

Rangatahi Led Action



**Brooke
Stilwell**

I am currently a student at AUT, in my final year studying a Bachelor of Health Sciences, majoring in Health Promotion

Project

Youth Engagement - Gambling Harm

I worked with the Te Atatu Intermediate School and the Henderson-Massey Local Board to raise awareness and build connection between leaders in the community.

I worked with the rangatahi to create a pou that embodied the whakaaro concerning gambling and the harm it causes in the community. This pou, as well as a blank pou was displayed at the Mangere whānau day out, so they they could create their own

What we did

What are the results?

- The kids felt empowered to speak-out about issues they previously did not have a strong voice for.
- Changed the attitudes of the kids around gambling and pokies
- Facilitated whakawhānaungatanga between the community and the local board

On completion of the pou design, it was presented and donated to the local board to highlight the communities voice and strengthen connections within the community. This strengthened connection between the local board and community will aid in the community having more input over future decision-making

Where to now?

Advocacy

“Being the voice for people that don't necessarily have one”

Challenges

“Parents (got) pulled away from the initiative... focused on working with kids and teachers”

Advice

“Stay strong in your beliefs”
“Work hard for what you want”
“Engage as many people in your initiative/programme as you can”