

Te Tauākī ki Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Te Tiriti o Waitangi Position Statement

Ta Mātou Tauākī | Our Statement

We acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand. We recognise and respect our responsibilities under the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission Act 2020 to contribute to better and equitable mental health and wellbeing outcomes for Māori. We commit to being an organisation grounded in Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Our Tauākī underpins our intentions in striving to have enduring and honourable relationships and partnerships with Māori.

We acknowledge past failures to uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi have had a harmful impact on the wellbeing of Māori as tangata whenua, and that alienation from te ao Māori and racism have caused trauma.

We commit to doing no further harm to Māori and we support healing and equity of Māori mental health and wellbeing outcomes.

We adopt Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the framework to use in regularly measuring and assessing our decisions, actions, and deliverables. Our goals and our way of working translate to each of the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the following ways.

Ko te tuatahi | Article One: Kāwanatanga

We monitor and report on the mental health and wellbeing system of the kāwanatanga / government.

We advocate for a system that improves mental health and wellbeing outcomes for Māori.

Ko te tuarua | Article Two: Tino Rangatiratanga

We utilise Mātauranga Māori, Iwi and Māori perspectives as an evidence base.

We support and advocate for more kaupapa Māori choices for whānau accessing mental health, addiction and wellbeing services.

We support Iwi approaches to mental health, addiction, and wellbeing service delivery based on their own mātauranga, pūkenga, and tikanga.

Ko te tuatoru | Article Three: Ōritetanga

We advocate for affirmative action to achieve equity for Māori.

We challenge systems, structures and services to address inequities, including racism, bias and discrimination.

We will be explicit in our expectation that all mental health, addiction, and wellbeing services should be culturally competent, and we will monitor this.

Whakapuakitanga o te Tauākī – Position Statement Declaration | Ritenga Māori – Māori Practices

We value wairuatanga and spirituality as a key contributor to mental wellbeing and inclusiveness.

We advocate for access to traditional healing and treatment methods grounded in te ao Māori and celebrate inclusiveness.

Nōku te Hē | When we get it wrong

Being a Te Tiriti o Waitangi grounded organisation means knowing we will make mistakes, being committed to learning from these and making things right.