

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

Kia Ora from our Pouwhakahaere / Chief Executive

Raumati (summer) is here again – and 2023 is not too far away!

For Why Ora and our stakeholders it has been a year of growth and change. In January we moved to our new office at 41 King Street, New Plymouth, alongside Tupu-ā-nuku, one of our iwi workforce development partners. That move has proved very positive!

To achieve our aims we work with our connections in education and health, with iwi, employers, funders and other supporters in Taranaki and beyond. We so value the relationships we have with everyone who supports of our kaupapa! This year amongst all of our activities we have supported 377 from 13 schools around the Maunga and 94 tertiary students, in health and education career pathways and 41 in other pathways.

In September 2022 we launched our brand-new website www.whyora.co.nz – it shares the stories of our amazing whānau on career paths in health, education and more in Taranaki.

We feel so inspired by our community! Including our master photographer Tania Niwa! Tania created the stunning imagery for the site.

In October our Kaiārahi team had a noho marae at Urenui Pā for a week of cultural development and planning. While there we learnt more about the history of Ngāti Mutunga from the haukāinga and built some wonderful new connections. You can read more about this and other activities in this issue.

With the year coming to an end soon we wish everyone well, especially our whānau waiting for exam results. We look forward to a break before we kick off again in 2023. Our office will be closed from 23 December 2022 until 9 January 2023. Meanwhile, we hope you enjoy reading this issue!

Noho ora mai,
Tanya Anaha



Tanya Anaha - Pou Whakahaere



MANAAKITANGA

Whānau are at the core of what we do.
Supporting and nurturing our whānau on their career journeys



Photo: (L-R) Nicola Stanton, Maioha Huna and Kaiārahi Michelle

End of year Prize-giving

As part of our manaaki, we support our taiohi in whatever that may be. This year some of our kaiārahi were fortunate to attend the 2022 School prize-givings.

These are a big milestone for our taiohi acknowledging their hard work and achievements. For our Kaiārahi walking alongside these students it is also a very special event.



Photo: Kaya Awahou - Inglewood High School



Photo: Francis Douglas taiohi with Kaiārahi Rory Maxwell

Reconnecting our whānau

At Why Ora we have a strong belief in encouraging our kaimahi to embrace who we are as people. In October we held a noho marae at Urenui Pā, to develop our cultural knowledge and carry out our planning for 2023. As we have a strong focus on health and education, holding our hui on this marae was very significant. We wanted to learn more about Te Rangī Hīroa, one of the first Māori doctors in Aotearoa, who is from Ngāti Mutunga Iwi. Two of our kaimahi Sherrie and Rory are also of Ngāti Mutunga descent, so we were able to help them reconnect with their whenua and learn more about their whakapapa too!



Photo: Rory and Sherrie in front of Te Aroha wharenui



Photo: Why Ora in front of Te Aroha wharenui

TŪHONONGA

Tūhononga means to strengthen and bring together.

Why Ora works together with many organisations to support our whānau aspirations.

Working together to grow the success of our taiohi

Taranaki Taiohi Collective

Some of our Kaimahi team attended the Taranaki Taiohi Collective Network Meeting on the 10th of November. These hui are a fantastic opportunity for our kaiārahi to connect with others working with taiohi around the maunga and create a space for useful kōrero between us all. We came away feeling inspired.



PUNA WAIORA -Waikato

In October we had the privilege of hosting our Puna Waiora whānau for the day. Puna Waiora is a group of Rangatahi Māori based in Hamilton. Like Why Ora they also support Māori into meaningful career pathways. As we have a similar kaupapa we look forward to working together to tautoko each other and support a flourishing future for our people.

*Photo: Why Ora and the Puna Waiora Crew,
Hana Te Hemara Mural by Mr G Hoete*



Photo: Why Ora and Unity Wara

Kapa Haka @ Dawson House

Our team have been attending kapa haka sessions at Dawson House here in Ngāmotu, along with Kāinga Oranga and Oranga Tamariki. It is a great way for us to create and nourish new relationships, strengthen our networks, all while learning waiata and developing our kapa haka skills.



Photo: (L-R) Nathan Tūta (Nurse) and Tania Niwa photography session - Te Whatu Ora

New Why Ora Website

In September 2022 we launched our new website www.whyora.co.nz to share the stories of our amazing whānau on career paths in health, education and more. It also provides information about Why Ora and our connections.

Ngā mihi nui Whānau! Thank you for your help! We want to acknowledge once again the huge generosity of our whānau for giving their time, trusting us to take photos and share your stories so that others can learn about rewarding careers that might be possible.

We feel so inspired by our community! By the amazing skills, generosity and dedication of so many people here in Taranaki – and so far, we have only just scratched the surface – showing a glimpse of how much talent there is out there!

Local Taranaki Master Photographer Tania Niwa created stunning imagery for our website. It is such a pleasure to work behind the scenes with Tania and her assistants and see them in action.

Tania is a huge supporter who really gets our purpose at Why Ora – and with so many networks across Taranaki and beyond. Tania shares many creative ideas and often helps to promote our website on her socials – so thank you Tania!

We also want to thank our amazing website designers at TGM who worked with us for many hours to create a site to feel really proud of.

A big thank you to our funders. Our website was made possible with the support of our innovative funders the Toi Foundation and other supporters.

If you haven't visited our new website yet – take a look! As we continue to develop it, we hope you will be inspired to think about what new career opportunities there might be ahead for you!

@ www.whyora.co.nz



Photo: (L-R) Jacinda Shaw (Physio Assistant) and Tania Niwa



Photo: Sarika Rona (Educational Psychologist)

UMANGA

Assisting taiohi and whānau to explore and experience meaningful careers.
Supporting our whānau on their career journeys – connecting to career pathways.

Hoki Mai Ki Why Ora: Sean Taylor

When Sean left school in 2021, he wasn't sure what he wanted to do - but he knew he wanted to do something! Sean liked working outside and in the garden, and looked up to his uncle who works for Iwi, on the maunga and in the environment.

Sean first registered with our Hoki Mai Ki Why Ora programme at the beginning of 2022. Hoki Mai Ki Why Ora assists taiohi onto meaningful career paths.

Sean wasn't sure if he wanted to study or mahi. He had a CV but needed help with his interviewing skills and confidence. He was interested in horticulture, arboriculture, conservation or forestry but needed to experience them to help him make a decision.

Our Kaiārahi shared options for study and helped Sean develop short-term, mid-term and goals including a work readiness plan. With the support of our partners Tupu ā nuku he attended their Taster days which enable rangatahi to work alongside experienced workers and give them an opportunity to see what environment jobs are really like.

"I like learning new things it keeps me motivated, makes it better having a supportive crew behind me"
- Sean

Sean was keen to enter employment and the next step was to get him work-ready. He then began his mahi journey with Matike Ltd doing some planting and spraying for six months.



Photo: (L-R) Dani (Tupu ā Nuku), Sean Taylor, Katie Walsh (Kaiārahi)

Sean was then employed by Glasgow Scaffolding part-time to start him off in the workforce at a comfortable pace. Coming into the New Year he is working towards full-time employment. Also he is currently working with Tupu ā nuku to get his driver's license.

Sean has worked so hard and reached the goals he had set for himself at the beginning of this year. We are so proud of what he has achieved and we look forward to what's next!

"Sean brings a beautiful energy to our team as the potiki. Recruiting can be hard, he has slotted in perfectly."

- Ebony Manukonga, Glasgow Scaffolding & Rigging LTD

Congratulations

2022 GRADUATES

Ka mutu pea!

Health Graduates

Sam George	Bachelor of Medicine	Otago University
Eden Florence	Bachelor of Medicine	Auckland University
Drew Davey	Bachelor of Medicine	Otago University
Grace George	Bachelor of Medicine	Otago University
Jody Timu-Kaea	Bachelor of Nursing	WITT
Aleesha Offen	Bachelor of Nursing	WITT
Taylor Briggs	Bachelor of Nursing	WITT
Shaina Butler	Bachelor of Nursing	WITT
Anthony Harvey	Bachelor of Nursing	WITT
Brooke Farley	Bachelor of Nursing	Wintec
Sarah Lewis	Bachelor of Nursing	Massey University
Jacob Campbell	Bachelor of Health	Victoria University
Alex Ratahi	Bachelor of Paramedics	Otago University
Teremoana Porter-Rawiri	Bachelor of Science	Otago University
Tessa Honeyfeild	Bachelor of Human Nutrition	Otago University
Tane Whitehead	Bachelor of Science	Otago University
Jenna McCarthy	Certificate of Health Science	Auckland University
Tarian Luke	Certificate in Health Science	UCOL
Maia Henderson	Certificate in Youth Work	Praxis
Jasmine Lee	Certificate of Health & Wellbeing	Open Polytechnic
Latoyah Rolls	Nat Certificate in Fitness	WITT
Jack Alleman	1st Year Health Science	Auckland University



Sam George joined Why Ora in 2016. When he left secondary school in 2016 he was interested in becoming a Lawyer. After experiencing a day in the life of a lawyer, he decided it was not for him. He chose to pursue medicine at Otago University to become a doctor. This year Sam completed his final year in Medicine and has been offered a position at Te Whatu Ora Hawkes Bay as a House Officer (Junior Doctor).

Education Graduates

Destiny Robinson	Diploma in Teaching	UCOL
Jasmin Tyler	Certificate of Early Childhood	Open Polytechnic
Tamar Leatherby	Certificate of Early Childhood	Taranaki Educare Training
Nikita Ploeg	Certificate in Early Childhood	Taranaki Educare Training

2022 FOR WHY ORA

Here are some highlights for Why Ora over the past year

Hui Whānau



RAPUARA



NEW
KAIARAHĪ



Rory Maxwell



Graham Jones



Trent Hohaia



Katie Walsh

OUR NEW TARI



Pūtaiao Expo



New website!



EMPOWERING MĀORI CAREER AND EMPLOYMENT ASPIRATIONS SO THAT OUR WHĀNAU CAN FLOURISH



*Covid-19
Mandaki*



Meet Our Team

LIAHNA SMITH

Ko Ruapehu te Maunga
Ko Whanganui te Awa
Ko Aotea te Waka
Ko Te Āti Haunui a Pāpārangi te Iwi
Ko Ngāti Kurawhatia te Hapū
Ko Paraweka te marae
Ko Liahna Smith tōku Ingoa
He Kaiārahi ahau nō Why Ora

Role: Why Ora Kaiārahi



Our youngest Kaiārahi Liahna Smith found her passion for life at a young age – and meeting Liahna for the first time you get a strong sense of that!

Starting life in Eltham, at the age of two Liahna moved to Inglewood with her whānau, to be closer to her Nana. From then on, Inglewood became her home and community. While attending Inglewood Primary School, Liahna found her passion for culture, helping others, and her voice. "I started doing kapa haka and I loved it! I became a leader. This made my whānau proud and made me feel good!"

During those years at Inglewood Primary Liahna also discovered her love for sports, competition, and teamwork. Liahna played tennis and won a tennis trophy. "I saw my Mum and my sister's names on it and discovered I had kept up a family tradition without realising it!". Liahna then moved onto basketball, netball, touch, rippa rugby, and indoor netball. "I found I really liked team sports - being part of a roopu and feeling supported."

Liahna then attended New Plymouth Girls High School. "My sister went there and it gave me access to opportunities for sports and other commitments. It felt so huge after Primary!". She carried on her sports and studies in Maths, English and Social Sciences. She had wanted to do Te Reo Māori but ended up taking other subjects. Like so many taiohi Liahna felt pressured about what to do with her future. "I started out very into learning, but as I got older, I wanted to have a bit more fun! I had expectations of myself - I wanted to strive for the best grade but I was happy if I passed!"

Liahna finished school unsure of what she wanted to do. "I was interested in studying teaching but was one UE credit short. My teacher invited me to go back to school during the holidays– but by that stage I just wanted to leave. Also, my niece was just about to be born, so I wanted to stay in Taranaki."

Deciding she wasn't ready for university yet and realising it's not for everyone, Liahna went on to work part-time doing childcare and retail work. "That was when Why Ora asked me if I'd like to come in for a kōrero and meet the team. After that I was offered a cadetship – it was an awesome opportunity to work full-time for six months to see what mahi they do. I couldn't believe my luck!"

Liahna was then offered an interview for a full-time Kaiārahi position. "I was so excited when I got the job - my first ever full-time job-offer!"

Now a Kaiārahi for New Plymouth Girls High School, Sacred Heart Girls' College, and Inglewood High School – Liahna loves her mahi!

It's such a rewarding role providing manaaki to the people we work with. It's so fulfilling to see our relationships grow. We offer extra support outside of whānau and school – sometimes taiohi feel there are a lot of expectations on them and don't always want to talk to the people they see every day."

"What really motivates me is that only two years ago I was one of those taiohi - stuck not knowing what to do. I now look forward to coming to mahi every day to help others. My kapa haka teacher from Inglewood is

now one of the co-ordinators I work with as Kaiārahi for Inglewood High School! So, I've come full-circle!"

Liahna feels she has grown a lot. "I've made friends for life here – everyone has the same vision and is so kind and caring. This job has blown my whānau away too – the way my confidence has grown. It has helped me with speaking Te Reo Māori and to find out more about my whakapapa – my tupuna and hapū. I've picked up the language quickly. This year I even did a Captain's speech to one of my sports teams fully in Te Reo Maori!"

Liahna has plans moving forward – including becoming a qualified primary school teacher and seeing the world.

"I have a five-year plan – I want to have started my teaching degree and be further along on my Te Reo Māori journey. And I want to have travelled too!"

What attracts me to teaching is that I love working with tamariki – I had awesome teachers at school and I want to be like them. I want to share Te Reo Māori with kids coming through.

All the learning I am doing now and will in the future will be to help others. I know my Nana, Grandad and Kui will be smiling down on me and proud of the wāhine I am becoming. One that hopefully inspires and motivate others to find and follow their passions and dreams!"



**Ngā mihi nui. Wishing you and your whānau a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
We are closed from Friday 23 December 2022 to Monday 9 January 2023.**

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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