



Children's Services Tū Māia Whānau
A world strong with children

Stand Tū Māia Covid 19 Service Update 31 March 2020

Stakeholder Information

Kia ora kōutou,

The arrival of Covid19 into New Zealand has brought many challenges and worries for all tamariki and whānau, but it is amazing and humbling to see and feel the courage, generosity, manaaki and aroha in our workers, whanau and communities.

Stand Tū Māia have been working closely with our NGO and government partners. We are grateful for the government commitment to support tamariki and whānau through this time by ensuring essential social services remain available and providing additional funding for increased needs that may arise.

Oranga Tamariki has confirmed that Stand Tū Māia is an Essential Service. The essential services list identifies work that can continue at Alert Level 4, as long as it is done in a way that limits or eliminates the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Being an essential service means that Stand Tū Māia will be continuing our role supporting whānau and tamariki, working alongside our community and government partners to ensure their safety and wellness.

During Alert Level 4 the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff is paramount. The National Leadership Team of Stand Tū Māia have decided that, other than some critical direct services to tamariki, we will suspend all face to face contact unless there is a critical reason to visit.

All Stand Tū Māia staff are now working remotely from home and critical community visits to whānau will be approved on a case by case basis by the manager of the service.

The five Children's Villages in Whangarei, Auckland, Rotorua, Gisborne and Christchurch and all our regional offices are now temporarily closed. There will be no Kidzacoool or Therapeutic Care and Education intakes at the Children's Villages until further notice.

Our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StandNZ> will continue to be updated with new information as it becomes available.

We remain open to referrals to all services. Priority access for new referrals will be focused on those whānau needing intensive support to keep children safe and the family unit stable.

Our people and our tamariki and whānau are the heart of this organisation. In the coming weeks, Stand Tū Māia staff will connect with tamariki and whānau throughout Aotearoa that are currently enrolled in our services so no one feels isolated and to ensure that everyone has access to support if they need it. It is clear that providing aroha in the many forms that takes, and connection between families and communities is imperative to manage these new and unprecedented times.

Alert Level 4 and these changed ways of working will be challenging for everyone involved, but it is necessary to prevent the spread.

We will be continually monitoring the situation and will continue to follow Government advice and direction. As soon as it is safe, we will consider reopening services on a case by case basis.

Our sincere thanks for your ongoing support of Stand Tū Māia services. These are extraordinary times for us all and it is important we stay connected and work together to best support and meet the needs of tamariki and whānau.

Stay home and safe. Be kind and patient with each other. Kia kaha, kia toa, kia tū māia!

Tēnā tatou kātoa

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Fiona Inkpen
Chief Executive