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| Kaitiaki Ahurea: Effective Health Promotion in Māori Communities Evaluation |
| **Setting/problem**  A lack of understanding about Māori and their communities both historically and currently enables Māori to continue to experience poorer health outcomes then non-Māori New Zealanders.  **Intervention**  Te Rau Matatini was established as a Māori Health Workforce Development Organisation in 2002. Our priority continues to be Māori whānau and we are committed to significantly improving the health of Māori that will contribute to increased entire wellbeing for individuals, whānau and their communities. Pae Ora!  Te Rau Matatini with support from the Ministry of Health to be able to offer and deliver Kaitiaki Ahurea specifically for Te Waipounamu health workforces to work more effectively with Māori communities.  Kaitiaki Ahurea is a foundation programme for Non-Māori and Māori with the overall objective, to improve public health, health promotion knowledge and leadership skills of the health workforce.  Te Rau Matatini utilise evaluation as a tool to strengthen the quality of what we provide and deliver to improve outcomes for Māori.  The purpose of the Kaitiaki Ahurea Evaluation 2017 was to:  •Implement recommendations from the 2013 review;  •Examine the Kaitiaki Ahurea 2017 programme and its contribution to enhancing the workforce development  needs of the health promotion/public health sector Te Waipounamu;  •Highlight consequences of the programme;  •Show case the framework; and  •Identify areas for potential improvement/enhancement of the programme  Methodology:  Qualitative and quantitative methods were used:  A formative analysis of documents;  Narrative data provided by participants as the programme progressed;  One pre- and two post workshop surveys completed online by participants  **Outcomes**  Increased knowledge of Māori language;  • Increased knowledge of Māori protocol;  • Increased use of Māori language at work, 66% Dunedin and 90% Invercargill;  • Increased knowledge of historic Māori leaders;  • Increased knowledge of local hapū and Iwi;  • Acknowledgment of relevancy to work;  • Raised awareness of colonisation and its effects past and present;  • The need for improved cultural competency;  • Insight gained regarding the difference between Māori Health Promotion and Health Promotion;  • A commitment to advocating for cultural policy in organisations.  **Implications**  Increased knowledge and understanding of Māori communities enables all New Zealanders to experience wellbeing.  **Preferred presentation format**  Poster |