



**ORANGA  
TAMARIKI**  
Ministry for Children

# WHEN YOU NEED TO STAY

In a youth justice residence





A youth justice residence is a place where you stay while we help you to get your life back on track.

This brochure has information on what you can expect from your stay. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

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## WHY AM I AT A RESIDENCE?

A youth justice residence is a safe and secure place for you to stay while you can't live in your community for a while.

This may be because:

- you've been arrested and charged by the Police and are waiting to have your case considered at the Youth Court
- you've been to the Youth Court and the judge has 'remanded' you into our care until the court can deal with your case. This can take two or three weeks, sometimes longer
- the Youth Court judge has sentenced you to stay in a residence and set you some goals for while you're there. The length of your stay will likely depend on how soon you achieve those goals
- the Youth Court judge has sentenced you to prison, but you're not old enough to go there.

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM MY STAY?

While you're in the residence you can expect to feel safe and well cared for.

If you need help, the case leaders, youth workers, social workers and health team at the residence are there to support you. You can talk with them at any time about things that worry you.

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE RESIDENCE?

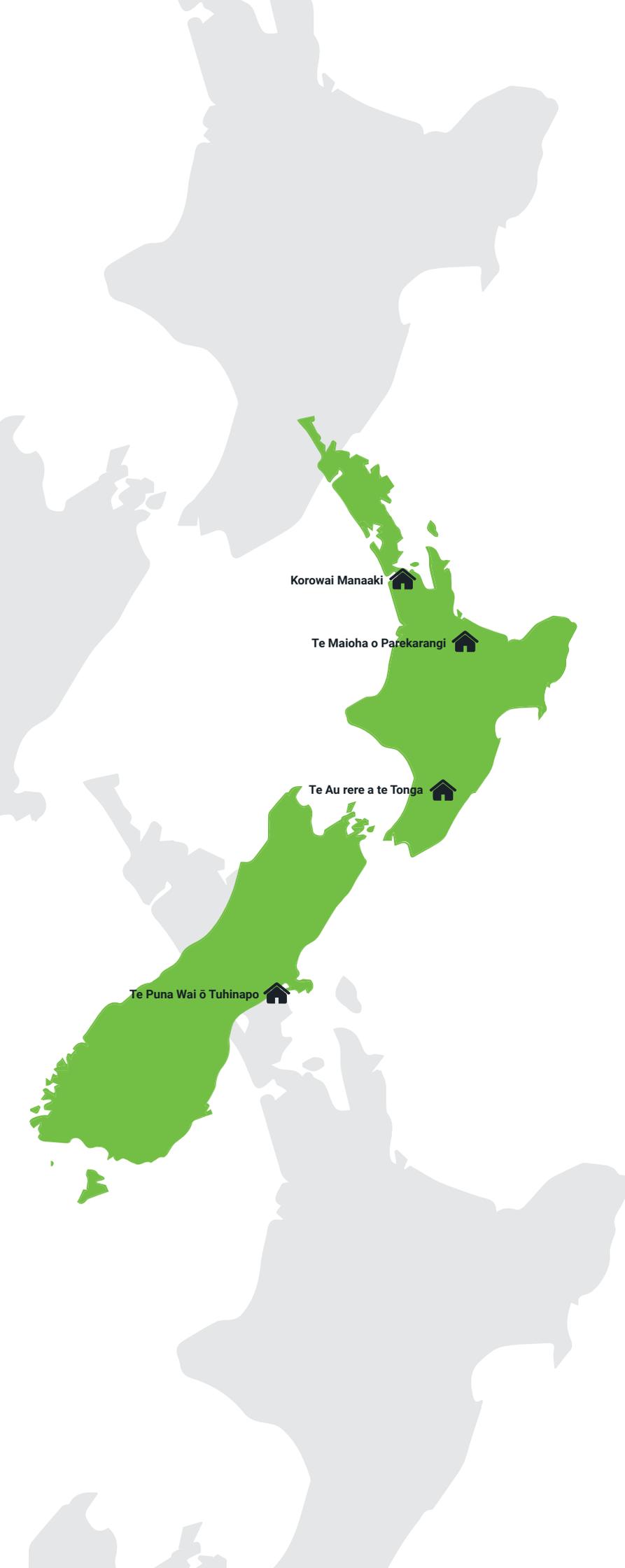
While you're staying at the residence we'll work with you and your case leader, youth worker, social worker and whānau to develop a plan for your stay and for life when you leave.

Trained staff will be there throughout your stay, with a programme that could include:

- going to school during term time
- getting help with problems such as anger and drug and alcohol abuse
- getting support to face up to your offending and turn your life around
- a training programme to increase your chances of employment
- learning how to apply for a job
- doing courses to gain skills like communication or looking after yourself
- getting your driver's licence (if you're old enough)
- getting ready to go flatting or find another safe and stable place to live.

**“While I was at the residence they taught me skills to help me get a job. My mentor believed in me and it made me want to change my life. I haven't reoffended and I've held down a job. I'm proud of how far I've come.”**

Young person



## ABOUT THE RESIDENCE

New Zealand has four youth justice residences:

- Korowai Manaaki is in Manukau, South Auckland
- Te Maioha o Parekarangi is near Rotorua
- Te Au rere a te Tonga is in Palmerston North
- Te Puna Wai o Tuhinapo is in Christchurch.

We'll do our best to locate you close to your whānau. If that's not possible we'll make sure that you can stay in touch, and help to arrange whānau visits if needed.

## WHAT'S A RESIDENCE LIKE?

You'll have your own bedroom, and share areas such as the living room and dining room with other young people. There's also:

- a school
- a gym
- an activity area
- open areas for sports and outdoor activities.

To keep you safe, each residence has a separate place where staff can watch over you. This may be because they're worried that you want to hurt yourself or others, or that you want to run away.

**“I didn’t realise how many people cared about me. It was hard, but now I have hopes and dreams for my future.”**

Tama

## **TAMA’S STORY**

When 15-year-old Tama stayed at a youth justice residence, it was a turning point for him and his whānau.

During his stay Tama attended school, played sports, joined recreation activities and made the most of the skills he was taught. He learned how to apply for a job and got a school qualification to take with him.

When it was time to leave the residence, Tama and his social worker and whānau worked together to help him move on, be prepared and make better choices. They agreed on some rules and his whānau promised to support him in practical ways.

Tama and his whānau have stuck to the agreement. He’s following the whānau rules, is learning new skills to help him get a job and has been doing work experience at a recreation centre. He’s achieving the goals he set himself and is looking forward to the future.