

## **Digital Wings Community Recipient Report Template**

Whangaroa Health Services Trust (Kaeo Northland)

Purpose of your organisation

The Whangaroa Health Services Trust (WHST) has been managing primary health and residential aged care services for its population since December 1996. The area serviced by WHST, in general terms, is the Whangaroa County boundaries, as seen on the map attached appendix 1

The potential for the organisation to determine the population of the service area is limited, as Statistics New Zealand only collects population data on the territorial authorities and area units within these territorial authorities.

The two area units of Kaeo and Mangapa-Matauri Bay, which are included in the map on the following page, represent a significant portion of the service area and the most recent Census identified the population of 3141 people.

Whangaroa was established as a Special Medical Area in 1947 because of the rural isolation, high health needs and low socio-economic status of the people.

The area scores as either 9 or 10 on the NZ Deprivation Scale (a scale of socio economic status) which is the highest level of social and economic deprivation. Rural isolation is a major factor with poor roads, limited public transport and a number of unwaged residents. With the majority of people on low income, housing conditions are poor and many families lack telecommunications, adequate fresh water supplies and roadworthy vehicles.

Approximately sixty percent of those patients enrolled with the Primary Care Service are Maori which is higher than the national and Northland average. The area is characterised by a mobile, transient population who regularly move between their identified home base in Whangaroa and the main centres further south.

Many of these people identify the services provided by WHST as their primary source of healthcare. Whangaroa is also a popular holiday destination for New Zealand and overseas tourists, many of whom visit in peak holiday seasons, temporarily swelling its population beyond its normal levels. Cancer, cardiovascular disease, respiratory infections, asthma and diabetes all feature highly. Poor oral health, a high prevalence of smoking, mental health

problems, injuries, alcohol and drug abuse and higher alcohol related death rates all point to the need to focus on health education and promotion, disease prevention and accessible healthcare.

Whangaroa Health Services primary care consists of Doctor and Practice Nurse Consultations, diabetes clinics, cervical smears, child and adult health checks, mobile clinic, X-ray and Physiotherapy. The Mobile Clinic was established in November 1998, providing a purpose built vehicle to take General Practitioner, nursing, health promotion and health education services to the more isolated parts of the area. The primary health care service provides free health care for its eligible population.

The organisation continues to provide health promotion, oral health and smoking cessation services. Special clinics are available for patients requiring treatment for primary mental health, podiatry, midwifery, Plunket and drug and alcohol counselling. Northland District Health Board continues to provide community nursing, public health and mental health services. The aged care services include residential and hospital level (continuing) care in Kauri Lodge Rest Home. Within these facilities one of the beds is dedicated to Carer Support and Respite Care. Referrals are also provided by the Bay of Islands Hospice for Palliative Care.

Most recently we have set up a community GYM to assist alongside our Kaioranga services offered in the central area of Kaeo. As many of our harder to reach whanau and patients are based in the rural outreach areas, their participation is severely limited by distance.

Goals and objectives you planned to reach by addition of technical resources

Improving Health literacy and providing access to digital health for patients living in rural remote areas of the community. Creating a Computer Hub for young and old to utilise at a local central venue such as our Community GYM.

Allowing those people to access supports such as:

- Patient Portals (Manage my Health)
- Teleconferencing with Specialist from Whangarei Base Hospital
- Online Beating the blues and SPARX (low mood and Depression CBT programme).
- Assisting our community to access online learning through TWOA, Waikato University, Open2Study
- Providing a study hub for youth to complete work afterschool and in the weekends
- Providing Kaumatua and Kuia an platform to learn IT with the support of Young people and those IT savvy

What equipment did you receive and from which donor?

We were very fortunate to receive 12 computers which have been distributed to:

- The Pa-Community GYM- The Pa x5
- The reception area of our practice centre to assist patients to access Manage My Health x2
- Our Community House hosts 2x for young mums to access and utilise for study and health purposes.
  Whilst working with their social worker and midwife.
- Matauri Bay Marae will receive x2
- Totara Nth community hall will receive x2

Each computer came with all monitors, speakers, hard drives, keyboards and mouse.

## What other support did you receive from Digital Wings?

Advice on equipment, warranty support, referral to educational resources, Stepping UP, networks with other communities, visits, emails and calls.

In Addition Di Daniels has always been amazing to work with. She made this donation through this cause very quickly and within a week they had been delivered. We are very grateful for her support.

## Outcomes and results for the past 6-12 months

- Our community members have opportunities to engage each other through collective works and planning. They as a result are able to build connections and maintain great relationships. We have seen 2x further community iniative grow out of collaboration through IT support.
- As above our community members old and young are able to engage in learnings outside of the community via the internet and virtual world.
- Nil if limited impacts on environment. There has been opportunities for local environmental groups to collaborate via these tools to work on projects such as local clean ups, and rubbish drives.
- Social enterprise opportunities have been created. An online <u>apparel shop</u> has been built and is managed via this resource.
- We currently have 6 local people training to be Personal Trainers for health initiatives in our community. They are able to complete this through accessing their online learnings via the community hub at "The Pa". As a result the impact they have on others and their wellbeing is ten fold.

What difference did the donation make to your organisation? How did the donation of computer equipment help you achieve your outcomes?

As above. These resources have been vital in linking our community with each other and the outside world. As a result opening us up to new experiences and learnings. Mobilising those with talents they would not otherwise be able to nurture in a community somewhat remote from others in the northland area.

Plant seeds to hope and excitement regarding potentiality of this place and what its people and place have to offer. Keep people connected with their own health outcomes and provide control over the information and learnings that would otherwise be tasked to clinical persons only.

Give them tools to self-alleviate low moods, anxieties and depression. Improved connectedness. Alleviate loneliness.

Be resource for learnings, Employment and externally based health specialist.

And the list goes on...

Share success stories & photos from your community that are a result of your belonging to Digital Wings













How many people or families would you say were impacted by your involvement with Digital Wings?	Approximately 1000 people have been impacted by this resource. That's approximately 30% of our community population.
How can Digital Wings support you in your next set of goals?	Assisting us to scale up our efforts by providing more computers for this community. In particular in Marae settings.
Any other comments	We are very grateful for Dis commitment to this kaupapa and the support and resourcing is very much appreciated. Keep up the amazing work whanau!
Date, name and position held	5/10/2017 Mana Hape, Chief Executive Officer

<sup>\*</sup> Template is in WORD so that there is no limit to how much content you may to type into each cell