



# Media Release

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23 May 2023

## Te Rau Ora appoints Riki Nia Nia as new Chief Executive Officer

The Board of Te Rau Ora is pleased to announce the appointment of Riki Nia Nia (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāi Tūhoe, Tonga) to the role of Chief Executive. Riki will commence his new role in late July 2023.

Te Rau Ora Chair Donovan Clarke says, “the appointment follows a robust recruitment process which attracted high calibre of Māori Health and Education leaders”.

“The Board is delighted that we have appointed Riki as our new Chief Executive”.

Riki brings extensive health sector and workforce leadership experience to this role, including 25 years in executive leadership positions in District Health Boards and most recently as the interim District Co-Director of Te Whatu Ora Waikato and the interim Regional Director Te Manawa Taki for Te Aka Whai Ora.

Riki is passionate about seeing more whānau enter the health workforce and believes “only then will our health system have the necessary intelligence and capability to perform more effectively for Māori”.

Te Aka Whai Ora Chief Executive Riana Manuel acknowledges Riki’s contribution over the last ten months, which saw him building towards a sustainable health system that better serves whānau.

“This is a new era in health and Riki has been instrumental in bringing transformational change to the health system for Te Manawa Taki,” says Riana.

“We’re delighted that he can continue to ensure the health system works well for Māori in his new role with Te Rau Ora and thank him for his commitment to Pae Ora.

ENDS.

Te Rau Ora is a national Māori organisation committed to improving Māori Health through leadership, education, research and evaluation, health workforce development and innovative, systemic transformation. For more information on Te Rau Ora visit [www.terauora.com](http://www.terauora.com)

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