

Dynamic

Shane, Wellington

As a staff member and a former service user myself, I found it a deep and moving experience to have so many people in the same place at the same time. There was a fascinating dynamic at work here, and I felt that perhaps more could be done next time to take advantage of this.

As this was my first real stay on a marae I was keenly interested in the history and culture on display and I found Bruce a great speaker with some wise words for any who would listen. I often took myself to a quiet place and really soaked up the atmosphere of the place.

The workshops that were held threw up some innovative ideas and it was obvious that there were many passionate staff in the Pathways organisation, but I wondered about the possibility of holding clinics on self-help techniques and coping strategies for those of us who have to live with recurring symptoms and are trying to function in the "real world".

It became obvious that there was a desire for people to tell their stories, and I also would like to make the suggestion that we have story-telling session at the next Hui. Often these stories are inspiring to others going through similar experiences, and you never know who might hear exactly what they need to hear in someone else's tale. The service users and staff alike seemed to thoroughly enjoy the outings put on, and I thought the standard of food and hospitality on offer was first-rate. Overall I feel the hui was definitely a success and I would look forward to going again. "

