



Leadership in Aotearoa from a Pacific context

Inspiring Communities Hapori,
Tauranga 5th March 2025

Hana MHalalele nee Fanene-Taiti QSM





Learning by Doing

Pioneering the Regions and Pacific Leadership – Honouring our pioneers

Pacific families in Oamaru pioneering by Pacific for Pacific. This first was establishing the Oamaru PACIFICA Womens branch in 1986, which was formed under the umbrella of the National PACIFICA Womens organisation, (Pacific Allied (Womens) Council Inspires Faith in Ideals Concerning Afi).

The focus for PACIFICA was to empower women and increase the awareness and participation of Pacific women within their own communities. The Oamaru branch delivered community led initiatives to support Pacific women and their families living in Oamaru. They empowered and supported Pacific women to retain their culture and identity, advocate for education and capability building initiatives and overall wellbeing.

PACIFICA mothers performed at the FTC Store for Eves Week Celebration

Renown as the "Culture Group", building community capability workshops to support Pacific families included educational, health, wellbeing, employment and Pacific arts and culture.

1985 Christmas Parade
Member of Council Non-Commercial / 1984

Intercore Gathering

Weaving Workshop with facilitators Emma Casher and Sue Hamilton

Social Takatua den

The Oamaru Pacific Island Cultural Group met regularly, performed cultural items, showcased Pacific heritage at community events, provided wellbeing support for new families moving to Oamaru. The community group became an anchor for new families moving to the District.

Pacific Workshop

1980's Pioneering the Regions

Language Nest

The Oamaru Pacific Island Cultural Group was established under the umbrella of the Oamaru PACIFICA Womens Branch. Culture and language programmes were delivered to Pacific children, predominately New Zealand born children as a means to help retain their culture and language.

The Oamaru Pacific Island Culture and Language Nest was formed in 1987. The premises for this was at the Oamaru Playcentre site in Trent Street Oamaru.

Siblings Hana and Ali performing a traditional Siva Samoa

1990's Strengthening Pacific Culture & Identity

Conference in Invercargill

Some Tak performing Siva Samoa for 2nd picnic for PACIFICA

OPICG continues to strengthen Pacific culture and identity with an emphasis on staying connected, celebrating Pacific ways of doing things.

The Oamaru Pacific Island Cultural Group (OPICG) registered as an Incorporated Society and renamed Oamaru Pacific Island Community Group Inc, with elected members and a governing Committee.





Learning by Doing

Community Approaches to Action, Pacific led





Building community capability – Talanoa Ako story

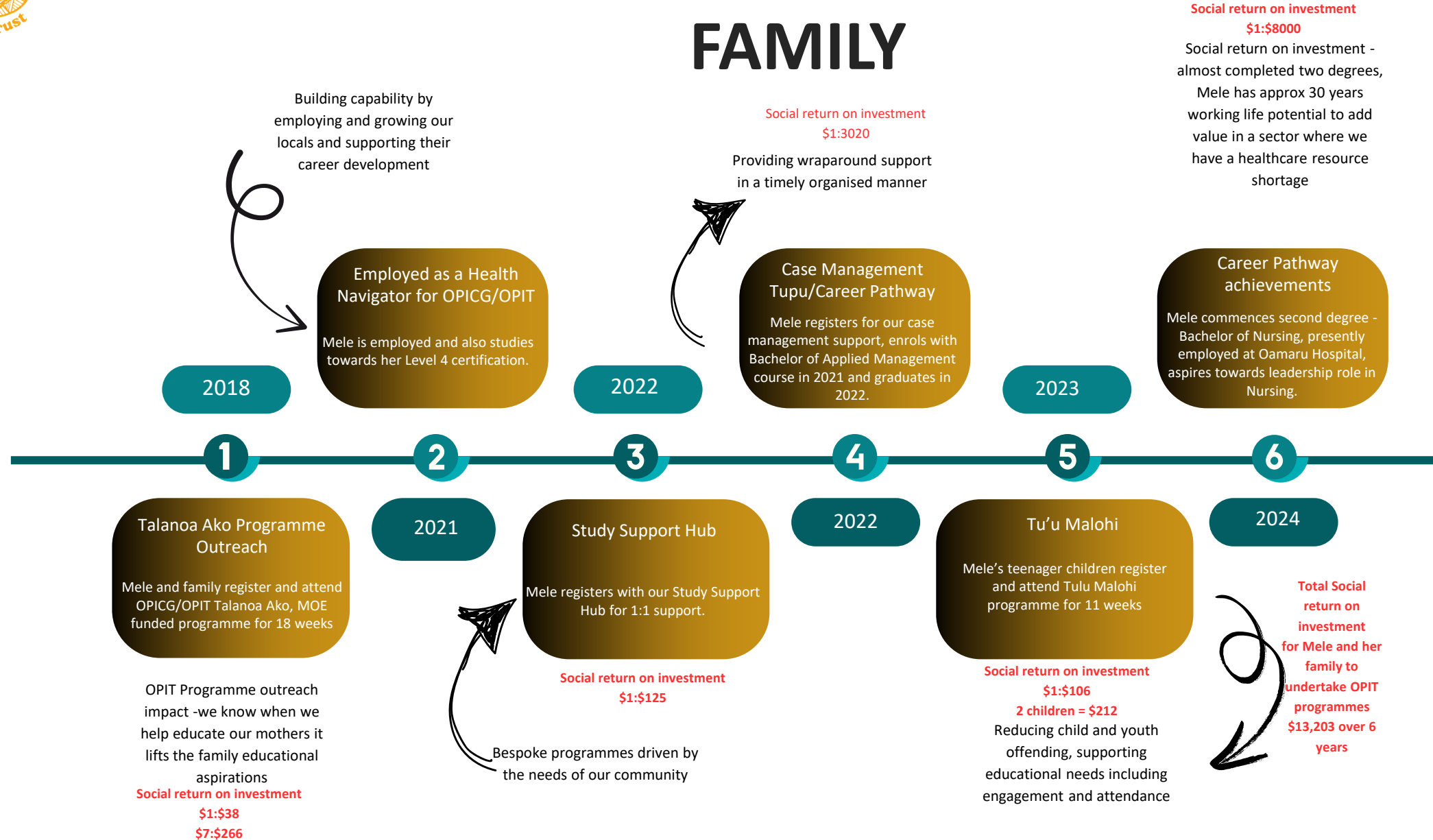




Leading the change we need to see



CASE STUDY 1: MELE AND FAMILY



Leadership themes through doing



*Feel the fear and do it anyway and embrace – Best way to curb Imposter syndrome

*Leader through our values – Pacific way of doing, being, seeing, Positioning ourselves in Aotearoa

*Agitate and lead with humility

*3 I's and 3 gen impact – Practitioner experience

*Village network





Closing

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