

2 March 2011

We are writing to let you know about a health services project about to commence. This project will take a whole system view of health care services provided to people in South Taranaki.

Jackie Broughton, formerly a Community Development Adviser with the South Taranaki District Council, is managing this project. The Bishops Action Foundation has been asked to lead the patient and public engagement for the project. The Bishops Action Foundation works for the common good of all of Taranaki by creating and supporting initiatives to meet community need.

They will undertake an independent assessment of patient and public views on current and future health service delivery in South Taranaki. This will include meeting with individuals and groups from across the area and providing the DHB with a report on key themes.

Deirdre Nagle, who is undertaking this work, has worked in community development for the past ten years. She has been the Senior Project Manager for the Bishop's Action Foundation for the past five years, working on various important community based projects.

Medicine and health in general is changing all the time, nationally and internationally. The way in which services are provided needs to change for the whole of Taranaki, including South Taranaki. Taranaki DHB is committed to providing better, sooner, more convenient health care, within the resources available.

This project will consider how South Taranaki people access the vast range of services required to meet their health needs. The goal is to design future services that are provided by appropriately skilled staff, making good use of technology and equipment in the best locations for patients.

Taranaki DHB is therefore working with others to look at all health care services provided to the people of South Taranaki with the intention of ensuring that:


- Future service design results in the same or better quality of care
- The right care is delivered at the right time in the right setting
- The best use is made of all health sector resources

The final report from the Bishops Action Foundation will be available on the Taranaki DHB website and the report will be used by clinicians to ensure that any future service design has taken into account what current and future patients consider to be important.

Taranaki DHB is committed to keeping the community informed of progress and will publish monthly updates on our website: [www.tdhb.org.nz](http://www.tdhb.org.nz)

We would encourage you to participate in this project so that health services are able to best meet the needs of our community into the future.

Yours sincerely  
  
**Tony Foulkes**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

  
**Mary Bourke**  
**CHAIRMAN**