

Opportunities

Tina Moses – Team Leader, Hauraki

For Tina Moses Pathways is all about opportunities - opportunities for people using Pathways' services and opportunities for employees.

Tina, who is affiliated to the Ngati Pukenga/Ngati Maru tribes of the Hauraki area, lived and worked in the hustle and bustle of Auckland for most of her life until retiring to the laid back Coromandel Peninsula.

After a short period of retirement Tina realised the quiet life wasn't for her and started what would be an eight year career as a nurse aid at Coromandel Hospital. But the early 1990's saw a major re-shuffle in the health sector and many hospitals were closed, including Coromandel Hospital. For Tina however, as one door closed, another opened. Mental institutions around the country were also being closed and community based groups were stepping in to fill the gap. While still grieving the loss of Coromandel Hospital and a job she loved, Tina applied to be a support worker for Pathways (then Raukau Ora Trust). She was successful and in 1993 became a member of one of the first community-based residential services for people with mental illness in the Hauraki area.

Tina has now been with Pathways for 15 years and is currently the Team Leader of the Thames residential and respite services. Since joining Pathways she's "been on a wonderful journey and has seen many extremely positive changes and improvements that benefit people using Pathways' service."

Tina loves hearing feedback from those who have left the service. "It's extremely satisfying hearing people who have left our services express their gratefulness about the support they received from us while on their recovery journey."

Tina explains that she's been nervous about some of the changes she's seen, but they've all worked out for the best. She says the reconfiguration of the Coromandel residential service was a time of apprehension as people who had been using the residential services, some for many years, were moved into their own homes and supported by the mobile service. However, the residential service has now been closed for two years and Tina wonders why she felt nervous! She believes the change was totally empowering for all concerned. For Tina, the reconfiguration is now one of the highlights of her career.

While many changes and improvements have been made in the past 15 years to benefit the people using Pathways' services, Tina says employees are also given many opportunities in the way of training and promotion. She's seen several staff members move from being a support worker to a team leader, a service leader, a manager and even to a chief executive!

In a nutshell, Tina says Pathways is a great organisation because of the recognition and opportunities for all involved.