



# Flourishing Together

## Including Tāngata Whaikaha Māori and Disabled People in Policy Development.

**Invitation to participate in an online, accessible, interactive survey.**

Tēnā koe, hello!

**You are invited to take part in a research study asking disabled people about the things that make it easier or harder for them to find a home that works well for them and their families.**

### Who is doing the research?

The study is being coordinated by researchers at the University of Otago.

However, the **ideas for planning and conducting this research are coming from people who experience disability.**

We have worked closely and collaboratively with a group of around 20 disabled people from across NZ to design the research, make sure you are asked the best questions (and in the best way).

They will also help us make sense of the answers you provide.

### What is the research about?

The overall aim of the research is to explore ways to better include the voices and experiences of disabled people in health-related policy within NZ.

- We are developing methods and tools that allow disabled people to share their experiences and expertise in meaningful ways.
- To develop these methods, we are exploring one policy area – **what makes it easier or harder for disabled people to have choices and be in control when accessing a home that works best for them and their families?**

You can find more information (including a video) on the project website: [www.flourishingtogether.co.nz](http://www.flourishingtogether.co.nz)

## Who can take part?

You can participate if:

- **You self-identify as a disabled person**
- **Or you are a family or whānau of a disabled person**
- **You are at least 16 years of age**
- **You live in Aotearoa, NZ**
- Other terms for 'disabled people' that you may be more familiar or comfortable with include 'person living with a disability', 'taṅgata whaikaha Māori' or 'whānau haua'.
- Some people prefer to say they have an impairment, or live with the ongoing impacts of an injury or illness.
- You can take part if you have experienced disability since birth, or due to illness or injury later in life.

## What are we asking people to do?

We are inviting you to do two things (at the same time) in this study:

- **Help us try out an online tool** that we have developed for gathering stories and experiences from a wide range of disabled people.
- In this tool, **share your own housing and home stories** so that the research team can learn from your experiences.

## Online surveys often don't work for me. Can I still take part?

**Yes!** This is a survey with a difference.

- We have developed an interactive **and accessible tool** that we hope will make it easier for you to share your thoughts, experiences and stories.
- This is a **survey with a difference**. You will get the opportunity to your story and share your thoughts in a way that is comfortable for you.
- The online platform has been designed in collaboration with disabled people in Europe ([www.accessiblesurveys.com](http://www.accessiblesurveys.com))
- You can listen, watch and read different content. The questions are also available in **read-aloud and easy-read formats**.
- NZ Sign Language and te Reo Māori options are also currently being developed (due February 2024).
- You can respond in lots of different ways. For example, **type your answers, use voice-to-text software** from their own device (e.g. Dragon), speak your answer using a **voice memo function**, or **upload a file** (e.g. an image, audio or video file).

## How long will it take?

- Based on the piloting of the survey, we know that it could take people up to 2 hours to complete the survey if all the questions are answered.
- But, we do not expect people to spend this much time.
- You do not have to answer all of the questions – only those that are most relevant to them.
- If you answer 2-3 of the questions, we expect the survey will take 30-40 minutes.
- You can re-access your survey and keep updating it for one month after you first start it.

### How do I start?

- **Start filling out the survey**  
**here:** <https://accessiblesurveys.com/survey/flourishingtogetherv1>
- Alternatively, you can find more information, including contact details, on the project website: <https://www.flourishingtogether.co.nz/survey>

Please feel free to forward this study invitation to anyone you consider might be eligible for this study.

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This study has been reviewed and approved by the University of Otago  
Human Ethics Committee, (Health). Reference: H21/099]**