

GREAT BARRIER ISLAND COMMUNITY HEALTH TRUST

DENTAL PROJECT STRATEGIC PLAN

BACKGROUND:

Legal status: Charitable Trust since 1987 on Aotea/Great Barrier Island.

Need served: access to a primary dental service.

Importance of needs served: Since December 2016 there has been no dental care available on-island – expensive to access off-island service, care often left until prompted by urgent necessity. Preventative dentistry (i.e. check-ups) delayed.

Target people served: 1004 residents from toddler to older persons (Dental therapists are only on-island for a short time annually).

Anticipated challenges: Finding a dentist who is community social-action minded, finding appropriate space near Community Health Centre (shared equipment), upgrading and fundraising for specific dental equipment.

Model: A community empowerment model. The Health Trust, on behalf of the community, has successfully provided the facilities and equipment for a primary health care team for 28 years. This underlines a proven history in provision of community empowered projects. Other lower socio-economic rural communities in New Zealand are copying this model.

VISION:

A Community -Owned Dental Clinic – serviced by a quality visiting dental team.

MISSION:

To ensure access to primary dental care for every resident on Great Barrier Island. To future-proof the service the community will control the assets and space through the Health Trust's stewardship.

VALUES:

Community empowerment – ownership of the project and assets; to future-proof access to dental care.

Partnership – with visiting Dentist/dental team who share a community partnership vision. Equitable access to a quality professional service (low cost access).

Teamwork – to shoulder fundraising responsibility together to ensure going forward the quality of equipment is of an agreed high standard.

S.M.A.R.T. OBJECTIVES:

(specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, timebound)

1. To create a Community Owned Dental Clinic – following the same process as the creation of the Community Health Centre.
2. To encourage a suitable dentist/dental team to commit to providing a community driven dental service on Aotea/Great Barrier Island.
3. To lease space in Claris near the Community Health Centre – to share resources.
4. To ensure all equipment is appropriately serviced and modern to ensure that a quality dental care can be delivered to all people on Aotea.
5. To communicate Dental Project community-wide once there is a an actual service.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS PLAN:

Health Trust website and social media (Trust's face-book page)

Barrier Bulletin

Local notice boards

Mail drop – RD and PO boxes

RISK ANALYSIS:

1. Failure to create a Community Owned Dental Clinic – continuing deterioration in oral health and expensive trips to Auckland to seek emergency care. Control – nil, therefore unable to be put in place and project abandoned or mothballed.
2. Failure to find a dentist/dental team who is community social-action minded. Control in place - continued advertising through known dental and community pathways.
3. Failure to lease space – long delay of dental project, continuing deterioration in oral health. Control in place - unknown
4. Failure to source appropriate equipment through fundraising. Control in place- new avenues will be explored through the NZ dental community (donations of equipment).

MEASUREMENT OF SUCCESS:

Outcome measures

- A. Engaging a dentist/Dental team – *achieved April 2018 an enthusiastic dentist who is community minded.*

Acquiring modern appropriate equipment – basics achieved February 2018 – ongoing donation of equipment offered once space is confirmed.

Leasing a suitable space in Claris – awaiting Auckland Council decision

- B. Once clinic opens - Patient satisfaction review - qualitative
 - Number of residents seen - quantitative
 - Reduction of emergency referrals by Aotea Health - quantitative