



Te Tauāki ki Te Tiriti o Waitangi

We, Te Hīringa Mahara, recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the legal instrument that allows Government to exercise kāwanatanga in Aotearoa New Zealand.

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 and racism have caused trauma. We commit to doing no further harm to Māori as tangata whenua and to being an organisation grounded in Te Tiriti o Waitangi. We support healing and the improvement of Māori mental health and wellbeing.

We will function as authentic partners with tangata whenua through all aspects of our work. 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

Mana Whakahaere –
Good Governance



We are established to monitor the mental health and wellbeing system of the kāwanatanga or government

We will actively monitor racism and discrimination across all mental health, addiction, and wellbeing services.

We will advocate for approaches and programmes across the system that address racism and discrimination in all its forms when it is identified.

Ko te Tuarua - Article Two Tino Rangatiratanga

Mana Motuhake - Te Iwi
Unique and indigenous



We embrace Mātauranga Māori as an evidence base. We actively 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.

We will advocate for increasing access to rongoā and Māori healing methods across the mental health and wellbeing sector.

Ko te Tuatoru - Article Three Ōritetanga Mana Tangata

Fairness and Justice
Equity for Māori is a priority



We will be courageous in prioritising Māori through affirmative action.

We will challenge systems, structures, and services to address inequity and discrimination

Whakapuakitanga: Kupu Tauāki - Declaration - Ritenga Māori

Mana Māori - Cultural Identity and integrity



We will be explicit in our expectation that all mental health, addiction, and wellbeing services should be culturally competent, and we will actively monitor this. We acknowledge wairuatanga and spirituality as a key contributor to mental wellbeing and inclusiveness. We will 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, but being committed to learning from these, and making things right. We will collaborate with Māori partners to ensure we:

- correct our mistakes
- learn from our mistakes
- focus on moving forward to achieve shared goals in Māori mental health and wellbeing.