



The Journey Forward Update

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A Message from the Programme Manager

It is with great regret that I advise of my intention to leave the position as programme manager for The Journey Forward. My two year contract has expired, and while an extension was offered it personally feels like the right time to move on. This has been a very hard decision to make. It has been an amazing journey for me and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with everyone on it. My grateful thanks go out to all involved with this work for your energy and commitment.

The DHB's intention is to develop and recruit to a more permanent role (mental health planning and funding manager), and this person lead the continuous implementation of The Journey Forward. I know that there is a real commitment from senior management and the board to continue support for the progress that we have been making.

Resources have already been secured for the coming year and will ensure that implementation of the projects you'll read about below will come to fruition. In the meantime I hope to see as many of you as possible over the next month to say goodbye and thanks personally.

Melanie Beirne

Forum to Recap & Refocus Progress

In May the Leadership Group held a half-day forum to review the work achieved and refocus on the work still to do. It was timely for the Leadership Group to review the aims and activity of The Journey Forward and examine them in the context of Te Kokiri, the Ministry of Health's Mental Health & Addictions Action Plan (2006). Mapping of all mental health activity – primarily related to The Journey Forward, against Te Kōkiri has been completed. All work is successfully contributing to the implementation of this significant National plan.

A separate report on the outcomes of the forum will be published shortly.

Work Stream Updates:

Addictions Service Development

Gill Redfern has been appointed on a part-time basis to write the joint Hutt Valley DHB and C&C DHB Addictions Service Development Plan on behalf of the joint working group, the addictions network, and other relevant stakeholders. This will be completed by the end of this year.

Wet House

The wet house is on track to be opened in Wellington early next year. This will be a first of its kind in New Zealand.

Coordination of Information, Quality & Evaluation

An evaluation template called “intervention logic framework” is being considered for ongoing use by the Leadership Group. This is a tool for evaluating the outcomes of all new Journey Forward service developments. It is being trialled first with the Community Based Enhanced Mental Health Recovery Houses that were established last year.

Improving Access to Primary Care & Mental Health Services

C&C DHB has endorsed the *Integrated Framework* that describes how the goal of improving access will be pursued. The key move is to establish a cross-sector *Collaborative Group* of people. Their tasks will be to identify and encourage initiatives to improve integration, collaboration and responsiveness of services.

Local Innovation Groups to nurture such initiatives will be encouraged and a process to enable their formation will be agreed. **For more information**, click on **The Integrated Framework** or go to the Journey Forward page on the **C&C DHB website** to read the full document.

A physical health group within Improving Access is at work using Plan, Do, Study, Act (**PDSA**) principles to encourage sharing of information between specialist mental health services and primary health. It is working to develop a system that specialist teams can use for monitoring the physical health of their clients. Local Innovation group development will progress this pathway linking primary and specialist services.

A proposal for trialling a Pacific link worker to improve access to mental health services for Pacific people will be developed this year.

Acute & Crisis Workstream

There is a close link between the work of Improving access and making Acute and Crisis services more responsive to the community's needs. Work is progressing to integrate crisis services with local community mental health teams to provide easier access to a range of services for clients.

Other developments include:

- The Mental Health line will be extended to a 24 hour service and 0800 number.
- The new Short Term Assessment & Recovery (STARs) service is aiming to open in September/October.
- Te Whare O Matairangi (Ward 27) is to have a significant upgrade and redesign commencing in August. The architect for the work has been informed by both the **Gender** and **Trauma** papers mentioned in The Journey Forward Update Issue 5. These are available on the C&C DHB website.

Sharing of information

Please forward this update. If you would like to receive this information directly please e-mail journeyforward@kites.org.nz and we will add your e-mail address to the database.

If you no longer wish to receive these updates then please let us know by e-mailing journeyforward@kites.org.nz

Population Health

Journey Forward Roadshow:

*We can come to you if
your group or service
would like to hear more
about the Journey
Forward programme
please e-mail;
journeyforward@kites.org.nz
or phone 04-384-3303*

The Journey Forward is increasingly contributing to developments within population health:

- A comprehensive Child & Youth Strategy for improving services to this population was presented at the recent Leadership Group's Recap and Refocus forum.
- Collaboration between the C&C DHB Provider Arm (Transcultural Services) and NGO's (Te Roopu Whakapakari Ora Trust) and (Te Roopu Pookai Taaniwhaniwha) has led to the initial scoping of an innovative service to support Maori. The Journey Forward Leadership Group gave their support to progressing this.
- Progress is being made to integrate the Pacific Island Reference Group (C&C DHB) into The Journey Forward programme. The reference group will be able to provide valuable advice.
- A recommended service model for consumers in mental health services who are ageing is now in its early stages of development.
- Members of the Journey Forward programme are building links with refugee and migrant communities and disability groups with a view to developing plans in response to their specific population needs.