

Brief Report to Te Rau Puāwai Education Trust: June 2025

In November 2024 Te Rau Puāwai Education Trust granted Storytime Foundation \$81,250 to deliver the First 1000 Days programme to vulnerable whanau in South Auckland and Northland. Our application for funding provided an opportunity to enhance outcomes for 5000 families in the region over three years.

Working collaboratively with local agencies over this period we plan to work to reach 5000 families providing support, books, information, website material and direct contact with groups and individual parents and work closely with Point Associates to evaluate the project.

The key outcomes to be achieved in the project are:

- Increased number of books in the homes to a minimum of 5
- Increased number of families that regularly read to their child to 75% of participating families
- Increased parents' understanding of the benefits of reading
- Child Centric Visits (CCV) to prisons reaching a minimum of 150 tamariki
- Deliver Reading Together (Taonga mō ngā Tamariki) workshops to incarcerated parents and people under the care of Corrections in the community
- Deliver 400 tamariki carepacks annually to vulnerable children in cooperation with Police and Corrections staff in South Auckland and Northland

The following is an interim report on progress to date.

Key success indicators:

- We have already increased the number of books in the homes to 8 per family
- We have worked closely with our partner providers to increase the number of families that regularly read to their child to 75% of participating families and await the evaluation report due later in 2025 to ascertain how successful we have been to date. Feedback to date would indicate that we will be successful.
- Our First 1000 Days programme is designed to increase parents' understanding of the benefits of reading and we know from national and international evidence that the work that we do in teaching the benefits and providing the books as well as encouraging library membership leads to this positive outcome. The OECD identifies reading for pleasure as a critical predictor of a child's future success, even more significant than socio-economic background. Daily parent-infant reading was identified in GUINZ as the **only modifiable predictor** of 'flourishing' developmental health.
- We are on the way to deliver Child Centric Visits (CCV) to 150 participants in prisons across Kaikohe, Auckland Women's and Mount Eden. Currently, we have only been given access to Kaikohe to deliver this programme but continue to work with Corrections to gain access in all sites in the region. We have recommenced delivery of Taonga mō ngā Tamariki (TMNT) at Mount Eden Prison, not available to us since COVID. Please note that we also deliver CCV to Arohata and Christchurch Women's prisons, building a reputation for delivering a life changing opportunity for these whanau.
- Through our Taonga mō ngā Tamariki programme we have delivered Reading Together-based workshops to incarcerated parents and people under the care of Corrections in the community in both South Auckland and in Northland.

- So far in this financial year we have delivered over 500 tamariki carepacks to vulnerable children in cooperation with Police and Corrections staff in South Auckland and Northland.

Learnings will be shared through

- Evaluation shared with funders and provided with detail on the website
- Reports to Government and funders on outcomes and learnings
- Website posts providing updates on progress with delivery of services including First 1000 Days, TMNT, Tamariki Carepacks and Child Centered Visiting (CCV)
- Social media posts keeping followers and interested parties informed of successes and any changes that will be made
- Newsletters to participating partner providers.

Reporting timetable

- A report on progress one page on the agreed measures by 6 June 2025
- A final report by 7 November 2025. The final report should include a poster or visual snapshot of the outcomes and learnings of the project and include unintended or unforeseen observations and learnings that could inform practice or further investigation.

Tony Culliney

June 2025