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|  | **National Network for Specialist Sexual Violence Services in Aotearoa New Zealand – How it Works** |  |

**Network and its vision**

TOAH-NNEST, Te Ohaakii a Hine-National Network Ending Sexual Violence Together, is a national network of those providing specialist services for sexual violence prevention and intervention. It represents:

* About 40 specialist not-for-profit organisations (NGOs)
* Many individual specialists working in whanau/family groups, hapu/extended families, iwi/tribes and communities throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

It also has associate members from a wide range of allied NGOs.

TOAH-NNEST’s vision is for **Aotearoa New Zealand to be free of sexual violence!**

**Structure reflects Maori place as indigenous people of Aotearoa NZ**

TOAH-NNEST’s structure provides for Maori, as the indigenous people of Aotearoa New Zealand, to control and shape their own responses to sexual violence in keeping with their own worldview and priorities.

The structure is based on Aotearoa New Zealand’s foundation document, the 1840 treaty between Maori hapu and the British Crown, Te Tiriti o Waitangi. In keeping with the relationship envisaged by this treaty, TOAH-NNEST has two whare/houses:

* Nga Kaitiaki Mauri, the indigenous caucus
* Tauiwi Caucus, the non-Maori caucus.

The two houses work autonomously as well as together on common concerns, in accordance with their own worldviews and priorities. When they work with the same people e.g. Government Ministers and officials, they each provide advice from their specific viewpoints.

**Governance**

Representatives of Nga Kaitiaki Mauri and Tauiwi Caucus form the Paetakawaenga/executive committee of TOAH-NNEST which is responsible for governance and also plays roles in service delivery and operational management.

Representatives of each house also form the board of the charitable entity, TOAH-NNEST Trust, which is ultimately responsible for legal and financial matters.

**Roles of TOAH-NNEST**

TOAH-NNEST roles in working with its members/ukaipotanga, government and other key stakeholders include:

* **Thought leadership** on specialist sexual violence prevention and intervention issues, both Maori and non-Maori.
* **National voice** for the broad spectrum of specialist sexual violence service providers throughout the country, both Maori and non-Maori.
* Assistance with the **capacity and capability building** of service providers, including striving for sustainable funding, providing and supporting opportunities for professional development, sharing information and research, and supporting relationship building and collaboration.
* **Specialist advice and training opportunities** to inform government policy, legislation, research, strategy and services regarding sexual violence.
* **Partnership and collaboration** with the government and other key stakeholders on specific sexual violence initiatives.
* **Single access point** for the government and other key stakeholders to consult and inform sexual violence service providers.
* Assistance for the government to better meet its **Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations** regarding sexual violence issues for Maori.

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|  | **Spectrum of sexual violence services represented by TOAH-NNEST**  The wide spectrum of specialist sexual violence services represented by the TOAH-NNEST includes:  **Primary prevention**  Promoting healthy social norms in whanau/family groups, hapu/extended families, iwi/tribes and communities  **Early intervention**   * + Crisis support for victim/survivors, including support in the criminal justice system   + Forensic medical services for victim/survivors   + Support for children displaying inappropriate sexualised behaviours   **Recovery and support** for victim/survivors  **Longer term treatment** for victim/survivors with high and complex needs  **Offender treatment** and other responses to people with harmful sexual behaviour  **Specialist advice and training** for government agencies and for professionals working with sexual violence e.g. psychologists, counsellors, GPs, nurses, health workers, teachers and social workers  **Promotion of law reform** to increase the accountability of offenders. |  |