

COMMUNITY WAITAKERE REPORT ON WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016 (WAITAKERE RANGES)

There are 2 key focus areas for 2015-2016 for our work programme in the Waitakere Ranges: 1) Significant local initiatives to catalyse and support resident-led neighbourhood development and 2) Community Waitakere core initiatives relevant to the Waitakere Ranges;

The Community Waitakere (CW) work programme is aligned to the following Waitakere Ranges Local Board (WRLB) Outcomes:

- **Thriving communities outcome:** Our diverse communities are healthy and safe and people feel that they are valued, connected and belong.
- **Revitalised town centres and urban villages:** Our urban villages and town centres are people-centred, and attractive places for people to live and work. Glen Eden has a lively, prosperous and creative heart.

1) Significant local initiatives to catalyse and support resident-led neighbourhood development

1.A) Glen Eden (Parrs Park / Albionvale area) - Facilitative / community engagement role to stimulate connections between Hōani Waititi Marae, Albionvale Residents Association and Housing New Zealand residents.

Work Programme Activity: Supporting local neighbourhood engagement initiatives and the aspirations of residents in order to help address some of the challenges of this part of Glen Eden.

What we did

Events

- Albionvale working bee September 2015
- Neighbourhood BBQ with MPHS Community Trust November 2015/January 2016

Foster and support Neighbourhood-led plan & actions by community (with CW support) to implement it (focus on safety)

- Successful Community engagement with Council resulting in Tuck Nathan Storm Water Pond fenced Feb 2016 (CW supported/initiated)
- Collective neighbourhood petition for speed bumps/tables to slow traffic through Albionvale Road to Tuck Nathan Drive (CW supported)
- Collective neighbourhood petition to slow traffic down with pedestrian crossing/lights on West Coast Road (CW assisted with seeking support from local businesses, marae and clubs)
- Community slow down traffic sign making event with the neighbourhood children received funding from Waitakere Ranges neighbours Day fund.(CW assisted with grant application)
- Dog fouling & rubbish Dumping (CW currently circulating information and speaking with residents to find solutions)

Further issues in development

- Hōani Waititi Marae supporting Albionvale neighbourhood with their green waste when the nursery is erected on the marae site
- Garage Sale April/May 2016
- Neighbourhood presentation seeking support from WRLB to Auckland Transport developed (CW role: Facilitate neighbourhood meetings to collate information; assist with administration of the presentation; map out collection of resident support in the area; connecting with local board broker)
- Beautifying the area: Tuck Nathan residents would like the wild flower meadow adjacent to their street which would be more welcoming and attractive to the area. (CW role: setting a date to working with neighbours to have a 'sow the seeds' event; contacting local ranger for permission to sow the area (progressing); signs to pick up dog droppings in the adjacent park (Parrs Park) from Tuck Nathan Drive; information leaflet (progressing);

Examples of CW creating connections:

- We sought signature support for the petition from members of Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Hōani Waititi Marae, Hōani Waititi Marae, Te Kohanga Reo o Hōani Waititi Marae, and door knocked in Selak Place, Wheaton Place, Tuck Nathan Drive, Albionvale Road, Haki Wihongi Place.
- Petition was tabled at the Hōani Waititi Marae Committee meeting & was signed and a letter of support was actioned and received.
- Albionvale Trustee Paola Maldonado attended and addressed Hōani Waititi Marae Committee Hui

Difference Made

The short term 'difference made' was to establish relationships with key neighbourhood stakeholders, and initiate, foster and cooperate on a neighbourhood – led plan and related opportunities. This was achieved.

The medium-term 'difference made' will be for the community to have increased and confident engagement with their neighbourhood-led plan, as well as confidence and skills to act on this and engage with other stakeholders including Local Boards/Council. In addition, for there to be a functioning neighbourhood network and for neighbours to feel connected to Hōani Waititi Marae. All of these medium-term goals are progressing positively; for example the community already successfully communicated with Council about a specific concern and this resulted in positive action by Council (great motivator). However, this is a work in progress that will receive more focussed attention next year.

Feedback received/lessons learned?

Feedback from people so far has been positive but overwhelmingly we have more work to do with the neighbours in the area. CW have only just scratched the surface in this area and we are reaching out to similar organisations to work collaboratively together to strengthen this area's community and belonging. Lesson learned, the neighbourhood-led plan is ever evolving.

Work Programme Activity: Supporting community based programmes and activities at Hōani Waititi marae, and the wider community's connection with the marae.

What we did

Community connecting with Hōani Waititi Marae

- Engagement with staff and marae community.
- CW hot desking from the marae site once or twice weekly
- Attending Hōani Waititi Marae Committee Meetings
- Neighbourhood road safety issue tabled at marae committee meeting and supported through signatures and letter
- Continue to support through co-hosting Hōani Waititi Marae open door day
- Connecting marae kura with Eco Matters

Supporting Hōani Waititi Marae based programmes/activities

- Facilitating neighbourhood meetings at the marae
- Neighbourhood residents invited to participate in organising Waitangi Day celebrations
- Neighbourhood residents invited to attend and address marae committee/meetings
- Hōani Waititi Marae History publication developing with marae trustee and members of the whanau
- Connecting the marae Kairāanga with neighbourhood and external organisations to the marae
- Continue to support through co-hosting Hōani Waititi Marae open door day
- Supporting the Māra Kai initiative through connecting neighbourhood residents

Difference made

Examples of tangible results: Hōani Waititi Marae supported local neighbourhood initiatives through letters, facility use, and promotion through the marae whānau whānui. Neighbourhood residents in the

Albionvale area, Housing NZ estate and marae staff have become more familiar with each other which has resulted in the initiation of stronger relationships.

The short term 'difference made' which we've achieved is that the community at large and the marae have been working together, and have been supportive of each other on practical matters.

The medium-term 'difference made' will result in the establishment of an effective neighbourhood network which includes ongoing good connection and mutual understanding between neighbours and Hōani Waititi Marae. These medium-term goals are a work in progress and will receive more focussed attention next year.

Feedback received/lessons learned?

Feedback from people so far has been positive, we have more work to do with supporting connecting Hōani Waititi Marae community to the neighbours in the area and the wider community. CW have only just scratched the surface in this area and we are reaching out to similar organisations to work collaboratively together to strengthen this area's community and belonging. Building trust with the organisation through attending marae hui/kaupapa have been a benefit to both CW and Hōani Waititi Marae.

1.B) Swanson/Penihana (watching brief) - facilitative / community engagement role to stimulate connections between existing Swanson community and new residents.

What we did

- Attended meeting at Golf Club community Jim Diers
- Penihana project site visit
- Possible inclusions for welcome pack discussed for new potential home owners: e.g. Community dinners, Local iwi history, including Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Te Kotuku
- Fletcher group meeting

Feedback received/lessons learned?

As this has been a watching brief, evaluation of the situation and of feedback received led us to conclude that:

- Other stakeholders such as the strategic broker, ATEED, and Council's Heritage Unit are already implementing the identified next steps.
- There is limited added value from continued CW engagement at this stage, CW recommend much more "bang for buck" from expanding engagement in the Glen Eden Area

2) Community Waitakere core initiatives relevant to the Waitakere Ranges

2.A) Coordinate *Leading in Communities* – a structured programme which recognises and grows the capability, connectedness and confidence of emerging community leaders

What we did

Three editions of *Leading in Communities* were delivered in West Auckland with one located in the Waitakere Ranges area and tailored for local uniqueness.

Participants learned and practiced leadership skills, tools and values in a group setting over a period of 9 weeks – coordinated by Community Waitakere. Accompanied by guests and facilitators. This will be followed up after 3-6 months to assess the value of the course to them, and the use they make of their new skills.

Week by week breakdown of the programme:

Date	Purpose of session
October 20 th	Welcome, whanaungatanga and exploring the principles of strengths-based community development Facilitated by Jaclyn Bonnici
October 27 th	This is what leadership/leading can be – theory and action Guest presenter: Denise Bijoux (Inspiring Communities, Catalyse)
November 3 rd	Tools for leading – difficult conversations, micro-skills (listening, sharing), conflict mapping and coaching leadership Guest presenter: Sandy Thompson (Unitec)
November 10 th	Being kaitiaki – drawing links between community and environmental stewardship Guest presenters: Aroha Te Namu and Simon Grant (Community Waitakere)
November 17 th	Neighbourhood-led development – how we build resilient communities Guest presenter: Jenny Tanner (Auckland Council)
November 24 th	Leadership: Things I wish I'd known Guest presenter: Steve Tollestrup
December 1 st	P.A.T.H – a visual, person-centred planning tool Facilitated by Jaclyn Bonnici
December 8 th	Wrapping up, next steps, feedback, thanks and celebration Group dinner at La Rosa restaurant

Difference made:

This programme complements the Waitakere Ranges local board's commitment to strengthening sustainable neighbourhoods and fostering community identity.

It grows the capability, connectedness and confidence of emerging leaders from across our diverse community and fosters strong, skilled leadership so that neighbourhoods and community organisations are more socially, economically and environmentally resilient and sustainable. The assessment 3-6 months after the course will provide further measurable details of the difference made.

Examples of direct feedback from participants:

- Very practical/grassroots info.
- There was a good balance of info and practice. Overall a fantastic course and well worth the time – a refresher could be good.
- Interesting to know about all the different types of leadership, difficult conversations –all very relevant.
- I valued Jaclyn's facility in keeping us involved and eager to get to know each other and the process of building community.
- PATH planning was great in terms of setting personal goals for ourselves.
- The content was informative and some of the tools from the presenters I am continuing to use –the simple SMART planning in particular –it reminded me of how useful this is and how to use in my work.

2.B) Connecting and Networking

Work Programme Activity: Open Door Days: convene at least three Open Door Days (ODD) in the Waitakere Ranges area, with at least one at Hōani Waititi Marae; where appropriate seek to co-host our Open Door Days with local community groups/organisations in the Waitakere Ranges.

What we did

- We convened four open door days/network meetings: including one co-hosted with Hōani Waititi Marae, and one co-hosted with Vision West. Topics included guest speakers Cissy Rock and Sue Dodds from Auckland Council, the kaupapa Maori responsive framework within the Empowered Communities Approach, Hōani Waititi Marae and Eco Matters working on the stream and planting from West Coast Road through on to the Kura Kaupapa and Marae

Difference made

- Attendance has increased over the year from 15 to 48 participants in the WRLB area
- 39 organisations have attended open door days represented by over 90 people
- Evaluation received: 84% of participants made valuable connections and 91% found the open door days worthwhile (others either didn't reply or were new participants and didn't know yet)
- Both first time and repeat attendees reported new connections made.

Feedback received/lessons learned?

Usefulness of Co-hosting open door days with community organisations in the local board area to show case their work. This approach has been well received both by co-hosts and participants. Guest speakers and topical themes have great value for organisations and community members to gain greater understanding of what is happening/current topics. Engagement opportunities with Local Board and Auckland Council are very well attended, as participants have an opportunity to hear from local and central government in a safe and constructive environment.

Work Programme Activity: Community e-notice board & digital information hub.

What we did

- Our e-noticeboard has over 1000 subscribers reflecting the diverse communities of West Auckland. It provides a one-stop source of news, events, updates and invitations enabling the community sector to efficiently remain joined up and informed.
- Our Website assists with disseminating news and events, and provides overall information allowing individuals to be better connected and participate in their communities.

Work Programme Activity: Contribute to annual social wellbeing campaigns, facilitate community conversations, networking in general

What we did

- Organised West Auckland forums on topical issues for workers from across the community sector to receive briefings, build organisational connection, capacity and alliances – for example: living wage breakfast
- Convened Chief Executive Roundtable
- Contributed to working groups and event delivery in West Auckland for White Ribbon Day and Spotlight on Housing (as part of Housing Call to Action West Auckland)

2C) Coordinate Community Training Programme – Capability Workshops

What we did

12 half-day training courses delivered in West Auckland, including Avondale, New Lynn, Henderson and Glen Eden. These are designed to strengthen and build capacity of community organisations; Topics include successful project management, budgeting, fundraising, compliance, better communication, facilitation, managing stress, time management, effective evaluation, effective use of social media and developing a successful board.

Difference made

- 208 people from a wide range of organisations have attended our Training Courses in West Auckland, to May 2016
- 96% of Training Course attendees rate our courses as Excellent

2D) Managing / Administration of Waitakere Community Resource Centre

What we did / Difference Made

- Community organisations benefit from being able to connect with the wider community sector – to share ideas and resources, to avoid duplication of effort and to gain skills and knowledge.
- More than 334 groups have used the resource centre for meetings and workshops this year.
- 100% of our tenants love being part of the Waitakere Community Resource Centre.