

Kotahi anō te kaupapa: ko te oranga o te iwi

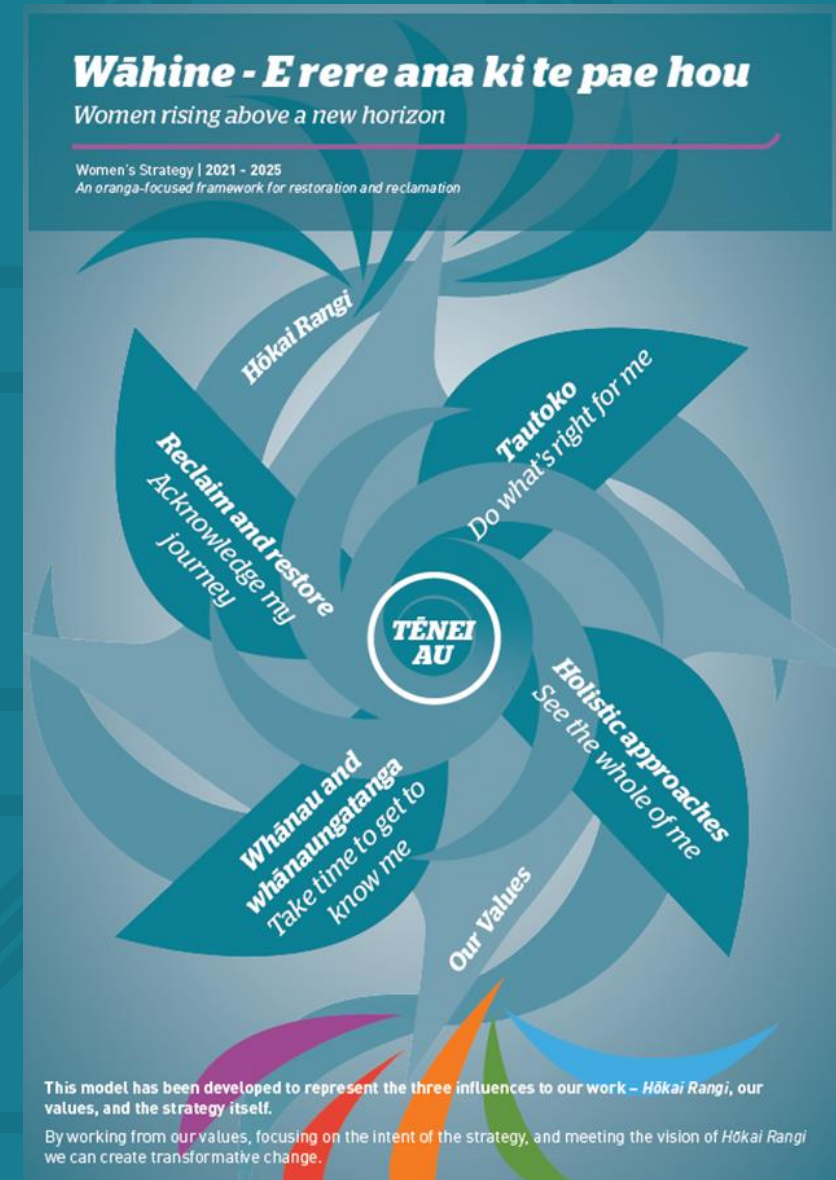
Healthcare success in Women's Prisons in Aotearoa

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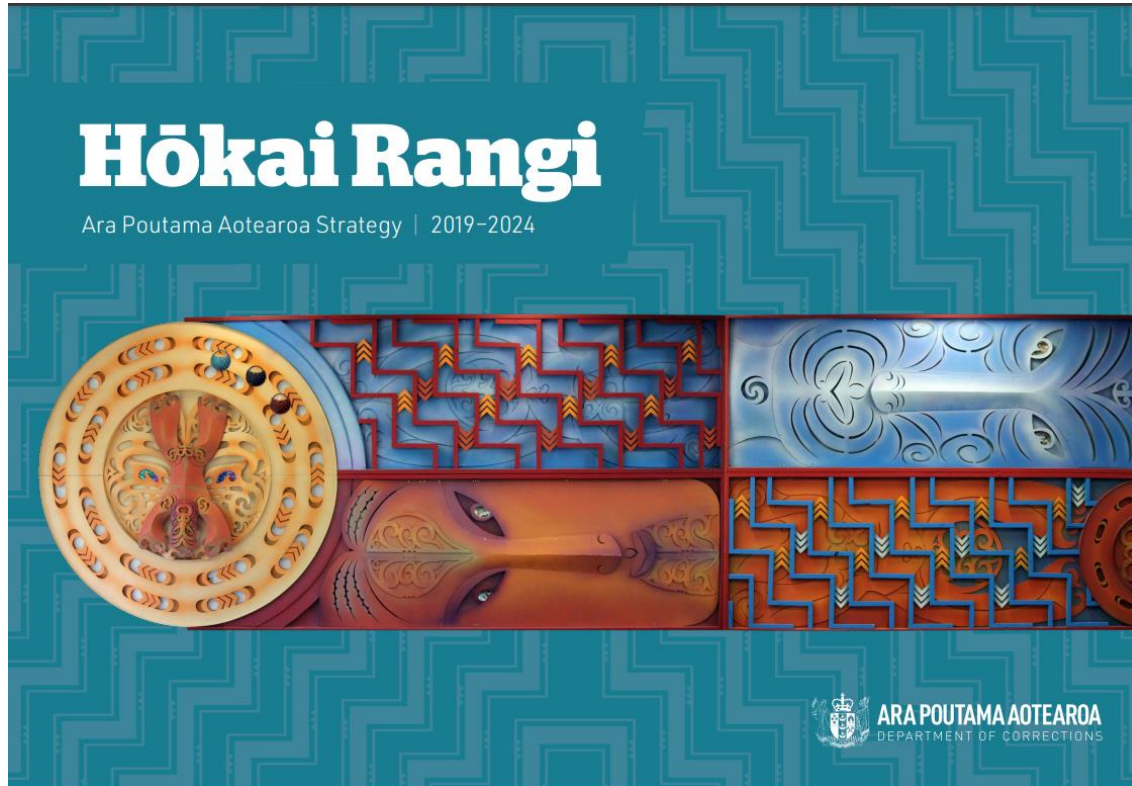
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ARA POUTAMA AOTEAROA
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Kōrero whakataki - Our Hōkai Rangi Outcomes



- Partnership and leadership
- Humanising and Healing
- Whānau
- Te ao Māori worldview
- Whakapapa
- Foundations for participation

Kotahi anō te kaupapa: ko te oranga o te iwi

There is only one purpose to our work: the wellness and wellbeing of people








































Our prison network

As of 30 June 2023



Our prison industries and vocational education

As of 30 June 2023

 Agriculture	 Apiculture	 Arboriculture	 Asset maintenance	 Automotive	 Bakery	 Barista	 Café	 Carpentry	 Concrete product production
 Construction	 Dairy	 Distribution	 Engineering	 Farm maintenance	 Farming	 Forestry	 Grounds maintenance	 Horticulture/ nursery	 Hospitality
 Joinery	 Kitchen	 Landscaping	 Laundry	 Light assembly	 Manufacturing	 Painting	 Piggery	 Plastering	 Plumbing/ gas fitting
 Printing/design	 Recycling	 Silviculture	 Textiles	 Tiling	 Timber/wood processing	 Toi Māori (Māori arts)	 Waste management	 Whakairo (wood carving)	

Corrections Act – Equivalency of care

- Prisoners are entitled to receive medical treatment that is reasonably necessary (sections 69(1)(g), 75(1)). All prisons must have a health centre that is adequately equipped for the health needs of prisoners (regulation 71(2)):
- The equipment and facilities must be such that the Department is able to provide health care to a standard that is reasonably equivalent to the standard of healthcare available to the public (section 75(2)).

Health services provided in prison

Nurse led service

- Primary care plus
- Acute/emergency care
- Long-term conditions management
- Palliative care (Compassionate release)
- Residential (medication rounds)
- Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) support



Healthcare success in Women's Prisons in Aotearoa

- A day in the life of a prison nurse includes:
 - Nurse led clinics following triage of health requests from prisoners,
 - Health assessments, screening, immunisation, Venepuncture,
 - Education training, mentorship, coaching and preceptorship,
 - Emergency response calls.
- Balancing privacy
- Patients' Rights



Image 1. Auckland Region Women's Corrections Facility horticultural gardens

‘See the whole of me’

- Each woman who comes into our system is unique, with different life experiences.
- Women are more than “just an offender.”
- Many women we manage present with complex needs, including traumatic experiences, addiction issues, and parenting responsibilities.
- Access to culture is a fundamental right, not a privilege; connecting with culture is important and we must take the time to understand and honour a woman’s right to her culture.
- Our workforce also need their culture valued and celebrated in the workplace. Their life experiences can positively influence their work with women.

Why is prison nursing different?

- Refusing medical treatment
- Voluntary refusal of food
- Self-harm and suicide
- Internal concealment
- Prescribing risks and mitigations
- Managing people in directed segregation
- Major and minor site incidents, riots, escapes (rare)

‘The tough stuff’



Image 2. Auckland South Corrections
Facility disability cell shower (high security)

Healthcare success in Women's Prisons in Aotearoa

Common health issues:

- Asthma
- Mental health disorders
- Addiction (meth, benzos/cannabis/alcohol)
- Dental issues
- Skin conditions
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Ageing population

Mental health

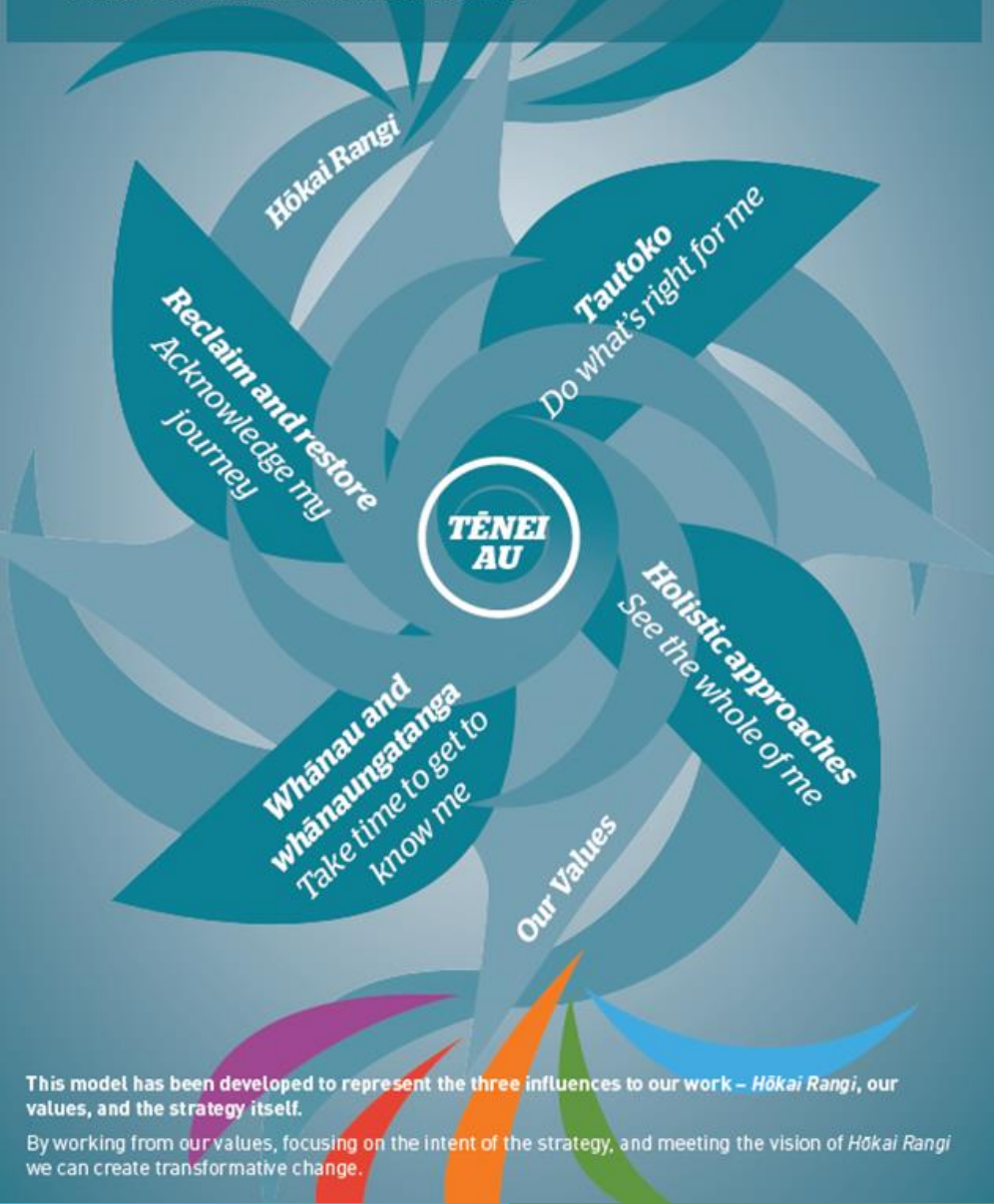
- Forensic services – tertiary
- List who's who – ACC, psychologists, trauma counsellors
- Improving Mental Health services
- Intervention Support Practice Teams
- Mental Health Act...in prison – Intensive Support Units

Wāhine - E rere ana ki te pae hou

Women rising above a new horizon

Women's Strategy | 2021 - 2025

An oranga-focused framework for restoration and reclamation



Wāhine – E rere ana ke te pae hou

This model has been developed to represent the three influences to our work – *Hōkai Rangi*, our values, and the strategy itself.

By working from our values, focusing on the intent of the strategy, and meeting the vision of *Hōkai Rangi* we can create transformative change.

Wāhine- E rere ana ki te pae hou

Holistic approaches

Whānau and whānaungatanga

Reclaim and restore

Tautoko

Wāhine- E rere ana ki te pae hou



62%

of women in prison have had both (comorbid) mental health and substance disorders across their lifetime
(41% of men in prison)



52%

of women in prison have suffered post traumatic stress disorder across their lifetime
(22% of men in prison)



44%

of women in prison have experienced drug dependence disorders across their lifetime
(37% of men in prison)



66%

of women in prison are Māori



6%

of the total prison population are women



46%

of women in prison are on remand



46%

of women in prison have lifetime alcohol dependence
(35% of men in prison)



68%

of women in prison have been the victim of family violence

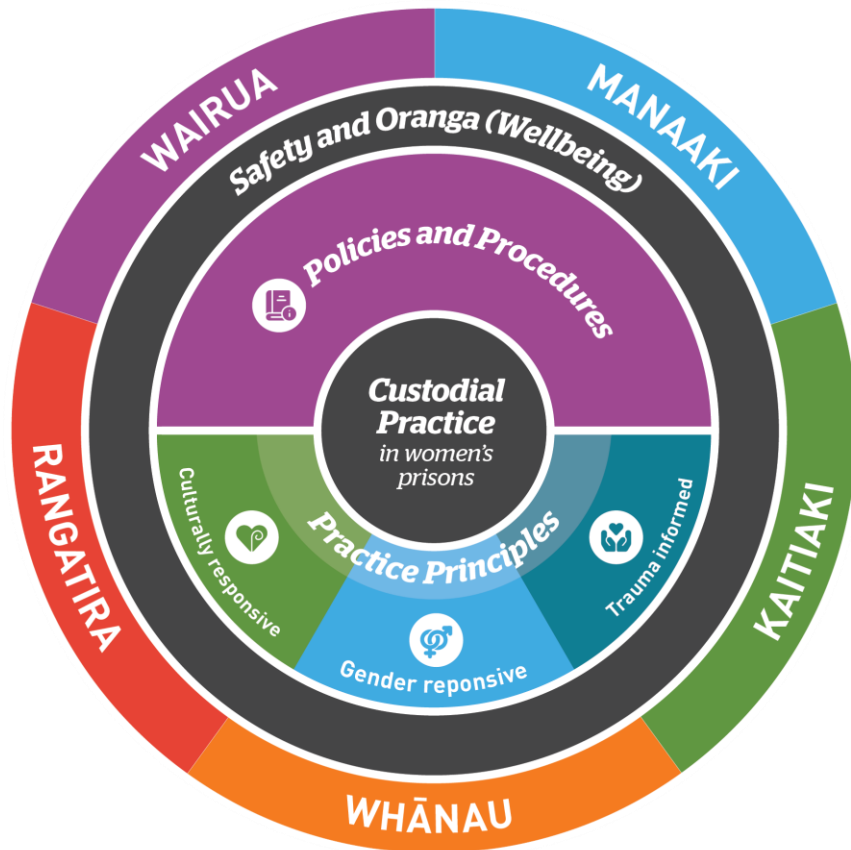


75%

of women in prison have had a diagnosed mental health condition in the last 12 months
(61% of men in prison) *

Women who live in prison

Trauma informed care – ‘Every interaction matters’



Trauma informed approaches means working within the principles of trauma informed practice:

- **Safety** – we look after the physical and emotional safety of women prisoners, staff, and the site.
- **Trustworthiness** – our boundaries, decisions, and operations are transparent and consistent.
- **Choice** – we provide choice where possible, even if these are limited or small.
- **Collaboration** – we make decisions about women with women. Where this isn't possible, we communicate decisions and actions with women, explaining *why*.
- **Empowerment** – we build women's skills and resilience.
- **Cultural, historical, and gender issues** – we are gender responsive, acknowledge historical trauma, and leverage the healing value of traditional cultural connections.

Self-testing for HPV a game changer

Cervical screening rate of eligible population 2023 Q4 – national target = 80%

Māori

59% (n=336/568)
(56.7% nationally)

Pacific People

70% (n=32/46)
(57.1% nationally)

Non-Māori/Non-Pacific

54% (n=131/241)
(69.8% nationally)

- 499 cervical screen in the Quarter
- Higher than the national rate for Māori and Pacific People - reflective of the population in our care.
- Unable currently to separate out self-screening from screener led testing.
- September 2023, the three women's sites accredited cervical screeners have supported nurses to enable opportunity testing. It is a game changer.

Breast screening - access

Breast Screening rate of eligible population 2023 Q4 – national target = 70%

Māori 49% (n=37/76) (60.4% nationally)	Pacific People 100% (n=5/5) (64.3% nationally)	Non-Māori/Non-Pacific 56% (n=29/52) (68.6% nationally)
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- 71 screens in the quarter
- 49% eligible Māori and 100% of Pacific People
- 28 days is the average length of stay – unlikely all eligible women will be able to access screening

Mothers and Babies Units, Hapu Wāhine



Self-care units at Christchurch Women's Prison

Mothers and Babies Units



Inside the
self-care
units at
Christchurch
Women's
Prison

Mothers and Babies Units



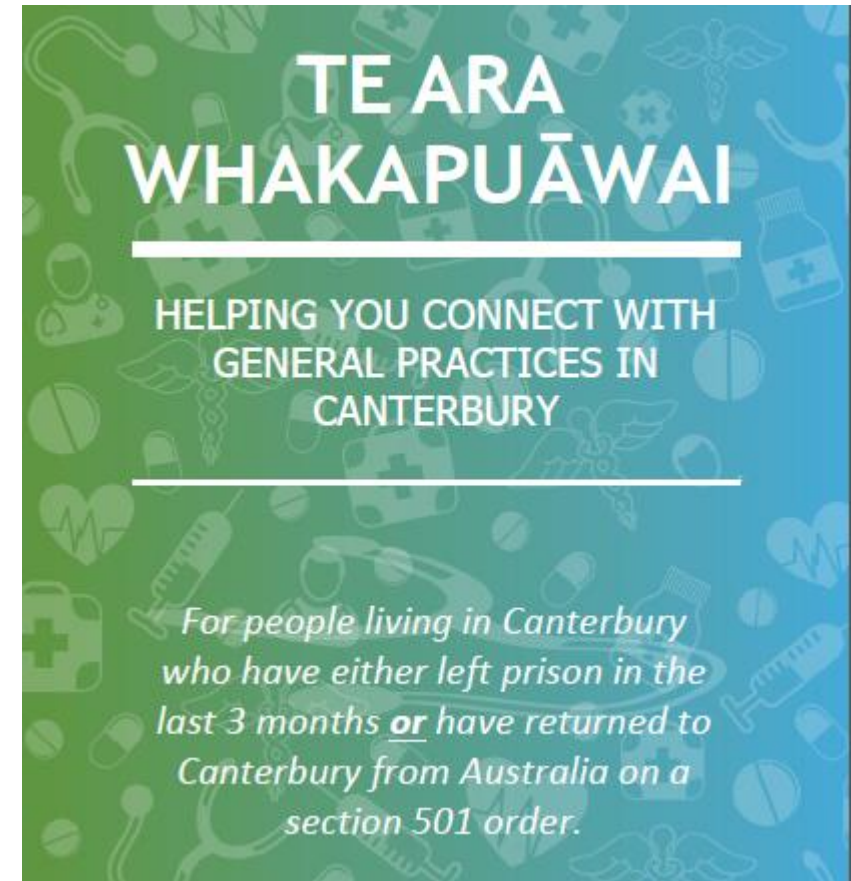
Wāhine room



Playground between units

Release planning Canterbury

- Free first 3 visits
- Longer first visit
- Link into community support for Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol issues
- Supporting access to primary health care services



Our challenge to you today

- Reflect on the information we have shared that provide us with an understanding into the lives of the women who you may meet.
- If you work in primary care, advocate for enrolment, seek out from us information that can support you to work with a women who has lived in prison.
- A released prisoner can easily spiral down in their wellness on release. We are wanting to maintain the health of a women on release from prison, but we cannot do it alone.



Keeping communities safe
and changing lives

Search Corrections website

Q Search

POPULAR LINKS

Contacts

- HealthPracticeTeam@corrections.govt.nz
- Health Centre contact numbers
- Auckland Women's
- Arohata (Wellington)
- Christchurch Women's

Ara Poutama Aotearoa/Department of Corrections website: <https://www.corrections.govt.nz/>



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our website **www.corrections.govt.nz**

New Zealand Government

References

Wāhine – E rere ama ki te pae hou

- [https://tatou.corrections.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/1043544/Corrections_Wahine - E rere ana ki te pae hou 2021 - 2025.pdf](https://tatou.corrections.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/1043544/Corrections_Wahine_-_E_rere_ana_ki_te_pae_hou_2021_-_2025.pdf)

Hōkai Rangi

- https://tatou.corrections.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/956699/Hokai_Rangi_070819_FINAL.pdf

Te Aorerekura: Eliminate Family Violence and Sexual Violence

- [https://tatou.corrections.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/1094514/FVSV - Te Aorerekura Implementation Plan v12 - DIGITAL.pdf](https://tatou.corrections.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/1094514/FVSV_-_Te_Aorerekura_Implementation_Plan_v12_-_DIGITAL.pdf)