

The Māori Party health policy is focused on creating and enabling wellness. Hauora embraces the physical health, mental health and spiritual health of an individual, their whānau, hapū and iwi.

GOING FORWARD

The Māori Party will build on the gains made by:

- support families to **grow their own** gardens (maara kai) and harvest other natural foods such as kai o te awa (freshwater food) and kaimoana (seafood)
- revisit the scrapping of GST on **healthy foods** such as fruit and vegetables.
- investigate introduction of **tax of sugar-sweetened beverages**
- increase the number of **bariatric (weight reduction) surgeries to at least 1000 per annum** to address obesity, heart disease and diabetes
- review the Health Act to ensure implementation of **rongoā Māori**
- increase the number of kaupapa **Māori Youth and Whānau services** that address alcohol and drug addiction and mental health
- advocate for free GP visits and free prescriptions for children aged **under 18 years**
- Increase the investment in **rheumatic fever** such as insulating low income homes, ensuring Housing NZ homes have a bach or extra rooms to address over-crowding and reduce power bills by 50 percent for whānau who have rheumatic fever
- Initiate a door-knocking campaign to educate aiga on the causes of rheumatic fever and other skin diseases
- prioritise **oral health** including instigating an annual health check for low income families and advocating for **free dental care** for all students and community service card holders
- extend the pathways to **Smoke-free** Aotearoa by 2025 Innovation Fund to fund innovative projects to help reach the Government's goal of being Smokefree by 2025
- complete the introduction of **plain packaging** legislation and introduce a promotion campaign to prevent smoking in cars with children
- establish a health workforce project for **pay parity** to retain Māori nurses in iwi providers and **review** the work conditions, pay and training opportunities for those working in the aged care, disability and home care sector
- investigate a **co-management model** for Māori statutory representatives on DHBs to increase their influence. New DHB representatives to be appointed by Minister responsible for Māori Health
- support the move for all ambulatory services to be managed by non-government agencies
- invest in enabling **disabled people** and their whānau, more choice, control and flexibility over supports and funding in their everyday lives
- **review** the appeal process for ethics committee decisions, established out of the recommendations made from the Cervical Screening Inquiry 2011

HEALTH POLICY (CONT.)

BUILDING ON THE GAINS SINCE 2008

As part of the Government, the Māori Party has:

- secured \$90 million 2014 to provide **free GP visits** and free prescriptions for children aged under 13 years
- secured \$65.3 million for **rheumatic fever** prevention and treatment since 2010
- Secured \$18 million since 2010 to ensure the funding of 300 **bariatric (weight reduction) surgeries** per year until 2018.
- Secured \$10 million to fund Māori sporting and cultural activities, and capacity development and support for sports and cultural bodies in 2014 Budget called "**Moving the Māori Nation**"
- secured \$10 million in 2014 to ensure children are enrolled with their free local **dental service** and that they are supported to develop and maintain good oral hygiene
- responded to the Maori Affairs Select Committee Report, which introduces the goal of a **smoke-free Aotearoa/New Zealand by 2025**
- supported the passing of the **Smoke-free Environment (Controls and Enforcement) Act 2012**, meaning tobacco products were banned from being displayed in all shops.
- lobbied for 25.4 percent **tobacco tax increase** on loose tobacco in May 2010 and a 10 percent increase on factory made cigarettes in 2010, as well as excise rises of 10 percent at the beginning of 2011 and 2012. In October 2012, legislation was passed to bring a series of four annual 10 percent rises in tobacco excise.
- secured \$20m in 2012 to fund **innovative projects** to help reach the Government's goal of being Smokefree by 2025
- secured \$3.1 million to assist New Zealand Customs Service to implement a new rule that will see the number of **permitted cigarettes** allowed in to New Zealand reduced from 200 to 50
- Introduced a new model for disability support services in 2010. The new model focused on giving disabled people and their whānau more choice, control and flexibility over support services and funding in their everyday lives
- launched Faiva Ora - National Pasifika Disability Plan 2014-2016 in October 2010
- launched **Whaia Te Ao Marama Māori Disability Action Plan** in October 2012
- secured \$20 million over four years in 2009 for the Te Ao Auahatanga **Māori Health Innovation Fund**
- secured \$6 million over four years for a **Pacific Innovation Fund** in 2013 to improve the health of Pasifika people by supporting them to develop Pasifika solutions to the issues they face as distinct communities
- secured \$4.5million for Pasifika Health Provider Development aimed at strengthening providers to deliver primary care services to their local population
- launched 'Ala Mo'ui Pathways to Pacific Health and Wellbeing 2014-2018 in July 2013
- supported the review on National Cervical Screening Programme Parliamentary Report.