



# NEWSLETTER

Issue 1, December 2020

## Kia ora

Hi, I'm Jackie Robinson and I'm leading out this three-year study funded by the Health Research Council of New Zealand. In this first issue of our newsletter, I'd like to introduce you to our team and offer some background information about the project.



### What are our plans?

We're exploring end-of-life service usage for people living in areas of deprivation. This includes identifying the strengths and challenges such communities experience at end-of-life and working in partnership with them to identify strategies that will improve their end-of-life experience.

### How will be achieve this?

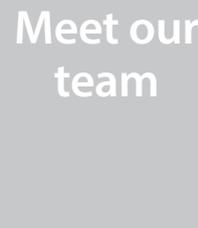
We will work in 3 phases within Auckland and Bay of Plenty DHBs. In Phase 1, we'll use routinely collected data to identify associations between area deprivation and health service usage in the last 12 months of life (including 'specialist' and 'generalist' palliative care services) and place of death.

In Phase 2, we will interview people with life-limiting illnesses and their family/whānau in communities experiencing high levels of deprivation. We will also conduct focus groups with service providers, and marae-based hui.

In Phase 3 we'll collaborate with community members to devise strategies they feel will help people at the end of life. This process will be overseen by community advisory groups. The He Pikinga Waiora Implementation Framework, which has indigenous self-determination at its core, will underpin phases 2 and 3.

I look forward to providing you with regular updates. Please get in touch if you have questions or would like more information about the project:

[j.robinson@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:j.robinson@auckland.ac.nz)



## Meet our team

- 1. Jackie Robinson** – I have spent the past 25 years working in palliative care. I am a Nurse Practitioner at the ADHB and Senior Lecturer in the School of Nursing. I am really looking forward to working with such passionate and experienced researchers over the next 3 years to explore the impact of deprivation in palliative and end of life care.
- 2. Merryn Gott** – I'm the Director of the Te Ārai Palliative Care and End of Life Research Group and co-Associate Head of Research at the School of Nursing, University of Auckland. I am supporting Jackie with the overall leadership and management of the project.
- 3. Tess Huia Moeke-Maxwell** (Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Makaurau & Ngāti Porou) is a research fellow working in the School of Nursing at The University of Auckland. The methodological lens Tess brings to her work is Kaupapa Māori and Māori-centred, highlighting the indigenous was of knowing and carrying out end of life care.
- 4. Stella Black** – He uri ēnei nō Tūhoe, Whakatōhea me Ngāti Whakaue. I am a Māori researcher and PhD candidate at Auckland University of Technology. My rangahau is guided by kaupapa Māori values ideologies and is focused on highlighting inequities and areas for improvement that align with community-based solutions.
- 5. Janine Wiles** – I work in the School of Population Health at The University of Auckland, where I am the Director of Research. I am a geographer and gerontologist, and these days I teach courses on qualitative research methods and community development. I am supporting Jackie with the qualitative research design and data analysis.
- 6. Jinfeng Zhao** – I'm a senior research fellow at the School of Nursing and the School of Population Health, University of Auckland. I am performing data processing, data management, data analyses, visualisation and accessibility analyses for Phase I of the project.

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Whaea Whio Hansen, Tess Moeke-Maxwell, Merryn Gott, Jackie Robinson & Lisa Williams

# Roadtrip

## Getting to know our research partners

Members of the research team travelled to the Bay of Plenty in October to visit with key project collaborators in the region. We visited with staff from Bay of Plenty DHB, Western Bay of Plenty PHO, Eastern Bay of Plenty Health Alliance, Waipuna Hospice and in Eastern Bays Hospice

In each location we were met with kind hospitality, and enthusiasm, and it was great to discuss how our research could be used to support improved end of life experiences for local whanau and families.

We look forward to visiting again early next year and learning more about the individual communities we will be working with.

### Meet the team, *continued from page 1*

7. **Lisa Williams** – is a research fellow in the School of Nursing. She loves researching how to incorporate creative projects into research, such as making videos, podcasts, music videos (we did this once, promise!) graphic novels and all sorts.
8. **Emily Gill** – I work as a general practitioner and senior lecturer at The University of Auckland, within the rohe of Te Whānau-ā-Apanui and Whakatōhea. I am delighted to be a local clinician and researcher in the Bay of Plenty to support Jackie and the team.
9. **Hetty Goodwin** – I’m a research assistant working in the School of Nursing, University of Auckland. I am an experienced palliative care nurse, having previously worked in both hospice and community services.
10. **Andrew Old** – I’m a Public Health Physician and the Clinical Director of Health Gain for Auckland and Waitemātā DHBs. I’m excited to be able to support the team in this work, and bring together my interest in the social determinants of health, health equity and end of life care.
11. **Daniel Exeter** – I’m based in the School of Population Health at the University of Auckland. Recently I led the development of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) to explore place-based approaches to reducing inequities. I will be providing geospatial oversight and direction regarding the use of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) and its interpretation.

### Our Logo

*Waiho I Te Toipoto,  
Kaua I Te Toiroa*

Jackie Robinson’s talented daughter, Hannah Robinson, an art teacher, designed the logo for our study. It speaks to the

whakataukī that underpins it, identified for the project by Whaea Whio Hansen (Ngapuhi).

The whakataukī draws its inspiration from the pōhutukawa that thrives even in the most unlikely places under adverse conditions. The pōhutukawa reflects the strength of the community – just like the roots of pōhutukawa trees which seek each other out and bind tightly together, the community finds unity and strength in its togetherness.

Strong and united, the community, like the pōhutukawa, grows and blossoms.

