

Alliance Health+ Trust

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In 2010, Alliance Health+ (AH+) was established in response to the Ministry of Health policy Better, Sooner, More Convenient (BSMC) Health Care in the Community and resulted in the consolidation of three Pacific-led Primary Health Organisations (PHOs): Ta Pasifika (Bader Drive and Southseas), Auckpac, and Tongan Health Society. In addition, AH+ was selected to participate in another Government initiative called Whanau Ora which provided an exciting opportunity to enhance primary care and include other Pacific NGO providers such as Healthstar Pacific and Penina Trust to strengthen the 'holistic model of care' approach.

Whilst BSMC is essentially aimed at the delivery of primary health care services by investing more resourcing in frontline services (i.e. vertical integration), Whanau Ora provides a platform to enhance primary care by formalising robust strategic and operational relationships intersectorally (i.e. horizontal integration).

"Whanau Ora is about empowering whanau to take control of their future. What we want for our whanau is to be self-determining, to be living healthy lifestyles, to be participating fully in society and to be economically secure." (Hon. Tariana Turia)

The collective developed O Le Aiga ma le Fanau ia Ola Pacific philosophy for Whanau Ora which describes health and wellbeing in the context of relationships, social environments, and the wider determinants of health. It takes a long-term perspective of building for future generations.

AH+ also conducted community consultations and family fonos to help inform the AH+ ap-

proach to Whanau Ora Programme of Action and Business Case. These were well attended and here is some of the feedback:

"I can't even begin to think about my health needs until I get the other priorities sorted!" (Whanau)

"No one ever wins at WINZ." (Whanau)

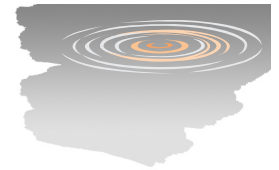
"I want a service where people will walk with me, not just talk at me." (Whanau)

"Why do we get called high and complex needs, we should be called poorly serviced." (Whanau)

"My hope is that my kids do not repeat the same mistakes I made around money—I admit I made some bad decisions but my kids shouldn't have to suffer because of it." (Whanau)

"How can we constantly prescribe asthmatic medication when the families continue to live in an overcrowded, cold, damp, mouldy home that aggravates and triggers asthma attacks. If we addressed the housing problem first we can remedy and relieve the asthmatic condition." (Nurse)

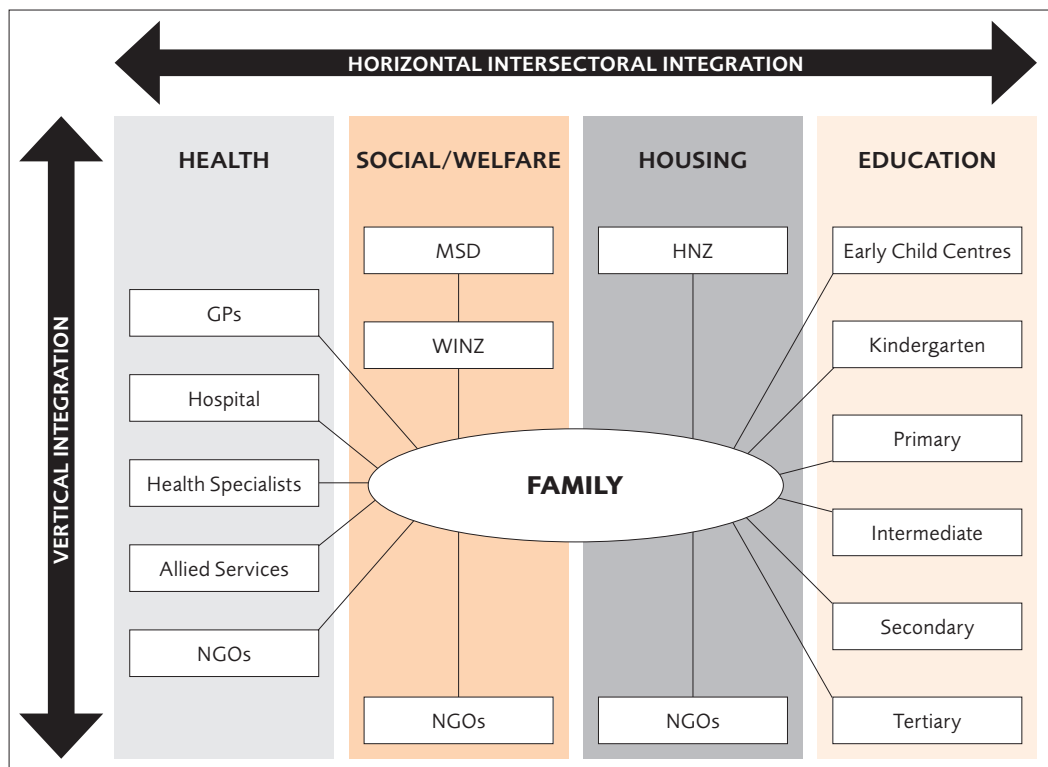
"We often have to do those things outside of our contract so we can achieve the outcome." (Provider)



VAIKOLOA

Pacific Primary
Health Care
Treasures

*Vai (water)
is a symbol of
'life-source' and
koloa (treasures)
to share*



"I already practice in a whanau way so whanau ora isn't new to Pacific." (Provider)

"Our contracts are so restrictive and consequences appear punitive, we feel guilty when we venture outside the scope of our contracts but if we didn't we wouldn't get the outcomes." (Provider)

The feedback strongly aligned with the AH+ philosophy and model of care to provide holistic services to patients and families through the engagement of wider health and social services.

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The common themes from these consultations and fonos recommended the need for a coordinated effort of both BSMC and Whanau Ora approaches to help improve outcomes for families and communities.

AH+ would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Ministry of Health and Te Puni Kokiri for their support and the courage to allow AH+ the flexibility to explore how both strategies could be reconciled for the betterment of families and the communities they serve.

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