



WAITARA TAI OHI TRUST

IMPACT

REPORT

2023-2024

OUR STORY SO FAR

The Waitara Taiohi Trust stands as a partnering hope in the vibrant community of Waitara, Taranaki. Rooted in a deep commitment to the youth, our trust envisions a future where every taiohi (young person) is woven, whole, and winning. Having been established for over two years, the trust has shown continual growth and resilience. At the core of our initiatives lies a dedication to building healthy relationships, mastering skills, and rangatiratanga leadership development.

Our programs serve as spaces for taiohi to connect with seasoned youth workers and mentors, fostering meaningful relationships that inspire confidence and instill a sense of responsibility. We believe in the transformative power of education, cultural pride, and community engagement. From organizing community events to participating in cultural projects, we weave a rich tapestry that reflects the diversity and strength of Waitara's taiohi.

The trust currently operates eight programs, ranging from a kids' holiday program to a basketball academy. These initiatives are carefully crafted to cater to the unique needs and interests of our taiohi. Importantly, our approach is dynamic and responsive, with a commitment to listening to the taiohi. We continuously seek their input and feedback, ensuring that our programs evolve in line with their aspirations and needs.

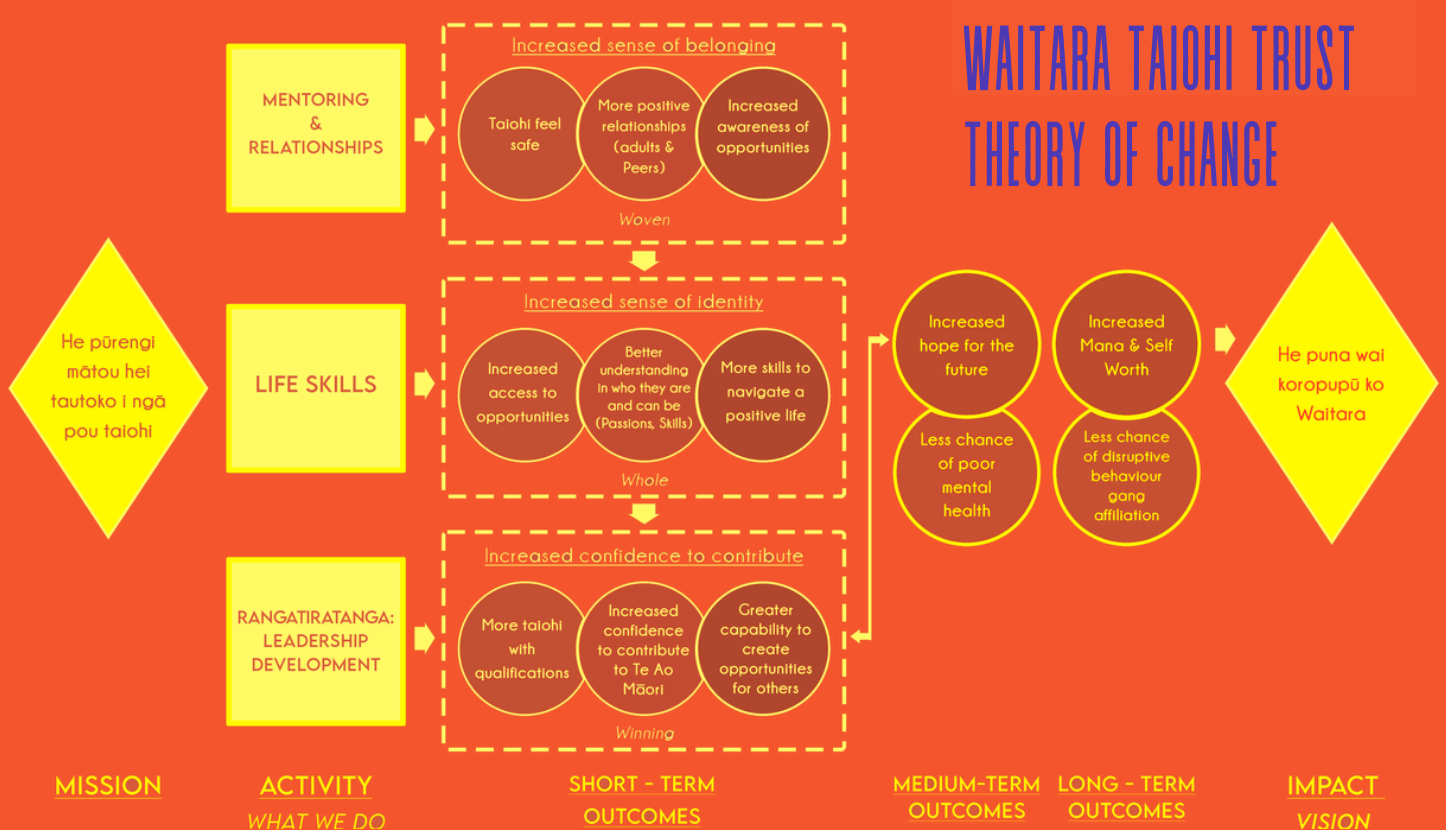
OUR VISION

He puna wai koropupū ko Waitara A place of refreshing where taiohi are woven, whole and winning.

OUR PURPOSE

He pūrengi mātou hei tautoko i ngā pou taiohi To awahi taiohi in building a deep sense of belonging, identity and confidence.

Our relationships and programmes facilitate this ara through: mentoring and relationships, life skills and Rangatiratanga: leadership development.



TAIOHI IMPACT STORIES

TEWHAIA

“ Before I joined the Waitara Taiohi Trusts youth programs, I faced many risks. Growing up, gangs and alcohol abuse were all around me. This environment made me lose interest in education and pushed me towards gangs in Waitara from a young age. My first connection with a youth worker in Waitara evolved into a mentoring relationship, which became crucial for me.

Now, three years later, through the Waitara Taiohi Trust Internship, I am a qualified and passionate youth worker. My goal is to support young people who've faced similar challenges as have. The mentoring and supportive programs, especially "Loyal Leaders," were life-changing for me. They helped me re-engage with education and even helped me pass level three NCEA, a milestone in my family.

The impact of youth work on my life inspired me to do the same for young people in my community. That's why I pursued the WTT Internship to become a certified Youth Worker. ”

TAIVAKA

“ Talofa, my name is Taivaka. I am currently a student at Waitara High School, and I am honoured to be in my final year as Head Girl. I'm a proud Pasifika islander, originally from Kiribati and Tuvalu. I was born in Tamaki Makaurau but later relocated to the lovely town of Waitara.

Being in Waitara the challenges I've faced involved having self-doubt and not having real motivation to do anything. I never knew my purpose in life and I was really confused about what or where I was going in life. I had very low self-esteem and it'd be to the point where I would isolate myself from the world, basically drowning in my negative thoughts. So growing up I struggled with opening up about anything I was going through because of judgement but meeting the WTT youth workers through the programme loyal leaders created positive relationships that helped me to share my pain, my hurt and my struggles. Where I lacked in building myself up, the youth workers picked me up and wanted to journey with me to grow in resilience. They've allowed me to feel my comfort in my living, they've allowed me to know my worth and they've allowed me to know that it's okay to not be okay and that I'm never alone. One of the main reasons why I accepted help is because of their genuineness. They've made me see the brighter things in life and that has shaped me to be the woman I am today. ”

KALANI

“ As a 17-year-old guy, I can't even put into words how much Waitara Taiohi Trust has turned my life around. I was on a rocky path in school, close to being kicked out due to my troubles with drugs and a general lack of direction. Then came the turning point when I joined the Loyal Leaders and Inspire programs with the Trust.

The youth workers there weren't just mentors; they were real-life inspirations. They didn't just listen and encourage; they showed us how to grow, serve the community, grow in my whakapapa and take on leadership roles. It was like a lightbulb switched on in my head.

Now, not only am I a prefect at Waitara High School, but I'm also a trustee on the Waitara Taiohi Trust board. I get to share my passion and knowledge for this amazing kaupapa, and it's all thanks to the trust and the incredible people I met there. I would like to share my favourite whakataukī first heard at loyal, Te manu e kai ana i te miro, nōna te ngahere; te manu e kai ana i te mātauranga nōna te ao. "The bird who partakes of the miro berry owns the forest; the bird who partakes of education owns the world. ”



WAITARA TAIOHI TRUST PROGRAMMES

LOYAL LEADERS 2022 - NOW

Loyal Leaders is a dynamic program offered by the Waitara Taiohi Trust, empowering young individuals aged 15 to 25 to grow as leaders and make a positive impact in their community. Through a series of engaging activities and structured sessions, participants develop essential life skills, build meaningful relationships and connections, and cultivate leadership qualities rooted in rangatiratanga principles.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding in who they are and can be, and Greater capability to create opportunities for others.



2022 - NOW WAITARA TAIOHI TRUST INTERSHIP

The Internship program by the Waitara Taiohi Trust is a transformative journey aimed at creating employment pathways for taiohi (young people) by providing comprehensive professional training as qualified youth workers. Through this program, taiohi gain invaluable practical experience, mentorship, and educational support to kickstart their careers in the field of youth work.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, and Greater capability to create opportunities for others.

INSPIRE 2023 - NOW

The Inspire Program by the Waitara Taiohi Trust is a dynamic initiative designed to ignite passion, creativity, and personal growth among taiohi (young people). Through engaging workshops, mentorship, and community projects, the program aims to inspire taiohi to discover their strengths, pursue their dreams, and make positive contributions to their communities.

This program is run during club time at Waitara High School as well as on weekends. It has already led to 4 community events, all created and run by taiohi.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, and Greater capability to create opportunities for others.



2023 - NOW DUB ACADEMY

The Dub Academy, a flagship program of the Waitara Taiohi Trust, is where passion meets skill on the basketball court. With expert coaching, state-of-the-art facilities, and a supportive environment, taiohi can hone their basketball prowess while building confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills. Join us at the Dub Academy and unleash your full potential on and off the court.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, Mastery of skills and passions.

EPIC YOUTH 2024 - now

Haere mai! Epic Youth is where over 100 taiohi gather each week to experience a vibrant community built on aroha and acceptance. Here, you can forge meaningful connections, embrace your uniqueness, and have an absolute blast! Hone your leadership skills alongside inspiring youth workers who fuel your dreams and ignite your passion and spirit. Epic Youth is your go-to destination for positivity, growth, and endless possibilities. Come join us, and let's make miracles happen together!

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, and Opportunities for taiohi to lead and learn (rangatiratanga).



2024 - now WAITARA HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH WORK

At Waitara Taiohi Trust, we are proud to employ three dedicated youth workers who partner with Waitara High School to make a meaningful difference in the lives of students. Our team provides over 30 hours of on-location support each week, offering essential pastoral care and mentoring. They run a variety of events and programs throughout the school year, creating opportunities for students to connect, grow, and thrive. At Waitara Taiohi Trust, our mission is to foster a positive and nurturing environment that empowers youth to reach their full potential. We are committed to supporting the next generation through dedicated service and impactful programs.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, and Greater capability to create opportunities for others.

WTT COMMUNITY 2022 - now

At the core of Waitara Taiohi Trust's kaupapa is the cultivation of positive connections within our community. We are constantly seeking opportunities to uplift Waitara and collaborate with community groups dedicated to enhancing our wonderful town. Whether it's through events like the Waitara Night Markets, running lunchtime activities at Manukorihi Intermediate, or partnering with local hapū, we strive to establish connections that enable our taiohi to flourish. By fostering these partnerships, we create spaces for our taiohi to thrive and engage meaningfully with their surroundings. Through collaboration and community support, we aim to empower our youth, promote cultural pride, and contribute positively to the vibrant spirit of Waitara. Together, we can build a stronger, more connected community where everyone has the opportunity to grow and succeed.

Outcomes. Increased access to opportunities, Better connections to the community, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, mastery of skills and passions



AFTER SCHOOL INTERMEDIATE YOUTH 2024 - NOW

Join our vibrant After School Intermediate Program, a place where taiohi from the intermediate age group come together for games, team-building activities, and inspiring input sessions. Our goal is to encourage and empower taiohi to achieve their dreams while fostering leadership skills and building confidence. It's not just a program; it's a community where older youth can step up as leaders, showcasing their rangatiratanga and contributing to the positive growth of their peers.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, and Opportunities for taiohi to lead and learn (rangatiratanga).



2022 - NOW WTT EVENTS

Experience the excitement of Waitara Taiohi Trust (WTT) events! Our events are designed to provide safe and fun environments for taiohi, ensuring they have memorable experiences while building lasting connections. From pool parties and sports competitions to cultural celebrations and community gatherings, we offer a diverse range of activities that cater to the interests and needs of the taiohi we work with. Join us and be part of the vibrant and engaging events that promote well-being, inclusivity, and a sense of belonging for all participants.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, Building positive connections with the community, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, Mastery of skills and passions



LIMINAL SERIES 2023 - NOW

Embark on a transformative journey with the Liminal Series by Waitara Taiohi Trust (WTT)! Our Liminal Series is all about stepping out of familiar spaces and venturing into the beautiful landscapes of Taranaki Whenua. It's a unique opportunity for taiohi to explore new environments, engage in talanoa (conversation), and reflect on their experiences. Through the Liminal Series, we facilitate meaningful connections with nature, culture, and community. Taiohi are invited to immerse themselves in the natural beauty of Taranaki Whenua, fostering a deeper appreciation for their surroundings and encouraging personal growth.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, mastery of skills and passions



2024 - NOW ACE ACADEMY

Step into the Ace Academy, a vibrant hub for nurturing volleyball talent and fostering joyous experiences! At Ace Academy by Waitara Taiohi Trust (WTT), taiohi have the opportunity to elevate their volleyball skills while immersing themselves in a world of fun and teamwork. Our expert coaches provide tailored guidance, helping taiohi refine their techniques, strategies, and teamwork abilities on the volleyball court. It's not just about mastering the game; it's about cultivating a passion for excellence, resilience, and sportsmanship.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, mastery of skills and passions



WĀHINE ON WAVES 2024 - NOW

Step into the "Wāhine of Waves" program, a safe and empowering space for wāhine to experience the exhilarating world of surfing for the first time. Led by exceptional surfing instructors, this program not only teaches the art of surfing but also fosters a sense of confidence and connection with the ocean.

At "Wāhine of Waves," safety is paramount, ensuring that every participant feels supported and empowered as they catch their first waves. Our skilled instructors guide wāhine through the basics of surfing, helping them navigate the waves with grace and ease.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, mastery of skills and passions.



KIDS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME 2024 - NOW

During the holidays, Waitara Taiohi Trust organized an incredible holiday programme that brought together over 40 kids for a memorable experience. It was a time filled with laughter, learning, and lots of fun activities. What made this programme even more special was witnessing our amazing taiohi step up as leaders, taking care of and mentoring the tamariki of Waitara. It was heartwarming to see the bonds formed, the skills developed, and the joy shared among everyone involved. The holiday programme was a true testament to the spirit of community and the commitment of our taiohi to make a positive impact on the younger generation.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, mastery of skills and passions, and Opportunities for taiohi to lead and learn (rangatiratanga).

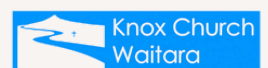


2023 - NOW SUPER TOUCH

In an amazing partnership with Waitara Whanui Sports and Arts, we've pioneered an exhilarating touch rugby competition that has brought together over 60 enthusiastic taiohi. This initiative also saw us entering two teams into the Waitara touch competition, showcasing our commitment to fostering sporting excellence and camaraderie among our taiohi. The touch rugby program provides a safe and supportive environment for taiohi to develop their rugby skills while having an absolute blast. With skilled coaches and mentors, our taiohi are empowered to learn and grow, building not only their sporting abilities but also their confidence and teamwork.

Outcomes: Increased access to opportunities, Better understanding of who they are and can be, Greater capability to create opportunities for others, mastery of skills and passions

A HUGE SHOUTOUT TO OUR DEDICATED FUNDERS/ WHO MAKE ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE





WAITARA TAIOHI TRUST IMPACT STATISTICS 2023 - 2024

438

Taiohi attended Waitara Taiohi Trust programmes. With 92% attending more than 3 through the year

1903

Taiohi attended Waitara Taiohi Trust events this year. Of the 14 events ran 10 of them were run and **led by Waitara taiohi**

TAIOHI WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR PROGRAMMES:

94%

Shared they had grown in confidence and belonging

TAIOHI WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR PROGRAMMES:

91%

Shared that thanks to our programs, they believe they now have more hope for the future as their knowledge and skills have increased

WAITARA TAIOHI TRUST COLLABORATED/NETWORKED WITH OVER

26

Community Organisations

SOME OF THE COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS:

New Plymouth District Council, Waitara Alive, Waitara Whanui Sport & Art, Waitara High School, Manukorihi Intermediate, Men Shedz, Nga Ringawera Otaraua, Sport Taranaki, Taranaki Rugby, Knox Church, Te Awa and more

WAITARA TAIOHI TRUST INTERNS GAVE:

2500hrs

Of volunteer community service. Community organisations included Waitara Taiohi Trust, Waitara High School, Zeal, Epic Youth, Waitara Central School.



7 OUT OF 7

Waitara Taiohi Trust Interns are already in paid Youth Work related employment after completing their qualifications for the year.



7 OUT OF 7

All Waitara Taiohi Trust Interns completed their yearly qualification

RECENT AND ONGOING PROGRAMS WITHIN THE PAST YEAR:

