



SOUTH WAIKATO DISTRICT ACTION PLAN

TRIALING NEW APPROACHES TO SOCIAL SECTOR CHANGE

JULY 2014 – JUNE 2015



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***MEHEMEA KA MOEMOEA AHAU, KO AHAU ANAKE; MEHEMEA KA
MOEMOEA TĀTOU, KA TAEA E TĀTOU***

***IF I DREAM, I DREAM ALONE; IF WE SHARE THE DREAM, THE DREAM
SHALL BE ACHIEVED***

Na Te Puea Herangi



THE SOCIAL SECTOR TRIALS

Social Sector Trials (SSTs) are operating in 16 communities around New Zealand. Tokoroa, then South Waikato District was one of the first six SST communities and the Trial has been in place since March 2011.

The term of these first six SSTs has been extended twice, and will continue operating until at least 30 June 2015.

This document is the third SST action plan for South Waikato. Please refer to earlier action plans for SST background information, local data and progress information. These are available at www.msd.govt.nz/social-sector-trials.

THE CHANGE FOR 2014-2015

The South Waikato SST has focused on improving outcomes for 12–18 year olds through:

- reduced truancy
- reduced offending
- reduced alcohol and other drug abuse
- increased participation in education, employment and training.

From 1 July 2014, the focus population for these outcomes expands to 5–18 year olds.

GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL GOVERNANCE

The Chair of the Cabinet Social Policy Committee (SOC) has ultimate responsibility for the SSTs. A Ministerial sub-committee provides oversight and decision-making for the SSTs. The Ministerial sub-committee is currently the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Justice, Chair of the Cabinet Social Policy Committee (and Minister of Health), Minister of Education, Minister for Social Development, Minister of Police and Minister of Youth Affairs. A Joint Venture Board, comprising the chief executives of the ministries of Social Development, Health, Education, Justice and the New Zealand Police, acts as a governance group for the SSTs. The Chair of the Joint Venture Board is the Chief Executive of Social Development. A Director: Social Sector Trials has responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the SSTs.

ADVISORY GROUP

An advisory group has been in place since March 2011 and will remain in place for 2014–15. The group acts as a mechanism for collaboration and communication and ensures the endorsement and ownership of the plan. The advisory group in the South Waikato District is made up of stakeholders who represent decision makers and leaders. Local members include:

- Senior Sergeant (Officer in Charge of Station), New Zealand Police (NZ Police)
- Youth Aid Officer, NZ Police
- Iwi Liaison Officer, NZ Police
- Senior Advisor, Ministry of Education (MOE)
- General Manager, Te Puna Oranga
- Māori Liaison Staff, Midlands Health Network
- Portfolio Manager, Planning and Funding, Waikato District Health Board (DHB)
- General Manager, Raukawa Charitable Trust (RCT)
- Deputy Chair, RCT (co-Chair)
- Representative, Tokoroa and South Waikato Principals' Association
- Principal, Tokoroa High School
- Principal, Forest View High School
- Principal, Putaruru College
- Representative, Youth Advisory Board
- Mayor, South Waikato District Council (co-Chair)
- Deputy Mayor, South Waikato District Council
- Representative, South Waikato Pacific Island Community Services
- Representative, Tokoroa Council of Social Services
- Kaumātua Kaunihera.

New membership may be sought to provide expertise due to the age extension.

DELIVERY OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

The South Waikato SST is led by Raukawa Charitable Trust (RCT). As lead, RCT plans social service delivery, manages contracts, oversees agency staff (as agreed with agencies), develops networks, engages with the community and influences social services (such as statutory services) outside its direct control.



THIS PLAN

This document outlines those actions that will be taken through the joined-up Trials approach, from 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015.

Some actions are new and some build on actions in previous plans that will now be extended to the wider age group.

Together these actions represent a commitment to the South Waikato District of a work programme to improve outcomes for 5–18 year olds.

DEVELOPING THIS PLAN

This plan was developed in consultation with advisory group members and other key stakeholders, including key community leaders, whānau and young people. The information and feedback we received through this process has influenced the direction that we will be taking over the next 12 months. This includes ongoing development of relationships and a review of the effectiveness of actions taken to date to ensure that our efforts are well targeted.

OUR PRIORITIES ARE TO:

- build on work to date and introduce some new thinking to ensure the outcomes for our children, young people and family are being met
- support collaboration, coordination and communication with all stakeholders of current programmes and services
- continue to add to the mix of community activities such as Children's Day and South Waikato Youth Week. We will help fill some gaps, as well as be responsive to the needs of our children, young people and families and be capable of any change that is necessary.

The South Waikato District has a wide range of cultural activities (school culture groups and community culture events) which support our children, young people and families develop a sense of self and well-being and achieve at school. These activities include:

- the Pasifika by Nature Secondary Schools, which is a gathering of students who are studying at secondary schools in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions. Students showcase their cultures in true Pacific style with traditional songs and drumbeats. The Pacific cultures in our District include the Cook Islands, Tongan, Kiribati, Samoan, Niuean, Fijian, Tokelauan and Hawaiian.
- the South Waikato Cultural Festival (formerly known as the Polynesian Festival), which showcases local talent and represents the rich cultures that inhabit our District. Cultural identity is imperative to our children, young people and their families.

As a District we are regionally and nationally recognised for our sporting prowess in many fields – soccer, rugby union, touch rugby, BMX riding, golf, squash and rugby league. We will continue to encourage and promote an active and healthy lifestyle incorporating sport in the lives of our youth.

ACTIVITIES & PROGRESS

Under the South Waikato SST, a number collaborative actions and other initiatives have been progressed towards reducing truancy, offending, alcohol and other drug abuse, and increasing participation in education, training and employment. These include:

- success in **decreasing truancy** through the proactive approach of the Integrated Attendance Service and its support for school management of attendance at schools. The SST's concerted effort and innovative approach to reducing truancy has been recognised by the Minister of Education, Honourable Hekia Parata. Our focus for the next 12 months, as set out in this plan, is to ensure a good quality service continues to all the schools. We will maintain and continue our "It's not okay to miss a day" campaign and Youth Workers in Schools
- using the positive community spaces in the District such as South Waikato Events Centre, Putaruru Community Youth Centre, Tokoroa Community Youth Media and Music Hub and the YMCA. These areas provide activities that support early intervention, safety and prevention and restorative pathways to decrease **youth offending**. We have identified that a high proportion of youth offenders are Māori, so have been working with RCT Waka Taua Programme and the local NZ Police to develop more strategies to reverse this trend. Another area of focus is to develop and implement the Driver Licence Programme as we have seen a significant rise in traffic breaches by our young people
- **alcohol and other drug abuse** is a major contributor to truancy and youth offending, and can cause serious harm. Our aim is to ensure non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and government services collaborate effectively to support our most vulnerable children, young people and families. In 2013, CareNZ confirmed that South Waikato schools have the highest number of referrals to the school-based addiction treatment service than any other community that the service covers. The South Waikato community advisory group for alcohol and other drug abuse is currently developing plans for the District. The advisory group held a workshop with the Waikato DHB for service providers, youth workers, schools, health clinics, training centres and young people to discuss how we can reduce the barriers for young people and their families needing support. The aim is to develop a fresh youth-focused model of care for young people in the Waikato Region experiencing drug and alcohol problems
- various forums throughout the South Waikato District work hard to ensure that community needs are met in creating **education, training and employment opportunities**. The aim is to build close relationships with schools, tertiary/training providers and employers to enable early career assessment and work experience for young people, to ensure they get the skills they need to obtain sustainable employment
- the SST has created opportunities for agencies, services, and individuals to work together **and support collaboration, co-ordination and communication**, share resources, build trust and a shared sense of purpose, and facilitate better outcomes for young people. The community hub is being used more by community and visiting groups, who share resources such as personnel, facilities and equipment
- governance and operational group structures have been instrumental in focusing on joint actions, resulting in improved collaboration to achieve outcomes and a positive climate for decision-making at a local level.



Nurture young minds today so they may become leaders of tomorrow

“

ACTIONS REDUCE TRUANCY

	Actions	Milestones	Responsibility
1.1	Further develop common attendance structures and guidelines for all South Waikato District schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By December 2014, the Tokoroa Attendance Group (TAG) and Putaruru Attendance Group (ROCK ON) will develop and maintain common processes. 	<p>Lead: TAG, ROCK ON</p> <p>Key partners: South Waikato Principals' Association, Ministry of Education (MOE), Tokoroa Council of Social Services (TCOSS), Social Workers In Schools (SWIS), Raukawa Charitable Trust – Youth Workers in Schools (RCT YWIS), health and social service workers</p>
1.2	Maintain and continue "It's not okay to miss a day" District-wide truancy campaign.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By October 2014, revitalise "My Village" website. ➤ By October 2014, disseminate information to all parents on "It's not okay to miss a day". ➤ By December 2014, develop a memorandum of understanding with the Central Business District (CBD) instituting a consistent approach to identifying and responding to truants for a truancy-free CBD. ➤ By December 2014, investigate measures for and identify methods to reduce parental-condoned truancy. ➤ By February 2014, have a strategy in place for working with parents and caregivers to support school attendance. ➤ By March 2015, ensure parents and caregivers of all new students have been given information on "It's not okay to miss a day." 	<p>Lead: TCOSS</p> <p>Key partners: South Waikato Principals' Association, TAG, NZ Police, TCOSS, SWIS, RCT YWIS, South Waikato District Council, all community leaders and businesses, SST Project Manager</p>
1.3	Continue to deliver the Attendance Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By June 2015, reduce the rates of non-enrolled and unjustifiably absent students by at least 25 percent and intermittent unjustified absence numbers by 30 percent. 	<p>Lead: TCOSS</p> <p>Key partners: All schools, MOE</p>
1.4	Continue the YWIS Programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ From December 2014, provide 220 hours intensive youth mentoring per month and a minimum of 50 individual development plans. 	<p>Lead: RCT</p> <p>Key partners: Tokoroa High, Forest View High (including Alternative Education), Tokoroa Intermediate, Tainui Full Primary, Amisfield School, ETE and Youth Guarantee programme providers, MOE</p>



Mou te kō, mou te 'ere, kia pūkuru o vaevae e kia mokorā ō kakī
Hold the stick firmly, tie firmly to it, so your feet can be firmly planted
on the ground and you can stretch your neck (tall) like a duck

ACTIONS REDUCE OFFENDING

	Action	Milestone	Responsibility
2.1	Develop a youth crime action plan to focus on early intervention, prevention and restorative pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By September 2014, establish a Youth Offending Team (YOT). ➤ By September 2014, engage local Iwi and Kaumatua to support a framework to decrease the number of and provide support to Māori offenders. ➤ By October 2014, draft an action plan to decrease offending by children and young people, including a framework to support and decrease the number of Māori offenders. ➤ By November 2014, implement the action plan. 	<p>Lead: YOT, SST Project Manager</p> <p>Key partners: NZ Police, Ministry of Justice (MOJ), Ministry of Social Development (MSD) (Child, Youth and Family (CYF)), Māori representative, Pacific representative, Waikato District Health Board (DHB), MOE.</p>
2.2	Continue to deliver Blue Light Ventures early intervention programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By December 2014, deliver early intervention programmes to at least 25 at-risk children and young people to reduce their likelihood of coming to notice of CYF and NZ Police. ➤ By July 2015, deliver early intervention programmes for a further 25 or more at-risk children and young people. 	<p>Lead: Blue Light Ventures Limited</p> <p>Key partners: NZ Police, MSD CYF, MSD Family and Community Services (FACS)</p>
2.3	Continue to run positive community programmes for children, young people and family to support early intervention, safety and prevention and to also support restorative pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ From July 2014, deliver the community CLUBs mentoring programme to at least 240 young people monthly at the Tokoroa Youth Media and Music Hub and Putaruru Youth Centre. ➤ By December 2014, involve at least 300 children and young people in the after-school programme at the Tokoroa Youth Media and Music Hub, Putaruru Youth Centre and Putaruru Gospel Chapel. 	<p>Lead: RCT, Putaruru Youth Matters Trust, and Putaruru Thrive Gospel Youth Group</p> <p>Key partners: All schools and educational providers</p>
2.4	Reduce the number of young people committing driving offences by increasing the provision of learner and restricted license training and support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By August 2014, appoint a sub-committee to develop a driver's license project. ➤ By October 2014, develop the Driver's License Project and source funding to support young people to achieve their licenses with a subsidy. ➤ By November 2014, implement the Driver's License Project within the District's secondary schools and tertiary providers for young people aged 16 years and over, with a minimum target of 20 students per month. 	<p>Lead: Youth Guarantee Advisory Group and the South Waikato Lifelong Learning Group</p> <p>Key partners: NZ Police, South Waikato District secondary schools and other educational providers.</p>
2.5	Run an early intervention programme, 'Wai Rangatahi', to improve the self-esteem and life skills of at-risk young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By December 2014, develop individual plans for at least 30 young people 8–17 years old at risk of offending or reoffending. ➤ By March 2015, review progress on all individual plans and add or adjust the plans as necessary. ➤ By June 2015, carry out any further revisions to the plans to ensure that young people are well-supported and are developing the skills to support themselves. 	<p>Lead: YMCA South Waikato</p> <p>Key partners: NZ Police, MOJ, MSD CYF, Māori representative, Pacific representative, Waikato DHB, MOE, SST Project Manager</p>



Aiga Fa'atasi e Fa'avavau

Family forever, Families are forever,

One family forever

ACTIONS REDUCE ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE

	Action	Milestone	Responsibility
3.1	Review and improve the mix of the availability of alcohol and other drug-related support services in the South Waikato District, to identify areas for service improvements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By October 2014, develop a training package for youth workers in the South Waikato that includes a series of certified workshops including cultural competency. ➤ By November 2014, conduct and maintain a comprehensive stock take of all alcohol and other drug support services for children and young people. ➤ By December 2014, provide advice to the SST advisory group on critical service gaps, supply shortages, and opportunities for service integration or improvements. 	Lead: South Waikato Community Action Group (CAG) Alcohol and Drug (AOD)
3.2	Plan, coordinate and manage a series of events and partnerships to increase awareness of alcohol and other drug abuse and its impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By October 2014, deliver “Alcohol Awareness Week 22–26 September” in conjunction with local beverage companies, and support the development of a local non-alcoholic drink, local promotional carry plastic bags and establish a host responsibility section within local super markets (Four Square, New World and Countdown). ➤ By October 2014, develop a media plan with radio stations and Fairfax print. ➤ From October 2014, disseminate alcohol and other drug abuse messages through social media, radio and print media, for a week every second month. ➤ By December 2014, help plan and coordinate the following events and forums: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alcohol Awareness Week - Students Against Driving Drunk - secondary school balls - youth focus groups on alcohol and other drug abuse. ➤ By December 2014, develop an alcohol and other drug awareness plan to engage with District sporting and recreational clubs. ➤ By June 2015, implement the alcohol and other drug awareness plan to all sporting and recreational clubs with signed memoranda of understanding. 	Lead: CAG AOD
3.3	Continue the Breakaway Holiday Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By October 2014, engage at least 45 children and young people a day, for two weeks, in pro-social activities during the September holiday period. ➤ By February 2015, engage at least 45 children and young people each day in the January holiday period. ➤ By April 2015, engage at least 45 children young people each day across the two week March holiday period. 	Lead: YMCA South Waikato



*“The only person who can pull me down is **MYSELF**, and I'm not going to let **MYSELF** pull me down anymore.”*

ACTIONS INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

	Action	Milestone	Responsibility
4.1	Use a cross-agency approach to support alternative education students in their transition back into mainstream schooling or further education or employment.	➤ By December 2014, create and develop an agreed transition plan for students.	<p>Lead: South Waikato Alternative Education Consortium</p> <p>Key partners: All District secondary school principals, MOE, TCOSS, SWIS, RCT YWIS, health and social service workers, and Wera Aotearoa Charitable Trust (WACT) Youth Service</p>
4.2	Identify and support all at-risk 15–17 year olds who are not engaged in education, employment or training (NEET)	➤ From 1 July 2014, identify NEET young people in the South Waikato District and support them to develop career pathway plans.	<p>Lead: MSD (Work and Income) and WACT</p> <p>Key partners: All Youth Guarantee providers, South Waikato Alternative Education Consortium, YOT</p>
4.3	Develop an education, training and employment map of all youth education, training and employment services, groups and providers	➤ By October 2014, work with local providers to update promotional material and information on education, training and employment services or groups.	<p>Lead: South Waikato District Council</p> <p>Key partners: Education, tertiary and employment services, groups and providers</p>
4.4	Increase the range and availability of local employment services that support young people into employment	➤ By December 2014, identify and/or develop local employment opportunities in collaboration with partner agencies that have provision to provide part time or full time employment for young people.	<p>Lead: MSD (Work and Income)</p> <p>Key partners: Education, tertiary and employment services, groups and providers, South Waikato District Council, key industries and businesses</p>



EDUCATION is not preparation for life; EDUCATION is life itself

ACTIONS SUPPORT COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT

	Action	Milestone	Responsibility
5.1	Support and maintain collaborative forums in each community within the South Waikato District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ From 1 July 2014, ensure providers and working groups meet regularly, report on the services they are delivering. 	<p>Lead: SST Project Manager</p> <p>Key Partners: Community services and programmes within the South Waikato</p>
5.2	Communicate to the South Waikato District regularly on the SST progress and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ From 1 July 2014, use a variety of media to communicate regularly with the South Waikato District on progress and messages. This will include but is not limited to: video footage, photography, statements from young people, radio interviews and quarterly newspaper articles. 	<p>Lead: SST Project Manager</p> <p>Key partners: Community services and programmes within the South Waikato</p>
5.3	Create a Youth Advisory Board to run and oversee youth activities and advise SST partners on issues for children and young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By July 2014, organise a Youth Advisory Board launch to instigate interest from young people. ➤ By September 2014, hold a first meeting for the Advisory Board, with monthly meetings thereafter. ➤ By October 2014, decide which youth events or opportunities can be in place for the rest of the 2014 year and by before 30 June 2015. 	<p>Lead: South Waikato District Council</p>



*Coming **TOGETHER** is a beginning; keeping **TOGETHER** is progress;
working **TOGETHER** is success*

APPENDIX

Facts and figures about the South Waikato District

The following facts and figures are for the South Waikato District, as recorded by the 2013 Census.

- Population: 22,074 people lived in the South Waikato District. This was a decrease of 570 people, or 2.5 percent, since the 2006 Census. The population of the District ranked 41st in size out of the 67 districts in New Zealand.
- Age: the median age of the District's population was 38.4 years. Nearly 16 percent of people in South Waikato District were aged 65 years and over. In the District, 23.6 percent of people were aged under 15 years, compared with 20.4 percent for all of New Zealand.
- Cultural diversity: the median age of Māori was 23.3 years. Almost six percent of Māori were aged 65 years and over and 35.7 percent of Māori were aged under 15 years, compared with 33.8 percent for all Māori in New Zealand. Māori made up 32.6 percent of the South Waikato District (compared with 14.9 percent for New Zealand), Pacific peoples represented 12.1 percent of the population, Asian peoples 3.1 percent and the majority of the remainder (70.4 percent) identified as European.
- Qualifications: 65.4 percent of people aged 15 years and over in the South Waikato District had a formal qualification, with 7.9 percent of people aged 15 years and older holding a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared with 20.0 percent for New Zealand as a whole.
- Employment: the top five industries in the South Waikato District for employment were agricultural, forestry and fishing, manufacturing, education and training, retail, health care and social assistance. The most common occupational groups were 'managers' followed by 'labourers'. The most common occupational group for Māori in South Waikato District was 'labourers', which was also the most common occupational group for Māori in New Zealand.
- The unemployment rate in the South Waikato District was 11.7 percent for people aged 15 years and over. The unemployment rate of Māori aged 15 years and over in the District was 21.8 percent, compared with 15.6 percent across New Zealand.
- Household composition: One-family households made up 67.4 percent of all households in the District. For New Zealand as a whole, one-family households made up 68.3 percent of all households. In the South Waikato District, there were 2,172 one-person households. The average household size in South Waikato District was 2.6 people, compared with an average of 2.7 people for all of New Zealand.

OUR PEOPLE OUR COMMUNITIES OUR FAMILIES

Front Cover - Daniel Brandon Paul O'Sullivan-La'aiva – 15 year old Forest View High School of Samoan and NZ European decent. He is currently a Junior Mentor at the Raukawa Charitable Trust CLUBs mentoring programme with a dream to be a World Hip-hop Dancer. This pro-social activity has allowed him to be confident and believe in his journey.

Page 2 - Forest View Kapahaka Group – Te Piringatahi performing to compete in the Pasifika By Nature Competition in Hamilton.

Page 3 - Raukawa Charitable Trust CLUBs mentoring programme CLUBsters.

Page 4 - Papa Tave Natua with his grandchildren - Jacob Tuakana-Natua, Ruthie Tuakana-Natua, Abraham Tuakana-Natua, Tave Tuakana-Natua, Teariki-Terae Tearoa-Natua, Joshua Teaurima and Toru-Atua Tearoa-Natua. A grandfather committed to ensuring his grandchildren are making the most of their opportunities through education, sport, employment and cultural identity.

Page 6 - Winners of the 2014 Pasifika By Nature Competition held in Hamilton; Tokoroa High School Polynesian Group – Puna Vai Ora.

Page 9 - Tainui Full Primary School Ambassador Leadership Programme delivered by Raukawa Charitable Trust Youth Workers in Schools Programme – Community Presentations at Youth Music Media Hub with Dr Fresh at FreshFM - Jesselle Trainor, Jai Nooroa, Taliyah Hawkins, Shania Hawkins, Saraiah Rikiau, Sean Hayes, Lezane Whaanga, Carmen Zammit and Braxton Kohere.

Page 11 - Pupure Jones with her granddaughter Georgia-Breeze Jones and Teremoana Rota.

Page 13 - Forest View High School Polinetia Fa'atasi in preparation for the Pasifika by Nature Competition in Hamilton 2014 – Charnelle Ahsin; one of the Junior Mentors for Raukawa Charitable Trust Community CLUBs mentoring programme Yr 13 Forest High School doing the Siva Samoan Dance.

Page 15 - Samuel Putai – 2013 Broadcasting Media and Music Technology Bridging Programme currently completing Diploma in Music Production and Performance at Bay of Plenty Polytechnic.

Page 17 - Gateway Photography Students on Raukawa Education Training and Employment Programme - Georgia Pompey, Teagan Hocking and Kayla Camp (Putaruru High School), Courtney McCloskey (ETE student) and Cheyenne Reid, Brenna Clarke, Rose Torrington and Ella Nordstrom (Tokoroa High School pupils) and Joseph O'Sullivan Production Director for Music and Media Technology.

Page 19 - Some of our people who work with our tamariki and rangatahi - Louise Samuels Youth Education officer NZ Police, Marion Sherwood Community Constable for NZ Police, Darin Costar Youth Aid Officer NZ Police, Wendy Jolly Executive Director YMCA South Waikato, Jared Kennedy Raukawa Charitable Trust Youth Worker in Schools, Amanda White South Waikato District Council Community Resources Co-ordinator, Aroha Riki-Hamana YMCA Programme Co-ordinator, Gwenda Brodie Tokoroa Council of Social Services Manager and Dianne Tearoa-Natua South Waikato Social Sector Trial Co-ordinator.

Page 21 – Dr Fresh and KC rocking it on FreshFM hottest youth radio station in the Waikato Region.

Page 23 – Yannis Mea and Morgan Hayes Raukawa Charitable Trust Youth Hub Monitors.

FreshFM a community youth focused radio station encouraging and inspiring youth voices to be heard in the South Waikato District. Not only a radio station but also a learning environment for any young person aged 16-18 who has enrolled on the Education Training and Employment Programme (ETE) with an interest in Radio Broadcasting, Music and Media Technology as well as Gateway Students from the colleges in the South Waikato District.

Driven by our very own Dr FRESH – aka Mark Ahsin (Samoan/Cook Island) and KC – aka Acacia Stewart (Raukawa) and you hear the beats and listen to the discussions from 6-10am Monday to Friday live in Tokoroa or stream on-line.

Check out **FreshFM** on Facebook.com/freshfm88.3 and online stream <http://lion.wakadigital.co.nz:8000/Freshfm.aac>



*Keep it locked and loaded **FRESHIES** with the **FRESHEST** radio station **FRESHFM 88.3** - **FRESH is good***



Raukawa Charitable Trust Community Youth Hub Monitors Yannis Mea also YMCA Youth Worker and one of the Senior Mentors for Raukawa Charitable Trust Community CLUBs mentoring programme (Cook Island) and Morgan Hayes; one of the Junior Mentors for Raukawa Charitable Trust Community CLUBs mentoring programme Yr 13 Tokoroa High School Student (Te Ngati Tuwharetoa/Te Arawa/Ngapuhi/Cook Island) working with our children and young people from 11+ upwards at the Community Music and Media Hub in Tokoroa.

Yannis – “A space where our young people can come and **be themselves**, can **feel safe**, **feel loved** and know that no matter what is going on in their lives, **someone cares** for them. I understand the challenges they face every day and I want young people to **know that they matter**, that they are not useless, that they are not a waste of space because they aren't. How humbled **I feel that I can contribute** and **make a meaningful difference** to someone's life. Wow I have the best job ever!”

Morgan – “Every day I'm here, I learn that **it is not as easy being a young person**. There are **so many challenges that we face** – bullying, name calling, pressures to deliver what is required at school, having true friends, social media antics and just **understanding the different stages of growing up**. I'm **lucky to have a supportive family** behind me and that's what drives me to be here at the Youth Hub every day; **to give back**, **to be a positive role model** and to show young people that we all have challenges in our lives however **it is up to you and your attitude towards making a positive change for your future.**”

For further information about the Social Sector Trials in the South Waikato Region
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