



WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Poneke

WHAT ARE YOUR IWI AFFILIATIONS?

Ngāti Ruanui me Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa.

BACKGROUND:

My father was a Patea pa boy who moved to Wellington to do his apprenticeship and I was born and raised in Lower Hutt, Wellington. I left school young and also did an apprenticeship, in Photolithography, Printing. In my early 20's I left NZ and lived in Seattle at the height of grunge. Then moved to Melbourne to be close to my Dad and joined his mozzie family. I moved back to NZ in 2007 and have been in the health industry ever since. I love having a job that supports better health outcomes for my whānau and is contributing to a better New Zealand.

WHAT'S THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU'VE EVER BEEN GIVEN?

Just keep going.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE WORD IN TE REO MĀORI?

Whakahirahira - the shimmering of light/ sun on a water's surface.

WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU'VE LEARNT IN LIFE?

Patience. Patience keeps you calm, and when you're calm you're in control and when you're in control- you can conquer anything.

WHO INSPIRES YOU?

My Aunt. She's 85, is still working hard (marae trustee, church treasurer, dependant adult child, mokopuna, whānau kaumatua etc) and is always positive. She taught me to see the beauty in everything, its always there.

WHAT ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Te Ao Maori. I love being Maori. Our culture is beautiful.

WHAT ARE YOUR INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF MAHI?

What interests and activities? If I'm not at mahi - I'm lying down. That is my life - Kia Ora Hauora for life...ooooschk!

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO PURSUE A CAREER IN HEALTH?

Research the job well and find a role that suits your personality. There are over 100 professions in health, there's a job to suit everyone.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A GREAT DAY?

Meeting people who believe in our kaupapa and who want to be involved, just to be involved. Whatever they can do, they will do, just to awahi. Manaakitanga at its finest.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE MOVIE?

Currently - Green Book.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE SONG?

All songs on my Brownie playlist