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## Working with health and disability practitioners

### INFORMATION FOR HEALTH AND DISABILITY PRACTITIONERS – WORKING TOGETHER

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We recognise that to get the best for our clients we must work in partnership with GPs and other health and disability practitioners.

#### ***What has Work and Income been doing?***

We are working with a GP Project Group made up of representatives from a range of primary care organisations to help guide us.

We have appointed 13 Health and Disability Co-ordinators across the country who will be responsible for liaising with GPs and other health and disability practitioners.

We are also developing a handbook for health and disability practitioners explaining Work and Income processes, eligibility criteria, expectations of providers, the range of benefits and allowances. This should be with you by the end of the year.

#### ***What is the role of the Health and Disability Co-ordinators?***

The 13 Health and Disability Co-ordinators will liaise with and visit GPs and other health and disability practitioners to provide information about Work and Income – our processes, benefits, expectations and the support we can offer clients.

The Health and Disability Co-ordinators will also be responsible for facilitating communication between health and disability providers and our case managers.

Education will be an important part of the Health and Disability Co-ordinator's role. They are already working with PHOs to arrange information sessions for GPs about Working New Zealand and how it will impact on GPs.

Health and Disability Co-ordinators have a list of practices that they are responsible for liaising with. The table on the reverse of this fact sheet gives the details of the Health and Disability Co-ordinator in your area. They may already have made an appointment to visit your practice.

Please don't hesitate to contact your local Health and Disability Co-ordinator if you need any help understanding Work and Income processes or require additional Work and Income supplies or resources. Case managers continue to have primary responsibility for benefit related issues and should be the first point of contact about individual clients.

### **Health and Disability Co-ordinator contact details:**

<b>Health and Disability Co-ordinator</b>		
<b>Region</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Contact Number</b>
Northland	Amy Walters	09 986 9260
Auckland	Rebecca Staunton	09 917 7189
	Jacqueline Abel	09 917 7186
	Cindy Paarman	09 917 7188
Waikato	Manujon Pemerika	07 957 1548
Bay of Plenty	Waimarie Sylvester	07 921 8077
Taranaki	Rachael Signal	06 965 8009
East Coast	Rihi Kempster	06 974 7406
Central	Brenda McDonell	06 952 1442
Wellington	Tania Grace	04 918 4685
Nelson	Anna Johansen	03 989 7034
Canterbury	Patricia Donaldson	03 963 2395
Southern	Danna Reeve	03 955 6657

#### **Further information**

For more information about the Working New Zealand changes, and how they may affect you, see the Working New Zealand website at:

**[www.workandincome.govt.nz/get-assistance/working-new-zealand/index.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/get-assistance/working-new-zealand/index.html)**