

Fwd: Hauora Taiwhenua August Newsletter 2023

From: Michelle Te Kira | PMAANZ Chair chair@pmaanzt.org.nz

To: Carole Unkovich | PMAANZ Admin admin@pmaanzt.org.nz

Date: Thu, 24 Aug 2023, 4:29 PM

Tomorrow fine

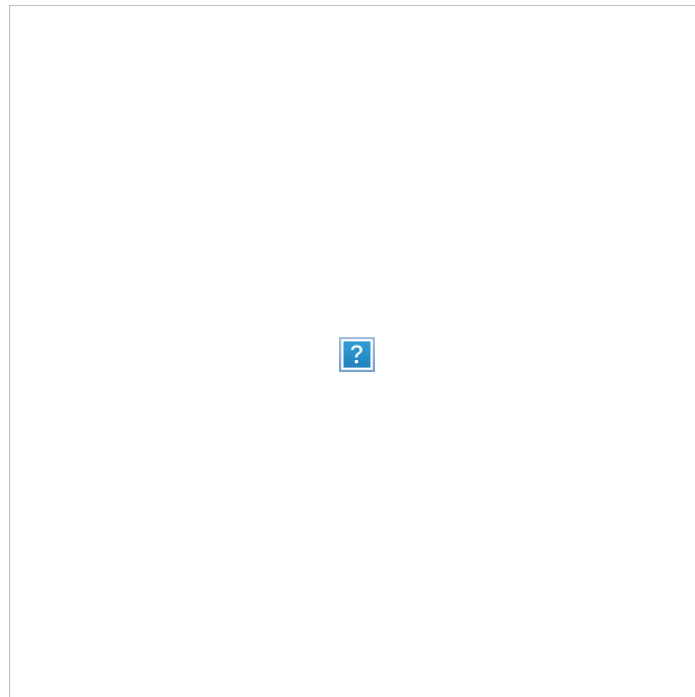
Michelle Te Kira
Chair PMAANZ

From: Hauora Taiwhenua Rural Health Network <communications@htrhn.org.nz>

Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 4:26 PM

To: Michelle Te Kira | PMAANZ Chair <chair@pmaanzt.org.nz>

Subject: Hauora Taiwhenua August Newsletter 2023



NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2023

Welcome from Grant Davidson, Chief Executive



Kia ora tatou

It is some relief to know that this weekend is the last official weekend of winter. The days are getting longer making it somewhat easier to get out of bed in the morning and take our border collie for a run on the local disc golf course in the evening after work.

I know that many of you are still struggling with being short-staffed and having to shoulder the burden of long work hours and lengthy patient lists. We are doing all we can to advocate with Te Whatu Ora and Te Aka Whai Ora for ways to lift some of that load for you. It is pleasing to see that contracts for a rural telehealth service have been called for, and we should soon know what that service will look like and who will run it across the country. The long-awaited review of PRIME, after-hours and urgent care is also starting to make progress again. We have every reason to believe that this review will be thorough and involve real consultation with key stakeholder groups. We look forward to reviewing the Terms of Reference very soon.

A key part of campaigning on behalf of primary care with Government Agencies is having reliable evidence to support our messages. Recently, we sent surveys out to Practice Managers in all rural General Practices and Rural Hospitals, to get the evidence around staff vacancy levels, services being offered, and the overall 'health' of those organisations. I urge you to take the time to complete those surveys (I know you are already busy!), for without the information we have 'our hands tied' in campaigning for a better future. If your general practice or hospital hasn't seen the survey, please get in touch and we will resend it to the right person in your organisation.

We also haven't forgotten that there are many communities and individuals still reeling from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle. We definitely feel for you as you have to slowly return to a different 'normal'. We still have funding available from Te Whatu Ora for eligible practices to provide locum doctor and nursing staff until the end of September. Don't hesitate to get in touch if we can help.

And finally, it is quickly heading towards the election. Every day, a new policy is being released by different parties to influence your vote. We have put together a Political Panel to specifically look at what each of the Parties will pledge to do to ensure that rural communities have better health outcomes if the Party becomes part of a new Government post-October 14. Make sure you register to be part of the Webinar. If you have questions you want to put to the health representatives of the various Parties, please email them to us, or be ready to present them on the night. We need to all go into the coming election clearly knowing where our vote will gain the most for rural health.

Remember that we are here to help. If you can think of any way that we can assist you or your team, then please get in touch.

Mauri ora

Dr Grant Davidson

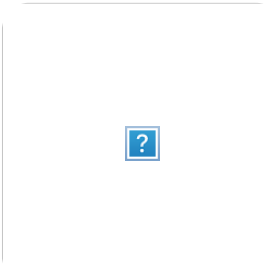
Chief Executive

Hauora Taiwhenua Rural Health Network

Advocacy

RNZCGP Awards for 2023 - Strong Rural Representation

As shared on Leaning on Fence Posts, congratulations to our rural health champions receiving



Dr Janine Lander – James Reid Award for her excellence in relation to education in rural health

Janine is an Ashburton-based rural hospital doctor who has made significant contributions. She played a crucial role in the RHM council and was instrumental in re-credentialing the Rural Health program. Currently, she coordinates Rural Immersion training for Otago medical students. This award is truly deserved, recognizing Janine's devoted commitment to rural healthcare and her efforts to shape the next generation of healthcare workers. Despite her significant contributions, she typically shies away from the limelight, allowing her impactful work to speak volumes on its own.



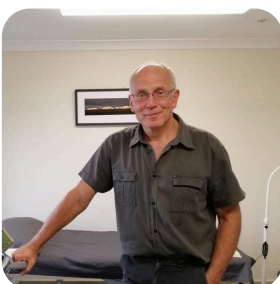
Dr Greville Wood – Eric Elder Medal for exemplifying quality and commitment to teaching.

Greville has been instrumental in developing the first rural immersion medical student teaching since its inception. A stalwart of rural service delivery up and down the West Coast, he has contributed significantly to rural education, as a strong advocate for ensuring that the competencies of both community and hospital-based practitioners are core skills for trainees. For years Greville has served on the Rural Chapter of the RNZCGP, convened the inaugural Rural Research Days and significantly contributed to several iterations of the College Rural Health Strategy. Greville is passionate about the value and contribution rural General practice makes to rural whanau health and wellbeing outcomes, supporting an interdisciplinary care model especially relevant now to address health inequities in Māori, Pacific, and rural populations across New Zealand.



Dr Jo Scott Jones – Distinguished Fellowship

Dr Jo Scott-Jones is an Opotiki-based GP and integral member of the RHM community that has achieved remarkable heights in the realm of healthcare. Dr Scott-Jones currently assumes the role of clinical director at Pinnacle PHO, but his expertise and influence extend beyond clinical practice, holding the role of chairperson of the GP Leader's Forum and a WONCA fellow. Outside of his clinical practice and the strides he has made in that space, Dr Scott-Jones' has been a relentless advocate for rural health, evident in his roles as chair of the RGPN (now Hauora Taiwhenua) and the inaugural chair of the RHAANZ. Dr Scott-Jones' commitment resonates through his actions and leadership and his journey is an embodiment of the transformative impact one can have in advancing rural healthcare.



Dr Verne Smith – Community Service Medal

Dr Smith has been a solo GP in the small Central Otago town of Ranfurly for 33 years. A cornerstone of Otago Uni's 5th-year rural placement, decades of mentoring and teaching radiate an immeasurable positive impact. During this time, he has hosted medical students and trainee interns, some of whom have chosen to specialise in general practice themselves. He is dedicated to his patients and has put in many long hours to ensure they receive the best care possible. Respected by all, Verne's enduring legend thrives in rural isolation. His humility shuns the spotlight—a legend content in quiet contribution.



Prof Tim Stokes – President's Service Medal

Tim is a bit different from others in that he is not rural-based. He is an urban GP but heads the Department of General Practice and Rural Health at the University of Otago. Tim does however have a large, distributed team of rural teachers and researchers in his department for whom he is an important mentor. He is also a health systems researcher and has worked collaboratively with rurally based researchers on a number of rural research projects. Tim is also co-editor of the RNZCGP Journal of Primary Health Care – which actively publishes rural publications.

Advocacy

Rural Stocktake Survey Reminder!

We recently sent to all Practices the inaugural Rural General Practice Stocktake Survey. You may have already seen the survey come through or in fact completed the survey. Thank you!

Our tests have shown that the survey can be completed in under 20 minutes.

We don't need to tell you how vital this feedback is, and we appreciate your help in getting it. If you have any questions, then please let us know and we are happy to answer them.

If you haven't completed this information, please get in touch with Zoe, our survey administrator: surveyadministrator@htrhn.org.nz

MANATŪ HAUORA JOB OPPORTUNITY: CHIEF CLINICAL ADVISOR - RURAL | WELLINGTON

Please follow the link to find a great opportunity for the role of Chief Clinical Advisor Rural - a chance to make a real impact, shaping the healthcare landscape and driving positive change.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS](#)

Advocacy

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: 1NEWS SPOTLIGHT RURAL HEALTH RESEARCH AND OUTCOMES.

Earlier in July, Professor Garry Nixon (Department of General Practice and Rural Health, University of Otago) and his team published their work that is being referred to as "the strongest evidence yet that New Zealanders who live in rural areas have poorer health outcomes.

[The research](#) has provided a focus on rural health outcomes and rural health research and has received a great response from its spotlight on 1News.

Their work looked at how the previous studies in New Zealand used generic rurality classifications

to compare life expectancy and age-standardised mortality rates are similar for urban and rural populations, with their results showing for the first time in New Zealand, a consistent pattern of higher mortality rates for rural populations was discovered thanks to the specialized urban-rural classification (GCH Boundaries) and age stratification.

Read the full 1News article below

<https://www.1news.co.nz/2023/07/12/rural-kiwis-die-at-higher-rates-than-urban-residents-study/>.



NZLocums

NZLocums at Conferences

NZLocums are always keen to promote our service and attending conferences is a valuable way of achieving this. We always ensure we have several conferences earmarked in our calendar.

Over the past few months, we have travelled to the College's GP23 conference in Auckland, the GPCME North in Rotorua and the GPCME South conference in Christchurch.

The conference in Christchurch was attended by Debra and John and was held at the Te Pae Convention Centre. They arrived to chilly weather with snow on the Port Hills but once underway at the conference, many warm conversations were had, sustained by lots of hot coffees to make up for the weather.

This was a great opportunity to meet with many GPs and NPs, our competition prize of a Swandri laptop bag (in Canterbury colours!) was an added attraction to those who visited our stand.

Debra and John had some great conversations – from the humbling (talking with GPs who hadn't had a break since 2019) to the rewarding (talking with GPs who had been assisted by NZLocums to come to NZ a decade ago to work in rural practices and have never left). Many were keen to chat about the potential to work as a roving locum with us and to learn about Hauora Taiwhenua and its role in supporting rural health care.

One of our roving NP locums, Chelsea Gannon-Willmott, gave a presentation on the NP model of care during the conference's high-profile opening plenary session, the theme being how to address the workforce crisis in primary health care.

Next month we are planning to attend the PMAANZ conference in Rotorua, a great opportunity to catch up in person with the many Practice Managers we liaise with on a regular basis.

In late October we are off to WONCA in Sydney, this will be a large conference attended by several thousand delegates and presenters from around the world. An ideal event for us to promote our services to a wide audience and generate interest in coming to work in New Zealand.

Rural Communities

Spreading the Love in the Aftermath of Cyclone Destruction



Sandra Matthews (standing second from left) from Rural Women New Zealand with her team of helpers preparing their "aroha packages" for people affected by Cyclone Gabrielle

Six months on from Cyclone Gabrielle, if you don't live in the impacted regions, you could be forgiven for imagining the cleanup is all sorted. The reality is a far cry from that rosy scenario.

Impassable roads, washed-out bridges & culverts, and damage to fencing from forestry slash that thundered through in the floods are what many farmers along the East Coast of the North Island are still facing. With two cyclones hitting within weeks of each other plus a steady occurrence of heavy rainfall events, the ground has remained too sodden for major remediation to be carried out.

"Many of our gravelled roads have been closed to heavy machinery up until now and it has rained almost constantly since Cyclone Gabrielle," says Sandra Matthews, National Board Chair, Rural Women New Zealand and Tairāwhiti local. "This has meant farmers can't get diggers to their farms but even if they could, the ground has been too wet for it to be safe for the digger operators. It is only in the last few weeks that people have been able to start making inroads."

The impacts of a natural disaster are long felt – scars on the land can take many years to heal and livelihoods may have been destroyed. One positive aspect amidst the weary prospect of rebuilding lives is the wraparound support provided by the local Rural Coordination Group. Bringing together a mix of government agencies and farming industry bodies, the Rural Coordination Group can champion support for farming communities at a number of different levels. In Gisborne, the Rural Coordination Group consists of Rural Women New Zealand, Federated Farmers, Beef + Lamb NZ, Ministry for Primary



“It is a real collaboration of government ministries with a range of organisations that support rural communities from mental health and on-farm support through to financial support,” says Sandra. “In the wake of the cyclones, MPI locally in Gisborne has been incredible – I couldn’t fault them for the work they have done here to support our farming communities.”

In addition to the resources available through the Rural Coordination Group, other organisations have found their own meaningful ways to contribute to communities that have borne the brunt of the cyclone impacts. Rural Women New Zealand members from all around NZ have pitched in by donating baked goods, knitted garments, household sundries and handmade quilts. “These are aroha packages – it is just about letting people know that others are thinking of them and care. After Cyclone Hale we distributed about 100 packs and we have close to another 300 being delivered now,” says Sandra. “The feedback we have had is really touching – there have been people calling us in tears as they are so grateful to know there is support out there for them.”

Further to the distribution of these aroha packages, Rural Women New Zealand has an Adverse Events Relief Fund which is designed to provide a one-off financial donation to a rural family or individual in need. “People can apply for up to \$1000 to help carry them through a particularly difficult time financially following an adverse event. Since Cyclone Gabrielle hit we have distributed approximately \$130,000 to

people in need.”

If you would like to donate to Rural Women NZ's Adverse Event Relief Fund, go to:
<https://ruralwomennz.nz/>

Conference 2024

Conference 2024: Call for Abstracts Now Open!

The National Rural Health Conference Organising Committee are delighted to invite you to submit an abstract for presentation at the National Rural Health Conference 2024. This is an important and timely opportunity to connect and share knowledge that can influence the New Zealand health system reforms and ensure that every rural New Zealander, Māori, and non-Māori has the opportunity to thrive and enjoy healthy and rewarding lives.

For all of the information, visit the conference website here:

[Call for abstracts | NRHC \(nationalruralhealthconference.org.nz\)](https://nationalruralhealthconference.org.nz)

Key dates

- Registration opens Monday 2 October 2023
- Call for abstract submission closes Tuesday 31 October 2023
- Notification of acceptance into the programme from Friday 15 December 2023
- Early bird registration closes Thursday 29 February 2024

[SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACTS HERE](#)



Innovation

New Māori & Pacific Health Research Emerging Leader Fellowships Set to Launch

The HRC Māori and Pacific Health Research Emerging Leader Fellowships are set to open for registrations and applications on August 10, 2023, and will close on September 7 and September 28, respectively. These fellowships aim to support mid-to-senior level Māori and Pacific health researchers across various fields who show promise in becoming leaders in their research areas.

The fellowships offer up to \$650,000 over a maximum of four years, covering salary, research expenses, and associated costs. The goal is to strengthen the Māori and Pacific representation in health research leadership for culturally informed and equitable health practices. The application details will be available on HRC Gateway from August 10, and the program encourages the outreach of this opportunity to a diverse range of potential applicants.

Keen to reach as many Māori and Pacific health researchers as possible with this funding opportunity, including those who may not have had 'traditional' academic career trajectories - please forward this information on to any colleagues or acquaintances who you think may be interested in applying.

Mobile Health | Hauora Taiwhenua Rural New Zealand Health Scholarships Open for 2023 Applicants

The scholarships are open to secondary school students planning to enter tertiary study the following year. Applicants must reside in a rural region of New Zealand and have experienced financial and/or geographical hardships due to their rural residency. The Mobile Health | Hauora Taiwhenua Scholarships hope to encourage and support rural youth in their pursuit of an education in health by reducing financial hardships.

These scholarships are for rural youth entering their first year of full-time undergraduate study in Medicine, Nursing or Allied Health related courses at New Zealand Universities, Polytechnics, or PTEs. Each scholarship will be for one year, supporting a student's first year of study, accommodation, and resources.

We are glad to announce that the Mobile Health | Hauora Taiwhenua Rural New Zealand Health Scholarships are open for applications in 2023. Schools have already been contacted by Samantha Hill, our Rural Health Careers Coordinator, but a reminder in case you missed it!

Click the link below for more info on this scholarship and the others available if you are stepping into tertiary study.

SCHOLARSHIPS & SUPPORT

Research

Funding Available for Research Benefiting General Practice

The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners is welcoming applications from anyone who is undertaking research in this field for its first funding round of 2023. Grants are typically in the range of \$5000 - \$20,000 for individual applications, although up to \$40,000 can be awarded.

The College's Research and Education Committee (REC) provides financial support to those conducting research or education projects, and is looking for applications that reflect the five key areas of the College's Statement of Strategic Intent (Te Rautaki):

- Supporting our members
- Becoming a contemporary and sustainable organisation
- Improving health equity in New Zealand
- Education excellence
- Quality general practices.

Applications close on Wednesday, 13 September 2023, and will be considered by the College's Research and Education Committee (REC) with by Wednesday, 11th October 2023, applicants will be notified of the outcome.

More information, including guidelines, an application form, and contact information for questions can be found online at <https://www.rnzcgp.org.nz/our-voice/fund-your-research/>

Te Whatu Ora Health Information Survey

Te Whatu Ora is working on a new website focussed on health information and services for the public. They are asking **healthcare or health service providers** to fill in a 10-minute online survey so they can use our feedback to make the website as useful as it can be. Please help if you have the time.

Complete the survey here: [Health information survey – Optimal workshop](#)

Innovation

Participant recruitment: Help us understand experiences of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest for Māori living in rural areas

What?

We would like to understand the experiences of Māori who live rurally and experienced an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest within the past five (5) years, and/or their whānau. If we can understand this better we can improve care for tūrora [patient] and whānau.

How?

Participate in a 60 minute interview or focus group/wānanga with a researcher either in person, over the phone or by Zoom. We aim to answer the questions:

- What is important to tūrora and whānau following a cardiac arrest in the community?
- What is the impact of having to leave their kāinga [home] and their whenua [land]?

Interested?

Please contact Aroha Brett on PHONE or EMAIL for more information.

027 801 2944 or michelle.brett@stjohn.org.nz

Other important information

- This study is part of Aroha Brett's Master's degree. Graham Howie, Karen Brewer & Felicity Bright are co-investigators/supervisors
- Everything you say will be made confidential and your details are confidential
- A koha (\$50 petrol voucher) is provided in thanks for your time
- Approved by the Auckland University of Technology Ethics Committee on 20 April 2023, AUTEK Reference number 22/294

We would greatly appreciate if you could circulate our recruitment poster attached to those you may be interested in assisting.

Recruitment Flyer

HAANZ Equity grant poster

Primary and Community Care changes for COVID-19 - starting 1st October 2023

See below communications from The Care in the Community Team with key information and attachments to the changes in primary and community care regarding COVID-19.

Kia ora koutou,

We are writing to talk further about the transition to a post-pandemic management of COVID-19, alongside other communicable diseases, and to share the revised Model of Care for COVID-19 from 1 October 2023. This funded model is planned to run until 29 February 2024, with final confirmation of the end date coming after a review of utilisation in December 2023.

We acknowledge that the government announced key changes to our COVID-19 settings yesterday, 14 August, including the removal of the last remaining mandates regarding isolation and mask wearing. We reiterate that these changes do not impact on the Model of Care as currently funded until 30 September, nor do they affect the implementation of the new Model of Care to begin 1 October, as outlined below.

You will find attached:

- A presentation by Care in the Community and Outbreak Response partners describing the COVID-19 Model of Care changes, including other areas such as PPE supply and testing. This is 22mins in length. Click [HERE TO WATCH PRESENTATION](#) - password is: careinthecommunity
- Funding Guidance for Primary Care Model of Care for COVID-19, October 2023
- Funding Guidance for Community Pharmacy Model of Care for COVID-19, October 2023

We hope that these will answer any questions you may have, but if there is something further we can help with please submit your questions via this Microsoft forms link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/rrjsN1nhXM>

If we could receive your questions by Monday 28th August we will endeavour to answer these in the live Q&A sessions being held on:

- Thursday 31 August: 6.00 – 6.45pm ([Teams Live - join here using this link](#))
- Wednesday 6 September: 6.00 – 6.45pm ([Teams Live - join here using this link](#))

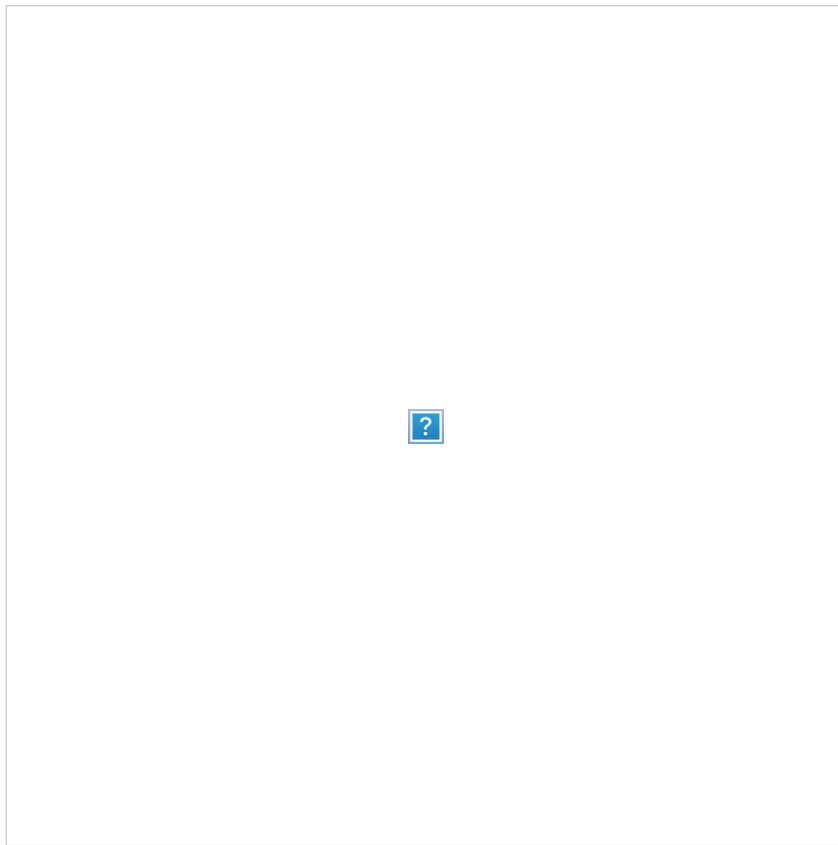
There will also be an opportunity to ask any further questions you may have during these sessions.

Ngā mihi nui

The Care in the Community Team

Funding Guidance for Primary Care Model of Care for COVID-19 October 2023

Funding Guidance for Community Pharmacy Model of Care for Covid-19 19 October 2023



Leaning on Fence Posts

New Content Available on Leaning on Fence Posts



Leaning on the Fence Posts showcases contributions to keep this blog interesting, up-to-date and informative.

Rural Health Podcast from Wales: The First RHCW Podcast

"We are pleased to confirm that the first RHCW Podcast has now been broadcast and can be listened to either on Spotify or Apple – links to the Spotify episode is below and if you have an Apple device, please search on the Podcast option for "Rural health and Care Wales" where our podcasts will appear. There is also a QR code at the bottom of this message where it can be accessed."

Check out the latest content on the University of Otago's Leaning on Fence Posts Blog via the button below.

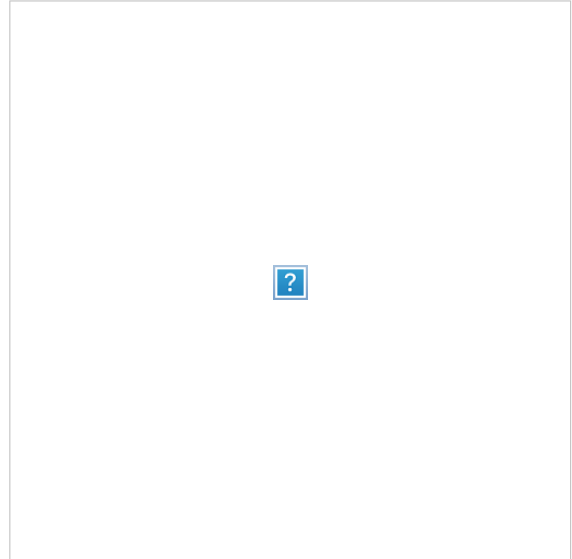
[READ MORE](#)

HEALTHY RURAL COMMUNITIES

Reconnecting Rural Kanohi ki te kanohi



**Hauora
Taiwhenua**
Rural Health
Network



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