

Next Steps

Ngā Mahi a muri ake nei

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North Canterbury based health & wellbeing online directory



Next Steps Website

Hurunui District Council

Case Story #10



Introduction

The goal of the Next Steps Website is about empowering people to take the next step for their wellbeing. It is guided by Te Whare Tapa Whā which is a model for health and wellbeing and describes a wharenuī / meeting house with four walls. These walls represent spiritual wellbeing, mental and emotional wellbeing, physical wellbeing and family and social wellbeing. **Looking to...** boost your mood, get in shape, or find some helpful resources. Next Steps online wellbeing directory has got you covered. It's like the cool, knowledgeable friend.

Background

The website is a collaboration between Hurunui District Council, Waimakariri District Council and Social Services Waimakariri and Together Hurunui. Coming out of the covid lockdowns we wanted to give the power back to people to seek out help independently to help themselves. The website started showcasing mental health agencies and services but has grown to include lots of different information portals, such as a dedicated page for migrants and youth.

Challenges

People were isolated during lockdowns, dealing with lots of challenges within their family lives and homes. They were needing support but not sure where to look for it, or who might be the best agency to help.



Solutions

- To create a website that could provide basic agency or service contact details directly to the user/seeker.
- To fund the development Waimakariri District Council applied to the Lotteries Community Fund, so not to put the burden onto ratepayers.
- The website listings would be for agencies, services, community groups, businesses (like medical centres) that work in, or support those that live in the Waimakariri and Hurunui districts.

Outcomes

- A comprehensive, well thought out website with 226* business/community listings that had 456 user sessions for October 2023. *as at 1/11/2023
- A wide range of Next Steps resources that support the promotion of the website in the community; bookmarks, table talkers, magnets, posters, printed pencils and wrist bands.
- Collaboration between two councils to support the communities of North Canterbury.
- Increased connection with Hurunui medical centres, vet clinics and schools enabling staff to gather intel from those working on the ground.

The Future...

- Populating the youth and migrant website pages with further information and increasing the listings to provide even more comprehensive support to our communities.
- Keeping the directory active and current.
- Aspirational promotion is marketing the website further to school teachers, doctors and health professionals throughout North Canterbury so everyone is aware of it.
- Our vision is that a couple of friends could be catching up, one is not doing well and the other person asks " Have you checked out the Next Steps website? "

“ *The Next Steps Website has been a game changer for our community. Having a one stop shop where locals can access the support they need without the stigma that sometimes goes with that has been invaluable.*

Stakeholders have also been big advocates for the project directing their networks to the site. ”

Natalie Paterson, Together Hurunui Facilitator

Our Funder

Media Release: [Hurunui communities cover for life's roadblocks](#)



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