

Late 2009 the Ministry of Health called for expressions of interest to deliver 'Better, Sooner, More Convenient Primary Care'. More than 70 consortia including PHOs and DHBs and other service providers from across the country responded. Nine applicants were successful, including 3 consortia that are proposing a set of initiatives across the Auckland region – Alliance Health+, the Greater Auckland Integrated Health Network (GAIHN) and the National Māori PHO Coalition. They successful EOIs have been invited by the Ministry of Health to submit business cases.

We are writing to update you on the progress we have been making towards the completion of business cases for the next stage of the Government's better, sooner, more convenient primary health care strategy.

The three groups have presented their draft plans for feedback to the Community and Public Health, Māori and Pacific Advisory groups in each of the DHBs, along with meeting with more than 20 key non-government organisations (NGOs) to gain their feedback. More than 30 key non-government organisations (NGOs) attended a briefing with the three groups in late January where they were updated on progress and gave their feedback and support for the business cases.

Alliance Health+

Alliance Health+ is a consortium of three Auckland Pacific PHOs in the Auckland region - AuckPac Health Trust Board, TaPasefika Health Trust and Tongan Health Society Inc. An interim Board has been appointed to oversee the transition from three PHO's into one PHO. Alliance Health+ draft constitution document has been tabled with its Governance Group for review and feedback.

Alliance Health+ aims to build critical mass for the Pacific sector including three IFHCs. The focus will be on a Pacific led primary care organisation that serves high needs populations and is inclusive of mainstream practices in high need areas.

It will focus on providing more personalised, patient centred care that fits with Pacific models of care which have an emphasis on the inclusion of family/fanau/whanau and connections to the wider support networks and community.

The PHO is currently revising its model of care having completed two clinical pathways meetings and a model of care workshop. Alliance Health+ has also engaged Pacific NGO providers in the development of its model of care which saw more than 50 Pacific provider organisations come together to provide their advice and support. Work on what integrated family health centres will look like for Pacific and other high need populations is also currently underway.

Regular e-mail newsletters provide updates on the progress and content of the Alliance Health+ proposal. Contact Alliance Health+ to join the mailing list (see below).

GAIHN

The Greater Auckland Integrated Health Network (GAIHN) - a consortium of 312 general practice teams, 11 PHOs and the three Auckland Region DHBs is held 2 stakeholder Summits along with three clinician 'Mini-Summits' to fine tune its business case content. In total, nearly 500 people attended the Summits representing more than 50 different organisations involved in healthcare in Auckland.

GAIHN, as a collaborative network, is committed to achieving measurable health targets in the next three years including a five per cent reduction in acute hospital days for people with chronic conditions, national health targets for immunisation, cancer and cardiovascular risk screening and halving the current health inequalities for Māori, Pacific and high needs people.

An online survey for GAIHN of clinicians and front line workers and three clinicians 'mini-summits' have supported clinical input. Clinical focus areas under discussion for year one include improved best-practice approaches across: acute chest pain management; smoking cessation; vascular risk assessment and management; community management of unstable respiratory/COPD; and frail elderly.

The GAIHN proposal includes establishing up to 12 Integrated Family Health Centres (IFHCs) in the next three years and multidisciplinary Local Health Networks. These IFHCs and Local Health Networks will support general practice and enable the safe and efficient shift of services from hospitals to the community.

More information and updates on the progress and content of the GAIHN proposal can be found at the GAIHN website (www.gaihn.health.nz).

National Māori PHO Coalition

The National Māori PHO Coalition is progressing its proof of concept to enable the Whānau Ora strategy.

The Coalition is testing the development of whanau centred service delivery design that is focused on achieving outcomes for Maori and high needs communities. This includes the development of Whanau Ora centres and Whanau Ora programmes. The Whanau Ora programmes being tested are mama, pepi & tamariki, and long-term conditions.

The business case development considers the infrastructure requirements to support these developments including changes to funding and contracting models to focus on achievement of outcomes. It also focuses on the critical elements of workforce development and information management. The case supports the development of Whanau Ora centres across the upper North Island.

The coalition has designed an Outcomes Framework that enables Whanau centred design of health and social systems. The four core Whānau Ora outcomes are: Whāngaia – nurturing Whānau; Oranga - Healthy Whānau; Whai Whai atu – engaged Whānau; and Mohiotia – knowledgeable Whānau.

Where to from here

The three business cases, which will detail the proposed changes to the way primary health care is delivered, are now set to be presented to the three Auckland district health boards. They will then be submitted to the government by 1 March 2010 for approval. Successful applicants will then be invited to develop a full implementation Blueprint for delivery by 30 June 2010. That process will include briefings and community engagement.

We hope you found this update helpful and if you need any more information please don't hesitate to contact us.

ADHB Contact: Andrew Coe, PHOs and Primary Care Manager,
andrew.coe@adhb.govt.nz