

Conceptions of Home: Papakāinga, co-housing and perceptions of 'home'

Community Research Webinar

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Dr Amohia Boulton and Dr Tanya Allport

Whakauae Research Services Ltd



Introduction

- ❖ Whakauae Research Services Ltd
- ❖ Relationship formed with Wai Research in 2014
- ❖ A formal partnership between Whakauae and WAI Research, established through a signed MoU by respective Board Chairs in 2015

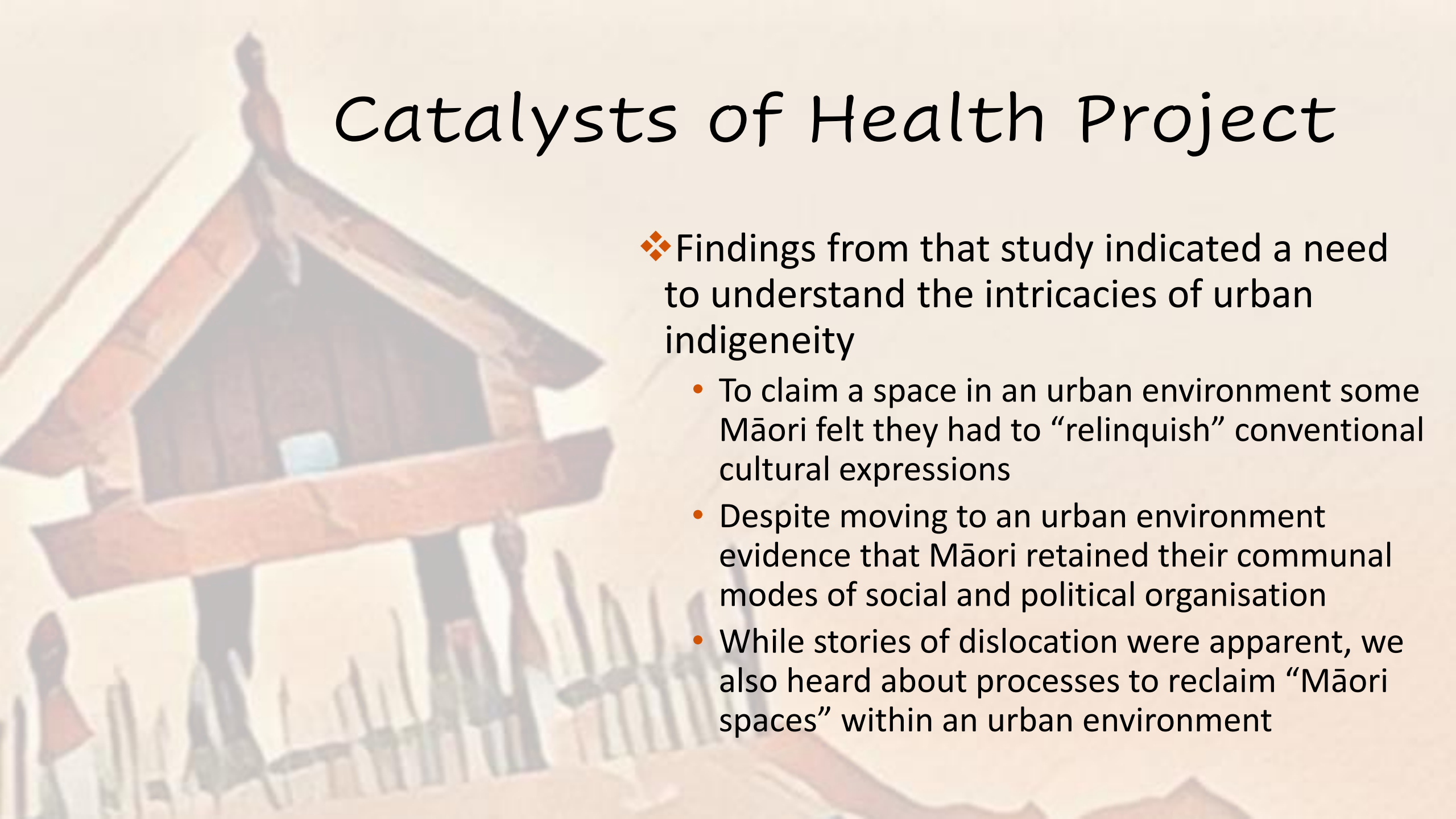


Origins of our work in this area

❖ *Kia Pū te Wai o Pareira: Catalysts of Whānau Health and Wellbeing within West Auckland Project*

- 2015-2016
- HRC Ngā Kanohi Kitea Grant (\$200k)
- 18 months duration

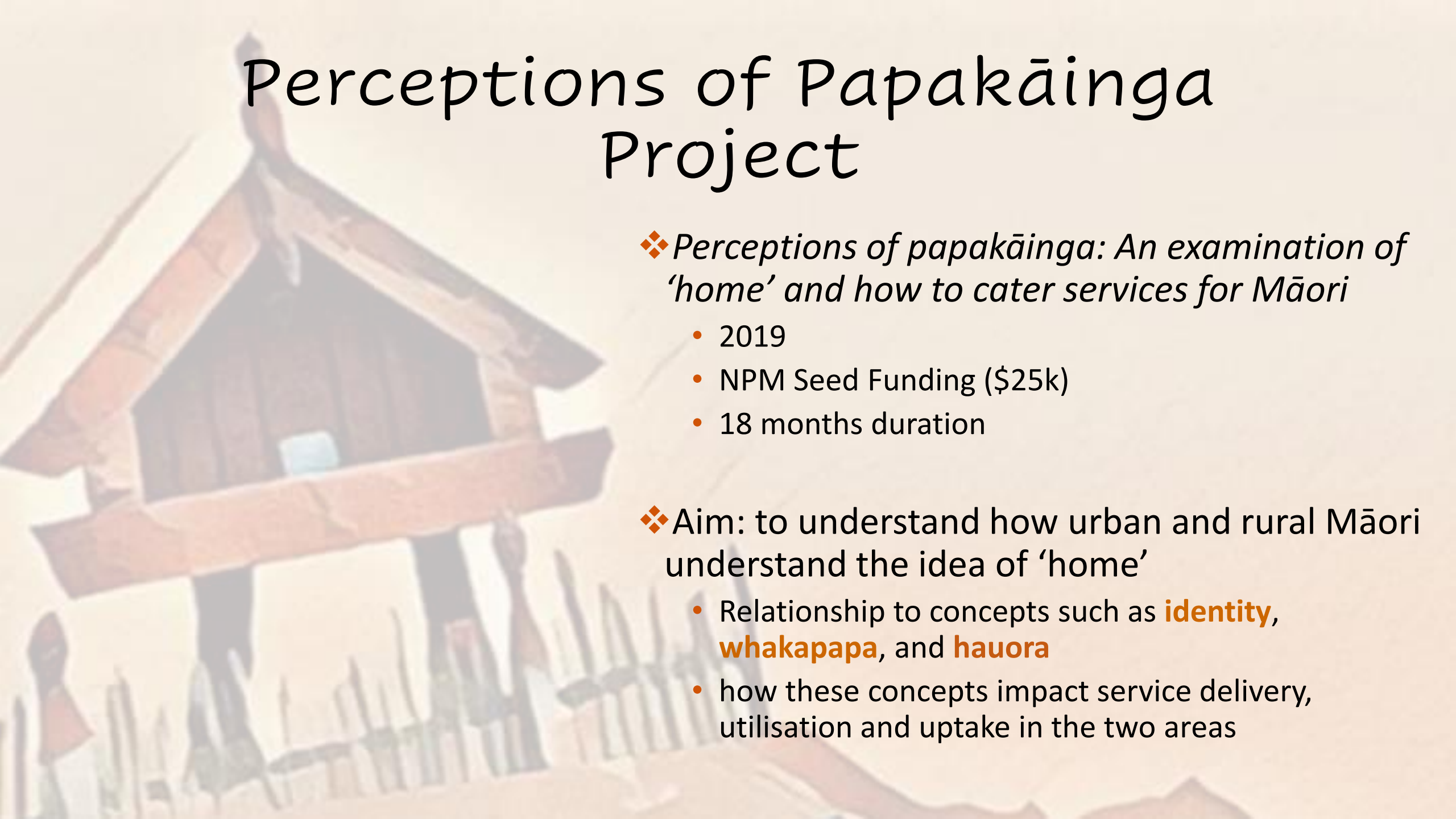
❖ Aim: to identify catalysts that have enabled whānau to move from crisis to stability to success



Catalysts of Health Project

- ❖ Findings from that study indicated a need to understand the intricacies of urban indigeneity
 - To claim a space in an urban environment some Māori felt they had to “relinquish” conventional cultural expressions
 - Despite moving to an urban environment evidence that Māori retained their communal modes of social and political organisation
 - While stories of dislocation were apparent, we also heard about processes to reclaim “Māori spaces” within an urban environment

Perceptions of Papakāinga Project



- ❖ *Perceptions of papakāinga: An examination of 'home' and how to cater services for Māori*
 - 2019
 - NPM Seed Funding (\$25k)
 - 18 months duration
- ❖ Aim: to understand how urban and rural Māori understand the idea of 'home'
 - Relationship to concepts such as **identity**, **whakapapa**, and **hauora**
 - how these concepts impact service delivery, utilisation and uptake in the two areas

Findings



❖ Four major themes:

- ‘Home’ is not just a physical whare, a physical structure, nor necessarily an asset that can be owned. The concept of kaitiakitanga is also important to consider in notions of ‘home’
- Home is about Tūhononga (connections), to whānau, hapū, iwi, hapori, tupuna, whenua
- Home is about Wairua, our feelings of safety and security
- Home is about Ūkaipotanga (belonging) and the ability to feel safe and secure enough to express your true self

So why is this important?



- ❖ Whakapapa remains a key organising principle to explain the notion of ‘home’ – links to identity and belonging
- ❖ Intrinsic connection between ‘home’ and wellbeing – physical, emotional spiritual, psychological
- ❖ A more holistic, multidimensional understanding of ‘home’ is required to better address Māori housing needs

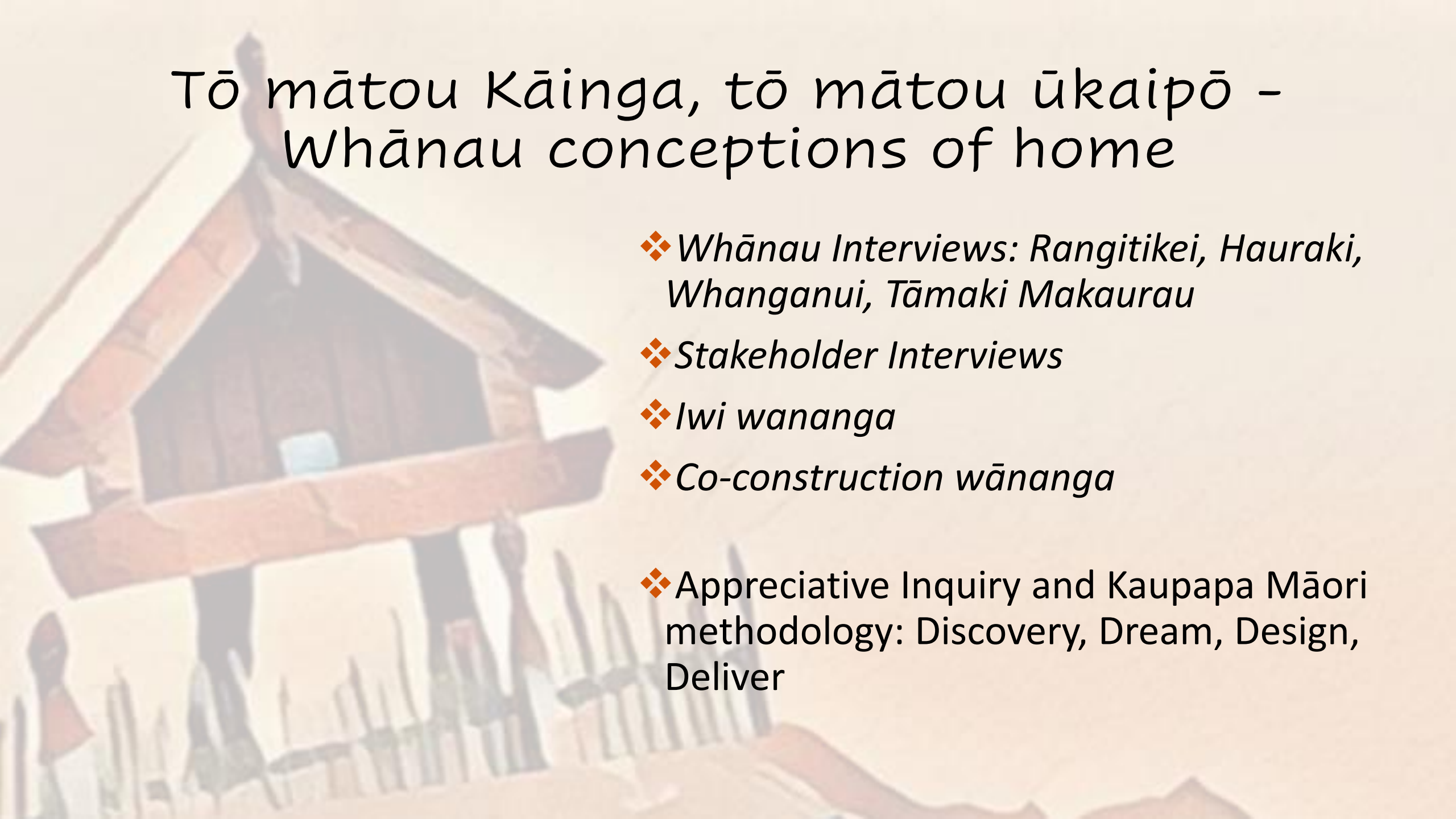
Tō mātou Kāinga, tō mātou ūkaipō - Whānau conceptions of home: Creating safe and healthy home environments

❖ *Tō mātou Kāinga, tō mātou ūkaipō*

- Part of the Kia Puāwai ake nga uri whakatupu Programme Grant (HRC)
- 5 years duration

❖ Aim:

- ❖ Understand whānau conceptualisations of 'home' related to connectedness, people, place, and space, and their influence on their needs for safety and wellbeing, particularly within a COVID-19 era.
- ❖ Co-construct and produce a whānau-centred model(s), safety and wellbeing indicators, and resources with whānau to enhance safety and wellbeing at home and within their communities; and
- ❖ Construct a model(s) to evaluate the feasibility and usability of the whānau-centred model(s) developed.



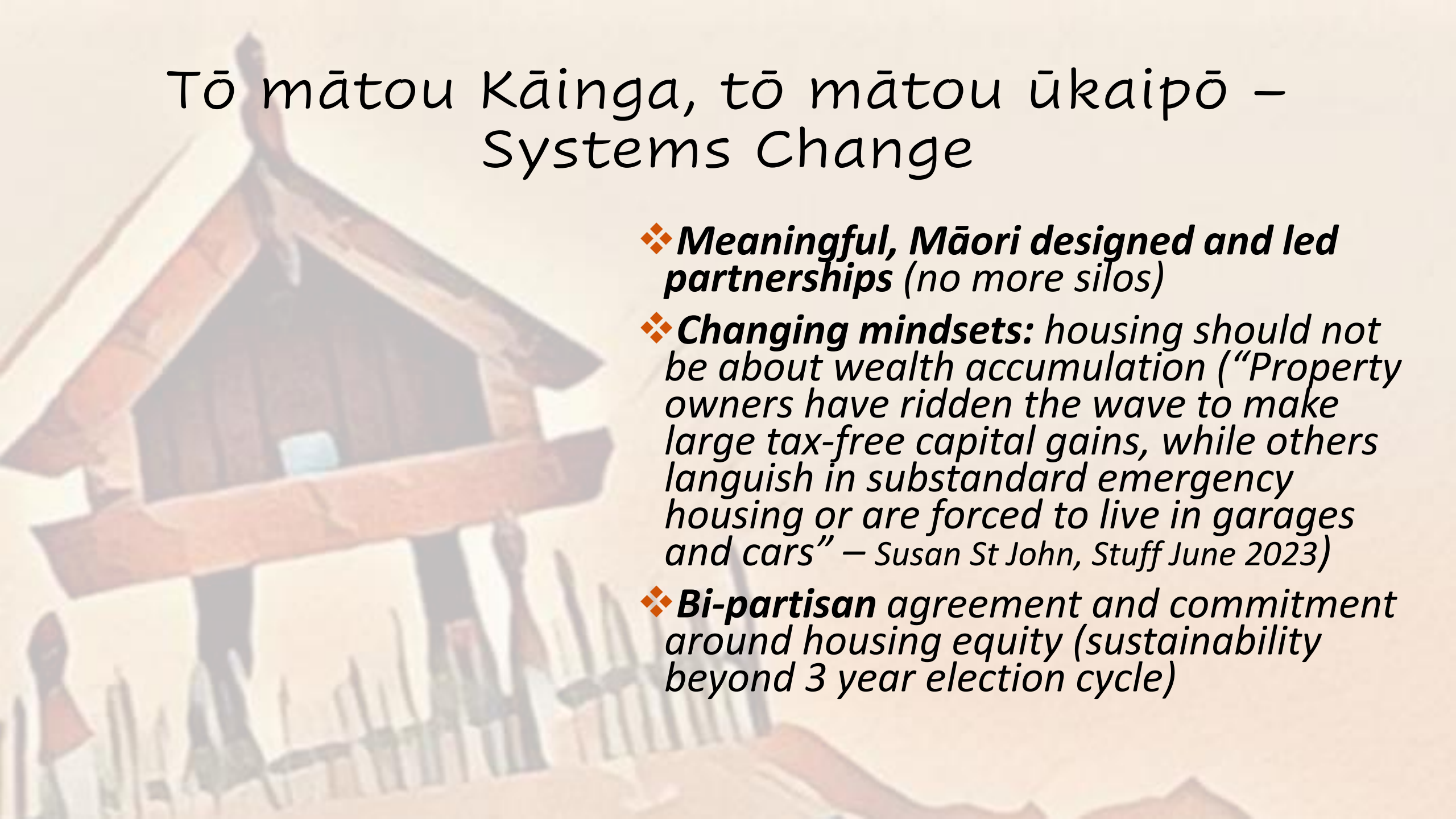
Tō mātou Kāinga, tō mātou ūkaipō - Whānau conceptions of home

- ❖ *Whānau Interviews: Rangitikei, Hauraki, Whanganui, Tāmaki Makaurau*
- ❖ *Stakeholder Interviews*
- ❖ *Iwi wananga*
- ❖ *Co-construction wānanga*

- ❖ Appreciative Inquiry and Kaupapa Māori methodology: Discovery, Dream, Design, Deliver

Tō mātou Kāinga, tō mātou ūkaipō – Early findings

- ❖ *The difference between “housing” and “homing” was recurring theme in whānau and stakeholder interviews*
- ❖ *The system reinforces Māori “homelessness”*
 - *How much around home and housing is actually in our control? Limitations spoken to by whānau and stakeholders*
 - *How have Māori “horizons” been impacted/narrowed/shaped by colonisation? Do we dare to dream?*
 - *Where does the resourcing need to go? Despite increased financial resourcing and a national strategy (Maihi Ka Ora, National Māori Housing Strategy) there is continued struggle talked about by whānau and providers across the board in provision of suitable and sustained homes*
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- ❖ *Māori needs and aspirations around home are intrinsically connected to our search for holistic wellbeing*
 - *There is an element of “healing” associated with what we search for in a “home”*
 - *We need more research into how our needs change with age/experience and what does that mean if we are planning for delivery of sustainable life-time homing of people?*
- ❖ *The evolving climate crisis impacts on Māori understandings, needs and aspiration of home*
 - *Feeling of vulnerability, feeling of urgency (building on the pandemic – where in some cases the initial crisis was able to let Māori take charge of looking after their own – this has not happened with the series of climate impacts)*



Tō mātou Kāinga, tō mātou ūkaipō – Systems Change

- ❖ **Meaningful, Māori designed and led partnerships** (no more silos)
- ❖ **Changing mindsets:** housing should not be about wealth accumulation (“Property owners have ridden the wave to make large tax-free capital gains, while others languish in substandard emergency housing or are forced to live in garages and cars” – Susan St John, Stuff June 2023)
- ❖ **Bi-partisan agreement and commitment around housing equity** (sustainability beyond 3 year election cycle)

References

- ❖ Boulton, A., Allport A., Kaiwai, H., Potaka Osborne, G., Harker, R. (2021). E hoki mai nei ki te ūkaipō - Return to Your Place of Spiritual and Physical Nourishment. *Genealogy* 5: 45. <https://doi.org/10.3390/genealogy5020045>
- ❖ Boulton, A., Allport A., Kaiwai, H., Potaka Osborne, G., Harker, R. (2021). “Māori perceptions of ‘home’: Māori housing needs, wellbeing and policy. *Kotuitui: New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences Online*, DOI: 10.1080/1177083X.2021.1920984
- ❖ Boulton, A., Allport, T., Johnson, T. (2021). Perceptions of Papakāinga - An examination of 'home' and how to cater services for Māori. Whakauae Research for Māori Health and Development, Whanganui. <https://www.whakauae.co.nz/uploads/publications/publication346.pdf?1697753973>
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