



Helen Mason

Healthy, thriving communities, Kia Momoho Te Hāpori Ōranga.



20 May 2016

Change Day Pledge Comes to Life

Yesterday I attended my first staff service recognition celebration as CEO, in Whakatane. The Tauranga ceremony is to be held on 24 May. It's great to have the opportunity to recognise the loyalty and dedication of our team members. Usually when we're celebrating service with our DHB we talk about the number of years that someone has been with the DHB. This year for example, our longest serving staff member is celebrating 57 years with us.

When I think about our team members who have been with us for a long time, I think more about how many patients they have cared for, how many families have benefited from the services they have provided, how many colleagues they have worked alongside and supported. The numbers would be in the thousands. A huge contribution, which is deeply appreciated.

In my last newsletter I gave an update on the Staff Engagement and Culture Workshop. The summary of the workshop is currently with the team members who attended it, to ensure that it captures the outcomes of the day from their perspective. Once they've confirmed that it does that, it will be circulated broadly through the DHB, and we'll start to work on making some tangible changes.

The workshop was attended by staff representing all areas of the organisation. The philosophy behind the day was that we create an environment that taps into the wisdom of the organisation and our teams, allowing them to come up with their own path forward. When people are involved in finding solutions to help their organisation, they commit to what they help create.

A great example of this was International Nurses Day which showed what happens when teams get creative when designing their own path forward.

"Hi-5 for nurses" was the catch-cry across both hospitals all day. It began at 6.30am when staff arriving for work at Tauranga and Whakatane Hospitals were greeted with cheerful hi-5's. Later in the day the Kaupapa Ward was the scene of flash mob line-dancing and similar festivities took place in Whakatane. It was great to see the enjoyment and comradery that resulted.



BOPDHB Board Chair Sally Webb and Riripeti Rio cutting the cake at the Staff Service Recognition celebration in Whakatane yesterday.

Increasing our focus on healthy thriving communities

"Live well, stay well, get well" is the catch-cry of the New Zealand Health Strategy which the Ministry of Health launched in April. The response to the launch of the Health Strategy has been positive. It aligns well with our vision of healthy, thriving communities, and our aspiration to increase our focus on supporting our communities to "live well" whilst at the same time continuing to support them to get well and stay well. To take them from languishing, to flourishing.

Part of our work is to look forward, to think about how we can best support our communities over the next five to 10 years.

Earlier this week an historic meeting took place between the Chair and Board members of the Bay of Plenty District Health Board and the Mayor and Councillors of the Tauranga City Council.

At this first ever get together, the elected members agreed that they need to work together to improve community health, including key issues associated with homelessness.

They vowed to make a difference to their communities through combining the expertise and resources of each organisation on key issues.

Board Chair Sally Webb said the meeting showed a willingness to work together to contribute to the health of the community.

"As a DHB we are being challenged to reach out and develop relationships that will help the health of the community," she said.

There is huge scope for collaboration and finding ways to work together to tackle the challenges that both the DHB and the Council are experiencing and to broaden the focus to include health and well-being as outcomes for our population.

*If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more,
do more and become more, you are a leader.*

*John Quincy Adams, 1767 – 1848 6th President of the United States of America, d
iplomat, Senator and member of the House of Representatives.*

Update on the New Zealand Health Strategy

“Live well, stay well, get well” is the catch-cry of the New Zealand Health Strategy which the Ministry of Health launched in April, after a long consultation process. There were approximately 90 meetings attended by more than 2000 people and more than 7000 consultation documents downloaded. The Ministry of Health developed the Health Strategy with input from clinicians, leaders and organisations in the health, disability and social sectors. The Ministry also took into consideration other government programmes and initiatives, for instance Better Public Services targets; independent reviews on sector funding and sector capability and capacity; and the Productivity Commission’s 2015 report on social services.

The updated strategy New Zealand Health Strategy sets a clear direction for healthcare services over the next 10 years.

The Health Strategy has two parts:

- The Future Direction outlines a new high-level direction for New Zealand’s health system over the next 10 years under five strategic themes – people powered, closer to home, value and high performance, one team and smart system.
- A Roadmap of Actions identifies 27 areas for action over the next five years to put the Strategy in place. It will be updated annually and serves as a practical guide for DHBs, PHOs, NGOs and the wider sector to support their planning and prioritisation of work to deliver the Health Strategy.

How to access the documents mentioned in the New Zealand Strategy update:

<http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/new-zealand-health-strategy-2016>

<http://www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/new-zealand-health-strategy-future-direction>

<http://www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/new-zealand-health-strategy-roadmap-actions-2016>