

Working Group Brief 3:

Living with FASD – supporting whānau to thrive

What do we mean by working groups?

Working groups are groups of people who will join together to collectively move this kaupapa forward with a particular focus.

Working groups will be

- Action-oriented - this is about getting things done that will create positive change.
- Self-organising - the direction of travel and how we move forward will be determined by the group, along with matters such as when, where and how the group will meet.
- Supported & Connected - whilst each group has their own area of focus, all are contributing to our shared kaupapa and there will be opportunities to support and strengthen each other's work.

This paper is designed to provide a starting point with a clear line of sight back to where the focus areas came from, so we can stay true to the contributions to date whilst innovating on top of these foundations.

Focus Area Scope & Context

This working group will be exploring how to support whānau impacted by FASD to thrive in their day-to-day lives. Also currently within the scope of this group is peer-to-peer support both for people living with FASD and their whānau.

Some of the insights and themes which underpin this focus area and form this group's work include:

- Whānau are exhausted and there's no respite option
- Learning and behaviour issues cause strain on family life
- The importance of diagnosis overrides the whānau experience and story
- Whānau don't know about resources and criteria to access them are too strict
- We need more targeted support for whānau
- Whānau are taking on their mokopuna and raising them
- Rangatahi impacted by FASD want peer mentorship as they get older

Some relevant questions:

- How might we create the relationships which allow for respite to happen?
- How might we enable peer mentor supports?
- How might we support mana-enhancing journeys to wellbeing for families?
- How might we integrate kaupapa Māori frameworks and traditional healing practices?

Links into other working groups:

- Working group 1 are working on FASD awareness and supporting FASD informed practice
- Working group 2 are exploring how the education system might better meet the needs of young people and whānau affected by FASD
- Working group 4 are looking at wraparound support and cross-agency collaboration

The Opportunity

Some of the practical ways this kaupapa will be supported include:

- Facilitation & connection support - each working group includes a representative from Northable Matapuna Hauora or Ember Innovations. That person will support your group to find times to meet, capture what comes out of your meetings, and move your work forward as agreed by the group.
- Project management - recognising that collaboration requires time and effort and that this collective is made up of people already juggling many commitments, we will be employing a Project Manager to enable the working groups to focus their energy on their mahi
- Additional operational support - working groups will also be able to access additional supports which may include evaluation support, stakeholder engagement support, advocacy support, comms and story-telling support.
- Funding - alongside committed people resource, the founding partners have also committed some funding to support projects. We will also support additional funding applications where appropriate.

Getting started

Each working group will find its own rhythms and ways of working that suit its members, however we suggest a good starting point would be to reach an agreement around some foundational elements including:

- Refining / aligning around impact goals - what change are you working to create in the world?
- Identifying some tangible project ideas you might want to explore further as 'prototypes'
- Identifying who else might need to be involved, either as participants, supporters or system level enablers
- Agreeing how you will work together as a group, and as part of the larger collective.

Contact Information

For further information or to get involved please contact:

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