

# Workbridge Taranaki Newsletter

March 2022

## Building a bridge over employment barriers

We are excited to connect with our local community and provide information about our free employment services.

Kia ora koutou, welcome to the March edition of our regular Workbridge Taranaki Newsletter. As part of our ongoing commitment to establish and develop our stakeholder relationships, being able to reach out through our newsletter will be an important part of this process. We have a new Employment Consultant in our office and Workbridge is pleased to welcome Amber Mathew. Amber started at the end of January this year and she has already started making some great connections with employers and stakeholders in our community and we are excited to have her in our team!

Amber Mathew

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I am excited to be the newest Employment Consultant for Workbridge Taranaki. I am originally from the United States and have always enjoyed working to help people meet goals in various areas of their lives. I am looking forward to supporting our clients who are navigating their journey towards employment and can't wait to celebrate all of the accomplishments they make along the way!



### New Workbridge Initiative - Just Say Yes

Workbridge has developed a new tool to grow 'disability confidence' in employers and wider society, and increase opportunities for its jobseekers. The new initiative is called Just Say Yes and this has been developed to help organisations increase their confidence and capability when employing disabled and health impacted people. Website - <https://justsayyes.co.nz/> Hotline - 0508 Say Yes (0508 729 937) Please see below for further information...



## Lets answer some Frequently Asked Questions...

### How can Just Say Yes help?

We give specialised support and training to create a workplace that is supportive and encouraging for all people. Our services include an **Advice Line**, **Specialised Training** and **Bespoke HR Consulting**.

Advice, training and policy development delivered professionally by experienced experts in the health and disability in employment sector. This is delivered on a fee-for-fee service basis or as part of an annual membership.

### Specialised Training:

Training in Disability Confidence for people managing staff - understanding how workplaces can be challenging for people with differing needs and how organisations can accommodate them i.e technology, ergonomics, how to communicate effectively to identify and mitigate stress points.

### Bespoke HR Consulting:

We can provide help and support for employers in their journey towards an inclusive workplace through offering representation on panel interviews, inclusive policy development services & inwork support.

### Advice Line:

- Immediate problem solving relating to health or disability issues in the workplace – with employee, employer.
- Access point for further services – i.e. facilitated conversation between employee and employer & development of a support plan

The Covid pandemic might have changed many things, but traffic lights wont stop Workbridge Mahi!

All of our staff are vaccinated and we can still provide service for everyone.

From 4th April 2022, Workbridge offices still remain open and there will be little difference in the way both vaccinated and unvaccinated jobseekers are dealt with.

We will no longer require jobseekers to scan in – but will have QR codes in place for any visitors who may wish to scan in (and in case this is again required in future).

We still strongly encourage mask wearing whilst meeting with jobseekers and also regular hand sanitising.