



# NEURODIVERSITY SUPPORT SERVICES GUIDE

Helping you connect clients with the  
right neurodiversity support



# WHO IS THIS FOR?

**If you work in the social, health or education sector - this guide is for you!**

More people seeking information and support around neurodivergence, particularly autism and ADHD. This includes parents, caregivers, and adults, both diagnosed and undiagnosed. It can be challenging to know where to start or which service provider to connect clients with first.

We've put together this guide of (mostly) Spectrum Collective Tākiwātanga members' services to serve as a useful resource in your kete. It's intended as a starting point, not a complete directory of all services across the wider region.

# WHO ARE WE?



Spectrum Collective Tākiwātanga is a collaborative group of Western Bay of Plenty service providers who support whānau, children, teens, and adults in navigating neurodiversity in their everyday lives.

The collective formed in late 2019 and continues to meet to network, share information and updates, and carry out events and projects that strengthen community connections and wellbeing for the whānau and individuals they work with.



Spectrum Collective Tākiwātanga is supported by SocialLink's Collaborative Practice Coordinator, who supports collective groups from the social and community sectors to collaborate on collective goals and outcomes.

SocialLink strengthens organisations from the inside, providing tools to empower our social and community sector. Learn more about the services SocialLink offers at [sociallink.org.nz](https://sociallink.org.nz)

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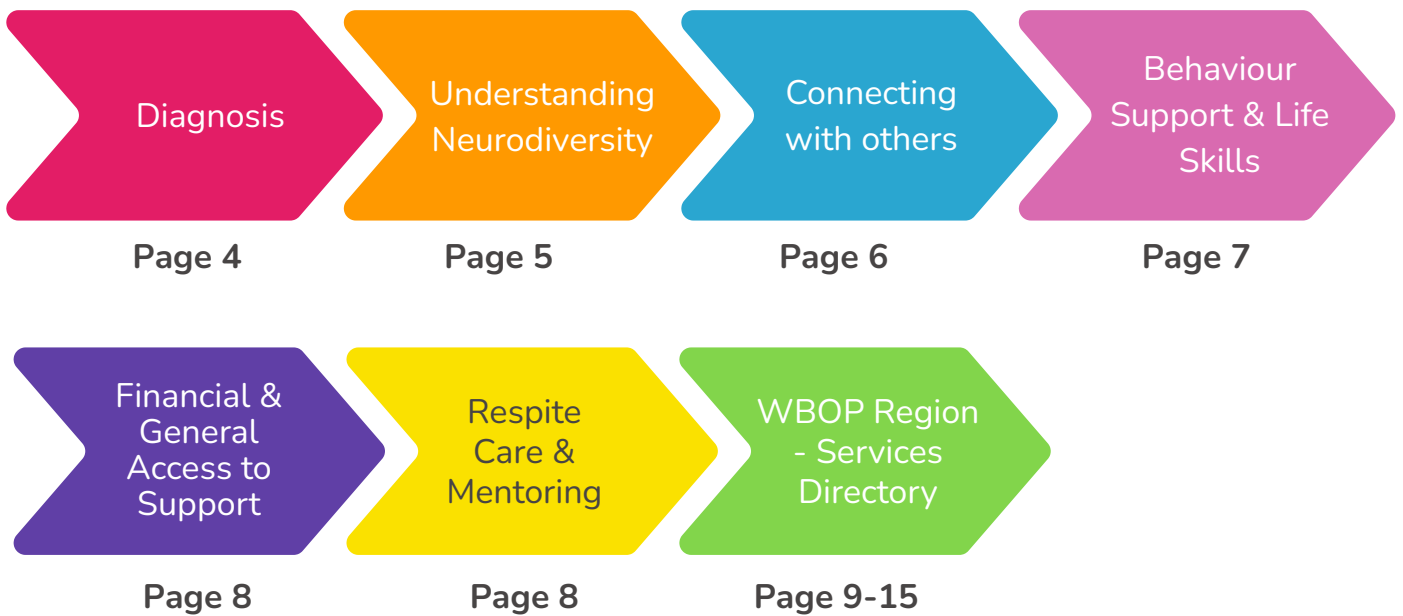
**Pg. 9** Spectrum Collective Member Service Providers WBOP Directory



# MAP OVERVIEW

## Service Providers Supporting Neurodiversity Map

Finding the right support



# DIAGNOSIS

May help access financial and other support



## CHILD OR TEEN FREE

### Paediatrician

*If already under their care (can prescribe medication)*

**GP referral to CHIRP (Child Health Integrated Response Pathway).**

*CHIRP may then refer to Paediatrician, MiCAMHS and/or Child Development Services*

**School referral to CHIRP**



## CHILD OR TEEN PRIVATE

### Bay Paediatrics

*Private practice (pg.10)*



## ALL AGES PRIVATE

### Psychiatrist

*Can prescribe medication*

**Psychologist**  
*can NOT prescribe medication*



## ADULT PUBLIC HEALTH

**GP can diagnose as of 1 February 2026** (fee applies) or **Health NZ Te Whatu Ora.**

*NOTE - DHB criteria and treatment thresholds are set at very high need so often a private diagnosis may be the alternative*

# UNDERSTANDING NEURODIVERSITY

## Information & Courses

### Information

- [ADHD NZ](#)
- Altogether Autism
- CCS Disability Action
- Parent 2 Parent

### Courses & Workshops

- Mockingbird
- Altogether Autism
- Parent 2 Parent
- Explore
- IHC
- FASD CAN
- SPELD
- Bay Paediatrics

# CONNECTING WITH OTHERS

## Finding support and community

### Parents & Caregivers

- Paragons NZ
- Parent 2 Parent
- Spectrum Connections
- Autism NZ

### Siblings

- Parent 2 Parent

### Children

- Mockingbird
- Paragons NZ (ages 9 and up)

### Teens

- Mockingbird
- Chrome Collective
- Paragons NZ
- Island of Misfits - (ages 16 -30)

### Adults

- Island of Misfits - (ages 16 -30)
- [ADHA Tauranga](#) - Facebook group for adults in Tauranga area
- Altogether Autism - By Autistics for Autistics Zoom groups
- Chrome Collective
- Paragons NZ

# BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT & LIFE SKILLS

## Children

- **Family Works Northern**  
*Family support, Parenting Courses, Social Workers*
- **Stand Children's Services Tū Māia** -  
*Family Therapy, Children's Village, Social Workers*
- **BB NZ (ICONZ)** - Pg. 10
- **Explore Wellness Org** - Requires a NASC
- **Your Garden**
- **Local Area Coordination** for those with a diagnosed disability  
(up to age 65)

## Teens

- **Family Works Northern**  
*Family support, Parenting Courses, Social Workers*
- **Stand Children's Services Tū Māia**  
*Family Therapy, Children's Village, Social Workers*
- **Explore Wellness Org** - Requires a NASC
- **Local Area Coordination** for those with a diagnosed disability  
(up to age 65)

## Adults

- **Local Area Coordination** for those with a diagnosed disability  
(up to age 65)
- **Private Therapist** - fee applies
- **Enrich+**  
*Supported Living, employment and empowerment services*
- **Chrome Collective**  
*Vocational training, employment and empowerment services,  
day programmes (for age 16 and up)*

## General

- **Poutiri Wellness Centre**
- **Whanaungatanga Ora Programme (Tautoko Mai)**  
*Healthy Relationships Education for teens and adults*

# FINANCIAL SUPPORT & GENERAL ACCESS TO SUPPORT

## Financial Support

- Work and Income

## General Support

- CCS Disability Action
- NASC (Needs Assessment) - GP referral to Support Net

## Advocacy

- CCS Disability Action
- Social Workers
- Health and Disability Advocacy Services  
*Tauranga 07-577 1715 OR 0800 555 050*
- Chrome Collective (For age 16 and up)

# RESPITE CARE & MENTORING

## Respite Care

- Open Home Foundation - Requires a NASC

## Mentoring

- Island of Misfits - For approx. age 16-30
- Chrome Collective - For ages 16+

# SERVICES PROVIDER DIRECTORY: WBOP REGION

Organisation	Information
<b>Altogether Autism</b>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Information and advice; workshops and trainings</p> <p><b>Event(s):</b> By Autistics for Autistics Zoom hui (age 18 &amp; up)</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> Children, Teens, Families, Adults, Professionals</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@altogetherautism.org.nz">info@altogetherautism.org.nz</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://altogetherautism.org.nz">altogetherautism.org.nz</a></p> <p>Live chat on website, 9.00am-4:30pm, M-F</p>
<b>Autism NZ</b>	<p><b>Whats' Offered:</b> Education and information, including training for professionals</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> Families, Adults</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> 07 571 0003</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:tauranga@autismnz.org.nz">tauranga@autismnz.org.nz</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://autismnz.org.nz">autismnz.org.nz</a></p>
<b>Bay Paediatrics Private</b>	<p><b>Whats' Offered:</b> Diagnoses, Parenting support, Courses and Workshops, Free podcasts</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> Children, Teens</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:hello@baypaediatrics.com">hello@baypaediatrics.com</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://baypaediatrics.com">baypaediatrics.com</a></p>
<b>Boys Brigade/ICONZ (Spectrum Collective PARTNER)</b>	<p><b>Whats' Offered:</b> Currently providing a three year pilot woodworking programme (2023 -2026) for neurodiverse children, delivered by Stu Thompson. Up to six children attend for two terms, building motor skills, social skills and social connections .Boys and girls welcome. Very high needs are not able to be catered due to the nature of the activities and group setting</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> School kids - years 5-8</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://bb.org.nz">bb.org.nz</a></p>

Organisation	Information
<p><b>CCS Disability Action</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Information, advocacy and help to access supports  <b>Covers:</b> Children, teens, families, adults  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz/north-island/tauranga">ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz/north-island/tauranga</a></p>
<p><b>Child Development Service</b> DHB/Te Whatu Ora</p>	<p><b>Whats' Offered:</b> Autism Coordinator, information  <b>Covers:</b> Children, teens (up to age 16), families  <b>Contact:</b> 07 571 4768  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://info.health.nz/locations/bay-of-plenty/child-development-services-bay-of-plenty">info.health.nz/locations/bay-of-plenty/child-development-services-bay-of-plenty</a></p>
<p><b>Chrome Collective</b></p>	<p><b>Whats' Offered:</b> Supports people with disabilities in WBOP, Waihi and Paeroa areas with vocational training/education, day programmes, employment, empowerment, advocacy, information, mentoring and coaching  <b>Covers:</b> Ages 16+  <b>Contact:</b> 022 365 0703  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:hello@chromecollective.co.nz">hello@chromecollective.co.nz</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://chromecollective.co.nz">chromecollective.co.nz</a>  <b>Facebook:</b> <a href="https://facebook.com/chromecollectivecommunity">facebook.com/chromecollectivecommunity</a></p>
<p><b>Enrich +</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Supported living, employment and empowerment services, autism groups  <b>Covers:</b> Older teens, adults  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://enrichplus.org.nz">enrichplus.org.nz</a></p>

Organisation	Information
<p align="center"><b>Explore Hāpainga Ora</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Behaviour support at home or residential (ages 0-65), Early Intervention Stepping Stones (ages 0-12), diagnostic assessments for intellectual disability, training for services providers/ families (fee for services). Diagnosed autism support, referrals via NASC/Support Net, free parent education courses (need diagnosis, but no need for NASC referral), Exploring Autism (ages 0-5, Teen life (10-16))</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> Children, teens, families, adults</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://explorewellbeing.org.nz">explorewellbeing.org.nz</a></p>
<p align="center"><b>Family Works Northern</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Family support, counselling, social workers, parenting programmes, family violence programmes</p> <p><b>Covers :</b> Children, Teens, Families, Adults</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://familyworksnorthern.org.nz">familyworksnorthern.org.nz</a></p>
<p align="center"><b>Island of Misfits</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Peer support, social and discussion group (topics may cover faith, world views and neurodiversity, workshops and events)</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> Ages 16-30 (approx.)</p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:emma.cox@steiger.org">emma.cox@steiger.org</a></p> <p><b>Facebook:</b> <a href="https://facebook.com/Island-of-Misfits-Community">facebook.com/Island-of-Misfits-Community</a></p>
<p align="center"><b>Matahui School One-Day Neurodiverse School Programme</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Specially designed for children with specific learning needs* - this programme includes components of structured literacy, mathematics, and hands-on project-inquiry.</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> School years 3-10</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://matahui.school.nz/one-day-school">matahui.school.nz/one-day-school</a></p>

Organisation	Information
<p><b>MiCAMHS</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Support, diagnosis and interventions for moderate to severe mental health, including anxiety, depression, ADHD, behavioural difficulties, self-harm, drug/alcohol addiction, eating disorders</p> <p><b>Covers :</b> Children, Teens</p> <p><b>Referral:</b> Via GP or school to CHIRP</p>
<p><b>Mockingbird</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Social groups for children, workshops for families</p> <p><b>Covers :</b> Children, Families</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://mockingbird.org.nz">mockingbird.org.nz</a></p>
<p><b>Open Home Foundation</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Respite care at Oasis for children, social work services</p> <p>Referral via Oranga Tamariki or Support Net/NASC</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> Children, Families</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://ohf.org.nz">ohf.org.nz</a></p>
<p><b>Paragons NZ</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Paragons is a group where those living with neurodiversity or disabilities can come together, make friends and get support</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> Children (ages 9 and up), Teens, Families, Adults</p> <p><b>Facebook:</b> <a href="https://facebook.com/p/Paragons-Social-Group-61554153314980">facebook.com/p/Paragons-Social-Group-61554153314980</a></p>
<p><b>Parent 2 Parent</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Information, events, seminars, family support groups</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> Children, Teens, Families, Siblings</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Jane - 027 808 3945</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://parent2parent.org.nz/locations/coastal-bay-of-plenty">parent2parent.org.nz/locations/coastal-bay-of-plenty</a></p>
<p><b>Poutiri Wellness Centre</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Full range of medical and wellness services, including Whānau Ora</p> <p><b>Covers:</b> Children, Teens, Adults, Families</p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://poutiriwellnesscentre.org">poutiriwellnesscentre.org</a></p>

Organisation	Information
<p><b>Sonic Cinema</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Inclusive, sensory cinematic events.  <b>Covers:</b> Children, Teens, Adults, Families, Organisations  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@soniccinemanz.com">info@soniccinemanz.com</a></p>
<p><b>Spectrum Connections</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Coffee support group and social family events  <b>Covers:</b> Children, Teens, Families  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://spectrumconnections.weebly.com">spectrumconnections.weebly.com</a></p>
<p><b>Stand Children Services Tū Māia</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Social workers, children's village, family therapy  <b>Covers:</b> Children, Teens, Families,  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://standforchildren.org.nz">standforchildren.org.nz</a></p>
<p><b>Support Net</b> Requires GP referral</p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> NASC (Needs Assessments)  <b>Covers:</b> Children, Teens, Adults  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://info.health.nz/locations/bay-of-plenty/support-net-disability-services-bay-of-plenty">info.health.nz/locations/bay-of-plenty/support-net-disability-services-bay-of-plenty</a></p>
<p><b>Tautoko Mai</b> Whanaungatanga Ora Programme</p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> <i>Healthy Relationships Programme for people with learning disabilities or neurodiversity</i>  <b>Covers:</b> <i>Teens and adults</i>  <i>Referrals via agencies, schools, whanau, and self.</i>  <b>Phone:</b> 0800 227 233  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://tautokomai.co.nz/social-change-and-prevention/#whanaungatanga-ora">tautokomai.co.nz/social-change-and-prevention/#whanaungatanga-ora</a></p>

Organisation	Information
<p><b>Therapists private</b> (members of Spectrum Collective)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kate Ferris</b> - Psychologist Website: <a href="http://kateferris.co.nz">kateferris.co.nz</a></li> <li>• <b>Metacognition</b> - Clinical psychology and Neuropsychology Website: <a href="http://metacognition.co.nz">metacognition.co.nz</a></li> <li>• <b>Mind Body Connect</b> - Lesia Smith Neuro psychologist Website: <a href="http://mindbodyconnect.health">mindbodyconnect.health</a></li> <li>• <b>Torch Light</b> - Susan Ricketts Therapist and Trainer Website: <a href="http://torch-light.co.nz">torch-light.co.nz</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Work and Income</b></p>	<p><b>Special Needs Grant</b> - For people on benefit or working Website: <a href="http://workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/special-needs-grant.html">workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/special-needs-grant.html</a></p> <p><b>Recoverable Assistance Payment</b> - For people working ONLY Website: <a href="http://workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/recoverable-assistance-payment-grant.html">workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/recoverable-assistance-payment-grant.html</a> Contact: 0800 559 009</p>
<p><b>Your Garden</b></p>	<p><b>What's Offered:</b> Gardening therapy to build social skills (referral via schools) <b>Covers:</b> Groups of children from a school <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:jess.hubbard@yourgarden.org.nz">jess.hubbard@yourgarden.org.nz</a> <b>Facebook:</b> <a href="https://facebook.com/yourgardentauranga">facebook.com/yourgardentauranga</a></p>

Organisation	Information
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Your Way Kia Roha</b></p>	<p><b>Local Area Coordination:</b>  <b>What's Offered:</b> Person-centered, strength based approach to living well by removing or shifting barriers to inclusion.  <b>Covers:</b> Up to age 65 with a diagnosed disability as defined by Whaikaha (includes autism)  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:bop@yourwaykiaroha.nz">bop@yourwaykiaroha.nz</a>  <b>Contact:</b> 0800 758 700  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://yourwaykiaroha.nz/learning-information/workshops/#forAutistic">yourwaykiaroha.nz/learning-information/workshops/#forAutistic</a></p> <p><b>Learning and Information Centre:</b>  <b>What's Offered:</b> Trainings and workshops; disability and autism information  <b>Covers:</b> Disabled people, whānau and professionals</p> <p><b>Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyard Training for Organisations</b>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://yourwaykiaroha.nz/learning-information/hidden-disabilities-sunflower">yourwaykiaroha.nz/learning-information/hidden-disabilities-sunflower</a></p>

Ngā mihi to all neurodivergent people, whānau, advocates and allies across the Western Bay of Plenty who contribute to making our communities more understanding, inclusive and supportive.

If you would like your programme, service or organisation included in this directory, please contact [info@socialink.org.nz](mailto:info@socialink.org.nz)