

Whakamanawa 2023 Sector Conversation

At Whakamanawa 2023 - The National Social Services Conference, held on 1-2 May 2023, 300 community-based social services and wider social sector kaimahi participated in our 'Sector Conversation, focusing on the pātai:

What is your moemoeā (dream) for our social services and social sector – and the outcomes of children rangatahi, whānau, communities and hapori who we support – by 2030?

This is a summary of the whakaaro shared, a taonga for influencing and shaping our social sector collectively over the crucial years ahead.

Priorities for whānau

- Value whanaungatanga
- Quality homes for all whānau
- Mental health support
- Safe families & whānau - prevent child abuse & family harm
- Basic needs, healthcare, kai & parenting education - whānau empowered decision-making
- Easily accessible, timely holistic social services for all - based on choices
- Mokopuna voices lead programme & policy design
- Policies & practices are fluid - able to adapt with ever increasing change to whānau needs

Social Service Providers | Te Pai Ora o Aotearoa



Whānau-centred, Te Tiriti o Waitangi ways of working

- Every door is the right door
- Holistic, wraparound services
- Strengthen early prevention support services
- Timely support services available
- Trust communities & hapori
- Empower rangatahi
- Act on the voices of whānau, tamariki & community
- Community-driven decisions & actions, not politically driven
- Mentoring for community & treaty partners in new endeavours
- Collaboration not competition

Social sector workforce

- More kaimahi so whānau needs can be met & to reduce caseloads
- We must not lose sight of the 'why'
- Māori-centred practice approaches
- Strengthen capability to recognise & respond to family violence, sexual violence & child abuse
- Peer support & supervision to build capability
- Investment in training, education & upskilling in specialist fields to meet need, kaimahi supported to upskill
- Space and putea for facilitation & collaborative coordination of responses to work with whānau
- Advancements in technology utilised for timely decision making & responses to need
- Kaimahi wellbeing valued

System enablers

- Fair, secure & sustainable funding of community-based social services
- Flexible funding & delivery of services
- Timeliness in contract renewal & longer contracts
- Transparent processes with active participation
- Collective vision
- Real alignment across sectors, e.g. social sector, health sector, education
- Remove silos
- Support the sector to be adaptive
- Research & evaluation to understand community-based social services impact
- Learning from what's working & amplifying it
- Strengthen regional collaboration using existing forums