



Emergency packages of care delivered to rangatahi by rangatahi

As part of the COVID-19 response, the two DHBs – Hutt Valley and Capital & Coast – have funded some emergency packages of care (EPOCs) to support Māori, Pasifika, people with disabilities, and rangatahi (youth) in need of extra support. EPOCs can include food, petrol and paying for utilities like power and gas.

The assessment and delivery of EPOCs in most of the region is being managed by Youth One Stop Shops (YOSS) which offer a range of primary healthcare services in one place for young people. Because there is no YOSS in Porirua, #YouthQuake, stepped in.

#YouthQuake is a group of rangatahi who are working with CCDHB to develop a YOSS for Porirua.

#YouthQuake members, Mel Thetadig and Alistair Paiti, in partnership with Maraeroa Marae, have been reaching out to Porirua rangatahi in need of additional support to offer EPOCs. To date, 200 rangatahi have been identified and the team have reached out to 105 of them to assess and offer an EPOC.

Mel and Alistair say the experience is really satisfying.

“We are in a position to help rangatahi in a practical way, and it puts our community focused skills to great use.”

They say they are receiving awesome messages of thanks and are confident the EPOCs are going to those who need them most. The support enables rangatahi to have a role in contributing to their wider whānau needs.