

How Will We Tackle Poverty?

Gisborne TacklingPovertyNZ Workshop, 31 August 2016, Draft



Domain: Working Families/Working Poor		
	Hows	Reworded
	<i>FINANCING/BUDGETING</i>	
1.	Reducing or removing GST on basic items.	
2.	Cutting dishonour charges for lower income families.	
3.	Creating short-term saving schemes to help budgeting. For example, encouraging people to join Christmas Clubs or incentivising saving towards items such as car registration.	
4.	Building awareness of entitlement, improving financial literacy, education and life skills. Re-teaching basic life skills and educating families so that all can contribute, such as, through a family mentor.	
5.	Proving access to low interest loans – some organisations already have this facility.	
6.	Increasing parental leave.	
7.	Creating incentives to save and encourage financial literacy.	
	<i>EMPLOYMENT/SEASONAL WORKERS</i>	
8.	Smoothing pay to overcome gaps in income. For example, through consultation with stakeholders to identify a plan which ensures availability of skilled seasonal workers, the possibility of a smooth pay for them, and the continuation of an income to cover the basics while they are in the off-season. This could be a WINZ system.	
9.	Increasing the minimum wage.	
10.	Providing a living wage and redundancy packages. This will likely be a political decision. Or could be implemented by creating or incentivising a tax rate for employers who offer employees a 'living wage'.	
11.	Targeting training for Tairāwhiti region. For example, through looking at local industries, such as forestry and horticulture.	
12.	Building awareness of small business centre grants.	
13.	Ensuring employers value the workforce.	
14.	Creating alternative jobs for seasonal workers who are in the off-season. For example, this could be volunteering over the off season, but paid by WINZ, to make workers feel like they are giving back to the community.	

15.	Removing stand-down period in jobs. (From Work and Income New Zealand: “The principle behind applying a stand down is that a client should be able to provide for themselves for a short period of time. A benefit is subject to a stand down under the Social Security Act 1964. A stand down is a period, of up to a maximum of two weeks, where the client cannot receive a benefit payment.)” Source: http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/about-work-and-income/our-services/what-is-a-stand-down.html	
16.	Creating a living wage for seasonal workers and increasing their wages, as well as creating job security for seasonal workers, including protection regarding loss of income and holiday pay increase.	
17.	Encouraging employers to provide transport for employees to and from work.	
18.	Ensuring financial training is a part of any job so that employees learn financial literacy.	
19.	Encouraging employees and employers to contribute to KiwiSaver.	
20.	Setting up a Seasonal Workers Union.	
21.	Putting people back on marae under the PEP scheme (Project Employment Programme – the scheme was designed to give fully tax-funded jobs, mainly with councils and non-profit agencies, short-term jobs provided to those who were at risk of having long-term unemployment).	
	<i>COMMUNITY</i>	
22.	Bringing the Hub to the community instead of the community to the Hub.	
23.	Implementing ongoing local funding.	
24.	Encouraging whanaungatanga (relationship, kinship, sense of family connection – a relationship through shared experiences and working together which provides people with a sense of belonging).	
25.	Creating a mobile health clinic.	
26.	Creating a ‘sharing meal’ system.	
27.	Accountability of health professionals/service providers, retraining, and access to therapy and counselling for homeless.	
28.	Emphasising community and getting to know the neighbours. For example, this might include getting a ride to town with neighbours, getting neighbours to do your shopping, having a Saturday driving service for the neighbourhood which drops people off at key places, e.g. the flea market.	
29.	Encouraging Pacific Islanders to seek help both within and outside the Pacific Island Community.	
30.	Encouraging employers to provide information about support services and networks available to the Pacific Island community.	
	<i>HOUSING</i>	
31.	Creating affordable emergency housing. For example, through transportable shipping containers.	

32.	Reviewing housing regulations.	
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Domain: Gangs and Drug Users		
	Hows	Reworded
1.	Bringing services directly to gang families and wananga, which are whanau-led. For example Ruia Sisters in Red and Notorious.	
2.	Reviewing current services.	
3.	Listening to the experiences of gang whanau.	
4.	Always involving whanau – from the beginning to the end – and let them lead goals.	
5.	Supporting existing initiatives e.g. -9+, Tu Tangata.	
6.	Accepting the scale of the problems, especially the community at large and our leaders.	
7.	Improving re-integration after prison sentences, particularly for women.	
8.	Drawing upon the Norwegian prison model/local 'prison' to decrease impact on whanau.	
9.	Increasing job opportunities by ensuring social enterprises provide jobs to those mainstream employers might not consider, for example people who have recently been released from jail.	
10.	Increasing access for housing quality, including creating a bank of emergency accommodation, supported housing for those in need, and halfway houses for people coming out of prison.	
11.	Ensuring more support is there for those dealing with addictions. For example a drug and alcohol court and the creation of a local rehabilitation unit in the Gisborne/Tairāwhiti region.	
12.	Reviewing the access to alcohol licencing by educating skilled workers, review what does work and involving families who have been in the systems.	
13.	Ensuring appropriate drug education and local rehab services run to reflect local community and increase accessibility.	

14.	Creating a youth centre/safe zone for children – in Kaiti please!	
15.	Creating initiatives to keep youth at school, for example CACTUS (Combined Adolescent Challenge Training Unit Support and outdoor education (St Peter's)).	

Domain: Children Under 12		
	Hows	Reworded
1.	Establishing cross-agency package for care for 0–3 year olds, which focusses on a family's specific needs.	
2.	Building trust and relationships between people and providers.	
3.	Having earlier intervention and support for struggling students prior to alternative education being the only option.	
4.	Making systems adaptable to individual needs.	
5.	Strengthening family relationships and role modelling 'better ways' to interact as a family.	
6.	Improving access and affordability to early childhood education (ECE).	
7.	Implementing strength-based educational systems and changing the delivery of that system.	
8.	Implementing a long-term political view.	
9.	Teaching parents how to teach.	
10.	Supporting community groups already established and encouraging groups to collaborate, support each other and scale up. For example, Te Ora Hou.	
11.	Encouraging community governance to reduce bureaucracy.	
12.	Working harder to support healthy children.	

13.	Providing an educational system that meets the needs of 2017.	
14.	Ensuring children and families have access to education information.	
15.	Creating a service to identify who are the children not attending childcare, checking in with parents/caregivers, asking why the 20 hours free early childhood education and care scheme (ECEC) is not being used and then addressing these needs. For example, a community washing machine could be implemented at a school, allowing support for struggling families.	
16.	Improving antenatal care and free access to ECE for children who would benefit.	
17.	Keeping youth engaged in learning for longer by creating more modern trade apprenticeships.	

Domain: Mental Health		
	Hows	Reworded
1.	Taking fluoride out for H ₂ O.	
2.	Reviewing Gisborne's mental health services.	
3.	Creating a dress up shop. For example, providing professional clothes for those without professional clothes for job interviews.	
4.	Improving prescription drug management.	
5.	Taxing sugar so that people eat better.	
6.	Creating a one-stop shop, where services share information and ensure confidentiality.	
7.	Asking 'what matters to you', not 'what's the matter with you'.	
8.	Creating a local rehabilitation centre, including meeting rooms, specialists and car parking.	
9.	Ensuring central government acknowledge the need for change.	

10.	Having an external review of the mental health system.	
11.	Creating a database of services.	
12.	Encouraging services to work in collaboration.	
13.	Removing structural and institutionalised poverty and stopping silo approaches to support systems.	
14.	Improving responsive services without judgement.	
15.	Ensuring the right people are in the right roles.	
16.	Creating support homes for those with mental illness.	
17.	Encouraging tolerance, empathy, building trust and understanding.	
18.	Ensuring service providers change the way they engage with patients.	
19.	Increasing funding for mental health.	
20.	Improving service delivery for hard to access groups such as homeless or mentally ill. For example, through innovation, social media, by building relationships not just delivering services, and by listening not directing.	
21.	Ensuring that staff have the appropriate workload and pay.	

	<i>Domain: Elderly</i>	
	<i>Hows</i>	<i>Reworded</i>
1.	Encouraging single mums to volunteer with the elderly, allowing integration between the older and younger generations.	

2.	Creating a Plunket booklet for the elderly; a simplified, universal booklet for elderly letting them know what to do and where to go for help.	
3.	Eliminating rate penalties and GST on 65+ on rates.	
4.	Building Kaumātua Flats (Kaumātua flats are available for people who are 65 years and over). Building these houses will create jobs and also provide housing for elderly.	
5.	Integrating retirement homes with nursery centre.	
6.	Providing advice centres where older folk share and teach life skills to those in the community. For example, reading to the blind and teaching people to read.	
7.	Creating an 'adopting a Grandparent service'.	
8.	Implementing a programme where elderly can interact with animals.	
9.	Creating programmes that encourage elderly to remain active, for example through walking, swimming, tai chi.	
11.	Encouraging more interaction between young and elderly.	
13.	"This is your life".	
17.	Combatting loneliness.	
18.	Creating/implementing an emergency police contact or panic button for elderly.	
19.	Creating a superannuation scheme like Australia's.	
20.	Creating home-help jobs with extended hours. This service will create jobs in the community.	
21.	Encouraging SuperGrans to create a 'Superbus' which allows elderly transportation.	
22.	Ensuring GPs know who their elderly patients are and who is living alone.	

23.	Raising awareness of abused elderly. For example, ads on TV, radio and papers.	
24.	Increasing funding and resources for the elderly.	
25.	Lowering medical and prescription costs.	
26.	Reviewing 'living pension'.	

Domain: Māori		
	Hows	Reworded
1.	Correcting the over-representation of Māori and counteract negative statistics. These statistics are a direct result of colonisation. For example, there is institutionalised racism, such as higher mortality rates (Māori whanau die younger), more medical tests for non-Māori than Māori, more Māori incarcerated, education, police and CYF. This includes more researching and data analysis. Myth-busting about poverty.	
2.	Healing for Tairāwhiti cultural oppression by 2019, by restoring mana, unveiling the truth of Māori history in Tairāwhiti; restoring identity; restoring indigenous healing; restoring connectedness; embracing traditional practices. No amount of government intervention will address this.	
3.	Addressing lost identities and rethinking what being Māori means, and creating a sense of being. Drugs, alcohol and gangs are not who Māori are. This needs to include cultural education and identity.	
4.	Celebrating success and encouraging collective political living action. For example, through the 20 houses model – build 20 units in one area so they are not isolated, nannies, papas, 'empty nesters', young parents, collective whanau living three or four generation groups: health and wellbeing model.	
5.	Ensuring that Māori are incorporated into any approach to the 'hows'.	
6.	Creating fruit forests.	
7.	Encouraging more Māori male primary teachers.	

8.	Initiating a Maara Kai programme – The Te Puni Kōkiri Maara Kai Programme provides financial assistance to community groups wanting to set up sustainable community garden projects.	
9.	Increasing effective engagement with whanau.	
10.	Ensuring Māori to Māori are in conversation rather than just Māori to Non-Māori, and meeting whanau on their turf.	
11.	Tackling poverty for Māori below the poverty line.	

Total number of 'hows' =122