

2023 IMPACT REPORT



2022 AT A GLANCE



TAI ORA

27

Participants
(open-ended programme)

"A lot of things have been lifted off me. I have understanding now that I'm not the only one with problems and struggles"

- Live for More graduate

"Surfing has given me a new drug. Being out there is good and gives me the best high"

- Live for More graduate

TAI WĀTEA

18

Participants
(over 3 programmes)

"I have my son back"

- Whānau of graduate

"I'm not at home smoking every day. I'm out doing fun things"

- Live for More graduate

TAI WHAKAORA

12

Participants
(over 2 programmes)

"Thank you is not enough. You changed our lives"

- Whānau of graduate



TAI TAUTOKO

31

Participants
(open-ended programme)

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMMES, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE BY SCANNING THE QR CODE:



"I am motivated to keep out of the system and get a real, legal job and income"

- Live for More graduate

"Thank you so much for helping me change my life and to be a better son to my mum"

- Live for More graduate

PACEY'S STORY *Abridged from graduation speech*

Before Tai Wātea, I was trying to be all these different people: the angry guy, the gangster guy, the good guy, the druggie guy, the player. All of the above.

But, I found my true self on this programme, I realized who I really am.

I am me. I am finally myself. I am loving, I am strong, I am caring, I don't need to be like them, I just need to be like me.

The programme taught me how to communicate better and be confident in everything I do.

If I didn't do Tai Wātea, I'd be digging myself a lot deeper than I already was, through making bad decisions, using drugs, being used by other people, and just not knowing my WORTH!



GC'S STORY

Abridged from graduation speech

I lost my dad at 15 and when I lost him I lost myself. I started forgetting about my siblings and trying to heal myself. I moved down south because my dad always wanted us siblings to travel the whole of New Zealand, like he did. He said that it would open my eyes to different people's beliefs and cultures. In 2019, my mum passed away. When I came back from the South Island my siblings were already lost and vulnerable. I was given the house by my mum and during that time I was able to look after my brothers. This phase in my life made me grateful that I had a life with my parents, and it actually helped me to love the boys when they needed it, because I was loved.

The boys left to do their own thing and I was alone. During this time, I felt really lonely, and I used weed and alcohol to numb that. I would fall asleep at 3pm and wake up the next day. I got sucked into the drugs pretty bad.

In 2021 I met my son and my current partner, Caprice. We met when Pounamu was 3 months old. I became his father at 5 months. I don't see myself as a stepfather but as a father that stepped up. This choice I made changed everything for me. It stopped me from just thinking about myself. It helped me to start thinking before I acted. It helped me to be a better version of myself.

Before I started Tai Wātea, I was pretty lost in the drugs. I was using



weed to punctuate my day, sort of rewarding myself for the things I accomplished in the day. I had a lot of motivation and commitment toward my son, but not for my own well-being.

On Tai Wātea, I found a family bond that helped to distract me from thinking about smoking weed. I really enjoyed the atmosphere because it is always positive. Surfing was also a great distraction and is really relaxing. You can spill all your pain onto the waves and ride it out.

Since doing this programme, it has helped me to commit myself to doing things that are good for my health, like getting into a gym. It has increased my motivation.

It has helped me to spend money and time on things that matter and what is important, like going outside with my son, and going out to ten pin bowling – rather than just spending it on drugs. Something that is worth having, and not worth wanting.

Thank you to the Live for More Team. I appreciate the time and the love that's been given.

TAI WĀTEA OUTCOMES:

89% Graduated from the Tai Wātea programme

75% Major Increase in Cultural Identity and Knowledge
(12.5% Moderate, and 12.5% Minor)

75% Major Development in Pro-social and Life Skills

88% Major improvement in Overall Mental Health and Wellbeing

CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS:

88% are of Māori descent

87% grew up around gangs

43% have been in prison/
youth prison

69% have been suicidal prior to engagement with Live for More

JURY'S STORY

Abridged from graduation speech



Before Tai Wātea, i was drinking every day. Not going anywhere.

I had no work and no license. I was sort of on the way to prison. I was making wrong decisions and wrong people were in my life. I felt overwhelmed because I had children and I had no income and no job. I felt stuck, and I had no confidence and no motivation to do anything about it. I felt disappointed in myself because I didn't know how to get onto a better path for myself and my family. I needed a push and I needed support, because I knew I wanted something more and something better, I just didn't know where to start – or who could help me to do that.

In February, Krista reached out to me about the Tai Wātea program and her and Jared came over to speak to me about it.

I felt positive about it, I felt that they had a lot of belief in a better path for me. I joined the Tai Ora program. I met a good solid group of boys, and the positive Live for More whānau. We would go surfing, walk up the mount, have training days, eat lunch together and just get out there and do something.

During that time it felt good to get out of home and be in a positive, peaceful space. No negativity, no one talking rubbish. **I started to feel like I was getting unstuck.**

The Tai Wātea programme started at the end of May. Everything about the program was awesome. Seeing the boys in the morning, going surfing with the whānau, hearing some amazing speeches that empowered me to do better, knowing that there is more to life and that anything is possible!

I reconnected with my whakapapa and my pepeha. It reminded me about who I am and where I come from. This empowered me to be proud of my identity. I never thought that I would be able to stand up on the board and surf a wave! Learning how to surf and surfing taught me that you can do anything when you put 150% into it and you want to do it! I feel at peace and calm when in the water. All the negativity is left on the land.

When you are out on the water, you just focus on catching the next wave and popping up. This gives my mind a break. The adrenaline rush you get from gliding on the wave gives me a healthy buzz, and it is a healthy hobby for me. This is a tool and activity I can share with my partner

and kids. Something healthy and fun to do together. Most of all, you have to have patience to learn how to surf. This teaches you perseverance in life. Never give up. Keep getting up and going back out there.

Since doing Tai Wātea, I have improved in being able to do things I need to, going for my license, looking at other courses and trades out there. I am drinking less, not smoking so much and I am motivated and empowered to change the path that I am on and where I am going in life.

Now, I want to live for more and I know how to.

I have the support of the Live for More whānau and I know they will always believe in and encourage me to reach my potential as a person, as a father, as a partner. They helped me find my purpose to be a guide and leader to others who are not on the right path or doing so well in life.

If I had not done this programme, I would have been stuck, still drinking and smoking, wasting precious time with my kids and family, and most likely have been in jail...going around the same mountain over and over and over. But to get over that mountain, I had to make a change WITHIN myself. I knew I wanted that.

To want to do better and make changes in your life, you have to think about the people you are around and the environment that you are in and who your real friends are. Know that there is always a positive and better perspective in life if you have the right people and support with you.

ImpactLab GoodMeasure REPORT:

In December 2022, we undertook a GoodMeasure project with ImpactLab, analysing the operating period of January 2021-December 2021. The results from this showed a Social Return on Investment of \$1:\$3.20. This means that every dollar invested in Live for More delivers \$3.20 of measurable good to New Zealand.

SOCIAL
RETURN ON
INVESTMENT
\$1:\$3.20

If you would like to view the full GoodMeasure report, scan the QR code





TREVAUN'S STORY

Abridged from graduation speech

Since doing this programme I have been more focussed on how I can change my way of thinking and expressing my feelings to others.

This course has helped me understand who I am, the importance of belonging and being loved and being cared for and having positive people around to support us as a group.

Tai Wātea has changed my life because I no longer hang out with people who are really not my friends. It made me realise that I had to get rid of the negative people in my life, even when it is hard. They will only bring you down and stop you from changing yourself for the better.

If I had not done this programme, I wouldn't have found such a sense of fulfilment in my life. I found fulfilment here because I feel that I belong and that I matter to people.

OUR LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

Live for More's six long-term outcomes are one way of measuring the success in outworking our organisational purpose: empowering rangatahi/young people to find freedom from their troubled pasts and be inspired to live positive and fulfilling lives.

The long-term outcomes are recorded via surveys at four intervals: 6, 12, 18 and 24 months post Tai Wātea graduation.

Surveys are administered by the Live for More staff members with responses that are self-declared by each client. The staff take care in asking questions specifically around each outcome, which ensures clients clearly understand the questions and are answering them truthfully.

Below are the results from clients 24-months post Tai Wātea graduation. This is the impact that your support is having in the community!

OUTCOME 1 **FREE FROM DRUGS – 36%**

To achieve this outcome, clients are completely drug-free and have not used any illegal drugs for the past month or more. A further 53% of clients have reduced their drug use in the past six months

OUTCOME 2 **FREE FROM CRIME – 73%**

To achieve this outcome, clients are completely out of the justice system and have no legal involvement or concerns at all. This includes court, community work, probation, EM, bail, and parole.

OUTCOME 3 **FREE FROM GANGS – 73%**

To achieve this outcome, clients are not currently associated at all with a criminal gang. Of this 73%, amazingly 51% used to be connected to a gang and have since left the gang.

OUTCOME 4 **FREE FROM PRISON – 85%**

To achieve this outcome, clients are not in prison at the time of the survey and have not spent any time in prison during the past six months.

OUTCOME 5 **POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH – 91%**

To achieve this outcome, clients are experiencing positive mental health overall and have rated their mental health as average (33%), stable (34%) or very stable (24%).

OUTCOME 6 **WORKING OR STUDYING – 65%**

To achieve this outcome, clients are currently engaged in employment or a full-time course towards employment, spending their time in a fulfilling way.



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