



HE IWI KĀINGA
TŪWHARETOA

Quarterly Report

March 2025

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Success Snapshot

This quarter we've supported:



29 new whānau to start their Homeownership journey aspirations through Whai Kāinga



Shared space at our Kāinga Rua seminar at Nukuhau marae to kōrero with over 65 whānau keen to return to their whenua.



Enrolled more than 20 whānau into our Whare Ora Healthy Homes Assessment programme



Delivered to our Te Iwiheke whānau the first of our Hauora workshops - focusing on their wellbeing.



Supported over 15 new clients into our Kāinga Tau programme.



Been present at over 12 events, workshops, or wanānga to connect with our people and promote our services.



Provided governance training to over 30 people through Te Pou Whirinaki.



Had over 124 people register for our services at He Iwi Kāinga.

Kia ora koutou,

The first quarter of 2025 has been a time of strong momentum and meaningful progress across our housing kaupapa. We started the year by picking up where we left off—supporting whānau, strengthening partnerships, and continuing our commitment to safe, secure, and healthy homes. From assessments and tenancy support to workshops and home ownership pathways, it's been encouraging to see the ongoing impact of our programmes.

We've also embraced new opportunities, including moving into our new premises, which has already improved our ability to collaborate and connect. Across the board, we've seen growing engagement, the return of familiar faces, and new relationships forming. As we look ahead, we carry gratitude for the mahi so far and optimism for what's to come. Mā mua ka kite a muri, mā muri ka ora a mua—by looking to our past and present, we shape a better future.



Kelley Samuels-Hema
Programme Manager

Quarter Highlights



Annual General Meeting 2024

Our AGM was a successful and well-attended event, providing a valuable opportunity to reflect on the year's achievements and reconnect with our whānau, partners, and community. It was a celebration of the kaupapa we've carried, the impact we've made together, and the shared vision guiding us forward. The kōrero was rich, the energy was positive, and we're excited for what the next year holds.

Our Whare Ora repairs programme has now completed all planned works, with the funding from Te Puni Kōkiri fully utilised. We're proud of the impact this mahi has had—restoring warmth, safety, and dignity to whānau homes across the rohe. Every repair completed represents not just physical change, but a reconnection to wellbeing and mana within the whare.

While we await clarity on future funding from TPK, the programme currently sits in a space of uncertainty. In the meantime, we're actively exploring alternative avenues to continue supporting whānau. A strong focus this year will be on delivering practical workshops—acknowledging that while we can't fix every home, we can help fill the kete with knowledge, confidence, and tools to uplift our own living environments.



Whare Ora Repairs

Kaumātua Lunch

He Hui Whakamana i ā Tātou Kaumātua

TST & TMTB Kaumātua Lunch – Hui-tanguru 2025

He Iwi Kāinga was honoured to attend and support the annual Kaumātua Lunch hosted by Tūwharetoa Settlement Trust and Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board in Hui-tanguru (February) 2025.

He rā ātaahua i whakanuia e tātou katoa. The sun was shining, the kai was delicious, the kōrero was flowing, and the wairua was high. These moments of kotahitanga remind us how lucky we are to be able to come together each year to celebrate the mana and aroha of our pakeke. Although our hearts hold the memories of those who have passed on, these hui are a special time to embrace the present and uplift each other in life and joy. This year's kaupapa was made even more memorable with outstanding waiata and entertainment from Dennis Marsh, whose voice filled the whare with warmth, and the always-charismatic Brendan Duggon, who kept the rōpū entertained and smiling.

He mihi tino nui to all those who made the day possible – the kaimahi, the kaiāwhina, the organisers, and of course, our kaumātua who continue to guide our iwi with grace, strength, and mātauranga.

He Iwi Kāinga was proud to be part of this day – sharing in the manaakitanga, celebrating whanaungatanga, and continuing our commitment to the wellbeing of our whānau and our iwi.

More photos are available <https://www.facebook.com/Tuwharetoaiwi>



Haere Rā e Ngā Wāhine Toa

Farewell to our Summer Interns



Over the past four months, we've had the immense privilege of hosting three outstanding interns across our Tūwharetoa entities—Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board (TMTB), Tūwharetoa Settlement Trust (TST), and Ngāti Tūwharetoa Fisheries Charitable Trust (NTFCT). All proudly Tūwharetoa wāhine and currently studying at university, this summer intake brought energy, insight, and a deep sense of connection to the kaupapa.

We welcomed back Stacia Haitana for her second internship with us—her familiarity with the space allowed her to dive even deeper into the mahi. For Grace McSweeny and Rautangi Pitiroi, this was their first time interning with us, and they embraced the opportunity with open minds and open hearts. Across their time with us, they were exposed to a range of learning opportunities and hands-on experiences that enriched their kete and contributed meaningfully to our collective mahi.

Mā te huruhuru, ka rere te manu.

Adorn the bird with feathers so it may fly



Together, the interns completed their Skippers Licence with TMTB, participated in the Te Pou Whirinaki governance course with He Iwi Kāinga, and took part in a collaborative intern wānanga alongside the Contact Energy intern cohort.

Many of you would have also experienced the rōreka of Stacia's voice at our AGM—a beautiful, spontaneous moment that reminded us how much our interns bring not just to our mahi, but to the spirit and wairua of our spaces. Inā te rōreka, e hine.

To Stacia, Grace, and Rautangi—ngā mihi nui for the passion, commitment, and heart you brought to every day with us. It's been an honour to walk alongside you as you grow your wings.




He Whare Hono ō Tūwharetoa

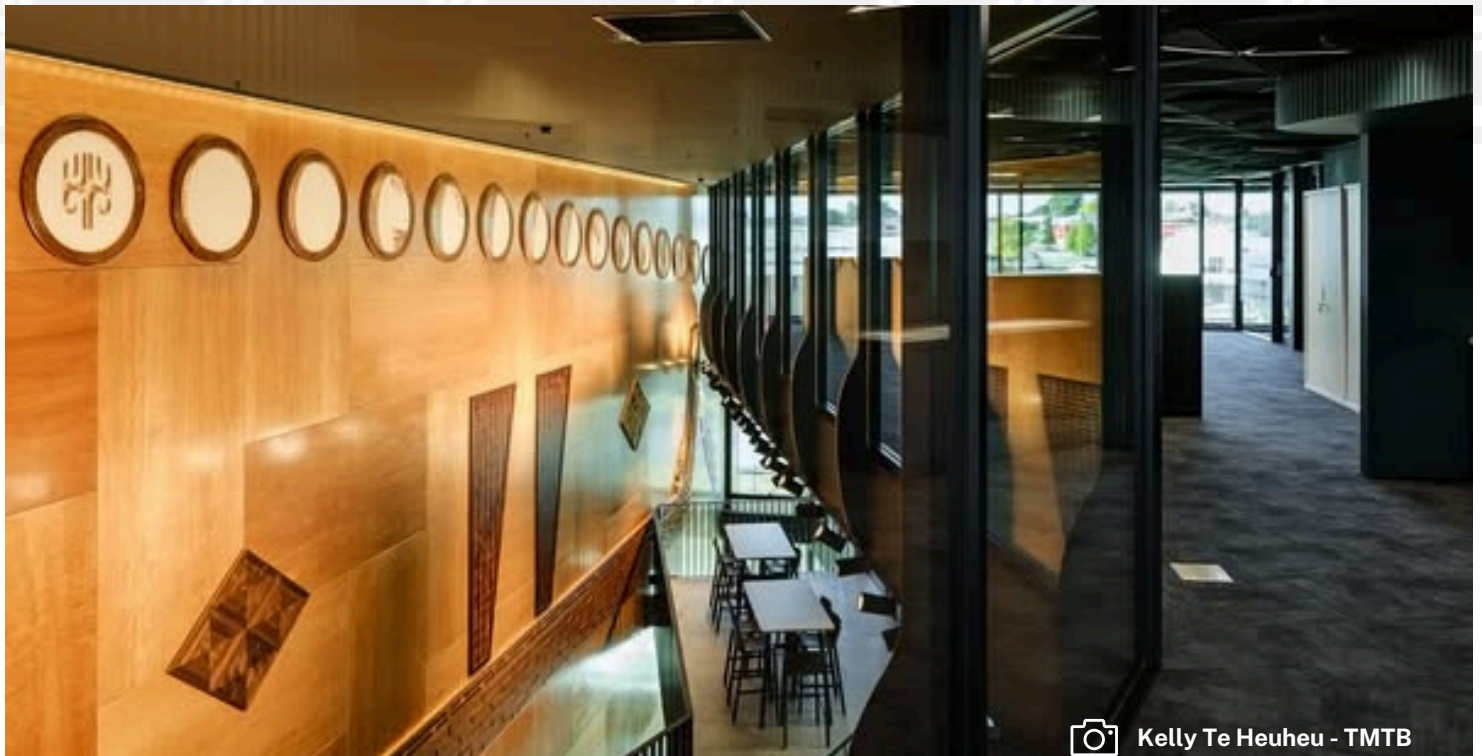
He Whare Hono ō Tūwharetoa officially opened in March 2025, marking a powerful moment of transformation and connection for Ngāti Tūwharetoa and the wider Taupō community. Located at 67 Horomatangi Street, in the heart of town, the three-story whare stands as a testament to the vision, collaboration, and leadership of Tūwharetoa. Owned by Te Whare Hono ō Tūwharetoa Limited Partnership—comprising Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board, Tūwharetoa Settlement Trust, Tauhara Properties, Tupu Angitu, Ngāti Tūwharetoa Fisheries Holdings, and Lake Rotoaira Trust—the building brings together iwi entities, local government, and economic agencies under one roof.


He Whare Hono ō Tūwharetoa was born from a moemoeā (vision) to create a space that reflects the cultural identity, values, and aspirations of our people. The building is steeped in meaning, with design features and artworks that celebrate our connection to te taiao, whakapapa, and mātauranga. From Ngā Mata o te Marama o Tūwharetoa, inspired by Te Kanawa Pitiroi, to the Celestial Waka honouring Ngatoroirangi, and the Kāhui Maunga pou that acknowledge our sacred landscapes—each element tells a story, grounding the whare in our collective legacy and guiding our path forward.

This quarter saw the successful relocation of the He Iwi Kāinga team into He Whare Hono ō Tūwharetoa. The transition marked a new era for our mahi, allowing us to align more closely with other Tūwharetoa entities and work in a space designed with our kaupapa in mind. The build-up to this move involved extensive planning, preparing the space for operational needs, and creating an environment where whānau feel welcome and empowered. Already, we're seeing the benefits of being co-located with partners, with stronger collaboration and improved access to support and services for our whānau.



 Simon Devitt



 Kelly Te Heuheu - TMTB

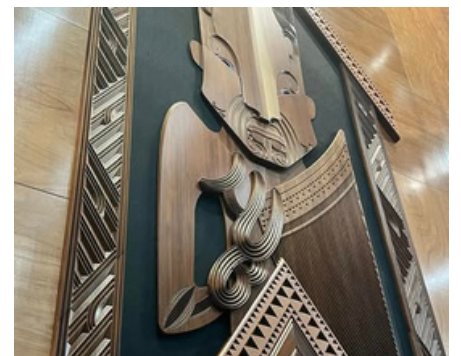
More than a physical structure, He Whare Hono o Tūwharetoa is a living legacy. It brings governance, culture, and community together in one place, enabling better decision-making and more unified action. It is a place where mokopuna can learn about their history, where leaders can shape the future, and where whānau can engage with the people and services that support their wellbeing. With every pou, carving, and kōrero within its walls, the building reinforces our identity and our aspirations.

He Whare Hono is also a strategic long-term investment, designed to generate economic returns that will support initiatives for whānau now and in the years to come. It contributes to Taupō's regional development by creating jobs, drawing in investment, and strengthening partnerships across the rohe. Ultimately, He Whare Hono o Tūwharetoa reflects who we are as Tūwharetoa — unified, innovative, future-focused, and grounded in the wisdom of our tūpuna.

Please feel free to call into our office at any time.



 Kelly Te Heuheu - TMTB



 Kelly Te Heuheu - TMTB



20

Whānau supported with cleaning kits

4

Whānau supported with landlord repairs.

27

Whānau supported with garden maintenance or home resources

10

Whānau supported to access additional external support.

“

Charde has a warm, inviting, bubbly personality. She is a listener and an actioner and has supported us through our housing "trials". Charde is a wonderful kaimahi to have come into our lives and we are grateful for her personality and this service she offers.

”

This quarter began on a high note as we welcomed new whānau into Kāinga Tau who had been waitlisted at the end of 2024. Due to strong demand, the programme had reached its referral target ahead of schedule, which temporarily paused new intakes until further approval was granted. It was incredibly rewarding to be given the green light to support more whānau, especially during a time of increasing housing pressures and uncertainty. Each new connection represents another step towards strengthening tenancy resilience and supporting whānau to remain safely housed.

A key highlight this quarter has been moving into our new building, which has created more opportunities for collaboration and visibility across the community. This has opened doors to connect with some of our most vulnerable whānau—our kaumātua living in the council pension flats—where we've begun exploring ways to offer more tailored, proactive support. Workshops also remain a central focus, with our next Kāinga Tau promotional workshop scheduled for mid-April. These wānanga empower whānau with the knowledge, tools, and confidence to sustain their tenancies and build strong, resilient futures.



Kāinga Manaaki continues to provide essential wrap-around tenancy support to whānau across the rohe. This quarter, our team focused on strengthening relationships with whānau, addressing housing stability issues, and empowering tenants to take ownership of their long-term wellbeing. Our mahi remains grounded in manaakitanga, whanaungatanga, and kaupapa Māori approaches to tenancy and wellbeing support.

Our regular hui with whānau continue to play a vital role in maintaining strong relationships. These kanohi ki te kanohi interactions have helped our team identify early stressors in tenancies, and offer timely support. Feedback from whānau suggests that feeling heard, respected, and supported is one of the most valued aspects of Kāinga Manaaki's approach

“
*OMG this is the beginning of the answer.
The wrap around is key*
”

Hauora Workshop Series – Te Whare Tapa Whā

This quarter, we launched a new series of hauora workshops aimed at supporting the holistic wellbeing of our whānau. Grounded in Te Whare Tapa Whā, the workshops focus on the importance of mental, physical, spiritual, and whānau wellbeing.

Our first session opened vital kōrero around mental wellbeing and intergenerational trauma. Whānau shared stories tracing whakapapa and personal journeys, and explored ways to build resilience in their homes and communities. While the topic was heavy, the space provided healing and connection, reaffirming the need for safe places to discuss mental health openly.

These workshops will continue throughout 2025, with plans to integrate guest speakers, mātauranga Māori, and therapeutic tools to support whānau hauora.



Whare Pai



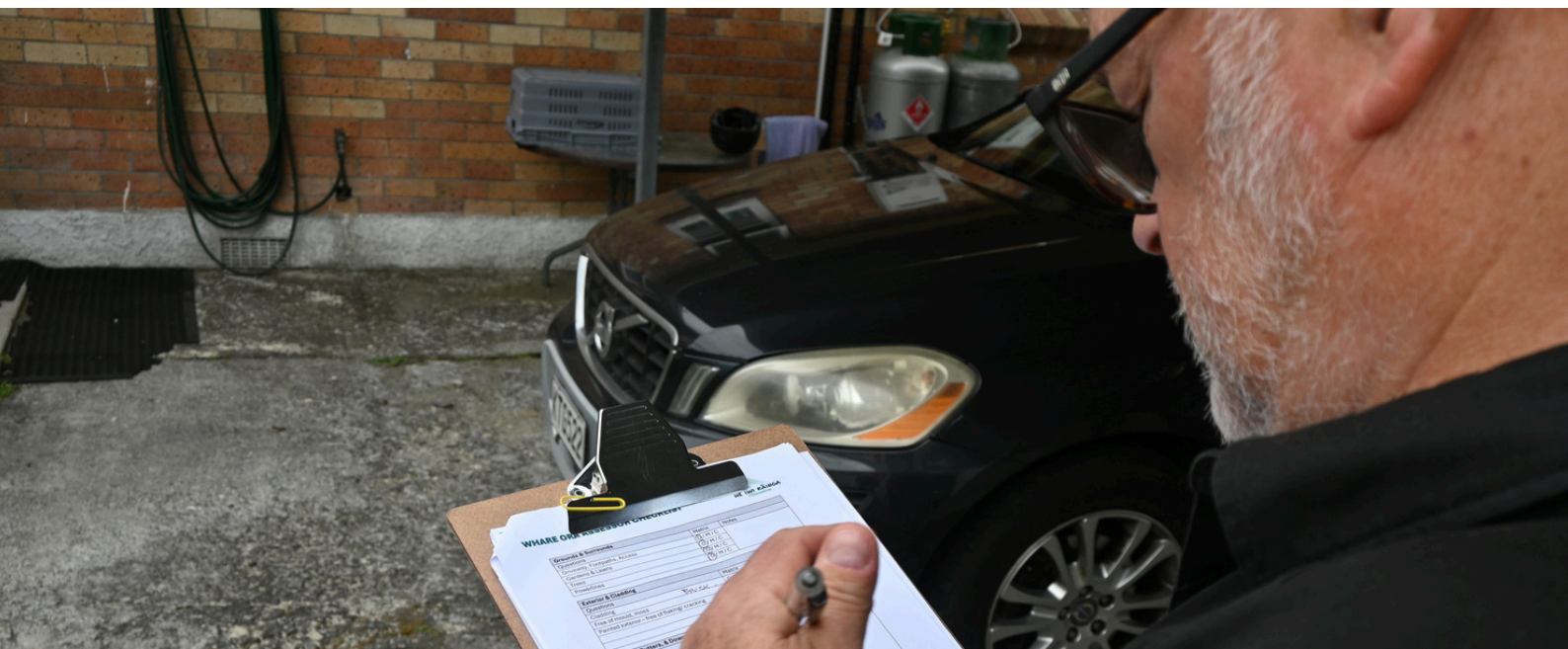
This quarter we've seen significant progress across multiple projects, reinforcing our commitment to improving the safety, quality and longevity of our whare and marae.

A major asset to this work has been Anaru Anderson, whose expertise as a Licensed Building Practitioner (LBP) has been instrumental in driving in-depth assessments, ensuring high quality repairs, and enabling more meaningful engagement with whānau.



Current projects include:

- Whare Ora Assessment Collaboration with Rongo.
- Waihi Marae Capital Works Repairs
- Hinana Wharepaku Upgrade
- TST Rental Homes
- Toi Ohomai Project Support
- FENZ Smoke Alarm Installation Initiative
- Office Relocation to He Whare Hono o Tūwharetoa



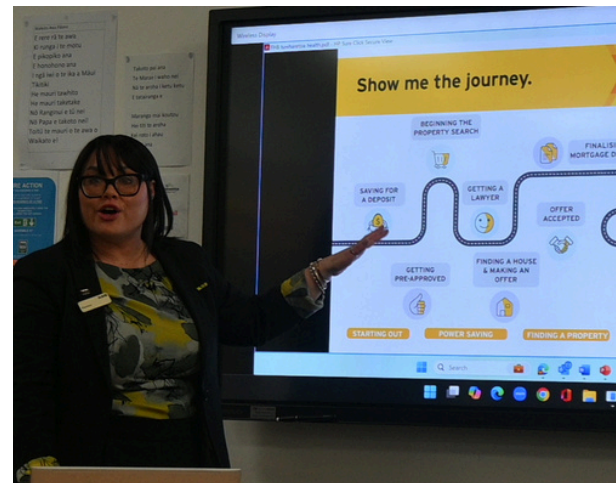
Whai Kāinga

Home Ownership

Whai Kāinga was introduced at the end of 2024 as part of our commitment to supporting whānau into home ownership. We kicked things off with a series of relaxed, informative home buyer evenings aimed at first home buyers—breaking down the process and showing just how achievable it can be. Working alongside JB, and Theresa from our local ASB Bank, we've focused on removing the whakamā from the kōrero, encouraging whānau to build their home ownership team early and set themselves up for success.

The response has been inspiring, with strong interest and growing confidence among attendees. To date, we've supported 20 people to achieve pre-approval for their first home—including our youngest couple, both just 21 years old.

Whai Kāinga is about more than buying a house—it's about empowering our whānau with knowledge, support, and belief in their ability to create a stable, secure future.





Following the success of Te Pou Whirinaki – An Introduction to Māori Governance, we are now developing Te Pou Whirinaki – Māori Governance Essentials, a Level 2 course that dives deeper into governance responsibilities, strategic leadership, and decision-making. This next phase will better prepare whānau to step into governance roles with confidence and is expected to roll out mid-2025.

We've also partnered with BFA Accounting to co-develop a Financial Essentials Course, ensuring our people gain the financial knowledge needed for strong governance and business decisions. This course is currently in development.

Te Pou Whirinaki was delivered in January and February 2025, and we're proud to have completed its rebranding with invaluable input from our Tūwharetoa Interns—embedding stronger connections to our tikanga Māori and Tūwharetoatanga.

Our Kāinga Rua Seminars continue to provide valuable spaces for collective learning, collaboration, and practical papakāinga solutions. These wānanga strengthen relationships between whānau, trusts, and external organisations, helping to foster strategic partnerships and improve access to key resources.

We're excited to launch our first 2025 seminar in April at Nukuhau Marae, offering opportunities to connect, share insights, and support whānau aspirations. As always, Kāinga Rua remains focused on empowering whānau and hapū, growing capability, and upholding our tikanga as we move toward a sustainable, prosperous future for Tūwharetoa.

Titiro Whakamua

Looking ahead

Looking ahead, the next quarter brings a packed calendar of kaupapa designed to support, inform, and uplift our whānau – from Kāinga Rua seminars and Whāi Kāinga info evenings to Whare Ora workshops and financial literacy wānanga. With events planned across April, May, and June 2025, we're excited to continue this mahi not only in Taupō and Tūrangi, but also for the first time in Taumarunui. Our Tūwharetoa rohe is far and wide, and this is our opportunity to be more present across the motu – taking our kaupapa out to where our people are, connecting kanohi ki te kanohi, and walking alongside whānau in their own communities.

For more details follow us on Facebook to see our calendar events or register online.

April 2025

- Kāinga Rua Seminar
- Whāi Kāinga Info Evening
- Kāinga Tau Workshop

May 2025

- Whāi Kāinga Info Evening
- Te Pou Whirinaki - Financial Essentials
- Whare Ora Workshops
- Kāinga Rua Seminar Taumarunui

June 2025

- Whāi Kāinga Info Evening
- Whare Ora Workshops
- Kāinga Manaaki Classes







Kōrero Mai

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