

Waitakere North

What were some of the impacts of the programme on participants? What feedback did they give about it?

There were positive and not so positive impacts

Positive

- Physical and spiritual gathering of friends coming together in a big space after two years of Covid.
- Diversity of facilitators and the different delivery styles and interactions with the main themes.
- Eagerness of the friends to participate and consult about the themes and other topics of discussion.

Not so positive

- The programme days were a little long especially for the youth and children (getting darker quickly in the winter and the rain contributed to this)
- Some of the videos could've been explained more especially to the whanau.
- There wasn't a dedicated space for youth (children and Youth shared the same hall).

Which parts of the programme seemed to be most successful, and why?

- The cultural aspect of the programme was very successful due to the spiritual atmosphere already present and the diversity of culture (Tangata whenua, Pacific, Pakeha, Persian)
- The children's activities were very successful due to having their own venue and the quality of facilitators.

How diverse were the participants?

- Pacific, Māori, Persian, Pākeha, Indian
- Age group was diverse, children, youth and junior youth, adults 6yrs - 70's.

Was there anything notable about the venue and physical arrangements, that helped to make the conference go well?

- The venue was very suitable for the conference. It had two good sized halls with all the amenities including a kitchen in each, bathrooms and furniture, plenty of parking, full size children's playground, meadows with seating and tables.
- Decorations were very well done as seen in the photos. They really helped with the atmosphere and visual enhancement.
- The location was probably a little distant for some of the friends especially those with limited transport (having to make more than one run to and from the venue).

Details

Conference dates: 4-5 June

Venue: Oratia Settlers Hall, Oratia, West Auckland

Total participants: 85

Breakdown: 40 Adults, 25 children, 20 youth

Including 3 friends of the Faith

Note: Reports received from the various conferences have been edited for clarity and conciseness.