

The PHOnetic

For anyone interested in primary health



Turanganui PHO's Fortnightly Newsletter, Issue 48, November 12, 2008

More Patients Get Free Diabetes Check in 07/08



By Hayley Redpath

Despite a drop in enrolled patients, Turanganui Primary Health Organisation checked more patients through the Diabetes Get Checked Programme in 07/08 than ever before.

A recent Pinnacle Group Limited report shows the percentage of enrolled patients checked has gone up significantly from 1.7% in 05/06 to 2.4% in 07/08.

It indicates that significantly more eligible patients are being identified, recalled, and checked through this programme, says Chief Executive Keriana Brooking.

"It is an ongoing challenge to engage patients in a partnership of diabetes care but at a general practice level it appears increased detection and more patient-centred approaches may be helping make a difference."

The Diabetes Get Checked Programme is in its eighth year and entitles people diagnosed with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes to a free annual health check by a general practitioner or diabetes nurse.

Staff at the six Turanganui PHO general practices saw 760 people for their free check in 07/08. This is 74 more than the previous year.

Ms Brooking put the increase down to three things:

- Proactive work by Pinnacle GP Liaison Robyne McKeague
- Updates of the patient management system, and
- Improved communication and awareness.

The number of coded diabetics enrolled with Turanganui PHO is 1,247 compared with 1,201 in 06/07 and 1,018 in 05/06.

Ms Brooking said it was still a concern that only around three-fifths of coded patients received a free check in 07/08, however there could be extenuating factors.

"There is the possibility that some of the newly coded diabetics are yet to receive their annual review."

In other valuable statistics:

- 57% of Maori patients coded as a diabetic received their annual check (43% in 06/07)
- 65% of Non-Maori patients coded as a diabetic received their annual check (53% in 06/07)
- Two thirds (67%) of coded patients aged 65-plus have been checked in 07/08
- Three fifths (61%) of coded patients aged 45-64 have been checked in 07/08
- Two fifths (42%) of coded patients aged 25-44 have been checked in 07/08

The Turanganui PHO 2007/08 Annual Report for the Diabetes Get Checked Programme is available in its entirety [here](#).

Young Men Reap Educational Benefits

By Clare Webber

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Tutors at Ka Timata, Gisborne's Alternative Education Programme for males aged 13-15, have attended a pilot Professional Development course, with \$3000 help from Turanganui Primary Health Organisation.

Ka Timata, based at the skate park, provides alternative schooling for male students excluded from mainstream education.

Tutors Jason Akuhata-Brown and Chuck Ngaira traveled to Christchurch and Wellington to attend the Professional Development (PD) programme, and have returned with a wealth of new knowledge and skills.

"The sessions were about us getting up to date with current skills and theories in Alternative Education, allowing us to improve our service delivery to the whanau we work with," Mr Ngaira said.

"The most valuable thing for us was looking at implementing Individual Development Plans for our

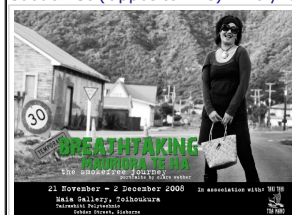
Community News

This section of our newsletter is devoted to you and your projects. If you would like to advertise your event, seminar or meeting, email details to [The PHOnetic](#).

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Breathtaking Mauriora Te Ha the smokefree journey Exhibition by PHOnetic photographer Clare Webber in association with Taki Tahi Toa Mano, this district's smokefree coalition. Friday 21 November to 2 December, Maia Gallery, Toihoukura, Cobden St (Opposite KFC). Entry is free.



Gisborne/Wairoa Plunket Society AGM

Wednesday 26 November, La Quay, 7.30pm, all welcome.

Wound Care Study Day - One Day Workshop

Presented by Tairāwhiti District Health with Ann Corak, Woundcare Nurse Specialist, and Donna Johansson from Smith & Nephew. Wednesday 26 November, 9am-4.30pm, Conference Room, Tairāwhiti District Health.

The session covers A & P skin, physiology of healing and moist wound healing, assessment and documentation, choosing a dressing, and dressing products.

Registration is essential as numbers are limited to 40. A charge of \$30 incl GST per person will apply. To register please contact [Candy Haiti](#), or phone on 869 0500 x8034.



Jason Akuhata-Brown and Chuck Ngaira (third and second from right) with some of their Ka Timata students

Image [Clare Webber Photography](#).

students, which is a much more holistic approach to their education," he said.

"While we are an education provider, education is not their only need. We need to be looking at their health, nutrition and social needs, and their whanau relationships as well as education.

"This 'big picture' approach means students ultimately learn how to take active and meaningful roles within their community."

Mr Ngaira said the tutors could attend the sessions because of the funding they received through Turanganui PHO as well as the Department of Internal Affairs.

"Our PD funding wouldn't have even paid for the flights, so we really acknowledge the PHO for breaking the funding barrier we had to get us there," he said.

Since 2004, Turanganui PHO has contributed funding to a number of different initiatives and programmes through Community Action on Youth and Drugs (CAYAD).

Turanganui PHO chief executive Keriana Brooking said providing the \$3000 funding was an easy decision for the CAYAD governance group because Ka Timata was an essential programme.

"Keeping tutors up to date with alternative education professional development is good for the community and improves the quality of education to the students."

Other initiatives supported by Turanganui PHO through CAYAD have included: The Kapai Kaiti Illminster Pool Christmas Project, Triple H Hapu Hip Hop Challenge and Wananga, Te Aka Ora Christmas at the Pa, Te Wharau School Legendary Boys Club, Parents Inc No Sweat Parenting Evening with Pio Terei, and the Te Aka Ora Girls in Gangs workshop.

Privacy Workshop and Code of Rights Session for Pinnacle staff. Pinnacle's Denise Ward will present on privacy. Health and Disability Advocate Margaret Price will present on the Code of Rights. Pirates Conference Rooms, December 4, 6.30pm-8.30pm. Invites have been sent to practices.

Tairawhiti District Health Board Meeting, Tuesday 18 November, 9am, Morris Adair Building, Gisborne Hospital.

Community and Public Health Advisory Committee/Disability Support Advisory Committee Meeting Tuesday 25 November, 12.30pm, Morris Adair Building, Gisborne Hospital.

Hospital Advisory Committee Meeting, Monday 17 November, 12.30pm, Morris Adair Building, Gisborne Hospital.

Visit www.tdh.org.nz for all TDH meeting agendas.



HealthRight Social Worker Tina Holmes

Image [Clare Webber Photography](#).

Turanganui PHO Social Worker Achieves Competency

By Hayley Redpath

Turanganui Primary Health Organisation's HealthRight Social Worker Tina Holmes has added to her credentials this month by achieving competency with New Zealand's association of social workers.

Achieving competency through Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers or ANZASW is arduous, and voluntary, and many employers now require their staff to have achieved it.

Ms Holmes said for her own professional development, it was an important step to take.

"It means I have provided evidence of having completed an approved competency assessment process which included a portfolio and an assessment in front of a three-strong panel last month."

She said competency means there is increasing accountability for the profession, the professionalism of social workers is enhanced, and members of the public are better protected.

She will now apply for registration with the Social Workers Registration Board.

In New Zealand social workers are engaged in every possible type of social work practice, including child protection and family services, probation and prison work, children's health camps, hospital-based health services, primary healthcare, almost every type of non-government social service, as well as social work education and private practice.

Ms Holmes said social workers demonstrate every day, "their ethical commitment to standing up for human rights and social justice".

Before working as part of the Turanganui PHO's HealthRight team Ms Holmes was a social worker with Turanga Health. She thanked both organisations for supporting her effort to gain competency.

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