



youth service
ratonga taiohi

ratonga taiohi pānui

what you need to know

Rāpare 1 Whiringa-ā-nuku 2026
Thursday 1 October 2026



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

4-10 Okotova

VOSA VAKAVITI

Na noqu vosa me tekivu mai vale
ka me'u na vosataka e na veisiga



L (closest to camera) Lice Takayawa, Mika Tavunawi, Fabi Veikoso Jnr,
Leba Henning, and R (closest to camera) Semi Tikoisuva, Semi Qalotaki,
Talei Rogers, Alanieta Rogers, Gus Hennings,
photographed at home in Hibiscus Coast, Te Kūiti o te Puarangi

**My language starts at home
and I need to speak it every day**

20 PACIFIC
26 LANGUAGE
WEEKS

 **Ministry for
Pacific Peoples**



reminder – learning for parental assistance test

training for youth coaches will be rolled out from 5-22 October

A reminder that learning to support the introduction of the Parental Assistance Test for 18 and 19 year olds applying for Jobseeker Support starts next week. This is for all youth coaches – Youth Payment, Young Parent Payment and NEET.

Training will begin Monday 5 October, and will be rolled out over three weeks until Thursday 22 October.

Training will consist of one online module and an online workshop.

Team leaders should have received an email from YSTraining@msd.govt.nz on how to book into the training sessions. If your team leader hasn't received the email, please reach out to us.

Available training sessions			
Day	Date	Session	Session
Monday	5/10/2026	11am-1pm (Fully booked)	
Tuesday	6/10/2026	11am-1pm (Fully booked)	2pm-4pm
Wednesday	7/10/2026	11am-1pm	2pm-4pm
Thursday	8/10/2026	11am-1pm	2pm-4pm
Friday	9/10/2026	11am-1pm	
Monday	19/10/2026	11am-1pm (Fully booked)	
Tuesday	20/10/2026	11am-1pm	2pm-4pm
Wednesday	21/10/2026	11am-1pm	2pm-4pm
Thursday	22/10/2026	11am-1pm	2pm-4pm

Note for team leaders

Please book all staff into the chosen training session slot individually, even if you are logging in as a team



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tākai – parenting resources for raising thriving tamariki

free tools and information for anyone who supports whānau with tamariki under 5

Kia matua rautia – a thriving village raising children together. Tākai is here for everyone in New Zealand supporting tamariki in their first 2,000 days.

This website is loaded with lots of evidence-based child development information and resources to help you with your mahi. It contains information from pregnancy through to 5 years, weaving in the best parenting resources from trusted partners.

It's full of ideas for sharing the information with whānau and simple activities that build attachment and healthy brains.



Check the website out here

[New Zealand's parenting resource | Tākai](#)



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te aorerekura action plan update 2026/27

national strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence

Te Aorerekura is the 25-year National Strategy that sets the framework to address family violence and sexual violence. The Strategy is delivered through Action Plans that guide the government's work with tangata whenua, specialists, and communities.

The Centre for Family Violence and Sexual Violence Prevention has published an Action Plan Update 2026/27.

Delivery of the first two years of Te Aorerekura Action Plan 2025–2030 saw 26 milestones delivered. The Action Plan Update 2026/27 is a bridge between the first two years and final years of delivery, targeting effort towards initiatives that will make the greatest difference for people affected by violence.

The update maintains a strong focus on doing a few things well; strengthens agency accountability; recognises that further work is required across the existing priority areas; and places greater emphasis on sexual violence and workforce capability.

You can find the update here

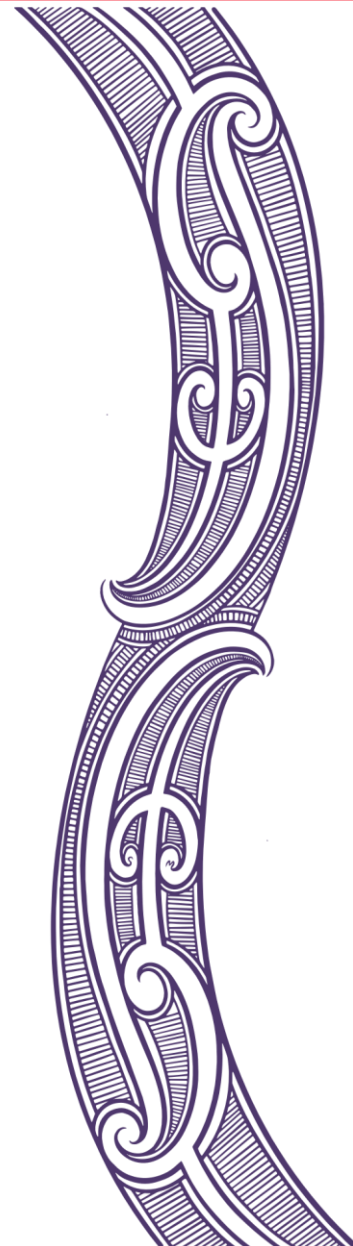
[Breaking the Cycle of Violence | The Centre for Family Violence and Sexual Violence Prevention](#)



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drop-in reap: emergency housing responsibilities and activities

missed the drop-in or need a refresher? you're in the right place

Responsibilities (for people in EH)

- high level obligations
- set by policy
- the same for everybody

Three areas of responsibility

- engage with support services (if referred),
- make reasonable efforts to find alternative housing,
- access housing assistance, pay the contribution.

Activities

- Specific, agreed actions
- Individualised
- Relevant to the young person's situation
- Achievable within the grant period
- Focused on progress towards sustainable housing

But why do we have responsibilities and activities?

They're designed to

- ✓ Support young people towards sustainable housing
- ✓ Address barriers to housing
- ✓ Encourage engagement with appropriate supports
- ✓ Create meaningful progress during each grant period

They're not designed to

- X Punish young people
- X Create busy work
- X Require activities under every responsibility area
- X Measure effort alone



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drop-in reap: emergency housing responsibilities and activities

missed the drop-in or need a refresher? you're in the right place

What makes a good activity?

A good activity should be:

Meaningful – move the young person closer to sustainable housing

Achievable – can reasonably be completed before the next grant application

Relevant – matches the young person's actual circumstances

Clear – the young person understands exactly what they need to do.

Common traps

- Treating activities like a checklist
- Vague activities (eg, improve budgeting, look for housing, engage with support)
- Counting effort instead of progress (eg, apply for 5 properties)
- Activities not in young person's control (eg, wait for appointment with housing broker).



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upcoming drop-in sessions

drop-in to meet other youth coaches and learn about youth service



transition to studylink Tuesday 6 October, 10am

Moving into education is a big step, there are some tips to make it easier for taiohi.

In this session, you'll learn about helping young people to apply for support from StudyLink.

We will have guest speakers from StudyLink to answer all your questions.

[Join the Teams meeting](#)

induction for new youth coaches Tuesday 7 October, 10am

This session covers basic information about Youth Service, designed for new youth coaches.

We'll cover:

- how legislation and policy determines how Youth Service operates
- the people and teams that help deliver Youth Service
- where to find information to help you in your role.

[Join the Teams meeting](#)

wellness Tuesday 13 September, 10am

As a youth coach, a huge part of your role is looking after the taiohi in your service.

To best look after others it is important that you are looking after yourself.

In this session we will be joined a workplace wellness expert, to learn about some strategies and tools to help you look after you.

[Join the Teams meeting](#)

We've added the drop-in sessions for the rest of the year to the Youth Service website.
Have a look at what's coming up: [Drop-in sessions | Youth Service providers](#)



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realising the dreams and aspirations of youth

tau awhitia te taiohi, ka puta ki te wheiao

providers.youthservice.govt.nz

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