

Positive Youth Development in Aotearoa



Wayne Francis Charitable Trust
Youth Advisory Group 2011

Philanthropy New Zealand Conference 2011

Positive Youth Development in Aotearoa

“Weaving connections - Tuhonohono rangatahi”



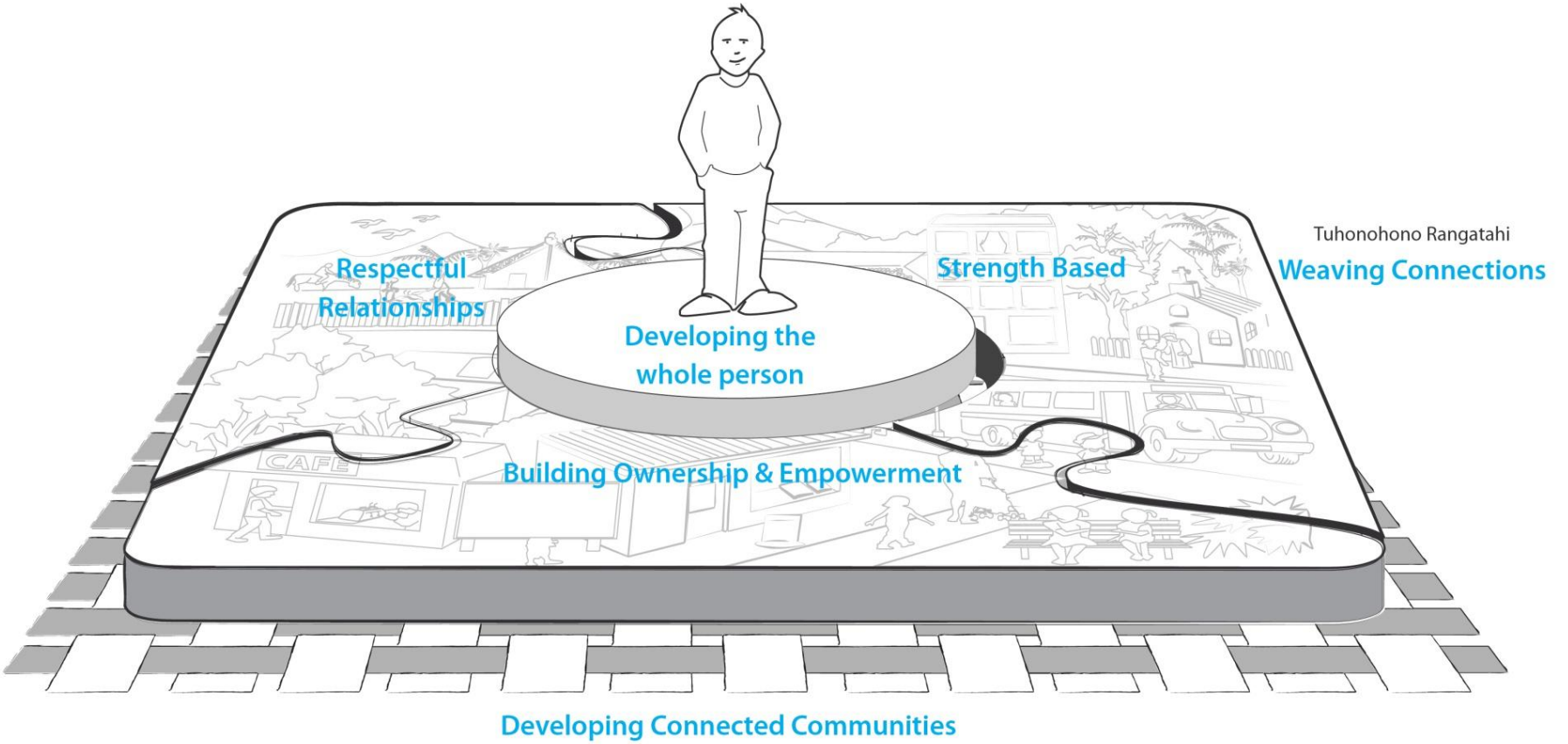
Positive Youth Development in Aotearoa

Explore the confluence between;

- local and international models
- grass roots experiences of young people and organisations in Aotearoa

To promote fresh thinking from;

- funders, organisations, communities, families, young people
- in a range of settings (social work, youth work, education, counselling, social services, corrections, justice etc)

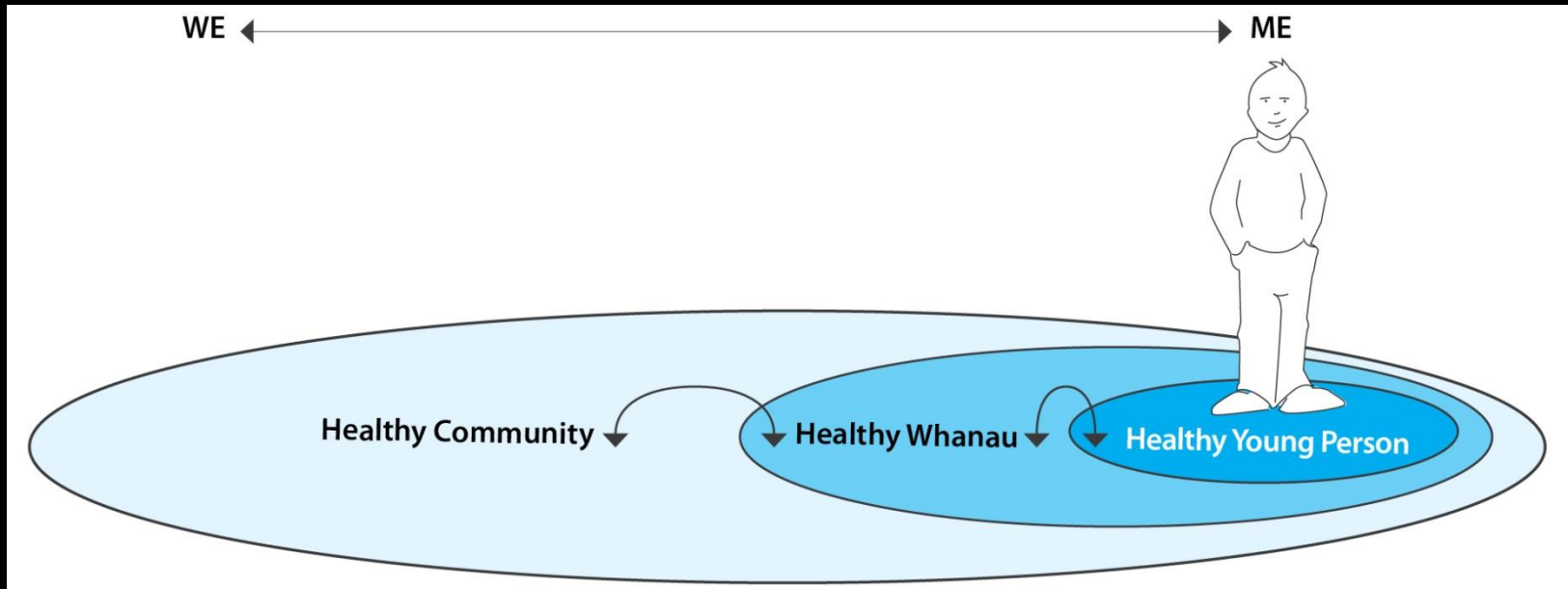


Tuhonohono Rangatahi

Weaving Connections

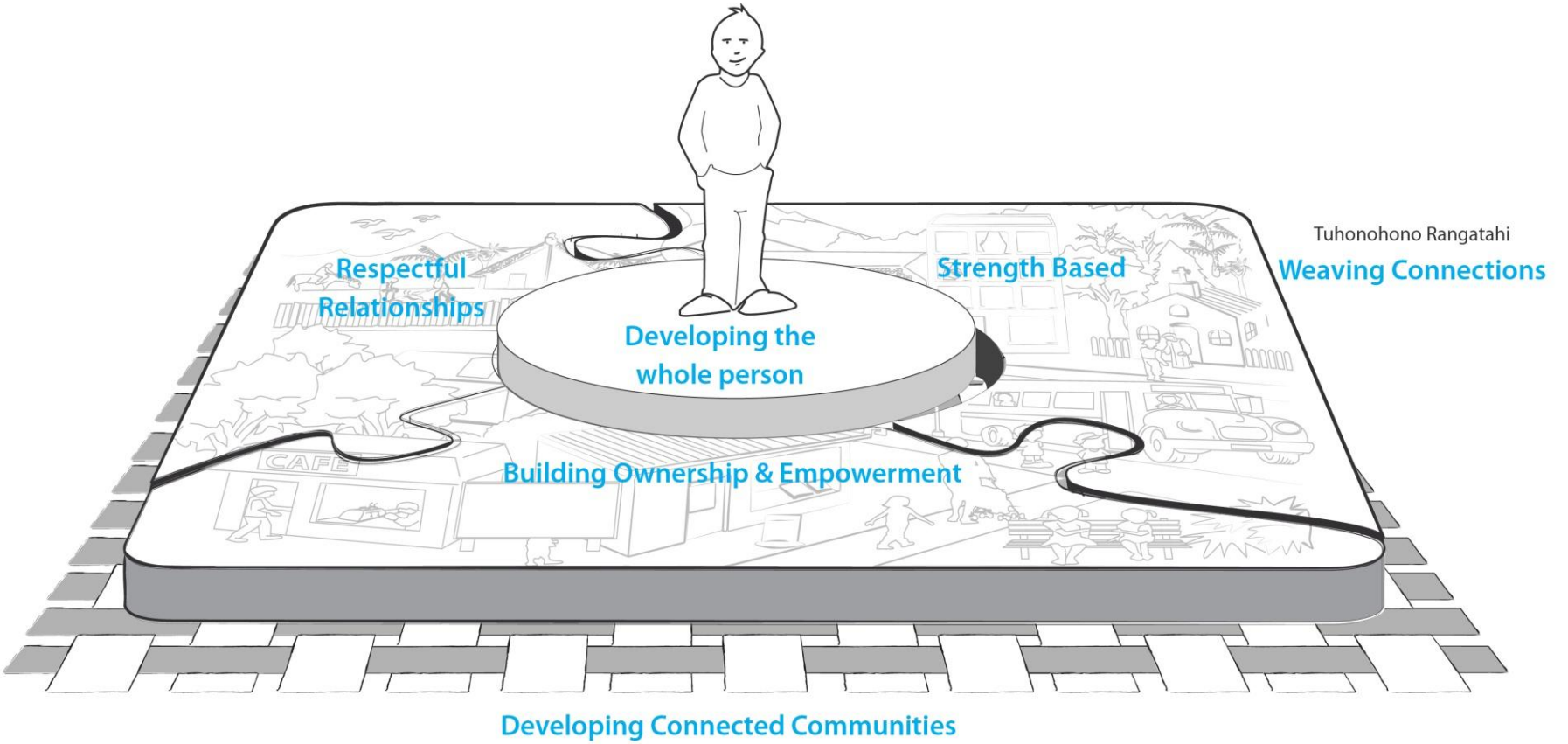
Shift in thinking and mindset.....

*Both individual and community focus
From fixing people to building strengths*



Everything we do now has to be in the light of this
journey...

- *What were some of the challenges you remember facing as a teenager?*
- *What helped you get through these?*
- *Can you remember a person who had a positive impact on you?*
- *What were their characteristics?*



Tuhonohono Rangatahi

Weaving Connections

Respectful Relationships

Strength Based

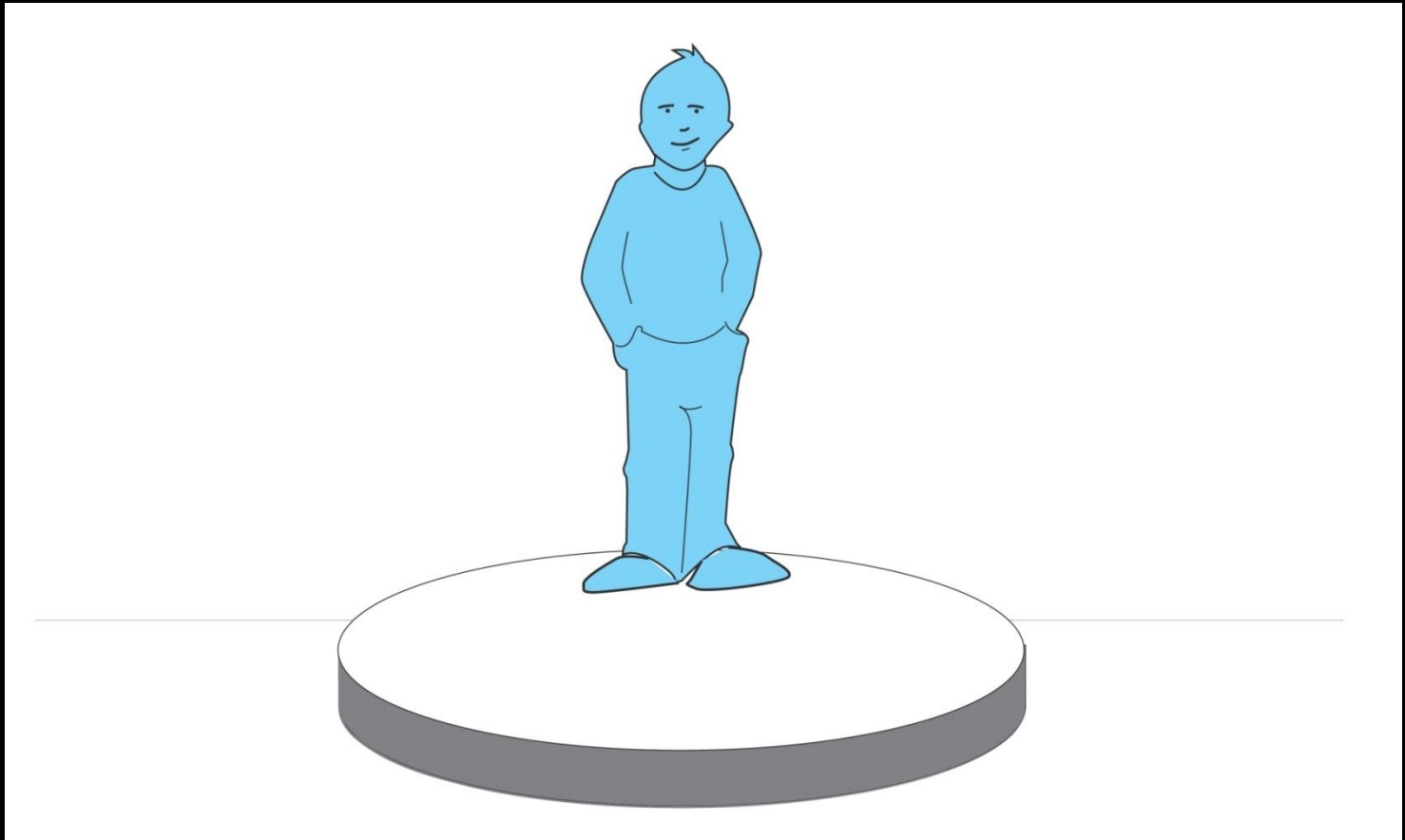
Developing the whole person

Building Ownership & Empowerment

Developing Connected Communities

Key Outcome 1:

Developing the whole person

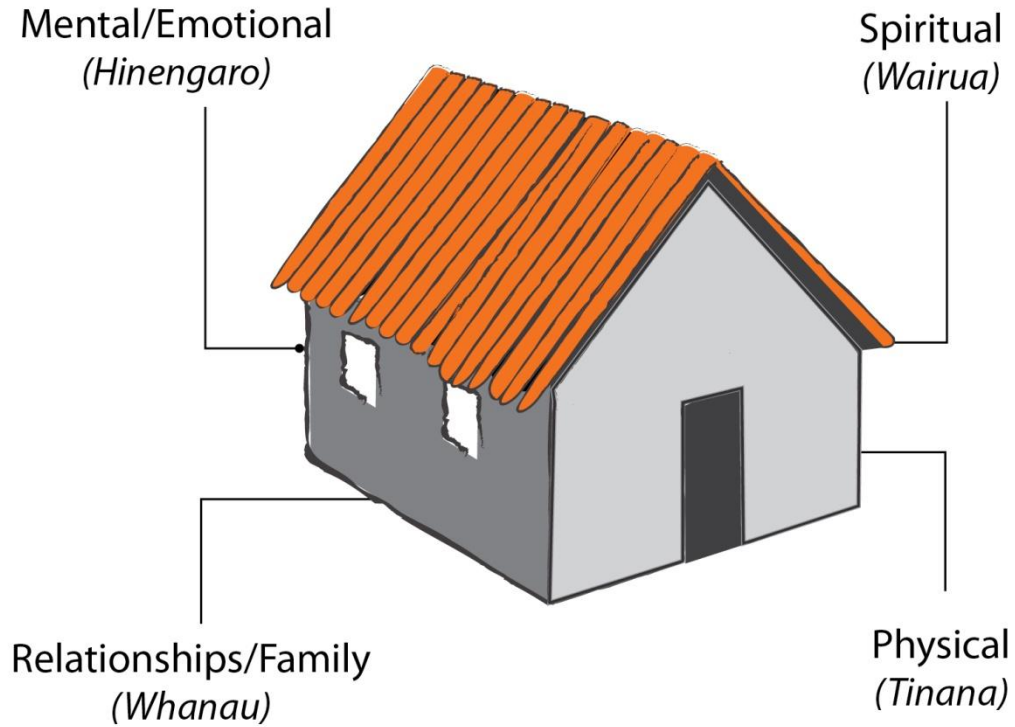


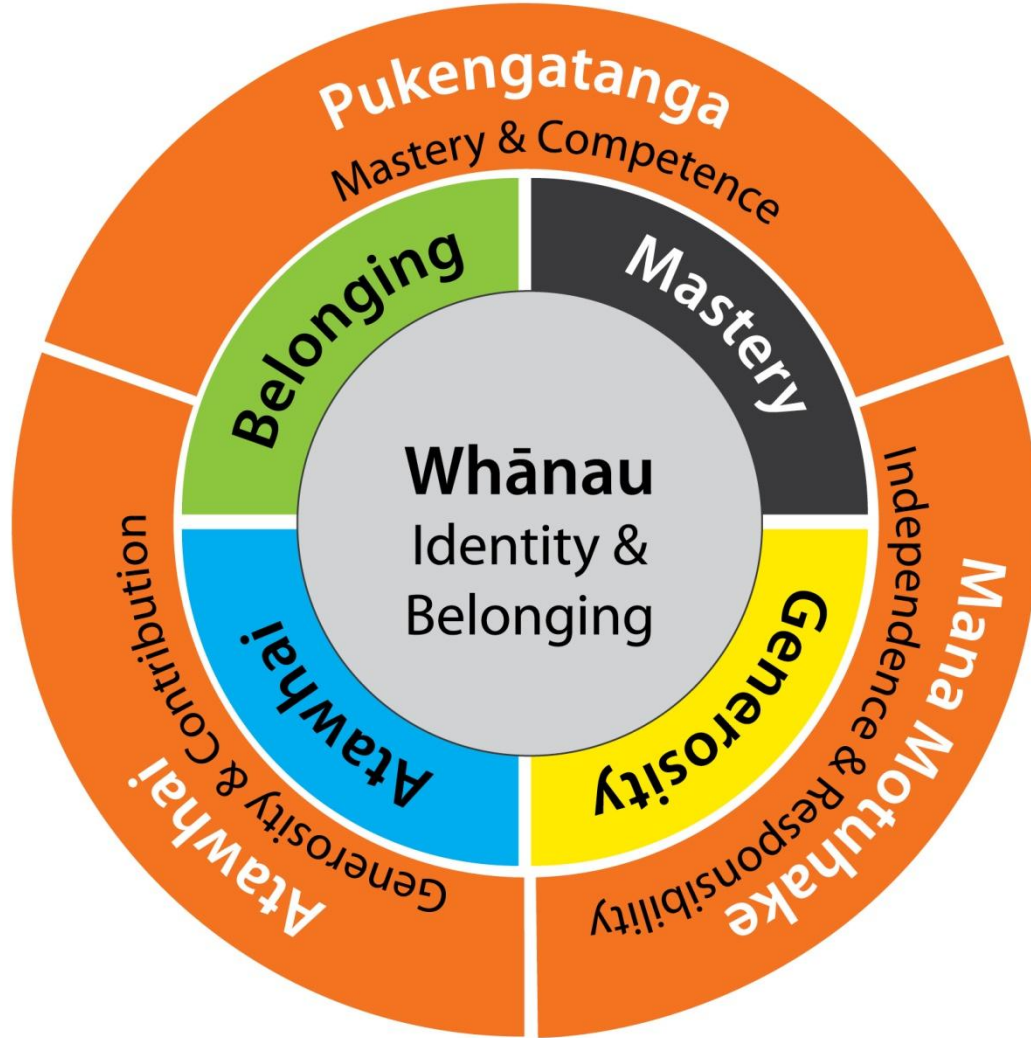
Key questions;

- Does the programme or intervention focus on working with the whole young person, or is it merely addressing a narrow aspect of the young person's strengths and skills?
- How does the organisation collaborate with other organisations to provide on an holistic approach?

Holistic Development

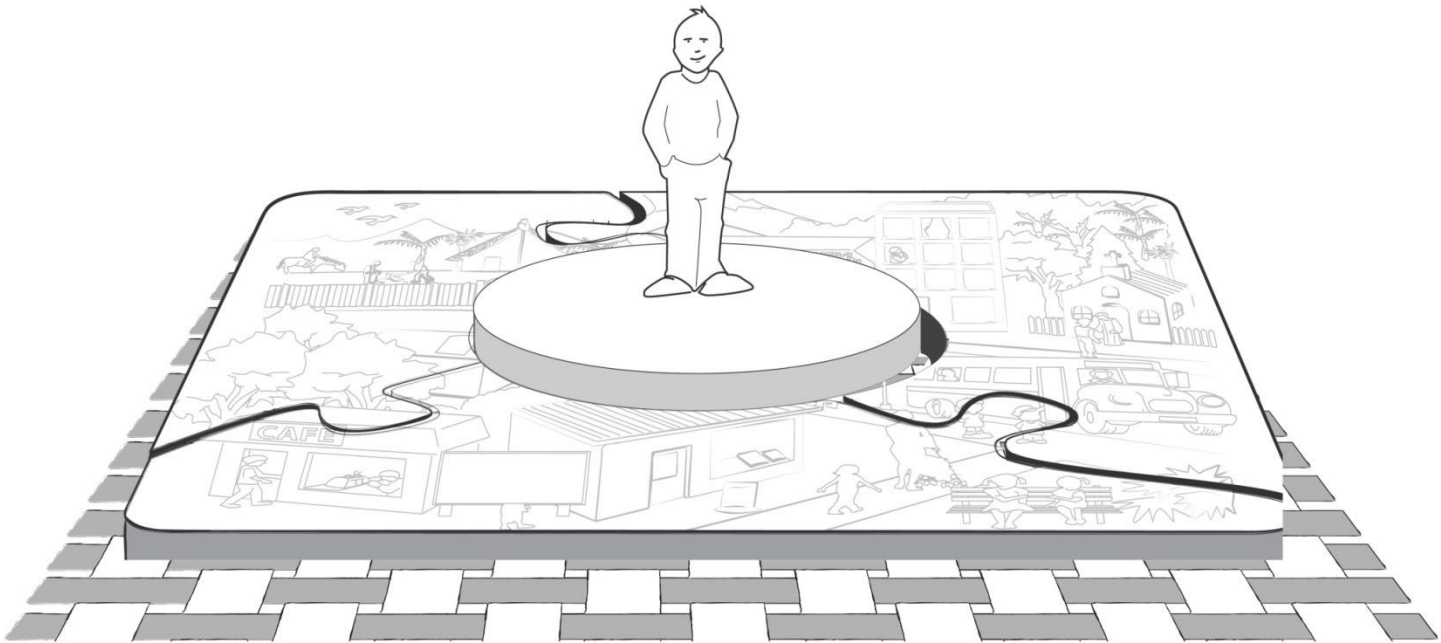
Hauora - Developing Well being
Te Whare Tapawha (house with 4 walls)





Key Outcome 2:

Developing connected communities



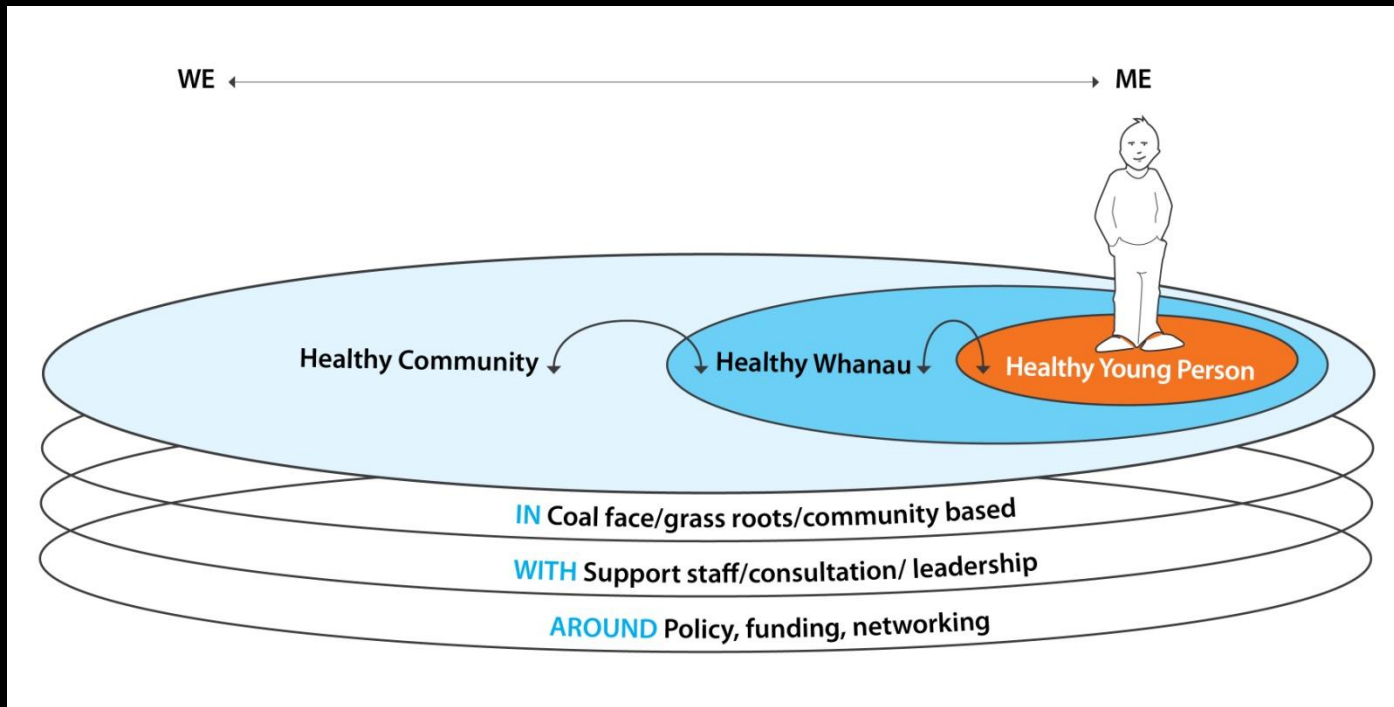
Developing connected communities

Key questions;

- Does the organisation show signs of community connectivity and collaboration?
- Is the organisation committed to long term and sustainable community involvement?

Youth development or community development?

“It take a village to raise a child”

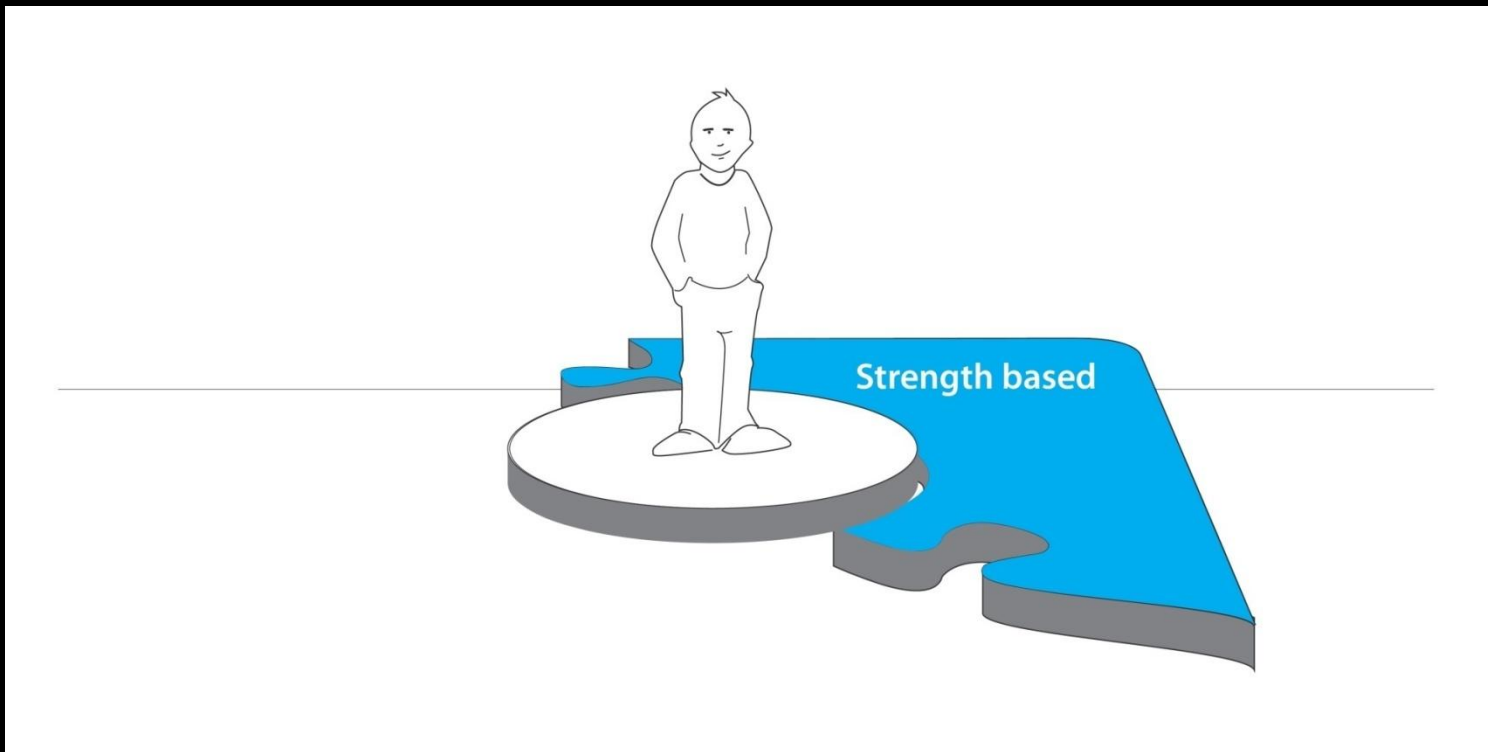


“Communities have the ability to solve their own problems”

“Let us build communities and families in which our children and youth, especially those who are the most troubled, can belong. Let us build a country in which our children and youth can learn to care for and respect others so that one day they, too, will build a family, a community, and a country that is well and strong”

(Nelson Mandela in Brendtro and du Toit, 2005, 87).

Key Approach 1: Strength based



Key questions;

- Does the organisation have a strength-based approach to working with young people?
- Are young people seen as problems to be managed or resources to be developed?
- Is the focus primarily on referral criteria as a measure of success, i.e. less offending/less disruption/reduced drug use? What about assessment tools?

“Practicing from a strengths perspective means that everything you do as a helper will be based on facilitating the discovery and embellishment, exploration, and use of clients’ strengths and resources in the service of helping them achieve their goals and realize their dreams.”

Dennis Saleebey (1992)

Traditional Youth Services

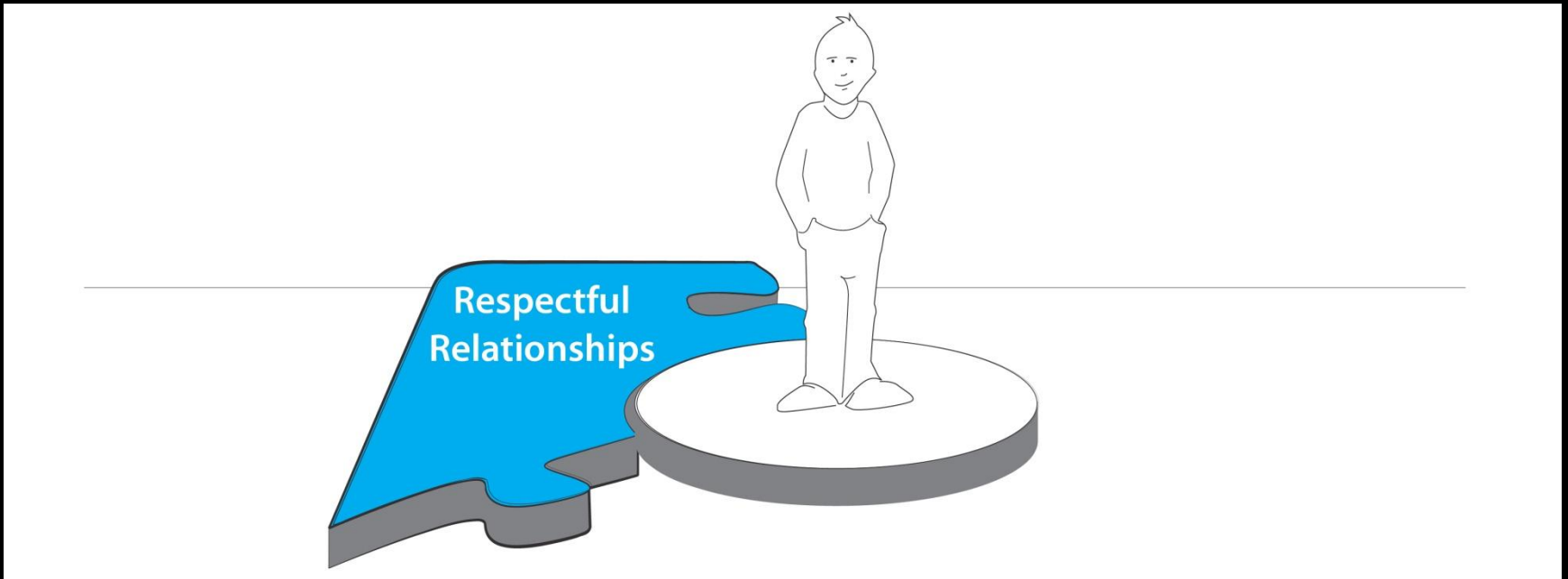
- Focus on problems
- Reactive
- Targeted Youth
- Youth as recipients
- Programmes
- Professional providers

Positive Youth Development

- Focus on positive outcomes
- Proactive
- All youth
- Youth as active participants
- Community response
- Community members

Key Approach 2:

Respectful relationships



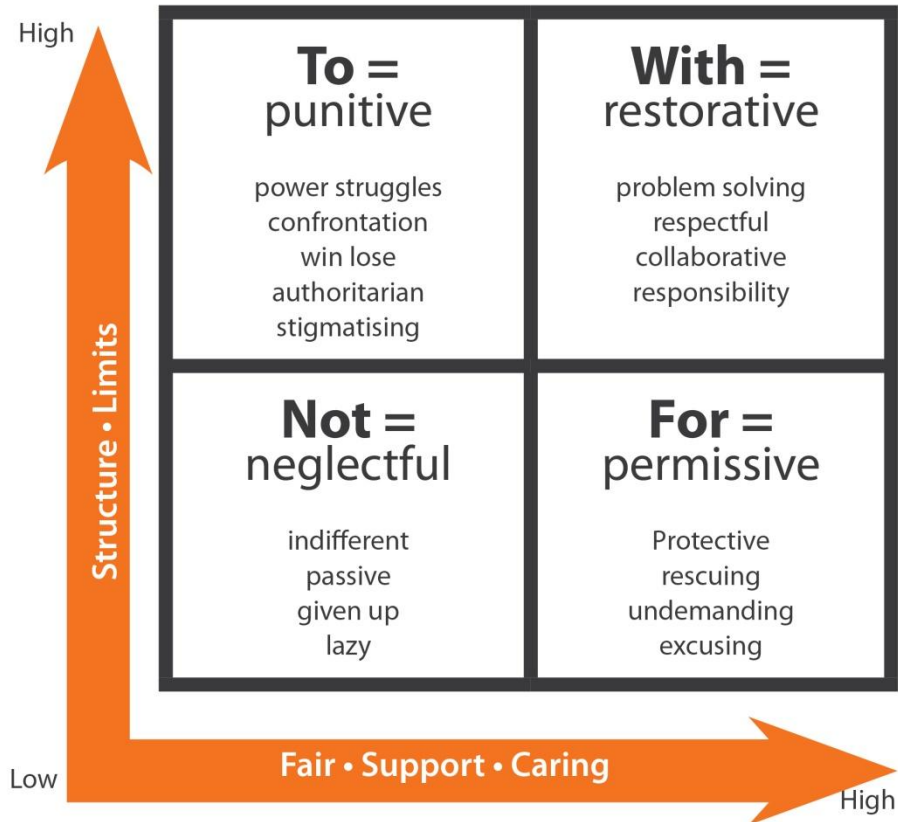
Key questions;

- Do the staff maintain high expectations for young people, while also honouring the young person....being careful not to trample on their mana?
- Is the organisation one that has worked successfully with young people for a significant period of time?
- During that time, has the organisation sought to develop respectful and honouring relationships with young people and other youth sector stakeholders?

“Hurt people, hurt people”

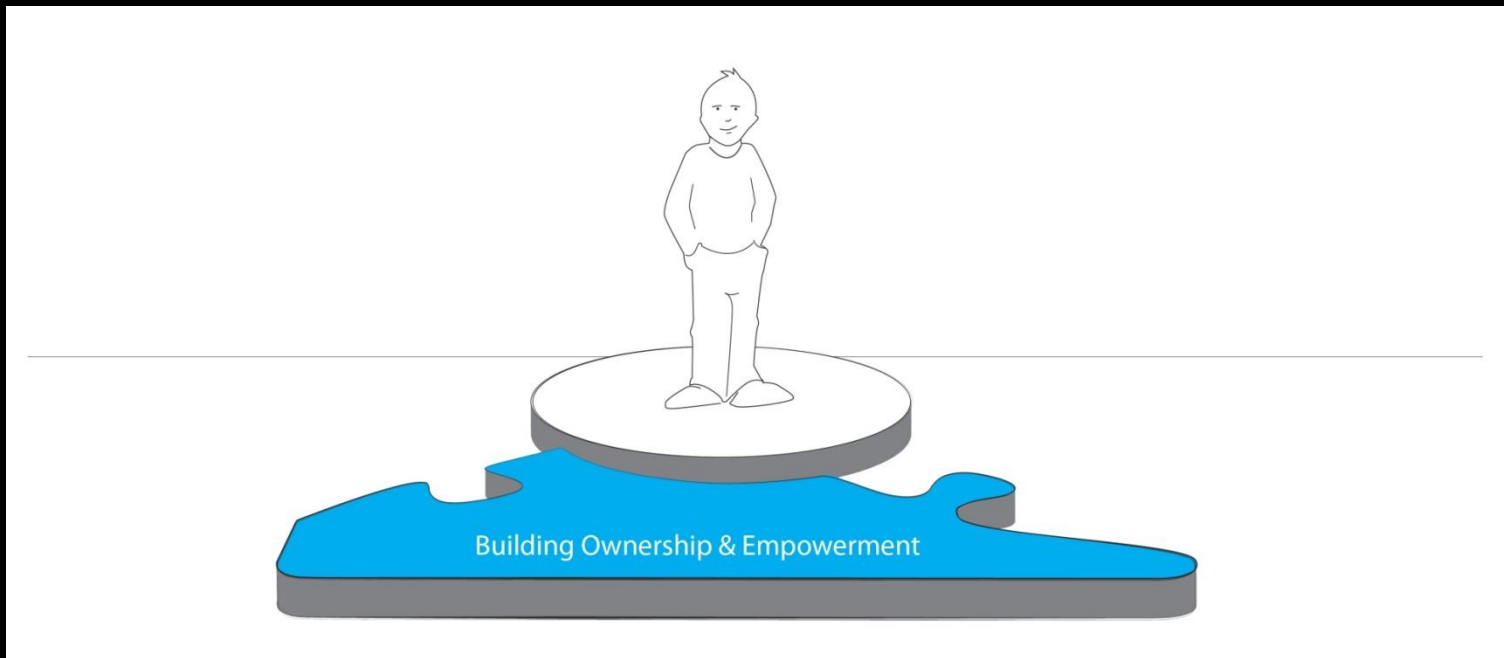
Native American proverb

Social Discipline Window



Key Approach 3:

Building ownership and empowerment



Key questions;

- Does the organisation seek to develop independence/interdependence within young people through empowerment and youth participation?
- Does the organisation focus on building community capacity to support young people in the longer term?

Development through Situational Leadership

Individual and Group Development



extrinsic motivation → intrinsic motivation

external Locus of control → internal locus of control

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Leadership Styles

control → empowerment

responsibility on leader → responsibility shared → responsibility on participants

I decide → we decide → you decide

less choice → more choice

Jansen (2006)

