

# ANNUAL REPORT '21-'22

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RĀKAU   
TAUTOKO

# BOARD MESSAGE

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Over 2021, we found ourselves deep in COVID lockdowns and restrictions with food insecurity at the forefront of everyone's minds. The stress and anxiety of yet another year fighting on the front lines began to show and we first acknowledge all of our volunteers, contractors and partners who worked supported throughout.

At the beginning of 2022, we recognised the need to pivot, and firmly stepped into food security with support from Foundation North, Department of Internal Affairs and Ministry of Social Development. Chicken coops and vege gardens coupled with mentoring became our first stepping stones and partnering with The Good Fale, we launched a food website platform focusing on wider system change action.

Working around restrictions and after-lockdown hold ups, we also ran a Phenomenal Young Women Retreat, partnered with Tāmaki WRAP to launch Ope Maungakiekie-Tāmaki - climate change work for local schools, supported mana motuhake for The HEART Movement and Panamasians and worked with Council for some waste reduction research.

Thank you to all of our practitioners and partners over this year, we are looking forward to our continued work.

**Anna-Jane Edwards, Tara Moala  
& Tracey Wakefield**

BOARD OF RĀKAU TAUTOKO



# OUR TEAM

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**Tara Moala**  
**Managing Director**

"Another year in and out of lockdowns and our communities and practitioners resilience is to be admired. We made the difficult decision to step away from food insecurity work for two reasons. The first was that it was unsustainable for ourselves and our communities. The second was the aspiration to grow more food security projects instead. Despite this being the largest part of our work, our practitioners also continued to support our communities in other ways and I am proud of all their work."

**Jo Flavell**  
**Senior Practitioner**

"I have been involved in the Capability contract with Auckland Council working alongside the Panamasians ō Tuia, residents group of Riverside/Panama. Across this time support has been provided to empower the group to continue steps towards establishing themselves as a Trust, and continue to build stronger collaboration within the community by joining together to deliver projects and community led events."

**Ren Joe**  
**Senior Practitioner**

"It has again been a pleasure to work within the collective that is Rākau Tautoko. I'm proud of the work that I've been a part of this year, we have pushed boundaries and achieved some great things."



# OUR TEAM

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**Nikki Korte**  
Community Practitioner

**Candace Weir**  
Community Practitioner

**Jasmine Hope**  
Community Practitioner

**Alex Johnny**  
Community Practitioner

**Mara-Shelle Slatter**  
Community Practitioner

**Julia Friedewald**  
Community Practitioner

**Mon Joe**  
Admin Practitioner

**Ashley Gordon**  
Community Practitioner

**Trish Atasani**  
Community Practitioner

**Natalie Atasani**  
Community Practitioner



# OUR FOUNDATION

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## Our Mission

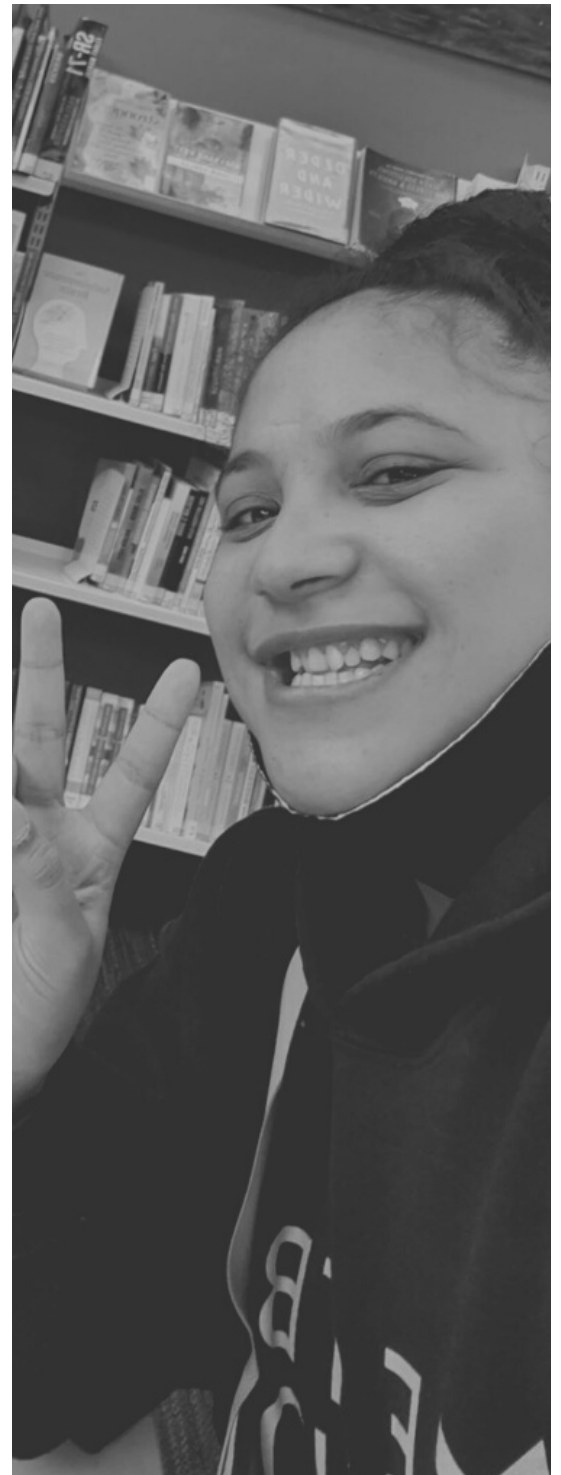
**To build engagement and empowerment in communities by:**

- Assisting community groups to co-design programmes that produce a positive social impact;
- Undertaking research, development and training to contribute to building engagement in empowerment in communities (including by supporting whānau to develop healthy relationships to help combat family violence and improving the wellbeing of rangatahi);
- And such other charitable purposes as the Board may decide.

## Our Structure

Rākau Tautoko is a collective of Community Development Practitioners that are based in Auckland/Tāmaki Makaurau. The practitioners are guided by the Board of Directors whose primary role is to ensure that the projects and initiatives of Rākau Tautoko are aligned to the charitable purpose of Rākau Tautoko that are outlined in the constitution.

Rākau Tautoko practitioners align to a way of working that supports community empowerment and ownership. We undertake community-related projects, community research and development advice, facilitation and leadership.



# COMMUNITIES

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Rākau Tautoko supported 13 x Community Development Practitioners in their practice and worked alongside many volunteers through The Kai Collective, there were over 50 at different points of the year and we are so grateful for the support and hard work each and every one of them gave to helping our most in need whānau.

## **Rākau Tautoko connected with and supported 10 x Auckland Geographical Communities in depth;**

- Glen Innes
- Manurewa
- Mt Wellington
- Oranga
- Onehunga
- Panmure
- Papakura
- Point England
- Riverside

In addition, we provided food parcels throughout all of Auckland as per need.

## **Rākau Tautoko worked alongside 4 x Communities of Interest;**

- Family Violence Prevention
- Food Secure Sector
- Waste Reduction and Climate Change
- Women Empowerment



# PARTNERSHIPS

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**Rākau Tautoko created or maintained 26 x Collaborations with key entities to further strengthen our community initiatives.**

**\*More than half of these collaborations were in relation to food security.**

- Auckland Council
- Estblshd
- Faith Family Connect / Te Pera Mahi Oranga Trust
- \*Foaki Nuiean Group
- \*Kai Collective Leaders
- \*Kore Hiakai
- \*Lalaga Trust
- \*Life Kidz
- \*Me'a'ofa Fungani Methodist Church
- Panamasians
- \*Panama Storehouse
- Synergy Trust / Beat St
- \*Tāmaki Budgeting
- Tāmaki Community Development Trust
- \*Tāmaki Pan-Pasifika Network
- Tāmaki Regeneration Company
- Tāmaki WRAP
- \*Te Waipuna Puawai
- Te Taumata o HEART
- \*The Good Fale
- \*The New Zealand Food Network
- \*The Tāmaki Cook Island Group
- The University of Auckland
- \*Tongan Elderly Group
- \*Upside Mentoring

We also developed a stronger partnership with The Good Fale in our work for The Aotearoa Kai Journey. We want to thank them for the depth of knowledge and innovative practice they brought to the partnership.



# COMMUNITY INITIATIVE PROJECTS

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## The Aotearoa Kai Journey and COVID-19 Response

This was by far our largest project and focus for this year. Our collective continued throughout this year to support our whānau through the lockdowns. We shifted the structure away from just food distribution and created The Aotearoa Kai Journey to umbrella different food security activations including,

- The Kai Collective
- Kai Central - Online Platform
- App Development
- Urban Gardening
- Workshops and Professional Development

Over 2021, The Kai Collective set up a temporary food hub at the Panmure Community Hall and worked closely with our Taumata organisations (The Good Fare, Te Pera Mahi Oranga Trust, Synergy Project) to set up the infrastructure of three sub-hubs throughout Maungakiekie-Tāmaki to process high quantities of food.

At our peak, we were distributing over 700 x parcels a week through 15 x community groups, organisations and leaders. The highest need peaked through the 104 day lockdown, we distributed throughout Tāmaki Makaurau a total of 11,297 parcels in that period alone.





# COMMUNITY INITIATIVE PROJECTS

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## The Aotearoa Kai Journey and COVID-19 Response continued...

In 2022, we made the decision to shift away from the volunteering structure that was upholding The Kai Collective after a lot of our community groups began to experience fatigue and advocated for a change in the MSD funding model. As a result, we began to be funded per parcel amounts by MSD and partnered with Supie who stepped in to deliver food directly to hubs and whānau, so we shut down our food hub.

As we continued this work, we also advocated for system change for the food sector, in partnership with The Good Fale. This included incorporating Pasifika appropriate food into our food purchasing, meeting funders regularly, creating an online food directory app for Auckland, running a wellbeing series, and co-designing an online platform for the food security sector.

We would like to thank Foundation North, Ministry of Social Development Food Secure Communities Team, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board, Auckland Council, Tāmaki Regeneration Company, Lottery Grants Board, Mt Wellington Foundation, Manaiakalani, Goodman Property, Ormiston Hospital, Uptempo, The Southern Initiative, Givealittle and all of our supporters and volunteers.



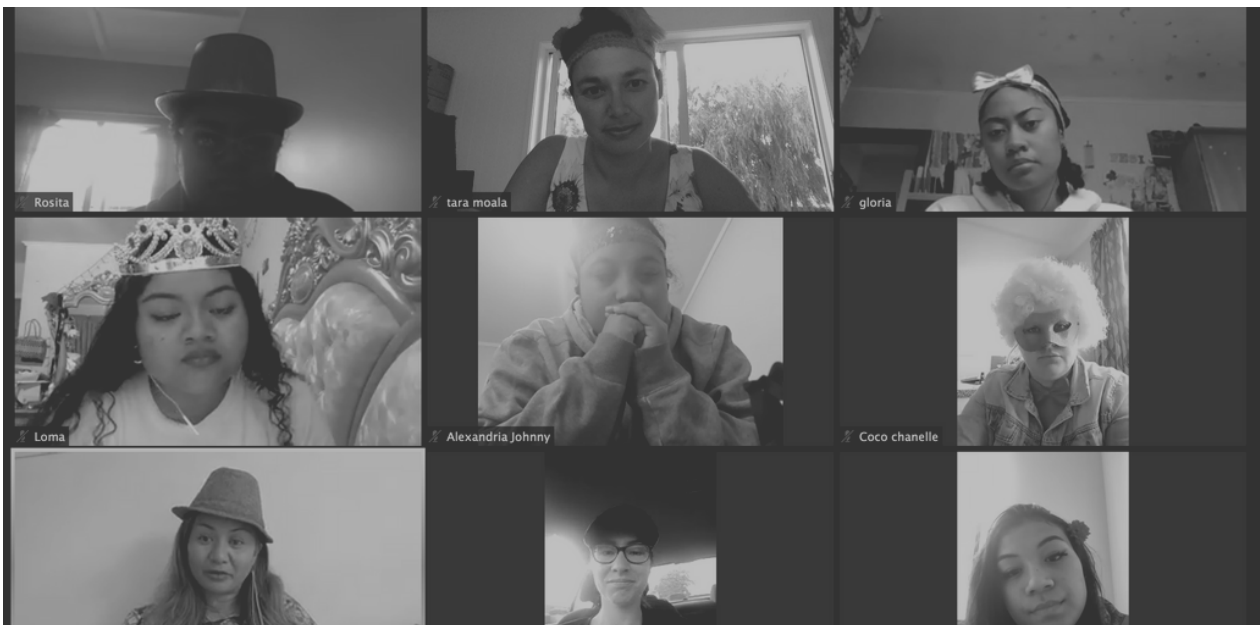
# COMMUNITY INITIATIVE PROJECTS

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## Phenomenal Young Women

We worked hard on Phenomenal Young Women over 2021 (online) to create some traction with our young women in Maungakiekie-Tāmaki. There were social media competitions, online sessions and gatherings led by two of our amazing youth leaders. However, numbers kept dwindling over 2021 and we opted for a shift in activities in 2022, towards one-on-one mentoring for personal development, culminating in a fantastic retreat with guest speaker Marama Davidson.

This shift was supported by our funders Auckland Council's Strategic Partnerships through the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board and we were provided with an extension through to the end of 2022.



# COMMUNITY INITIATIVE PROJECTS

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## Tāmaki WRAP - Kōpae Ōhanga

Rākau Tautoko was approached by Tāmaki WRAP to coordinate and project manage a free family friendly event to take place in Onehunga in June 2021.

The key purposes for the event were; to launch a new Tāmaki WRAP book about the Landscape of Waste in our community, highlight the waste reduction mahi taking place in Maungakiekie-Tāmaki region and educate the public about recycling. We also included rescued kai, fun and games, activities and educational workshops.

Throughout the day, we were able to educate the public about correct recycling practices, supported local initiatives and inspired people to explore different ways of reducing their waste.



# CAPABILITY BUILDING PROJECTS

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## The HEART Movement

The Taumata of HEART made the collective decision to transition The HEART Movement out of Te Waipuna Puawai and become independent. They approached Rākau Tautoko to support them in doing this.

Rākau Tautoko Board Members volunteered their time weekly for many months to support Te Waipuna Puawai and The Taumata with this transition. The work continues into 2022, with hopes to secure funding and create a sustainable movement for Tāmaki and beyond.

Rākau Tautoko is happy to become one of the community organisations who are pou in the new structure of The HEART Movement going forward, with a focus on strategy / design.



# CAPABILITY BUILDING PROJECTS

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## Riverside Capability Growth

The Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board continued to support the Riverside community through our Riverside Capability Programme.

This support included COVID-19 recovery, building a network of community organisations, growing the communication skills of Panamasians (a group of local residents) and development of the Panama Storehouse.

We saw an increase of capability in the Panamasians and a desire for them to step into independence, which the group is planning for 2022.



# RESEARCH PROJECTS

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## Climate Action Plan

Rākau Tautoko was approached by the Infrastructure and Environmental Services team at Auckland Council to facilitate community engagement workshops with key community stakeholders in Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, to seek feedback about their climate action priorities. We held two online workshops in March 2022 which focused on gathering community input towards identifying goals, barriers and priorities around climate change mitigation and resilience. It was a small group of local experts that made the time to feed into a larger strategy document. The level of insight from our participants was impressive, as well as their knowledge and passion for climate change, the impact on our local environment and communities, and specifics of the priority actions.



# RESEARCH PROJECTS

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## PAYT Focus Groups

The Auckland Council Waste Solutions Team sought feedback throughout specific geographical areas on the new Pay as You Throw (PAYT) system that was due to be rolled out, so we were tasked to run a series of focus groups with residents with and without experience of the PAYT pilots. Despite being plagued by COVID-19 and lockdowns / traffic light restrictions, we ran the focus groups online, then an online survey. Due to the spike in Omicron cases throughout Auckland, we ran a second series of focus groups online at the beginning of 2022. The data collection results informed The Waste Solutions Team on the impact that the PAYT system would have on our most in need whānau in Auckland. This influenced the decisions made around rolling out the system to all of Auckland.

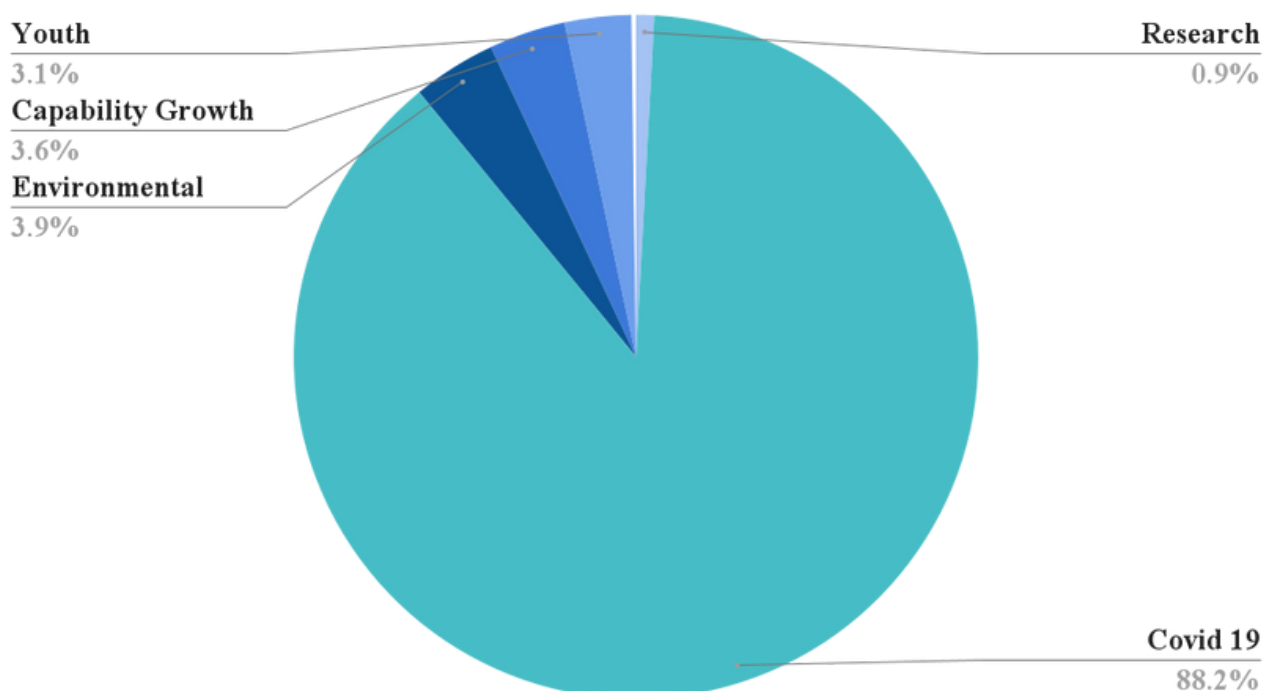


# FINANCIALS

## Breakdown of Expenses by Type

Expense Type	\$ Amount	Percentage
Programmes	\$463,025	80%
Practitioners	\$101,852	17%
Admin	\$16,564	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$581,441</b>	<b>100%</b>

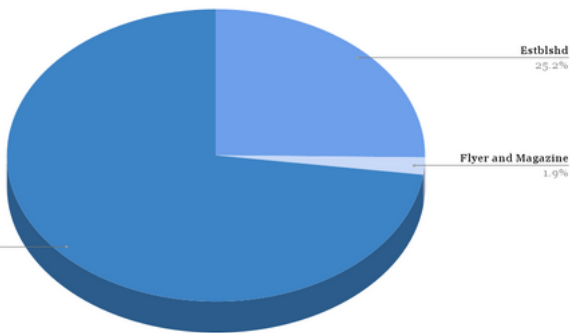
## Breakdown of Expenses by Project



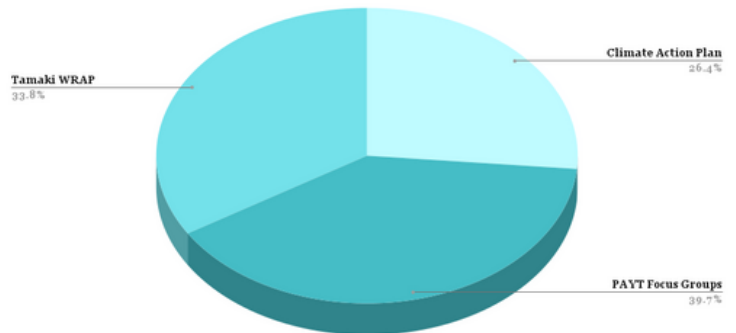


# FINANCIALS

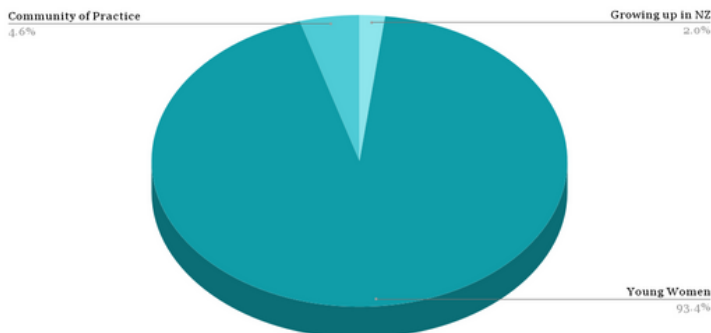
## Capability Growth Projects



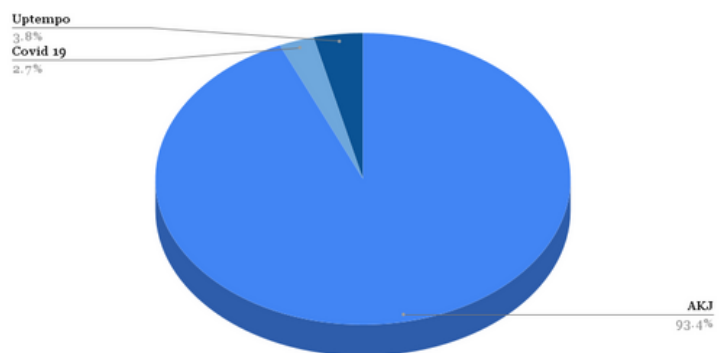
## Environmental Focus Projects



## Youth Projects



## Covid-19 Projects



We acted as fundholders for the following projects: Estblshd, Flyer and Magazine Deliveries and Community of Practice.



# LOOKING FORWARD

This year was another year focused on food security for our community, and yet it was also the start of what our communities will be like going forward - living with COVID-19 as a part of our everyday life. This came with a realisation for all of us how we can shift our old BAU models to new ways of working. Ways which enable us to engage better, advocate for the new needs of our communities and adjust our health and safety protocols to be as safe as possible while also ensuring we can connect.

The projects that we implemented over 2021 reflected that, and as we move into 2022, we will continue to adjust to this new norm and create innovative ways to engage and empower the communities we walk alongside. With this shift, we have noticed a change in our practitioners and who we work alongside as well, which only builds Rākau Tautoko capability and capacity, which in turn empowers community. We are looking forward to embedding our new way of working and excited about our new practitioners and partners.

