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In Confidence

Oranga Tamariki— Quality services

Feedback about supporting oranga for tangata whaikaha
(disabled people).

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Feedback about supporting oranga for tangata whaikaha (disabled people).

Tangata whaikaha (disabled people) and other people working with children have shared their thoughts on the care and youth justice systems.

We've collected research, reports and feedback published over the last 10 years. Here is a summary of what was said about **creating services that tangata whaikaha want to use.**

Feedback from tangata whaikaha

Services can discriminate against tangata whaikaha, especially tangata whaikaha Māori.

I can't access services unless I have the "right" diagnosis.

Disabled people are hurt or in danger more often than non-disabled people.

The services I need either don't exist, I can't access them, or they get taken away.

I want to participate in my culture, sport, art, school, and make friends.

Find a way to communicate with me so I can safely tell you if something isn't right.

Ideas for change

Here is a summary of suggestions for change made by tangata whaikaha and other people working with children:

- Think about the needs of tangata whaikaha, especially tangata whaikaha Māori, before creating or changing a service.
- Services need to be welcoming to everyone, fair and just, and well-funded.
- Access to services should be fair and based on need—not on medical history.
- Community services should receive help to protect the rights of tangata whaikaha.
- Government systems should protect you the same whether you are disabled or not.
- Tamariki whaikaha (disabled children) in care should experience an ordinary life.
- People working with tangata whaikaha get help to communicate in different ways.