

# Healthy Homes Initiative

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*A korowai of  
mahi across  
the motu*



- **39,757 tamariki** seen by collective HHI providers
- **Over 135,979** whānau members impacted
- **Over 133,183** interventions

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*E hara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini:*  
*My success is not mine alone, but it is the strength of many.\**

# Healthy Homes Initiative

*A korowai of mahi across the motu*

**Tens of thousands of homes sheltering our nation's tamariki are under pressure ... but the mahi of the Healthy Homes Initiative is having an incredible impact.**

Kia ora,

I'm Rebecca Haszard, a journalist who after 12 years covering national news, find myself telling the most important stories of my career: the stories of whānau journeying under the Healthy Homes Initiative (HHI).

Right now, winter is a time of increased moisture, mould and cold. The direct impact is increased respiratory illnesses and hospitalisations and a decrease in work and school attendance.

## Study reveals remarkable movement

But there is something remarkable happening that, as an Otago University Study has found, is changing these outcomes.

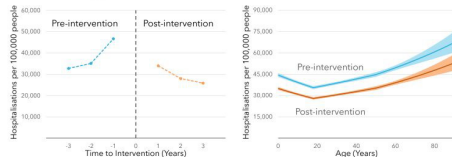
It is the work of the HHI: a national programme linked by the locally coordinated mahi of 17 providers based across the motu.

The study, a three-year evaluation, found that following HHI visits there was a 20 per cent reduction in hospital admissions for all tamariki.

The evaluation also revealed an increase in school and work attendance and improved equity in health and social outcomes.

The magnitude of these outcomes is evidenced by the numbers.

## Modelling Results



20% less hospitalisations after HHI intervention



Sustainability Options HHI  
Referrer Hui June 2024



## Mahi by the numbers

**39,757** tamariki have been seen by collective HHI providers

> **135,979** whānau members have been impacted

> **133,183** interventions have been achieved

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## Multifaceted mahi

The challenges are myriad.

In some communities, kaimahi are working with whānau who are “wary and whakama” of health services and government entities.

In others, an entire town’s proximity to dense native bush poses extreme moisture issues and whānau require unique interventions to make their homes healthy.

The mahi of these providers, therefore, is multifaceted. It is patient. It is nuanced - and it is vital.

## Key contributors

Our providers are hugely supported by the work of:

In many ways, it is like a coordinated cloak of activity: a korowai.

*Our organisations, the thrums and feathers of a korowai, are individual but woven together - achieving a collective, positive outcome.*

*And like anyone bestowed the honour of a korowai, they are upholding the obligation of care for people and their environments.*

Specifically, these 17 organisations are working in unique synergy to combat a desperate need in our country: to make homes across Aotearoa warmer, drier and healthier.

The success of the programme is epitomised by the variety of activities across the motu.

From building a community laundromat to the delivery and construction of beds for whānau to a solar power pilot for a whare on remote whenua, the mahi is unique, hyper-local and uplifting.

## Join the journey

Because we couldn't possibly convey the multitude of mahi in this document, we've compiled an ePānui series to share some of the incredible stories coming from HHI providers.

These go some way to demonstrating the collective dedication and positive outcomes being achieved for Aotearoa's tamariki and their whānau.

**Join us on the journey as each week over the coming month we share an element of our ePānui series.**

**Variety - the children's charity:** majority funder for beds.

**Curtain banks:** volunteers who put immense time and effort into producing curtains for most of the HHI providers.

**Safekids Aotearoa (Starship):** support and provide a range of safety devices for tamariki.