

## Whanganui Rising to the Challenge: The Newsletter

Whanganui Rising to the Challenge: The Mental Health and Addiction Service Development Project is on track to deliver a service development framework document to the Ministry of Health at the end of March.

Over the last two weeks 109 people attended one of a series of six community meetings held in Whanganui, Taihape, Marton and Raetihi.

Those attending included users of mental health and addiction services, their families, staff from a range of agencies including the Whanganui District Health Board, non-government organisations, primary care, Iwi-based service providers and crown agencies, as well as other interested members of the community.

Each meeting included discussion of the direction the project is taking, and how the framework will be used as a road map for Whanganui health district's mental health and addiction services into the future.

Meeting participants raised points they believed need further consideration, and proposed alternative ways to express what the Whanganui health district needs to promote mental health and support those with mental illness and addiction.

In addition, more than 20 staff of the Iwi-based service providers Te Kotuku Hauora in Marton and Ngati Rangi Community Health in Ohakune met with the project team to discuss the project. Staff of Te Puke Karanga Hauora in Raetihi and Mokai Patea in Taihape elected to participate in their local community meetings.

Members of the Mental Health and Addiction Strategic Planning Group also met with the Whanganui District Health Board's Executive Management Team.

Consideration is now being given to all the feedback received in these meetings, which is contributing to the expansion of the framework around what the Whanganui health district needs;

1. Safe, supportive and well informed communities
2. Whānau Ora / person-centred care
3. A skilled workforce
4. Respectful partnerships
5. A seamless experience
6. Leadership across all sectors
7. A shared health record
8. Service improvement
9. Responsive first point of contact
10. Information and technology.

To find more information on this project the **web page** can be accessed through the project and initiatives link on Whanganui District Health Board's home page, or at <http://www.wdwb.org.nz/content/page/whanganui-rising-to-the-challenge-mental-health-addiction/m/0/pre/3074/>

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