at <https://www.mahurumaori.com/>

It's no secret there is a long way to go to increase equity for Māori in health, education, income, and employment opportunities.

There are big changes happening in these sectors.

Spring is a time for new growth, and we are looking at new ways we can make a difference, developing new partnerships and new ideas. So, watch this space in months to come!

Noho ora mai
Tanya Anaha
General Manager, Why Ora



Meet our new Kaiārahi



Liahna Smith

**Kia ora koutou,
Ko Liahna Smith tōku ingoa
He Kaiārahi ahau nō
Why Ora.**

I love my mahi because everyone in the team shares the same vision - to tautoko our Māori rangatahi into their potential career pathways. It's rewarding, a new whakatara for myself and lots to learn along the way.

**Ngā Mihi
Liahna Smith**

Pūtaiao will be back 2022

Due to the national Covid-19 response sadly in late August we had no choice but to cancel our exciting Pūtaiao event, designed to inspire rangatahi with a passion for science and Mātauranga Māori. Doing so has so many benefits, like growing knowledge, curiosity and observation, cultural identity and understanding, which can help lead our rangatahi and whānau to so many diverse, meaningful and rewarding careers.

We are so committed to this kaupapa and look forward to delivering Pūtaiao in 2022 and making it even more fun!

Check out this video to see what it's all about:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLix-ckweZE&t=4s>



Photo: New Plymouth Boys High students at Pūtaiao 2020

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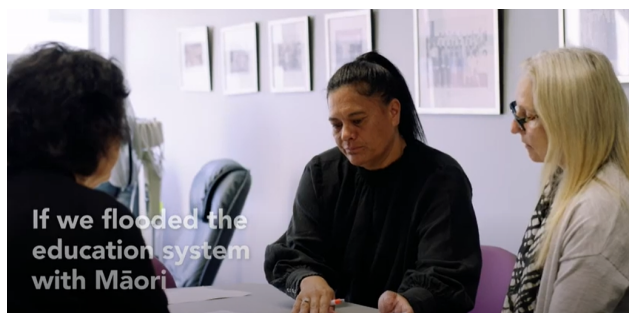


Photo: PMP Why Ora video content

Over the past 11 years since we were established we have grown our vision and mahi, looking for new ways to help create positive change so that our whānau can flourish. Recently our awesome partners and supporters the Peter McKenzie Project helped us produce this video about what we do and where we are headed – we hope you enjoy watching this and learn something you didn't know about our mahi! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAzSOJvLcbM>

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Oral Health Therapy Trainee Students
Community Oral Health

- **Are you intending to study and have been accepted into the 3 year Bachelor of Oral Health at Otago University, or Bachelor of Health Science (Oral Health) at AUT?**
- **Are you already studying Bachelor of Oral Health at Otago University, or Bachelor of Health Science (Oral Health) at AUT?**

If you are interested in being supported to train as an Oral Health Therapist, please "Apply Online" within the advertisement <https://www.seek.co.nz/job/53741090?type=standard#searchRequestToken=1bbbf301-4dc8-49dd-ad47-6550e0df9bfc>

For more information about the position please contact Linda Tuck, Manager Community Oral Health on 06 7597 222 ext 7963 or email linda.tuck@tdhb.org.nz

Closing date for applications is **31st October 2021**.

TAUIRA INSPIRED

TO GIVE BACK TO HIS ROHE



Tane Whitehead -Tertiary student

Kia Ora Koutou,

I am Tane Whitehead, a second year student at the University of Otago. I descend from Taranaki and Te Ati Awa Iwi and am proud to represent Taranaki through my current studies.

I attended Spotswood College and I am very grateful for the opportunities provided there. I started with Why Ora in year 11, when I attended the health career workshops at the hospital and was provided with a placement in Year 13 which was very valuable.

I was set on doing physiotherapy and was fortunate to be given a placement at Taranaki Base Hospital to see where physiotherapy could take me. After this and discussions with family, friends, teachers and Prajesh Chhanabhai (Otago University liaison officer), I decided I wasn't as passionate as I once thought about physiotherapy, which was absolutely fine.

I am glad that I had these thoughts prior to starting tertiary education, as I wanted to do a degree which targeted more of my interests. This led me to my current studies in a Bachelor of Science Majoring in Exercise and Sport Science and minoring in Economics.

My degree has allowed me to combine my passion of sport and physical activity with business, as I aim to start my own business in the future. I have also been able to take interest papers to improve my conversational Māori, psychology and marketing knowledge.

A degree doesn't have to finish at three years. Although I will graduate next year, I want to do my honours before doing a Master of Teaching.

My biggest supporters to date have to be my family. As the first in my family to attend university, while they don't understand all the details, they trust me that I know what I'm doing.

Family, friends and teachers/mentors will all have an opinion on what they think you could be doing, however no one knows you better than you.

My greatest achievement so far is creating the Taranaki Hands On at Otago Scholarship, which will fully fund one student from a low decile school in Taranaki to attend Hands On at Otago <https://www.otago.ac.nz/hands-on-at-otago/otago832353.pdf>. I was also very fortunate to receive the fully funded Poutama Scholarship for Māori students to attend the week-long 'Hands on at Otago' programme; an opportunity to see what life at Otago University is like. I have also started a podcast alongside Prajesh "Baskets of Knowledge" which can be accessed on Spotify. This podcasts was created to help students navigate their way through the struggles of University, speaking about different experiences and to help them to aspire for success.

While it has not been easy, through support networks and the knowledge that my biggest reward comes from giving to others, I have been able to achieve great things. As the Māori proverb goes, He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata. For me, it is people that make the world so valuable.

Why Ora allowed me to look at different avenues I could go down and broaden my beliefs beyond ideas that Māori students are only strong in certain areas. In reality, we are strong at whatever we apply ourselves to, and ultimately you must choose a path that makes you happy.

I thank the team at Why Ora for supporting me, not only as a high school student but also as a university student, and strongly recommend that you get involved. You may not know where your journey is taking you yet, but Why Ora will do an awesome job at showing you the opportunities out there that you may otherwise miss.

Keep striving for success,
Tane



MEET OUR TEAM

Michelle Martin, Kaiārahi

Ko Ongaro te Maunga

Ko Rotokakahi te Awa

Ko Mamari te Waka

Ko Te Rarawa mē Te Aupouri nga Iwi

Ko Michelle Martin tōku ingoa



I was born in Tamaki Makaurau ki Hauauru, Te Rarawa mē Te Aupouri descent and was brought up by my mum who was solo, with four siblings and my grandparents.

I attended Tokoroa High School. Being part of a larger community of Māori and Pasifika kids enabled me to be involved in more cultural activities. After four years I moved back to Tamaki Makaurau.

I got a job in a biscuit factory and was there for six years. During that time I had two tamariki, and my third came along a few years later.

After living in South Auckland for 17 years, we moved to the North Shore. The move was a BIG eye opener as we went from a culturally safe environment to an environment full of ethnicity challenges.

At 38 years old I decided to take the challenge of further education and I enrolled at Massey University (Albany Campus) as an adult learner. Was the learning easy?

Quick answer NO!!

With the support of the Māori & Pasifika Support system and most of all friends, I completed the qualification (after four years). I also had the pleasure of being Tumuaki for 3 years, gaining leadership skills and knowledge of the barriers for Māori taura from all ages and backgrounds.

The biggest outcome of all was finding my identity - I always knew I was Māori but what did that mean? And I'm still on that journey. It has also given me knowledge that I can confidently share with my tamariki and mokopuna.

After finishing my studies, I was lucky enough to secure full time employment at Massey University. I started off in the frontline team with queries of all kinds. I then moved into an administration role taking care of enrolment processes, advising on subject choices and overall first contact for all taura. After nine years, I moved over to AUT doing the same line of work and was there for four years.

In 2010 I moved to Taranaki and after being unemployed for almost a year I got a job with Whakatipuranga Rima Rau Trust - Why Ora. I've now been here for 10 years.

For me it's all about making a difference for taura who go into further education, those that don't think they're capable of succeeding, once they finish secondary school and assisting adult learners back into education. Seeing the results, e.g. walking alongside someone at graduation knowing they made it and seeing them entering into full time employment.

When I first started, it was also the beginning for Why Ora. Being involved in the journey has been educational, just like building a whare. From laying the foundation - frame of the whare - securing the walls - adding the pou - now we are lining the walls with tukutuku (the stories of our rangatahi and whānau). Since our team has grown it's been great having fresh new minds in the office. Seeing their manaaki is over whelming - like honey on toast - Te Ra te Ra!

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
160

HEALTH 158
EDUCATION 2

3 KURA KAUPAPA

13 SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Year 11
107

Year 12
145

Year 13
107

Why Ora?

COMPLETING STUDIES 2021

6

ALLIED

3

MEDICINE

1

Mental Health

5

NURSING

2

TEACHING

10

CERTIFICATE

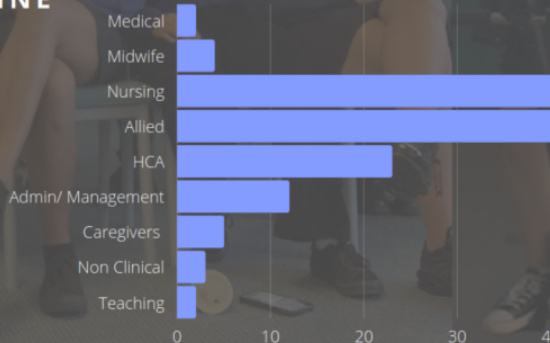
MANAAKI ORANGA

Assessments	172
Assessment Review	48
Career Pathway	78
Lockdown Follow -up	384
Lockdown Manaaki	59

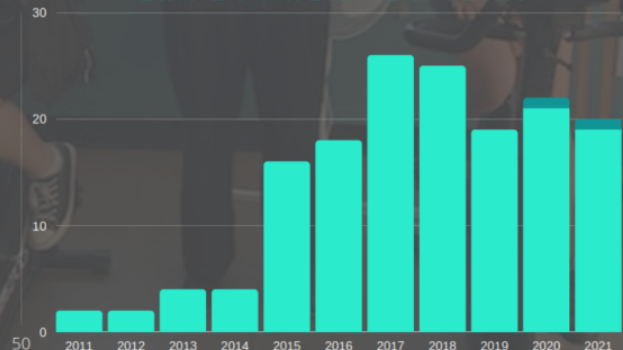
TERTIARY PIPELINE

- 11 Medical
- 18 Nursing
- 4 Midwifery
- 24 Allied
- 12 Teaching
- 8 Certificates

AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT



EMPLOYMENT BY YEAR



SECONDARY

359

TERTIARY

77

EMPLOYED

160

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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