

May 15, 2023

The Collaborative Aotearoa Study Tour visits the Greater Hamilton Health Network (Ontario Health Team)- Shared Learning to Support Healthcare Transformation

Hamilton, ON- The Greater Hamilton Health Network (GHHN) in collaboration with GHHN partners and collaborators, was pleased to host Collaborative Aotearoa during their international study tour, *Te Ara Ako o (the pathway to both teach and learn) Collaborative Aotearoa Study Tour*, on Monday May 15th at the Hamilton Family Health Team for a day of mutual learning and sharing. The Study Tour will meet with the North York Toronto Health Partners (an Ontario Health Team) on Tuesday May 16, 2023.

The GHHN, an Ontario Health Team, is building a connected and equitable health care system centred around patients, families and caregivers to strengthen local services, make it easier for patients to navigate the system, and create seamless transitions between providers.

“Our conversations with Collaborative Aotearoa around healthcare transformation and collective impact began in 2021 through the Tamarack Institute. It has been a wonderful opportunity to share the work of the GHHN, the Ontario Health Team approach, and learn from our new colleagues about the incredible work they are doing to achieve health equity,” says Sarah Precious, Manager of Engagement and Communications at the GHHN.

Collaborative Aotearoa (New Zealand) is a national network of primary health care organizations and supporting partners committed to pursuing a vision focused on the health and wellbeing for whānau and communities. Collaborative Aotearoa has committed to expanding its reach to support its networks and continue to bring focus to equitable access to more general practices and communities across Aotearoa. One of their core strengths is being able to connect people around equitable primary care responses and building trusting relationships, particularly with Māori and Pacific at the community level. This is done by drawing on the cultural resources and capability of their members and supporting partners, creating an environment where voices are heard and respected, and promoting a culturally appropriate and safe workforce. This is where collaboration is the norm not the exception, acting as a catalyst for change and implementation.

The study tour delegates (eighteen individuals) are visiting several countries to learn from other high performing, innovative primary and community care systems. Destinations include Alberta, Ontario, London, and Belgium. The tour’s focus is on sharing and learning about integrated care systems as well as building strong connections. The study tour learnings will support leaders in Aotearoa, New Zealand in the redesign of primary and community care systems. Specifically aiming to deliver the vision of achieving Hauora (health and wellbeing) for all New Zealanders. Gaining fresh perspectives and experiences that support the health reforms and multi sector collaboration that delivers real community change.



*Building community
health together.*

Chair of Collaborative Aotearoa, Irihāpeti Mahuika is very excited about co-hosting the Study Tour from Aotearoa, New Zealand, “I’m immensely proud that over 50% of our delegates are Māori, indigenous health, and community leaders from across New Zealand. As well as learning from our hosts across Alberta, Ontario, and London, we also have a great deal of richness to share.”

Chief Executive of Collaborative Aotearoa, Amarjit Maxwell, co-host of the Study Tour from New Zealand, says that “our Study Tour represents multi sectors, including health, local government, and community organizations and this supports the deep collaboration we’re building to achieve health equity. The shared learning gained will support the transformation that is expected across primary and community care in Aotearoa, as part of our Pae Ora Health Futures legislation.”

“It was a full day of learning, sharing and site tours made possible by our incredible partners and collaborators. Opportunities to connect and build rapport with Collaborative Aotearoa has helped us consider new ways to build community health across the GHHN. We look forward to ongoing opportunities to collaborate with Collaborative Aotearoa and our partners,” says Melissa McCallum, Executive Director at the GHHN.

For more information please visit: <http://greaterhamiltonhealthnetwork.ca>