Kia ora koutou,

On Monday the 1st of October we are starting the prototype of the transformed disability support system in MidCentral. I can’t believe that this day is finally here and we are calling this prototype Mana Whaikaha.

Hei te Rāhina 1 o Whiringa-ā-nuku ka tīmata mātou i te tauira o te pūnaha panoni tautoko i te hunga whaikaha ki MidCentral. Kāore tonu ahau i te tino whakapono kua tae mai tēnei rā, ā, kei te tapaina e mātou tēnei tauira ki te ingoa ko Mana Whaikaha.

All people who are in MidCentral DHB region and currently accessing/receiving disability supports funded by the Ministry of Health will be part of the new system. This does not mean that things need to change for you; you will continue to receive the exact same support on the 1st of October that you received before. This will continue until you contact us or we contact you on a regular review date for checking in on your support. But if you want to think about making changes, you can contact us to work with a Kaitūhono/Connector.

Ka whai wāhi ngā tāngata katoa kei roto i te rohe o MidCentral DHB, kei te whai tautoko hoki ka utua e te Manatū Hauora, i roto i te pūnaha hou. Ehara i te mea me panoni aua mea mōu; arā, ka pērā tonu te momo tautoko ka whiwhi koe hei te 1 o Whiringa-ā-nuku, ki tērā i whiwhi ai koe i mua rā. Ka pēnei tonu tae noa ki te wā ka whakapā mai koe ki a mātou, ka whakapā rānei mātou ki a koe hei tētahi wā auau ka whakaritea. Heoi, ki te pīrangi koe ki te whai whakaaro mō te mahi panoni ka taea e koutou te tono mai kia mahi tahi me tētahi Kaitūhono.

From 1st of October there will be a new website www.manakwhaikaha.co.nz and you can also contact us by sending an email to info@manawhaikaha.co.nz, phoning us on 0800 MANA 55 (0800 6262 55) or coming to see us at one of our hubs.

Mai i te 1 o Whiringa-ā-nuku ka puta mai tētahi paetukutuku hou, arā, ko manawhaikaha.co.nz, ā, ka āhei hoki koe te whakapā mai ki a mātou mā te tuku īmērā ki info@manawhaikaha.co.nz, mā te waea rānei mā te 0800 MANA 55 (0800 6262 55), mā te tae ā-tinana mai rānei ki tētahi o ā mātou pūtahitanga.

On Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm we will be at Hancock Community House, King Street, Palmerston North and that will start from the 8th of October.

I ngā Rāhina, i ngā Rāapa, i ngā Rāpare hoki ka huihui mātou ki Hancock Community House, kei te Tiriti o King, ki Te Papaioea, mai i te 9:30 o te ata ki te 4:00 o te ahiahi, ā, ka tīmata hei te 8 o Whiringa-ā-nuku.

We will be at our Ōtaki hub on Thursdays between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm at Te Wānanga o Raukawa Ngā Purapura building, 144 Tasman Street, Ōtaki.

Ka huihui matou ki tō mātou pūtahitanga ki Ōtaki i ngā Rāpare i waenga i te 9:30 o te ata me te 4:00 o te ahiahi, ki Te Wānanga o Raukawa, ki te whare o Ngā Purapura, kei 144 Tasman Street, Ōtaki.

And we will be in Levin on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Community and Cultural Centre, that’s Kowhai and Hebe rooms, 10 Bart Street, Levin. And again that’s 9:30 am until 4:00 pm, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in Levin.

Waihoki, kei Taitoko (Levin) mātou i ngā Rātū me ngā Rāapa, kei te Community and Cultural Centre, arā, ki ngā rūma o Kōwhai, o Hebe hoki, 10 Bart Street, Taitoko. Ā, anei anō taua kōrero, mai i te 9:30am ki te 4:00pm, hei ngā Rātū me ngā Rāapa ki Taitoko.

And we are trying out Woodville, at Woodville Community Centre, 62 Ross Street and that will be Thursdays 9:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Waihoki, kei te toro atu mātou ki Te Whāriti (Woodville), Woodville Community Centre, 62 Ross Street, ā, ka tū tērā i ngā Rāpare mai i te 9:30 o te ata ki te 4:00 o te ahiahi.

There is also an on call Connector number for emergencies. So that number is 027 236 6145. But please just call that when you really need to, outside of hours.

Arā hoki tētahi nama whakapā Kaitūhono hei waea atu i ngā wā ohotata. Ko taua nama ko te 027 236 6145. Heoi, me waea atu ki taua nama i ngā wā ka tino hiahiatia, hei ngā haora o waho atu.

Also remember that Connectors will be able to meet with you at different times of the day. So, they are only going to work 37 and a half hours a week. We are not expecting them to work all day and night but they will be available from 8 in the morning to 8 at night and on Saturdays from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.

Kia maumahara hoki ka āhei ngā Kaitūhono ki te tūtaki ki a koutou i ngā wā maha o te rā. Nā, e 37.5 haora anake ia wiki ka mahi ngā Kaitūhono. Kāore mātou e tohutohu i a rātou kia mahi i te ao, i te pō hoki, engari ka wātea rātou mai i te 8 o te ata ki te 8 o te pō, i ngā Rāhoroi mai i te 10:00 o te ata tae noa ki te 3:00 o te ahiahi.

Information on how to contact us and with those addresses and specific dates and times will also be on the website from the 1st of October and I really encourage you to double check or call us on 0800 626 255 to check those details.

Hei te 1 o Whiringa-ā-nuku ka kitea i runga i te paetukutuku ētahi pārongo ka pēhea te whakapā mai ki a mātou, ngā wāhi hoki, ngā rā hoki, ngā wā hoki, ā, ka akiaki ahau i a koutou ki te āta tirotiro anō, ki te waea mai rānei ki a mātou ki 0800 626 255 kia kite ai i aua taipitopito.

As you are all aware, we are going to be taking a ‘try, learn and adjust’ approach to the prototype.

E mōhio nā koutou katoa, kei te whai mātou i tētahi aronga ‘kia ngana, kia ako, kia panoni’ mō te tauira.

While there has been a lot of work to put things in place for the 1st of October, there is still a lot more that is going to happen after the 1st of October. In particular we will be continuing to develop a lot more information and resources for disabled people and whānau and we will also be thinking about how to make things more accessible. So we have translated a few things and we are creating specific resources like a video for Deaf people about what they will need to know around the prototype. We are also conscious that we need to gather information about what is working and what we need to change over the next 18 months and that includes about how you want to receive information and what would be useful. We will be asking you for feedback at every stage and there will be information on the website about how you can provide feedback at any time.

Ahakoa he nui ngā mahi whakarite mō te 1 o Whiringa-ā-nuku, arā tonu ētahi mahi nūnui anō ka mahia hei muri atu i te 1 o Whiringa-ā-nuku. Me kī rā, ka haere tonu tā mātou hanga kia maha ake ngā pārongo, ngā rauemi hoki mā te hunga whaikaha me ngā whānau, ā, ka tino whakaaro hoki mātou ka pēhea te waihanga i ngā mea kia ngāwari ake te whakauru. Nā, arā ētahi mea kua whakawhitiwhitia te reo ā-tuhi, ā, kei te waihanga rauemi motuhake mātou pērā i tētahi ataata mā te hunga turi mō ngā pārongo me mōhio rātou mō te tauira. Kua mārama kē mātou me kohikohi pārongo mātou mō ngā mea e tutuki pai ana, he aha ngā mea me panoni hei ngā marama 18 e haere mai nei tae atu ki te āhua o te whiwhi pārongo, ā, he aha ngā mea whaihua. Hei ia paerewa ka pātai atu mātou ki a koutou, ā, ka tukuna ētahi kōrero ki te paetukutuku ka pēhea koutou ka tuku urupare mai ahakoa āhea.

You will remember that the objectives of the transformed system are to provide disabled people and whānau with more flexible support options and more decision making over their lives and to improve outcomes for disabled people and to create a cost effective disability support system. While there is a small amount of additional funding for support, this is about thinking about:

Kia maumahara koutou ko ngā whāinga o te pūnaha kua panonihia kia tuku kōwhiringa tautoko ngāwari ake ki te hunga whaikaha me ngā whānau, kia kaha ake hoki tā rātou whakatau whakaaro mō ō rātou ake oranga, kia whakapai ake hoki i ngā hua mā te hunga hauā, kia waihanga hoki i tētahi pūnaha pai ake te whakapau pūtea mā te hunga whaikaha. Ahakoa kei reira tētahi itinga pūtea anō hei tautoko, ko tāna kia whakaarohia ake ēnei mea:

* What a good life looks like for a person?
* what support is needed to get there?
* What resources might be available in communities?
* What might need to come from government funded supports?
* He aha te oranga pai ki te tangata?
* He aha te momo tautoko ka matea kia tutuki ai tērā?
* He aha ngā rauemi kei ngā hapori?
* He aha ngā mea tautoko me ahu mai pea i te puna pūtea a te kāwanatanga?

This is about being able to create new options and to use the existing funding differently. So the processes for thinking about support and funding will be different and we have definitely tried to create a better experience for disabled people and whānau when they engage with the system.

He huarahi tēnei hei waihanga kōwhiringa hou, kia rerekē atu te whakamahi i te pūtea kei reira kē. Nā, ka rerekē ake ngā tukanga whakaaroaro mō te tautoko, mō te pūtea hoki, ā, kua kaha ngana mātou ki te waihanga i tētahi wheako pai ake mā te hunga hauā me ngā whānau ā te wā ka whakauru rātou ki roto i te pūnaha.

The other thing that has been happening over the last month or so, is that we have now got the MidCentral Governance Group established to ensure disabled people, whānau, providers and the workforce are able to oversee the implementation of the prototype and provide recommendations to Ministers about what needs to change.

Ko tētahi atu āhuatanga kua puta mai i te marama kua taha ake nei, ināianei kua whakatūria te rōpū mana ārahi, arā, ko te MidCentral Governance Group, kia whakaū ai ka āhei te hunga whaikaha, ngā whānau hoki, ngā kaiwhakarato hoki, ko te hunga mahi hoki ki te kite atu i te whakatinanatanga o te tauira, me te tuku tūtohinga ki ngā Minita mō ngā matea kia panonihia.

The members of the MidCentral Governance Group are:

* + Peter Allen
	+ Martin Sullivan
	+ Rachel Kenny
	+ Zandra Vaccarino
	+ Rasela Fuauli
	+ Maxine Dale
	+ Peter Ireland
	+ Angela Hobden
	+ Heather Browning.

They are about to start governance group induction and training and I look forward to working with them over the next 12 months.

Ko ngā mema o rōpū mana ārahi, arā, ko te MidCentral Governance Group:

* + Peter Allen
	+ Martin Sullivan
	+ Rachel Kenny
	+ Zandra Vaccarino
	+ Rasela Fuauli
	+ Maxine Dale
	+ Peter Ireland
	+ Angela Hobden
	+ Heather Browning.

Ākuanei ka tīmata tā rātou ako, whakangungutanga hoki mō te mahi mana ārahi, ā, kei te whakataretare atu ahau kia mahi tahi i tō rātou taha hei ngā marama 12 e haere mai ana.

1st of October is a significant milestone when we will actually start to work with disabled people and whānau in a different way. I really want to take this opportunity to thank everybody who has been involved, everybody who has contributed to the work so far. That includes particularly people on the Regional Leadership Group and the core groups in MidCentral. Also all of the disabled people, whānau, providers, support workers who have contributed to working groups and virtual testing groups, including a whole lot of officials across government.

He paerewa whakahirahira te 1 o Whiringa-ā-nuku, arā, tūturu ka tīmata pai te mahi tahi me te hunga whaikaha me ngā whānau me te whai i huarahi kē atu. Kei te tino pīrangi ahau ki te mihi atu ki ngā tāngata katoa i whai wāhi i roto i te kaupapa mahi nei. Tae atu hoki ki ngā tāngata o te rōpū ārahi ā-rohe, arā, ko te Regional Leadership Group me ngā rōpū matua o MidCentral. Ka mihi atu hoki ki te hunga whaikaha, ngā whanau, ngā kaiwhakarato, ngā kaimahi tautoko kua whai wāhi i roto i ngā rōpū mahi, i roto hoki i ngā rōpū whakamātau ā-mariko, tae atu ki ētahi āpiha huri noa i te kāwanatanga.

After the 1st of October you will be hearing a lot more from the directors, Lorna Sullivan and Marshall Te Tau and a lot less from me, but once again – thank you to everybody who has helped us to here.

Hei muri atu i te 1 o Whiringa-ā-nuku ka rongo kōrero anō koutou mai i ngā kaihautū, arā, ko Lorna Sullivan rāua ko Marshall Te Tau, ā, ka iti iho aku kōrero, heoi anō, ka mihi atu ki a koutou katoa i āwhina mai i a mātou i konei.