

WPQ 39234 (2025): Ministry of Social Development (MSD) pilot programmes initiated after 27 November 2023

PILOT PROGRAMME	Commencement dates	Duration	Funding sources	Funding amounts	Objectives	Current status
Ethnic Communities Innovation Fund project	4 June 2024	12 months	Budget 2022	\$1.065M	- This was a one-year, grants-based project that started on 4 June 2024 and concluded on 4 June 2025. It supported 25 providers nationwide to address family violence and sexual violence prevention in a broad range of ethnically diverse communities in urban centres, regional and rural areas to reach different groups including youth, disabled and Rainbow communities, women, men, and older people. - This project enabled organisations supporting ethnically diverse communities to pilot tailored initiatives that met unique cultural and local needs. During the project, the Ethnic Communities Violence Prevention team, alongside project evaluators, gathered evidence, insights, and learnings to inform future Family Violence Sexual Violence work with ethnically diverse communities.	Closed
South Asian Trials in Auckland	4 June 2024	13 months	Budget 2022	\$1.12M	This project, which started on 4 June 2024 and concluded on 30 June 2025, aimed to support South Asian communities in Auckland through co-designing and trialling family violence	Closed

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					and sexual violence prevention initiatives with eight community partners. The project incorporated community mobilisation and capability building to enable the development of safe and effective prevention activities, and has been evaluated to monitor progress, learn from implementation, and improve effectiveness.	
E Tū Whānau Violence Prevention Partnership (Kaikohe Location Initiative)	1 June 2025	13 months	Operational baselines	\$1.5M	- Collaborate with the community to source a community designed approach - Support the mutual priority to reduce the number of children living in benefit-dependent households - Contribute to the Te Aorerekura national strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence - Support the broader commitments to improving community resilience and employment outcomes - Strengthen whānau resilience and economic independence through targeted prevention and employment pathways.	In service design phase
Public Wi-Fi in Service Centres Trial 2025	30 July 2025	3 months	Operational baselines	\$0.05M	Validate anticipated benefits identified by enabling public Wi-Fi within a service centre context and support employment related activity.	Under way

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Testing Public/Customer Wi-Fi in 3 MSD Service Centres					• Ensure security considerations and are effective and do not cause undue Health and Safety risk for the site. • Identify best practice to inform a wider roll out of Public Wi-Fi. • Gain insights on the service and experience of users in the use of public Wi-Fi.	
Nelson/Tasman and Marlborough HCID Pilot	3 March 2025	12 months	Operational baselines	N/A	• The primary aim of the pilot is to support individuals with health conditions, injuries and disabled people to access the assistance they need to become work-ready. This preparation is to ensure they're work ready and intended to align with the availability of suitable employment opportunities that meet their individual needs. • MSD has allocated 4 frontline FTE positions to support the pilot. This includes 3 Employment Case Managers – HCID, and 1 Employment Coordinator (fixed-term for the pilot period).	Early stages – outcomes not yet measurable
Vocational Rehabilitation services	1 October 2024	9 months	Budget 2023	\$1.379M	• In September 2024, MSD implemented a Vocational Rehabilitation pilot in Auckland and Wellington to address the gap in services for people living with musculoskeletal conditions and who are ineligible for ACC services, and need	Closed

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					support to either move into employment or return to work. • The pilot ran for 9 months and supported people with a health condition or disability, specifically with musculoskeletal impairment and pain. • This initiative enabled them to access support through Vocational Rehabilitation Services including Pain Management Services, to better manage their health and support them into or back to work • The pilot has concluded as time-limited funding ended 30 June 2025.	