



HE KURA TE TANGATA

A Kaupapa Māori Evaluation of Community-Based Initiatives to Reduce Harm from Methamphetamine in Hawke's Bay

"I am living proof the fact that you can turn your life around" whānau voice



HARM FROM DRUG ADDICTION

Harm from drug addiction is a pervasive issue that adversely affects communities worldwide, and disproportionately burdens Māori communities. Methamphetamine is a highly addictive stimulant that rapidly leads to dependence, with significant physical, psychiatric, social, and economic impacts. Methamphetamine use is rarely the only health, welfare, education or justice issue that whānau and communities are dealing with. Therefore, treatment needs to be able to address these complex and overlapping needs.

AT A GLANCE

THE EVALUATION INCLUDES FIVE INITIATIVES:

- Oranga Mana Ake, delivered by Waiohiki Community Charitable Trust
- Te Pihinga Ake, delivered by Roopu a Iwi Trust
- Te Whaiora Ara Tapu, delivered by Te Pae Tawhiti Trust
- Toi Hua Rewa, delivered by Te Ikaroa Rangatahi Social Services
- He Ringa Whānau Ora, delivered by Central Hawke's Bay District Council

CHALLENGES

- COVID-19 pandemic
- Cyclone Gabriel and flooding
- Methamphetamine harm challenges (eg education, health literacy, risk mitigation, housing)
- Organisational related challenges (networking, staff training and turnover, burnout, budget systemic issues).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ensure sustainability

We recommend that long-term sustainable funding is granted to community-led organisations, including adequate resources and ability to pay staff competitive full time FTE while allowing for inflation/ increases in cost of living, and the projection of salary increases.

2. Broaden focus

Dependence to methamphetamine cannot be addressed without addressing the complex coexisting issues that occur alongside addiction, such as other substance misuse, mental health challenges, family violence, intervention from Oranga Tamariki, housing issues, and academic underachievement.

3. Strengthen relationship between funders and organisations

These NGOs are key to ROCC effectiveness in communities. What makes these NGOs unique is the relationship they help to facilitate between the Police, other agencies and community.

4. Improve reporting structure and process of evaluation

We recommend the ROCC work with NGOs to create a tailored process for the flow of information and data collection between the community and ROCC that fits the unique services of each organisation, improves outcomes for the community and aligns with data sovereignty principles.

5. Build cross agency support

We recommend a collective impact model of working together to share resource and achieve agreed outcomes with key government agencies contracted to provide support, such as MSD, mental health services, housing agencies, budgeting services.

6. Establish an iwi and community led acute care

We recommend establishing iwi and community led acute care in Hawke's Bay.

7. Fund Section 27 reports

As methamphetamine is closely connected with crime, we recommend that Section 27 reports for young people to be funded which are critical in providing judges with a comprehensive understanding of the defendant's background.

8. Local solutions to local issues

Given the unique geographical and socio-economic challenges faced by the communities of Wairoa and Central Hawke's Bay, it is crucial that services in these areas receive continued support and funding.



HĀPAI TE HAUORA



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