



Welcome to Ahikāroa

Ahikāroa is a housing service for people accessing mental health and addiction services, delivered by community housing provider LinkPeople.

Our goal is to understand your needs and goals and to support you to access housing and work towards holistic wellbeing in your own community.

Ahikāroa is person-centred, which means that we take an individual approach based on your needs, because we know that works best.



LinkPeople

Linking people to housing and support



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Some frequently asked questions

Can you self-refer?

Ahikāroa is for people currently receiving mental health or addiction services from the Waikato DHB or Hauora Waikato. A referral to Ahikāroa needs to come from your key worker.

Is Ahikāroa an Emergency Housing provider?

Ahikāroa does **not** provide emergency housing. To access emergency housing and the emergency housing grant, please contact Work and Income. If you are already in emergency housing and want support to move into other housing, you can still be referred to Ahikāroa by your mental health and addiction service key worker.

What support do I get once I am in a house?

We support you to retain and sustain your tenancy, linking you with additional support that will help you to stay housed, for example budgeting advice, or services for alcohol and other drug issues.

Your goals and needs are at the centre of your plan, which is regularly reviewed with you, your whānau and your key worker.

Ahikāroa means 'long burning fires' in te reo Māori. The name was gifted to our service and reflects the fact that our service supports you and honours your dream of what a home and community means for you.

We will help to keep that fire burning, no matter what your situation is for now.

How long can someone live in an Ahikāroa-managed house?

Your needs will be regularly reviewed during your tenancy, with a move into the private market encouraged. If the lease ends on the property you are in, we will partner with you to find another suitable property to move into.

How long will it take to get a house?

We cannot give a timeframe, as it depends on a number of things. Finding the right house, with the right number of rooms and in the right location, will depend on housing availability in that area and finding a landlord who is open to working with us. We will work with you to understand your needs, partnering with you to find the housing that best meets those needs.

We will also support you to get on the social housing register, if you need to, to increase the number of options you have for finding a home.

How long can someone live in a Ahikāroa-managed house?

You can live there for as long as you need to, until you are ready to move on. Our aim is to find the right house for you now and support you to move into more independent housing if and when that is right for you.

How long will Ahikāroa stay supporting someone once they get a house?

We will support you for as long as you need us to. Your needs will be reviewed as the you progress along your housing journey and in consultation with your health supports.