



Te Kāhu Toi - Te Awa Unit

Wraparound Basics

What is Wraparound?

Wraparound differs from many other service delivery strategies, in that it provides a comprehensive, holistic, youth and family/whānau driven way of responding when children or youth experience significant challenges in their lives. Wraparound puts the child/youth and their family/whānau at the centre. With support from a team of professionals and natural supports, the family/whānau ideas and perspectives about what they need and what will be helpful drive all the work in wraparound.

The young person and their family/whānau members work with an Intensive Wraparound (IW) Facilitator to build their wraparound team, which can include the whānau's friends and people from the wider community, as well as providers of services and supports.

With the help of the team, the whānau and young person take the lead in deciding team vision and goals, and in developing creative and individualised services and supports that will help them achieve the goals and vision. Team members' work together to put the plan into action, monitor how well it is working, collect outcome data and change the plan as needed.

Why Wraparound?

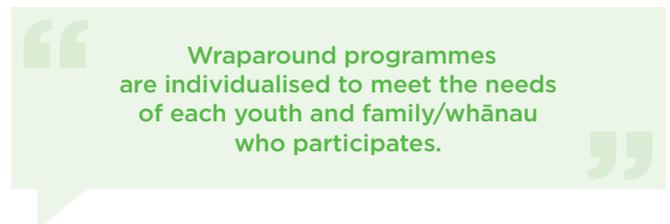
Wraparound began as a response to what was obviously not working well for children and youth with severe needs and their family/whānau. And the kinds of intensive and helpful services and supports that children and families/whānau needed were often simply not available in their communities. For the services that were available, they were often focused on what the systems or providers wanted families and children to do, and not focused on what children and families/whānau needed in order to thrive.

This meant that children and families/whānau were involved with multiple systems and providers, with each one developing a separate plan telling the child and family/whānau what to do. Outcomes from this situation were not good.

Individualised Wraparound plans are able to be flexible and enables children and young people to be in their local communities, producing better outcomes at lower cost.

Wraparound Outcomes

There is now strong evidence that, when wraparound is done well (i.e. with high fidelity), young people with complex needs are more likely to be better able to engage in learning at their local school, in the home and community.



What Takes Place During Wraparound?

Wraparound is commonly described as taking place across four phases of effort: Engagement and team preparation, Initial plan development, Implementation, and Transition. During the wraparound process, a team of people who are relevant to the life of the child or youth (e.g. family/whānau members, members of the family's social network, service providers, and agency representatives) collaboratively develop an individualised plan of care, implement this plan, monitor the efficacy of the plan, and work towards success over time.



The underlying principle of the Wraparound process is that it is driven by the perspectives of the family/whānau and the child or youth.

The plan should reflect their goals and ideas about what sort of service and support strategies are most likely to be helpful to them in reaching their goals. The Wraparound plan typically includes formal services - including evidence-based interventions as appropriate to build skills and meet youth and family/whānau needs - together with community services and interpersonal support and assistance provided by friends, family, and other people drawn from the family/whānau social networks.

After the initial plan is developed, the team continues to meet often enough to monitor progress, which it does by measuring the plan's components against the short term targets selected by the team. Plan components, interventions and strategies are revised when the team determines that they are not working or success has been reached.

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