

Healthy Homes Initiative

In this week's
ePānui: Stories
of Wellbeing

*A korowai of
mahi across
the motu*



**SO FRESH AND
SO CLEAN**

**Small town
laundromat heroes**

*Haere e whai i te waewae o Uenuku, kia ora ai te tangata: Go search for
the footprints of Uenuku so that humankind may be nurtured.**



Kia ora

A note from our ePānui coordinator

To truly create wellbeing, organisations must journey with whānau in a way that shows in-depth understanding of the idiosyncrasies of need.

we explored examples of building whakawhānaungatanga and providing caring extras or awhi to whānau.

We learnt about how this lays the groundwork for the next critical element in a whānau's Healthy Homes journey: **Trust**.

In sharing some of the incredible stories of providers delivering life-changing outcomes for whānau, through Trust, we saw how organisations across the motu are cementing themselves as honourable entities that can truly support communities in the many nuanced ways that present from whānau to whānau.

As we come to the final element in this ePānui series, we reflect on the journey our Healthy Homes Initiative providers have taken us on.

From **Awareness**, where providers proved the effectiveness of immersing themselves in their communities, beginning the kōrero around what a healthy home is and what the service offers, to **Connection** where

And last week we explored **Engagement**: the culmination of elements being woven together, empowering whānau and communities to take charge of the health of their whare.

From here, we reach our final element in our Epānui series: **Wellbeing**.

To truly create wellbeing, organisations must journey with whānau in a way that shows in-depth understanding of the idiosyncrasies of need.

Today we share the stories of two organisations that, by being attune to the unique needs of their communities achieved tailored, sustainable outcomes for whānau.

It's been an honour to bring the stories in this series to you.

Enjoy this final read!

Mahi by the numbers

Through the Healthy Homes Initiative, 17 providers have made a significant impact.

- Over **45,000** referrals
- **39,757** tamariki seen by collective HHI providers
- Over **135,979** whanau members impacted
- Over **133,183** interventions
- **20%** reduction in tamariki hospital visits



Wellbeing

Confidence that involves communities

In northern Hawke's Bay, as the vast native forest that is the Te Urewera National Park reaches its southern border, a small community known as Tuai stands.

It is here, with its unique proximity to beautiful but dense, damp bush, that nearly every tamariki assessed under the HHI was found to have respiratory or health conditions.

And it is here, by delving deep into the community's unique situation and finding the true source of an issue, that the **Child Healthy Housing Programme (CHHP)** has been able to help transform a community's health outcomes.

Lessons from a laundromat

Tuai is an area where moisture is high and sunlight low. This makes the process of drying clothes problematic - especially in winter when outdoor washing lines are particularly unsuitable.

It is evident that moisture in a cold, damp environment leads to condensation and mould.

Beyond repairing damage and sharing educational tools to mitigate these issues, CHHP together with Genesis and Wharariki Trust engaged the community to find a unique solution: a community laundromat.

CHHP identifies immediate benefits for the community:

"Having access to affordable washing facilities will improve wellbeing and reduce childhood skin issues."

Tuai's laundromat is an exceptional example of improving wellbeing in a community - of truly going on a journey and instilling confidence in a hapori to take control of their health outcomes.





Wellbeing

Confidence that involves communities

Manawa Ora - Te Tai Tokerau has implemented a unique collaboration to achieve wellbeing in a community where needs are related to location.

Solar power pilot

In Te Tai Tokerau, it has been observed that a growing number of people are returning to whānau land to escape the high living costs of big cities such as Tāmaki Makaurau.

Often the whenua they are returning to is in isolated, rural areas without electricity and potable water supply.

This means more whānau are living off-grid.

In a unique intervention, Manawa Ora worked with local and government initiatives and Habitat for Humanity to install a solar system in a remote whare as part of the Healthy Homes Initiative.

While small, the system provides enough power to run a fridge, charge devices and power lighting.

This has moved the whānau away from fossil-fuelled power generation, saving fuel costs and eliminating the challenges of sourcing and rationing that fuel.

It also means a greater range of fresh food can be bought and stored for longer.

Digital devices can be more easily charged, reducing

periods of potential isolation and enabling them to contact wider whānau and emergency services.

While funding is currently limited to implement solar packages elsewhere, the initiative demonstrates how understanding the unique needs of a community can achieve a sustainable, long-term outcome.

