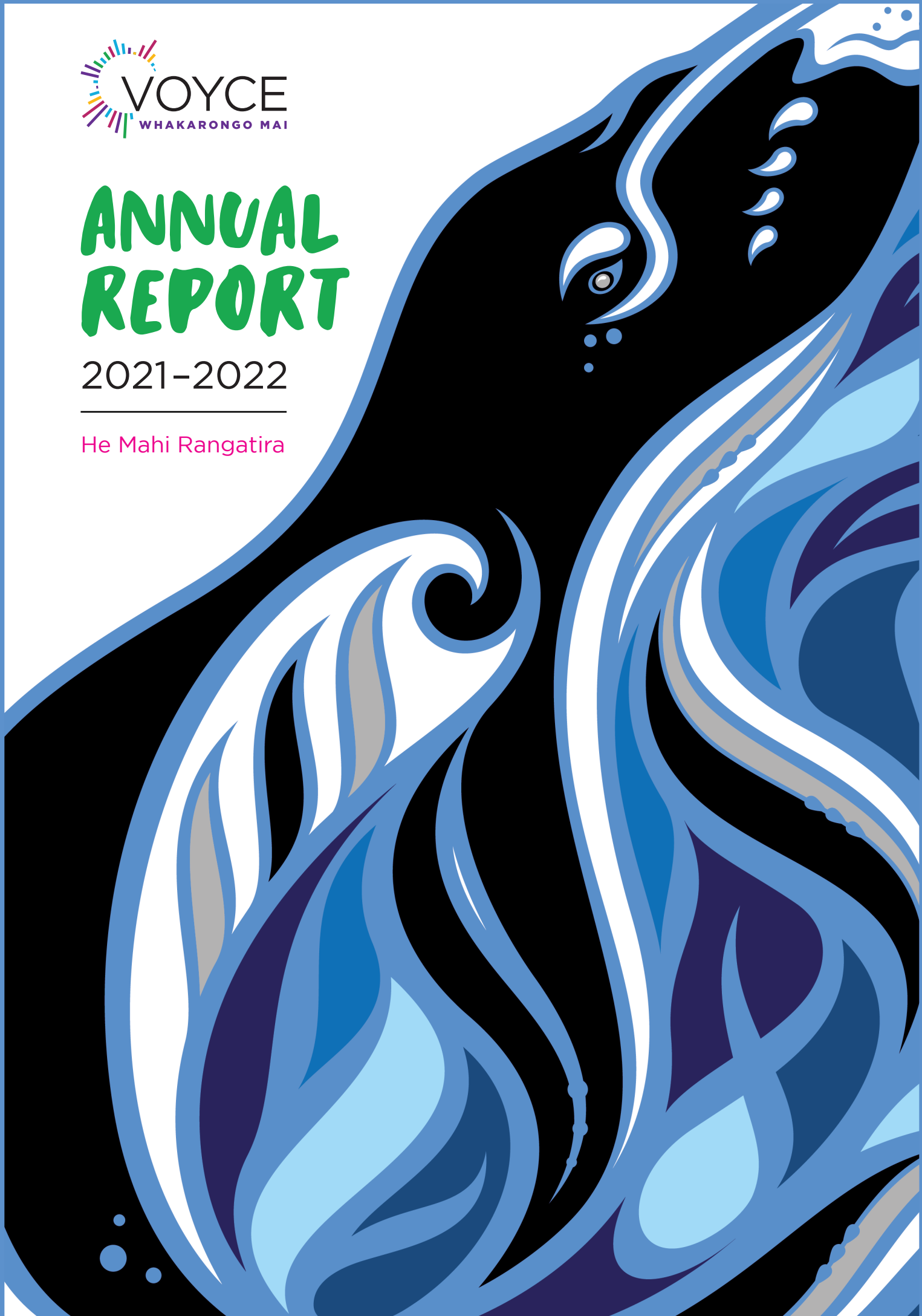




ANNUAL REPORT

2021–2022

He Mahi Rangatira



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[Maori]

HEI MIHI

Tihei mauriora

Kia tau iho ra ngā manaakitanga
Ki runga i te mata o te whenua
Āio ki te aorangi

Tangihia ngā tini mate kua
wheturangitia
Okioki e!

Nō reira e te tī, e te tā
Anei ngā hua o te tau kua hori nei
Hei kai mā koutou katoa

Mauri Tū Mauri Ora e!

[English]

AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Behold the breath of life

May there be caring
Upon the face of the earth
Peace be to the universe

A lament goes to the multitudes
who have become stars
Rest in peace!

And so to all directions
We present the results of our
work over the past year
For your observation

May there be health and
wellbeing to all!



STATEMENT FROM THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL



Mary-Lynn
Acting Chair, VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai
National Youth Council

*We're here for the 6000 in care.
An older sibling to our younger selves.
Individually and collectively on a
journey of self-discovery, healing, and
giving back through advocacy.*

When we came together as a Roopū in January 2021, we discussed our guiding principles. Reflecting on our two-year term on the VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai National Youth Council, our purpose is best described as this:

1. To advocate for pēpi, tamariki, and rangatahi in care, being the older sibling to our younger selves.
2. To create spaces in which care experienced 'homies' feel seen, understood, and connected to others with shared experience.
3. To collectively acknowledge and respect the experiences we've had, and the knowledge we are able to bring to spaces because of that.
4. In relation to VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai, we exist to ensure that the organisation stays true to the kaupapa.

It's been really beautiful to see everyone on the team find their strengths in the advocacy world. A toggle between front-facing mahi, being a spokesperson, to contributing to policy conversations behind closed doors.

For some, the joy has been in interacting with care-experienced tamariki who remind us of our younger selves, finding healing in the journey together, and learning to lean into our leadership strengths.

There are a lot of internal and external projects that we have been part of as well. Too many to list them all, but here are some highlights. We've:

1. Worked on a submission to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child
2. Helped VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai with their Tūhono comic book for tamariki
3. Met with sitting Members of Parliament & policy advisors
4. Spoken at select committees
5. Presented at national and international conferences
6. Worked on research projects for the Tertiary Education Commission and Oranga Tamariki
7. Developed curriculum for social workers
8. Collaborated with the Oranga Tamariki Youth Advisory Group, JustSpeak, Unicef, and other organisations.
9. Advocated for care experienced tangata on live TV or through media and radio interviews
10. Some of us have travelled to the United States to meet sister organisations and participate in the annual Shadow Day conference. This is where care-experienced adults get to shadow a US congress member.

As our term comes to an end, we leave grateful for what we have learned, gained, and are able to give back. Not just giving back to VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai, but to those who will come after us and continue to carry the baton of advocacy. The kaupapa can be heavy at times and we're excited to see new rangatira step up and rise to the challenge.



STATEMENT FROM CO-CHAIRS OF THE BOARD

E ngā mana e ngā reo e tau nei, tēnā koutou katoa.

Another massive year for VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai. The Board once again would like to thank Tracie and the whole team who have worked so hard to deliver what has likely been one of the most full-on years for VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai.

We're all extremely proud of the mahi of our kaimahi, in particular our kaiwhakamana who continue to navigate difficult conversations with whānau and Oranga Tamariki, to ensure that rangatahi have a voice, to have their rights recognised by all, to have a real and meaningful say in decisions which impact their lives.

A shout out to our kaimahi as well working in our Youth Justice and Care and Protection residences. Working hard to develop awesome relationships with rangatahi, to discuss their plan and transition plan back to their rohe once they leave, their goals and hopes for their future. One particular programme and initiative the Board would like to highlight is the work to support the Manaaki Kōrero work programme as well. Which aims to ensure tamariki are able to have a safe way of raising a complaint while in care facilities, to include them in the process of designing a new system, to make sure every complaint is raised and actioned quickly.

This year we have seen our biggest test yet in the space of systemic advocacy, and we just want to acknowledge the brave, strong and powerful voices of those rangatahi who made a submission against the Oversight of Oranga Tamariki System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill. Our advocacy was centred around the mana of tamariki when things go wrong in care, whakamana alongside monitoring, and accountability for when voices are missed.

One standout comment is from our National Youth Councillor Karah Mackie, "if you do not bring the affected communities on the journey with you from the beginning, you will not make any meaningful change or progress."

While some things have not necessarily gone in the favour of rangatahi voices, VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai has never had a stronger reach for advocacy. We would like to take a moment to thank those who fund and support this mahi, it cannot be understated how grateful we are for your continued commitment to enabling tamariki and rangatahi, and the whānau we serve, to have a voice. Through grit and determination, the Chief Executive and senior leadership have produced a really future proofed set of accounts which we are happy to share with you today.

To all tamariki, rangatahi and whānau that gives us their time, energy and trust, you are the reason we do what we do year after year. Thank you for trusting our people to support you on your journey. We love continuing to grow alongside you.

We would like to say thank you again to everyone who worked alongside rangatahi as COVID-19 rages on. The importance of your mahi will never be lost on the lives of the tamariki.

"What really made a difference in my life and the life of my brothers and sisters was those trusted kaimahi who took the time to figure out what whakapapa I had and who I wanted to live with."
– Rangatahi, 24 years old – Policy Analyst, Ministry of Education.

Your support helps make their lives better. Once again on behalf of the Board and our VOYCE Whānau, thank you.

Ngā manaakitanga.

Shayne & Mana
Co-Chairs, VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai is only able to provide the amazing opportunities and experiences for Aotearoa's care experienced tamariki and rangatahi thanks to the generosity of our community partners. Ngā mihi nui.

PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS

- J R McKenzie Trust
- Tindall Foundation
- Foundation North
- Todd Foundation
- Vodafone Aotearoa Foundation
- SkyCity Auckland Community Trust
- SkyCity Hamilton Community Trust
- SkyCity Queenstown Community Trust

GRANTS/CONTRACTS

- Oranga Tamariki
- Ministry of Social Development (ICM Grant)
- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
- Ara Taiohi Incorporated (Youth Week Grant)
- Tauranga City Council

DONATIONS AND GIFTS IN KIND

- AWWA
- L'Oreal
- NZ Post – Post for Good
- The many individual donors to the Voyage for VOYCE



4 TĀ TE KAIHAUTŪ TITIRO – FROM THE KAIHAUTU

VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai weaves the strands of Te putake: Kōkiri (Kaupapa Māori strategy) into every aspect of the organisation and so we take time to reflect on the incredible year that has been and the many contributions by our Kaimahi (staff) to uphold the kaupapa of VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai which included:

Development of two new strands as part of the VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai eco system:

- *He Pātaka Kōrero* – VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai strategy around information sharing.
- *Te Waka Rangatira* – A new youth participation strategy.

Here are just a few examples of the VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai commitment to kaupapa Māori:

- *Tū maia* – A partnership between VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai and Taonga by Timoti (pounamu carver) to gift taonga pounamu to every young person in state care.
- *Te reo Māori and Tikanga* are an integral part of how we conduct our day to day operations including whakatau for all new staff which is led by the regions. All staff are inducted in this way as part of the first introduction to tikanga and the VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai way.
- *Te reo Māori* and other languages are woven into our communications strategy as part of a bi-lingual / multi-lingual approach.
- *Iwi engagement* is being strengthened across the four regions with partnerships with Mana whenua being developed.
- *The formation of Te kahui Māori* provides an opportunity for Māori staff to meet monthly for
 - Peer support
 - Discussion of important issues
 - Sharing ideas
- *Kia tika kia pono* – was launched this year as a resource to support the ethical engagement of tamariki and rangatahi who are care experienced.
- *High level connections* that allow care experienced tamariki and rangatahi to engage with the Royal Commission of Inquiry, The Independent Children's Monitor, The Office of the Commissioner for Children, The Ministerial Advisory Board – Oranga Tamariki – The Māori Design group.

The incorporation of a Māori lens over every aspect of the organisation has been important to show how VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai honours Te tiriti o Waitangi and the principles of true partnership, participation and protection.

Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora e!



5 WHAKAMANA

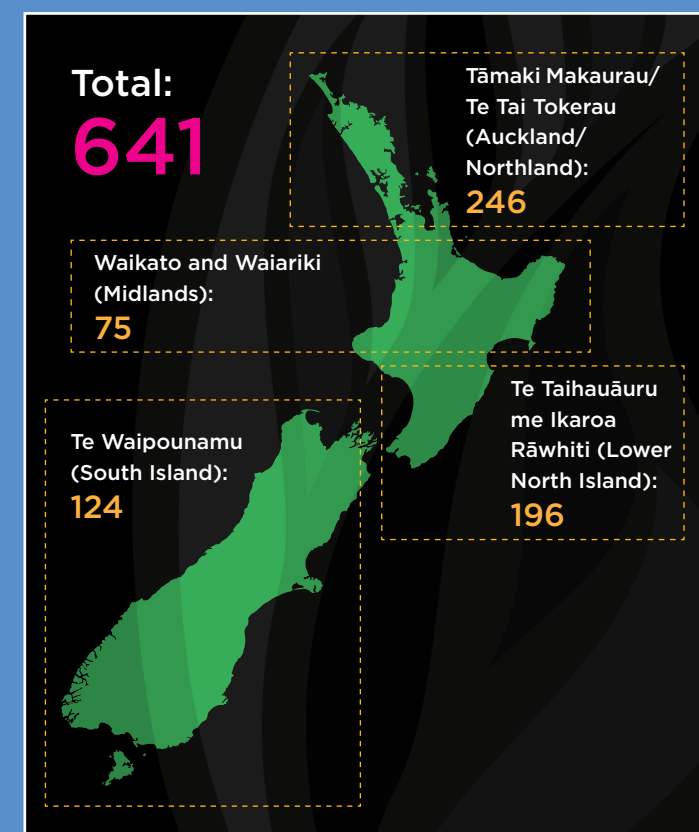
Advocate with children and young people in care.



“ RANGATAHI TOLD US:

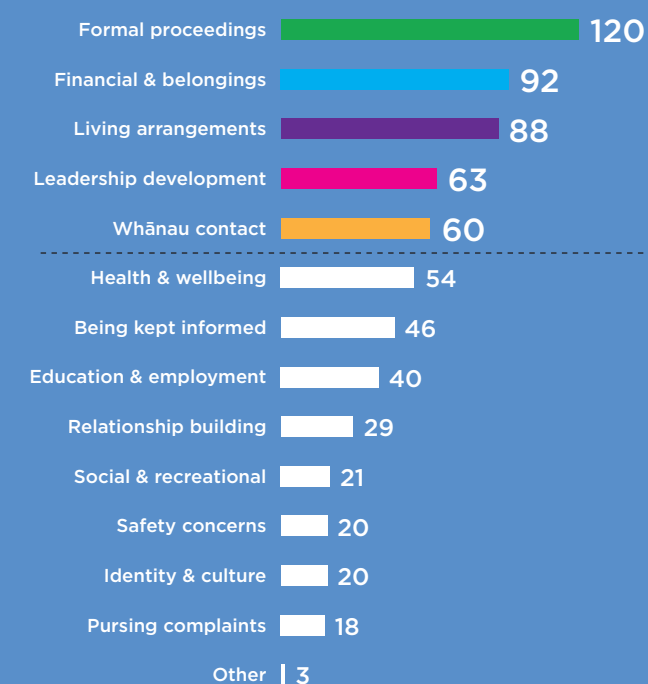
“Advocate with us as individual children and young people in care. Make information about rights and support services available in ways we understand. Support us to advocate for ourselves and others. Support our voice to be heard in decision making and resolution of our concerns. Support our trusted adults to undertake advocacy with us or become that trusted person for us.”

NEW ADVOCACY CASES:



CASE THEMES:

TOTAL: 674



TOP 5 THEMES:

#1

FORMAL PROCEEDINGS

Having voice heard and taken into account in formal decision making processes; includes participation in FGCs, hui, assessments, court proceedings and police matters.

120 cases
17.80%

#2

FINANCIAL & BELONGINGS

Pocket money, benefits, entitlements, banking, budgeting and financial management, emergency assistance; access to or purchase of personal belongings including personal records.

92 cases
13.65%

#3

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

Variation to current living arrangements; includes temporary or unstable placements, returning to live with whānau or previous caregivers or transition to independent living.

88 cases
13.06%

#4

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Activities, events and opportunities to develop knowledge, skills and experiences in leadership; includes youth council events and participation in systemic advocacy activities.

63 cases
9.35%

#5

WHĀNAU CONTACT

Contact with whānau members or previous caregivers; includes resuming, maintaining or ceasing an existing connection, or exploring new or previous relationships or connections.

60 cases
8.90%

ADVOCACY OUTCOMES:

1064 advocacy requests were closed during the period 1/7/2021 – 30/6/2022

56

Cancelled

939

Goal Achieved / Problem Solved

32

Information Provided

37

Goal Not Achieved

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

Individual Advocacy was impacted particularly in Tamaki Makaurau (Auckland) with the 100+ day COVID19 lockdown. Kaimahi (staff) were creative in finding ways to maintain connections with the care community; arranging online events, driveway hui, hangi drop offs, sending care packs, lots of cards and making lots of phone calls.



This year saw VOYCE farewell their inaugural Kaiwhakahaere (Regional Manager) for Te Tai Hau-ā-uru me Ikaroa / Rawhiti (Lower North Island).

VOYCE has re-organised their regional boundaries, between Waikato me Waiariki (Midlands) and Te Taihauāuru me Ikaroa / Rawhiti (Lower North Island). Going into 2022/2023 the new regions are now Waikato, Waiariki, Ikaroa me Rawhiti (Central/East Coast) and Te Tai Hau-ā-uru (Taranaki and Wellington).

Supporting young people at Te Oranga during closure was a key event in the Te Waipounamu (South Island) region. Kaiwhakamana were visiting daily, supporting young people to speak with senior management from Oranga Tamariki to a say in decisions about their life after Te Oranga.

6

TŪHONO

Connect children and young people in care with each other and with their significant others.

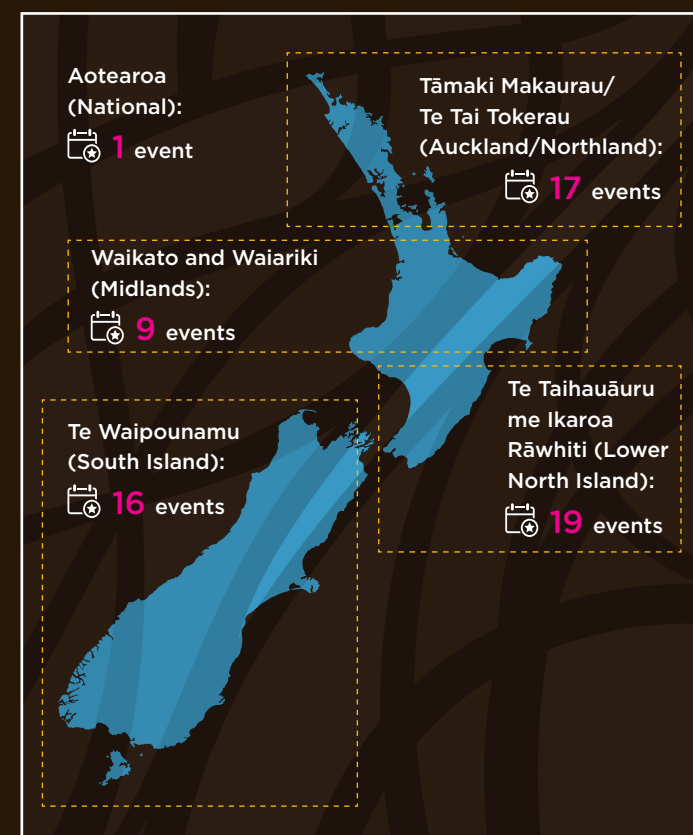
RANGATAHI TOLD US:

“Connect us as children and young people in care together. Reduce the isolation that we can experience in the care system. Help us to establish an identity through fostering a sense of belonging to a wider community of children and young people in care. Demonstrate that we are valued by providing opportunities and experiences that are fun and challenging.”

NUMBER OF EVENTS BY REGION:



VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai held 62 events nationwide.



Kai Bags for Care Day – to 48 Care Experienced Young People,
Te Tai Tokerau/Tamaki Makaurau
(Northland/Auckland), 18 February 2022



Youth Week – Our Voices Matter, We Deserve to be Heard, 7-15 May 2022 Tāmaki Makaurau (Northland/Auckland)

VOYCE worked with rangatahi around what messages they wanted to share, then had shirts made up with a variety of their quotes front and centre. Rangatahi were given their quote on a shirt to keep. Kaimahi have worn these to various professional hui, including a presentation to a care team at Oranga Tamariki, Youth Justice residences and even to a hui with the CEO of Oranga Tamariki.

"I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WORE THIS TO THE OT OFFICE THAT'S SO COOL!"



Waikato me Waiariki (Midlands)

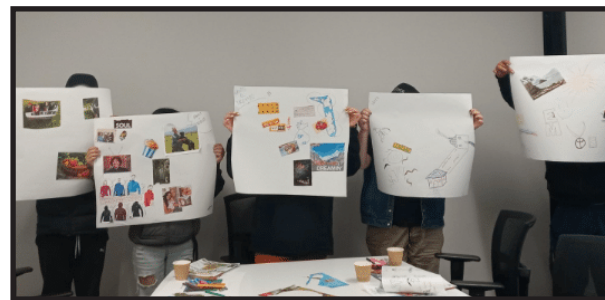
VOYCE partnered with other youth services and stakeholders in Hamilton and were privileged to be a part of Beast Mode – a for youth, by youth expo/concert event at Claudelands Hamilton. VOYCE had a stall to share the VOYCE Kaupapa with Tamariki, Rangatahi and other stall holders.

Kaimahi also did their first live presentation as a team at Raukawa's Transition to Adulthood dinner to care experienced rangatahi and their whānau .



Te Waipounamu (South Island)

VOYCE facilitated self-expression workshops for care experienced rangatahi. The event was held at the 4C Centre at the YMCA and was about learning to reflect on their journey and discover new tools to express themselves in a safe space. Workshops on spoken word, rap and visual narrative were held for rangatahi to reflect on past, present and future. Feedback from rangatahi was positive and that they enjoyed connecting with others, exploring how to construct foundations for rap and spoken word and having fun cutting up magazines and drawing pictures to express their voices, and of course everyone enjoyed the kai.



Te Tai Hau-ā-uru me Ikaroa / Rawhiti (Lower North Island)

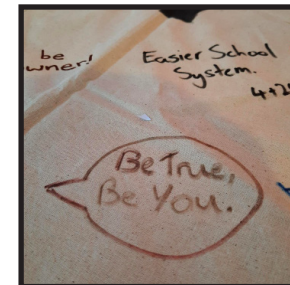
The mighty Palmerston North office collaborated with Youth Space this year for Youth Week! A five metre banner was designed which had this year's theme written on it: "Our Voices Matter, and We Deserve to be Heard."

Rangatahi were encouraged to write their thoughts, aspirations, concerns on the banner. On the Saturday, Youth Space held an event featuring young people performing music, lots of games and activities, as well as Youth Space's Youth Awards. The banner was hung up on the wall so that rangatahi and adults who attended the event could see this year's theme and read the powerful words of the young people of Palmerston North.

"THE YOUTH OF TODAY ARE THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW."

"BE A VOICE NOT AN ECHO."

"JUST BE YOU."



Te Waipounamu (South Island)

First annual camp in collaboration with Youthtown, 19-21 January 2022. 9 CE young people attended and had an awesome time.



Bowling, 22 Dec 2021, Te Taihauāuru me Ikaroa / Rawhiti (Lower North Island)



Horse Riding in Levin, 11 November 2021, Te Taihauāuru me Ikaroa / Rawhiti (lower North Island)

"LOVED IT SO SO SO SO MUCH."

"IT WAS THE BEST, AGAIN AGAIN AGAIN."

"IT WAS FUN AND THE HORSES WERE REALLY CUTE."

"IT WAS FUN, HAPPY."

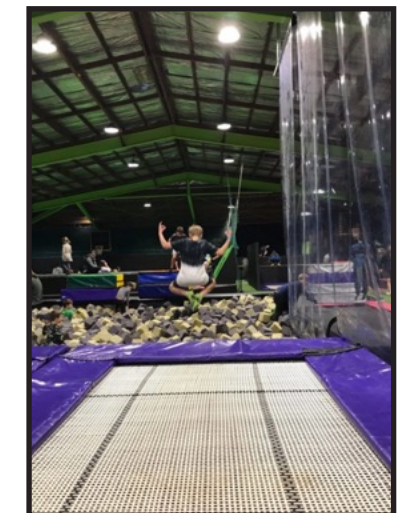


Flip Out and Pizza Party, 21 July 2021, Nelson, Te Waipounamu (South Island)



"I JUST WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR THE AWESOME EVENT FOR THE KIDS. FOR THE FIRST TIME [YOUNG PERSON] REALISED THERE ARE CHILDREN IN THE SAME SITUATION AS HE IS..."

"YUMMY PIZZA, LOTS OF FUN, LET'S DO IT AGAIN!"



7 WHAKATAIRANGA

Promote the collective voice of children and young people in care.

KEY WHAKATAIRANGA ACTIVITIES:



Oversight of Oranga Tamariki System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill

VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai has been actively opposing the proposed Oversight of Oranga Tamariki System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill on the basis that tamariki (children) are not at the heart of this bill; there is no independence of the “Independent” Children's Monitor; tokenistic approach to Māori partnership; a lack of teeth – system lacks the power to enforce accountability; monitoring, complaints and advocacy work better together – system is siloed and complex to navigate; and complaints sitting within an adult system are unlikely to be child-friendly or accessible.

VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai produced an explainer website for the complex bill proposed; and provided a templated submission document to encourage others to oppose the Bill.

A written submission was collated and submitted to the Social Services and Community Committee in January.

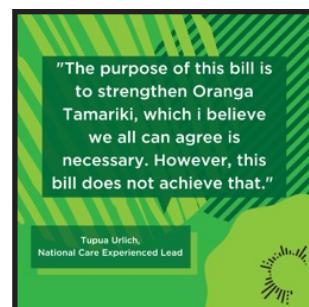
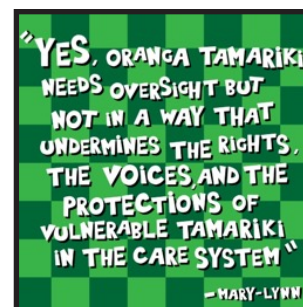


On 7 March VOYCE presented an oral submission to the Select Committee on recommendations for changes to the proposed Bill. Supported by VOYCE kaimahi (staff), Karah Mackie (National Youth Council Chair), Mary-Lynn Huxford (National Youth Council Vice Chair) and Tupua Ulrich (VOYCE National Care Experience Lead) spoke about serious flaws in the bill and answered questions from the committee.

VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai collaborated with organisations from across the children's sector, lobbying for change with a comprehensive political and media strategy.

The sector called for the Bill to be paused to await the findings of the Royal Commission.

As this Bill has now passed, VOYCE is now lobbying to ensure the voices of tamariki, rangatahi and those with lived experience are central to the development of the systems and processes of the new system, and the review of the system which has been promised within 3 years.

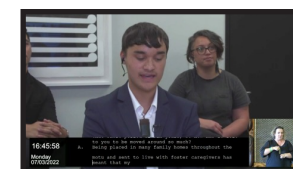


66 RANGATAHI TOLD US:

“Promote our collective voice as children and young people in the care system. Help us understand and tell our collective story. Help us to share this story in ways that are safe for us and can influence others. Use the themes and issues we raise to drive system change, by linking to other monitoring and oversight mechanisms in the system.”

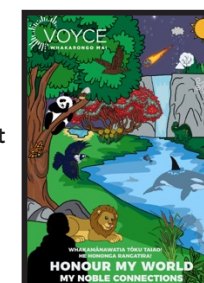
Abuse in Care – Royal Commission of Inquiry

On 7 March Tupua Ulrich and Ihorangi Reweti-Peters gave evidence on the first day of the Commission's Māori hearings. In addition, Tupua participated in the panel that closed off the hearing. This hearing focused on the lived experiences of whānau Māori who were abused in state or faith-based care. An interim report into the experiences and impacts of Māori who were abused in care will be delivered in the first quarter of 2023.



Entitlement to Remain or Return (ETRR) to Care – Research

VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai Youth Council Members co-designed a research project about rangatahi experiences of support when transitioning out of care. Rangatahi researchers were trained to conduct the interviews, participated in analysing and writing up the findings which will be provided to Oranga Tamariki to support them to improve transition services and experiences for rangatahi in care.



Tūhono Comic Released

VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai created a second comic book to help tamariki and rangatahi understand the role of VOYCE in helping create connections and a positive sense of identity around care experience. The comic is available in English, Māori, Tongan and Samoan.



Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) – Education Guide on Supporting Care Experienced Learners

VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai supported the TEC to run focus groups with care experienced rangatahi and kaimahi regarding their views and experiences of tertiary education from the perspective of care experienced learners. Following the focus groups, the TEC developed the “Tertiary Education Guide on Supporting Care Experienced Learners”, which is to be made available to tertiary education institutions and other relevant organisations.

Kia Tika, Kia Pono – Honouring Truths

Kia Tika, Kia Pono – Honouring Truths was co-created by rangatahi/young people who are care experienced, staff members from VOYCE-Whakarongo Mai, and researchers from Waipapa Taumata Rau/ The University of Auckland and Te Rōpū Rangahau Hauora a Eru Pōmare, University of Otago (Wellington). It calls on adults seeking to engage with children and young people who are care experienced to ensure that their practice is tika and is pono: “the right people, doing the right things.”

It also describes the elements needed to ensure that adults and organisations honour and respect children and young people who are care experienced and their contributions. Doing so requires processes that recognise these children and young people as expert leaders (rangatira) on their stories, lived experience and knowledge, uphold their mana, and add value to their lives.

Kia Tika, Kia Pono – Honouring Truths is an ethical framework to guide engagement with tamariki (children) and rangatahi (young people) who are care experienced. Centring the voices and priorities of rangatahi with care experience, ‘Kia Tika, Kia Pono’ is intended for use by organisations and others working across the range of sectors and services that seek to engage tamariki and rangatahi who are care experienced in governance, policy making, service design, media or research. Its purpose is to ensure that these efforts are ethical, meaningful, and culturally safe. Grounded in Te Tiriti o Waitangi and participatory rights frameworks, ‘Kia Tika, Kia Pono’ is responsive to the cultural context of New Zealand. It is also distinctive in its centring of rangatahi with care experience as both knowledge-holders and knowledge-creators.

Funding support for Kia Tika, Kia Pono was provided by:

- Waipapa Taumata Rau/The University of Auckland Faculty Research Development Fund
- MBIE Endeavour Fund – Smart Ideas Grant
- Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga (Publication Support Grant)

8 WHAI PŪKENGA

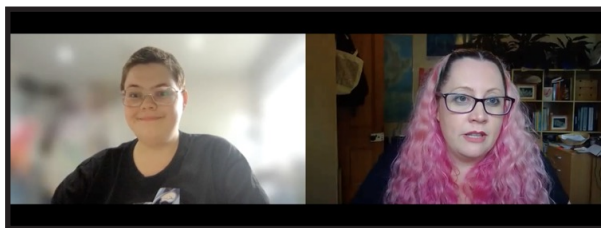
Help equip children and young people in care for their future.

“ RANGATAHI TOLD US:

“Equip us for our future. Teach us skills that can promote our wellbeing; our health, our relationships, our recreation, our education and employments. Partner with others so that we can benefit from opportunities and experiences that are fun and challenging.”

Vaccine Zui

Dr. Siouxsie Wiles (a Microbiologist who is qualified to research and factually talk about viruses like COVID!) had a Zoom with some of our care experienced young people. National Youth Council member, Albie, led the session which included questions sent in from members of the care community.



Kempe Conference

Ihorangi Reweti-Peters and Tupua Urlich opened the conference. The VOYCE National Youth Council developed and conducted a workshop titled “Moving from Intergenerational Trauma through to Youth Voice and Advocacy”.

Voyage for VOYCE Scholarships

This year we have been fortunate to begin to allocate scholarships to rangatahi in care aged between 16 – 18 years old to have the amazing chance to go on a life-changing Spirit of Adventure voyage!

Solo sailor and former foster kid Elana Connor sailed a figure-8 around Aotearoa in 2020/21 to raise money through givealittle to kickstart the Voyage for VOYCE Scholarship Fund.

It's aimed at supporting and developing rangatahi in care through outdoor education, an opportunity they might not otherwise get. The 10-day Voyage is the experience of a lifetime, building self-confidence, friendships and resilience, all the right stuff that helps to get through tough times.



CREATE Conference

The online CREATE Australia Conference was held 26-29 April. Tupua Urlich, National Care Experience Lead, and Glenis Philip-Barbara, Assistant Māori Children's Commissioner, conducted an interview and follow up Q & A regarding Tupua's secondment to the Office of the Children's Commissioner. National Youth Council did three presentations at this conference and members participated in the Transitions Panel and the Siblings Panel.



9 RANGATIRATANGA

Build leadership among children and young people in care.

“ RANGATAHI TOLD US:

“Build our leadership as children and young people in the care system. Invest in our training and development to grow our ability to be leaders in our own lives. Support our role in shaping, evaluating and holding to account services provided to children and young people in care and the wider care system. Involve us increasingly in the leadership, governance and delivery of this service and others.”

National Youth Council Activities

The National Youth Council undertook an intensive programme to grow their rangatiratanga and ability to use their experiences and stories to influence and champion systems change. The COVID-19 outbreak and lockdowns impacted their ability to participate kanohi ki te kanohi (face to face), but as a testament to the resilience of these rangatahi, sessions were moved online.

July 2021 (In person). The National Youth Council Wānanga in Tāmaki Makaurau was a joint meeting between Tau Tuarua (Year Two) and Tau Tuatahi (Year One) members. Members led filming and discussion around development of curriculum. Sarah Helm of the New Zealand Drug Foundation led a session on Media Advocacy Training. Some council members attended a joint meeting with the Youth Advocacy Group of Oranga Tamariki to offer organisational strategy and feedback for the newly formed Ministerial Advisory Board.

August 2021 (Online). Highlights included training by youth advocate, Calla Peltier-Olson, on Intersectionality for Youth Leaders, and an extended meeting with Tumu Whakarae (CEO), Tracie Shipton, training on advocacy and future training needs.

September 2021 (Online). Agenda included presentations from Nicolette Dickson on the Oranga Tamariki (OT) Policy and Decision-Making Process; Michelle Barry, OT Social Worker on “A Day in the Life of an OT Social Worker”; and a Social Media Takeover presentation by Communications department staffer Sydney-Anne Martin.



National Youth Council Activities, *continued*

October 2021 (Online). Meeting included a presentation by Professor Michelle Erai on Te Tiriti o Waitangi as it relates to rangatahi in care; and two council-led presentations on supporting our physical health wellness (by Rylie) and a presentation on care experienced youth and mental health concerns (by Ebony).

November 2021. Individual projects were the focus of this month's National Youth Council work.

December 2021 (Online). Hui included a presentation by former foster youth Katarina Sayally on Emotional and Community Regulation: Nurturing Ourselves and Each Other. There was also an interesting discussion on council interest in influencing Ministry of Justice and/or Mental Health First Aid Projects. The VOYCE - Whakarongo Mai Insights & Impact Team presented an end of year NYC accomplishments followed by council reflections and gratitude/appreciations.



January 2022 (Online). Tau Tuatahi graduated to Tau Tuarua status. Year began with a focus on whakawhanaungatanga, storytelling, decompression and awhi/support. Topics also included future conversations with Members of Parliament, upcoming advocacy opportunities and collecting feedback for the Oranga Tamariki Oversight System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill.

February 2022 (Online). Hui included meeting ACT care experienced Member of Parliament, Karen Chhour. New VOYCE - Whakarongo Mai National Youth Participation Lead, Ashley Shearar, attended. Planning for future youth council meetings with members of parliament. Meeting culminated with an online appreciation activity.

March 2022 (Online). Meeting had a focus on Storyboarding a plan to present at the CREATE Australia conference; upcoming advocacy opportunities and whakawhanaungatanga - with rangatahi led games and virtual team competitions using Jackbox!



April 2022. NYC focussed on Individual Council Projects in lieu of an in-person meeting. There was also the online CREATE Australia Conference presentation led by National Youth Council Members.

May 2022 (In-person). Wānanga was held in Tauranga. Pilot presentation and feedback session on "What I wish I knew: Promoting transparency with care experienced youth" led by previous council member, Isaac Heron. In person presentation by Tumu Whakarae (CEO), Tracie Shipton. Plus, was the council's first in person meeting with new National Youth Participation Lead, Ashley Shearar.

June 2022. Individual projects completed by council members. The year culminated with four council members travelling to the USA! First stop was Los Angeles, California to meet with foster youth and juvenile justice advocates, followed by attendance at the National Foster Youth Institute Shadow Day in Washington DC with Jamie Lee Evans and Diane Heta.



10 GROWTH / LOCATIONS



38,396
website
views



Top 3 referrals:

1. VOYCE Facebook
2. VOYCE LinkedIn
3. Oranga Tamariki website

Top 4 web pages viewed:

1. Homepage
2. About VOYCE
3. Contact Us
4. OT Oversight Bill



Social media



Page reach:
78,592
(up 169.8% on the
previous year)

Page likes:
4,678

Followers:
3,100
(increase of 800+
since last year)



Followers:
1,600
(across both accounts)

Posts total reach:
379,035



Followers:
839

Average
engagement rate:
2.7%

Posts total reach:
23,613

Posts total likes:
659



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- VOYCEWhakarongoMai
- voycen
- VOYCENZ
- VOYCE - Whakarongo Mai

LOCATION MAP



MAP LEGEND:

- Operating offices
- Satellite sites



STATEMENT FROM THE CEO

Reflection on the last year has highlighted the incredible growth and maturity of VOYCE – Whakorongo Mai as both an organisation and a movement. When the organisation opened its doors five years ago it was just a board with a vision and mission to build “a community which connects children and young people in care and promotes the individual and collective voice so they can influence the care system to meet their needs and realise aspirations.”

Fast forward to 2021/2022 and we see an organisation that has teams of advocates throughout Aotearoa reaching into hard to get to rural areas and dealing with hard to hear stories.

I see an organisation that has young people driving change, confident to sit in with ministers, speak to select committees, stand and present at the Royal Commission of Inquiry into State Care Abuse, create policy, work with government and non-government alike, write curriculum for social work training and push for change to have the voice of care experience at the centre of social service development and evolution. This has been the work of our rangatahi, not only from the National Youth Council but from the regions.

They have done this with a drive and determination that is palpable.

Whilst our attempts to see change in legislation are not always met with the desired results, we are optimistic and encouraged by the inclusion and promotion of young people with care experience at the leadership and decision making tables in many areas of influence. This is the change our young people have made.

All of this has been made possible with the support from our amazing philanthropic partners who uniquely fund all our rangatahi and tamariki development work.

It has been made possible also by the incredible work of our powerhouse regional teams supporting frontline workers (kaiwhakamana) who, through advocacy, build relationships with young people to support their voice and visibility. And also with the strategic drive of our board, whose vision and expertise bring reality to dreams.

The year has been one that has been distinctly marked by the strength and public profile of youth voice.

The architects behind this incredible growth and maturation are the leadership team, of whom I am enormously proud of their skill, talent and ability to reset. They have set the stage for a strong future for VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai.

Tracie Shipton
Tumu Whakarae
Chief Executive, VOYCE – Whakarongo Mai



FINANCIALS

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$
INCOME FROM NON EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS		
Donations and Grants Received	534,357	331,545
INCOME FROM EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS		
Contract Income	4,724,222	5,387,742
Dividends Received	460	280
Interest Received	14,987	16,754
Other Income	24,040	30,525
Total Income	5,298,066	5,766,846
LESS EXPENSES		
Audit Fees	9,300	8,525
Donations and Koha	23,827	1,638
Employee Expenses	3,666,101	3,320,146
Lease Expenses	-	85,823
Rents	254,479	221,636
Service Delivery Expenses	982,783	1,213,686
Trustees Fees and Expenses	61,165	124,120
Total Expenses	4,997,655	4,975,574
Net Surplus Before Depreciation	300,411	791,272
LESS DEPRECIATION ADJUSTMENTS		
Depreciation	204,386	234,000
Loss on Sale	5,573	523
	209,959	234,523
NET SURPLUS	90,452	556,749

Statement of Financial Position As at 30 June 2022

CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,970,071	2,704,348
GST Refund Due	22,173	33,404
Accounts Receivable	54,745	32,076
Prepayments	41,149	33,951
Total Current Assets	3,088,138	2,803,779
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	529,272	637,253
TOTAL ASSETS	3,617,410	3,441,032
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	156,397	189,180
Accrued Expenses	41,087	60,463
Accrued Expenses – Employee Entitlements	298,134	259,893
Income in Advance – Current	276,971	176,498
Total Current Liabilities	772,589	686,664
TOTAL LIABILITIES	772,589	686,664
NET ASSETS	2,844,821	2,754,368
Represented by:		
TRUSTEES FUNDS – Retained Earnings	2,844,821	2,754,368
TOTAL TRUSTEES FUNDS	2,844,821	2,754,368

HE AHA TE KAI O TE RANGATIRA, HE KŌRERO, HE KŌRERO, HE KŌRERO

What is the food of leaders, it is **words**, it is **words**, it is **words**.



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