



Taumarunui Integrated Health Report

Taumarunui health care providers have been working together to achieve collaboration and better health outcomes for our community.

The group leading this, the Taumarunui Governance Group, intends to update the community on progress.

We are working together in the following ways:

Pathways are being developed to ensure people get the right care by the right person at the right time.

The first pathway to be up and running is the Asthma Pathway for Children/Tamariki, Youth/Rangitahi and their Families/Whanau. A number of healthcare agencies including Taumarunui Hospital, Public Health Nurses, and Whanau Ora Navigators from Taumarunui Kokiri Trust are working together and partnering with families to support them in their journey to better health and well-being.

A number of Taumarunui families have benefited from engaging in this pathway by:

- Having clear asthma management plans developed with them
- Being given health information about triggers of asthma
- Being advised about how to manage medication
- Having a Healthy Homes assessment
- Referral to the Warm our Whare Insulation Programme
- Visits from Asthma Waikato to provide education and support
- Advice on other health issues their children and young people are experiencing
- Health professionals working together have enabled families to get the right care to improve their health.

Further pathways are being developed to meet identified health needs in the community. These include pathways for:

- Older Persons Health
- Medication and Prescription Management
- Sore Throat Management (in relation to rheumatic fever)
- Oral Health
- Smoking Cessation

We are also promoting health theme days, some of which link to national promotion days. Examples of this include a celebration of Well Child Week in March, with the Dinner in the Domain supported by multiple agencies, and Tamariki Olympics held by Kokiri. World Immunisation Week in April and World Asthma Day in May promoted with displays at Kokiri and in the hospital foyer. With support from Health Promoters, Public Health Nurses have been raising awareness of these themes in schools with newsletter snippets and identifying resource websites which can be utilised.

A survey has been done on the issues related to people accessing health services and also local transport matters. A small group is working on the analysis of the results and recommendations that will come from the survey.

We are working to achieve a shared education calendar for all our local health providers. This will allow different agencies to see what is being offered and encourage attendance as relevant to their services. In time, it is hoped that by combining forces, we will be able to

bring educators to us, saving individual agencies the time and expense of travelling out of town for some training.

Taumarunui Hospital has had a change in leadership in the Charge Nurse Manager role. Nick Smith has taken over from Lyn Pointon. We welcome Nick to his role and look forward to working with him. Lyn will be continuing in a role that will support further integration of health services in Taumarunui and other areas.

We look forward to continue working collaboratively to improve health of our local community.

If you are interested in finding out any more about any of these initiatives please contact either of the following:

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