



Hauora Tāhine

Pathways to Transgender
Healthcare Services



Update – January 2019

Kia ora koutou,

In this update:

1. Transgender Health Project – transitioning to business as usual
2. Transgender Peer Support Tender – Live on GETS 1 February 2019
3. Trans Health Symposium – May 2019

Transgender Health Project – transitioning to business as usual

The transgender health project has now been running in the Northern Region for over 5 years, with the first documents drafted in 2013. The project has had dedicated staff since September 2016. In January 2019 the Project Manager finishes their contract, following the Clinical Lead finishing their contract in September 2018. The Transgender Clinical and Consumer Advisory Group have also completed their term.

A number of significant achievements have been made throughout the course of the project to date:

- Dedicated and increased funding for the key transgender health services provided through Centre for Youth Health (CfYH) and Auckland Regional Sexual Health Service (ARSHS), now receiving 300 referrals per year;
- A Peer Support Service for the Northern Region, funded from 1 July 2019;
- Health Pathways for GPs, and significant public information available about Hauora Tāhine;
- Publication of clinical guidelines for the care of transgender people in the Northern Region (available for download from: <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/public/sexual-health/hauora-tahine-pathways-to-transgender-healthcare/>);
- Celebrating Transgender Awareness Week in November 2018; and
- E-Learning modules available to DHB staff through Ko Awatea LEARN.

Over the course of the project, the Northern Region DHBs have become the leading providers of gender affirming healthcare to transgender and gender diverse people in New Zealand, with 300 referrals received per year. To read more about the project, visit the project page on the ADHB website: <http://adhb.health.nz/our-services/a-z-services/transgender-health-services-for-the-northern-region/>

As the Transgender Health work continues, a Clinical Governance Group (CGG) led by CfYH and ARSHS take on the leadership role for Hauora Tāhine. To get in touch with the CGG, contact Julia Burgess Shaw, Julia.BurgessShaw@middlemore.co.nz (secretariat).

Transgender Peer Support Tender – Opens 1 February 2019

Peer Support was identified as a priority by the Northern Region Transgender Clinical and Consumer Advisory Group in their 2017 work plan, and is proven to be an effective way to support access and engagement with healthcare. Health and social support services in New Zealand have a long history of using the peer support model to deliver services.

The Transgender Peer Support Service tender will be live on GETS (Government Electronic Tendering Service) from 1 February 2019, with applications closing on 1 March 2019. The service is expected to start 1 July 2019. All enquiries must be received through the GETS website: <https://www.gets.govt.nz>.

Trans Health Symposium – May 2019

University of Waikato will be hosting a symposium on trans health on Saturday, 4th May 2019.

The symposium will bring people together for interactive sessions on research and clinical practice in the area of trans people's health. They will release key findings from Counting Ourselves, discuss the latest guidelines for clinical practice, and plan ways to build networks for people around Aotearoa who are working on trans health.

The call for submissions closes on 6 February 2019! To learn more and make a submission, visit: <https://www.waikato.ac.nz/staff-profiles/people/jveale/aotearoa-new-zealand-trans-health-symposium-call-for-submissions>.

**Transgender is used as a generic word which acknowledges the diversity of terms that people may use to describe themselves. This can include (but is not limited to): Aikāne, Akava'ine, Fa'afafine, Fa'atama, Fafafine, Fakaleiti, Māhū, Tāhine, Trans, Transsexual, Genderqueer, Whakawāhine, Tangata ira tāne, Vakasalewalewa, Palopa.*