

# Alcohol Harm Reduction

## Quarterly Update 1 July - 30 September 2023

Healthy Families NZ develops quarterly updates for each key focus area, providing a snapshot of mahi being carried out across our location teams.

**Healthy Families Far North** attended an initial collaborative conversation around collective reduction of alcohol presence and harm in our communities, with a cross representation of agencies. Their next steps are to build closer relationships with system partners in this space, with a view to do a deep dive workshop into gaps and opportunities, and are particularly interested in supporting partner agencies to shift practice in a way that brings whānau closer to the decision making within the liquor licensing processes.

In July, Tania Bidois from Te Kohao Health (Lead Provider for **Healthy Families Te Ngira**) attended an Alcohol Health Watch Forum where it was realised that there needed to be more participation from a Te Ao Maori lens. Tania is now part of the Alcohol policy and planning forum - Kāhui Māori, still in the establishment stage. The group consists of Māori Advisors from various Health Boards, and they discussed national, regional, community, and iwi strategies relating to reducing the harm from alcohol.

As part of “Healthy Sports Clubs”, which explores how to support clubs and Regional Sports Organisations to look at healthier funding and sponsorship options, **Healthy Families Ōtautahi** are working alongside Barrer & Co, an Ōtautahi-based consultancy who support charities with their fundraising and revenue streams. Three Rugby League clubs in Ōtautahi who are keen to reduce their reliance on funding from unhealthy commodities have been working with the Barrer & Co team to learn how they can sustainably grow their revenue.

“What About You Murihiku“ has been introduced in Southland by the Healthy Attitudes Towards Alcohol collective, of which **Healthy Families Invercargill** is a member. This initiative aims to reduce hazardous drinking and drug use, and improve mental health through the use of collective messaging and resources. The initiative has had a community consultation hui, and a survey undertaken to confirm whether the community would like this initiative implemented into the Southern district. Next steps will be to synthesize the comments, insights, and information gathered at the community hui and create a strategic plan towards implementation.

During the last week of August, many of the **Healthy Families Ōtautahi** team joined a group of professionals from the health sector, to collaborate in a brainstorming session, with the aim of helping ACC in their quest for Alcohol harm reduction. The session was co-lead by Lead Systems Innovator, Maria Smolar.