

*Talofa lava, Kia orana, Malo e lelei, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Bula vinaka, Malo ni, Halo ola keta, Mauri, Fakatalofa atu, Kia ora*

*It is my pleasure to present the 2019 report for Pasifika Midwives Tamaki Makaurau.*

*Our acknowledgements*

*To Nga Marsters who was our chair and leader for several years and who continues to support Pasifika Midwifery at all levels. Many thanks.*

*To the new committee members who have come on board - congratulations for stepping up and taking on your new roles.*

*Our group especially acknowledges the ongoing support of our NZCOM Auckland region who among other things, allow us to use their rooms for our monthly meeting and for lovely Delia who is always so friendly and helpful.*

*To our Pasifika sister June Ah-Wong who was one of our Pasifika Midwives Aotearoa's founding members - stay strong and heal well.*

*Our group meets monthly and is well attended by both Pasifika Midwives and students. We enjoy this opportunity to come together, to listen and learn. At our meetings we often have guest speakers which have included a counsellor, researchers and our very own Pasifika students.*

*We have close ties to our Waikato Pasifika sisters who also attend our meetings.*

*Our group is a small one but we are growing. One of our main focal points has always been to grow our Pasifika Midwifery workforce by supporting our midwifery students. One of these supports is in the form of our "Aunties" mentoring programme. It is also heartening to see our students supporting each other by sharing teaching aids and knowledge of scholarships.*

*We endeavour to provide a Pasifika Midwifery say in as many forums as we can. We need our voices to be heard if we are to make a difference for our Pasifika people.*

*Our members sit on the CMH workforce strategy planning group, CMH SUDI governance group, NZCOM National Board and the NZCOM Auckland region committee.*

*We are also lucky to have Talei Cummins, one of our Pasifika sisters from Waikato, currently in the midst of her Masters researching “enablers or types of support that Pasifika midwives received during their time as midwifery students”. Several of our members are involved in this research.*

*August 2018 - Three Pasifika Midwifery Students were funded by our group and NZCOM Auckland to attend the 15th Biennial Conference “One Voice”.*

*October 11th, 2018 - We hosted the MOH Maternity Whole of Systems Workshop - Pasifika Peoples at AUT with Keriana Brooking.*

*November 6th - NZCOM CE Karen Guilliland Auckland Farewell - we added the Pasifika flavour for the evening.*

*Feb 2019 - Welcomed students starting their midwifery journey at AUT.*

*ANIVA programme - Pasifika leadership. One of our members is currently enrolled in this programme.*

*May 2019 - graduation of one of our Pasifika midwifery students.*

*May - the opening of Nga Hau Mangere Birthing Unit, Mangere. A fantastic facility which was much dreamed about and is much needed by the community. Thanks to Chloe Wright and the Wright Family Foundation for making this dream a reality. Our own Tish Taihia is the Midwifery manager of this Unit and she is joined on staff by several other members from our group.*

*May 13th - Two members attended the Health and disabilities workforce strategic priorities 2019-2024 Pacific communities prioritisation workshop at Ko Awatea, MMH. Pasifika stakeholders from all over Auckland gathered together to prioritise strategies*

*May 30th - The Budget - 1.08 million dollars for Pasifika midwifery and nursing students. Helping our “pineapple pie in the sky” (our dream) that 21% of the midwifery student intake will be Pasifika.*

*June 2019 - Pasifika Midwives are now providing antenatal classes. These are currently being contracted through Southseas. They are free and are held at South Seas and Nga Hau Mangere Birthing Centre. They follow an updated Tapuaki*

*curriculum and promote and re familiarise women and their families with primary birthing.*

*Yet to come for the year - Family picnic, National Fono, and a fundraiser and team building event.*

*Tokarahi Tobeck*

*Chair*

*Pasifika Midwives Tamaki Makaurau*