



Digital Equity Coalition Aotearoa



2022 | OUR YEAR

**Creating healthy spaces for
cross-sector collaboration, to
enable digital equity for all.**

Our Kaupapa

Purpose

The Digital Equity Coalition of Aotearoa connects and supports the digital inclusion community.

We believe every Kiwi should have clear, appropriate and affordable pathways to participate in digital life in trusted spaces and in ways that work for them and their whanau.

DECA has a bias to action and a commitment to a community-led systems change approach.



OUR FIRST YEAR

Upon reflection it has been an extraordinary year.

COVID has added an extra layer of stress to all our lives, especially those in communities most affected. Despite the many challenges though, we have adjusted, regrouped and pulled off some incredible mahi.

Key to our establishment phase has been developing our foundations, including incorporating Te Tiriti o Waitangi, involving a diversity of experts in our mahi, and establishing core tikanga to guide how we engage and deliver our vision and kaupapa.

A highlight for DECA has been meeting and building relationships with the digital equity community, and connecting with the transformational digital inclusion mahi happening on the frontlines.

We have heard and advocated for the need for customisable, community-led, digital inclusion work, accurate data, and increased coordination and collaboration.

As we build and grow relationships, the DECA reputation and profile continues to grow. We are now poised to be a major player in systems change policy in Aotearoa, and we look forward to engaging with you further, as we shift the dial towards greater digital equity for all our people.

JANELLE RIKI-WAAKA
CO-CHAIR & KAIHAUTŪ
MĀORI

KRIS DEMPSTER-RIVETT
CO-CHAIR

ANISSA LJANTA
COMMUNITY MANAGER
AND EQUITY ADVOCATE

Our Tikanga



01 Manaakitanga

- We put people first.
- We create a safe and trusting environment for everyone.
- We serve our communities.
- We are respectful, kind, considered and thoughtful.

02 Kaitiakitanga

- We are kaitiaki of our kaupapa during our time in the Stewardship Group.
- We govern in honourable ways - making decisions alongside (not on behalf of) our partners and wider DECA whānau.



03 Trust



- We move at the speed of trust.
- We trust in each Stewardship Group member to be able to lead in their respective roles and we provide support when required.
- We kōrero about kaupapa, problems or challenges in respectful, open, and mana enhancing ways.

04

Te Ao Māori

- We have a commitment to the integration and observation of tikanga Māori and kawa into all of our hui.
- We will form equitable partnerships with Mana Whenua and support their aspirations when asked to do so.
- We are Tiriti-honouring in heart and action.



05

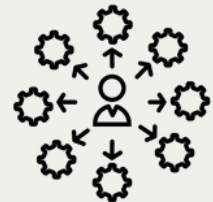
Inclusion

- We will challenge assumptions, biases and privileges.
- We are committed to growing our cultural competencies and awareness of ableism.
- We create culturally inclusive environments where everyone can participate and contribute.

06

Leadership

- We are solutions focussed.
- We are committed to a shared leadership model that empowers us all to lead in the areas we are skilled to lead in.
- We adopt diverse ways of working and encourage different approaches and practices.
- We are accountable to our communities, our members, and each other.



07

Advocacy



- We will challenge the status quo, systems and processes that perpetrate inequity.
- We will act with integrity.
- We will serve our members and our DECA community.
- We are resolute in our pursuit for equity for all.

Matariki to Matariki

A scenic walk back through time



2021 **MAY**

We welcomed Community Manager and Equity Advocate, Anissa Ljanta as DECA lead. Her thought piece after two weeks in the job, was titled "Clarity and Momentum". Two words that describe the first year of DECA well.

2021 **JUNE / JULY**

- Focus on relationship-building, extending capacity and establishing interim systems and innovative tools.
- Regular meetings with DIA and MoH are in place.
- Confirming funding for the Māori-for-Māori and Pacific Digital Equity Parallel Processes with meetings to start each process. These are community-led, trust based initiatives with support from DECA when requested/needed.
- Invite-only Pacific talanoa session and the establishment of the Pacific Digital Equity Parallel Process working group.



2021 **AUGUST**

Accessible outreach for applicants for a diverse DECA Stewardship Group.

2021 **SEPTEMBER**

The big DECA Lockdown Digital Inclusion Emergency Response hui was held on zoom with over a 100 participants. This was followed by a smaller Digital Inclusion and Devices hui and a high level summary was produced from both hui and sent to participants, stakeholders, government agencies and as part of a Letter to Ministers.

2021 **OCTOBER**

After almost a year of the Establishment Group meeting weekly, DECA transitioned to a ten-person Stewardship Group.

The Digital Inclusion & Devices constellation is up and running, meeting monthly bringing together leaders in education, government and community with a focus on centering voices of lived experience of digital inclusion.

2021 **NOVEMBER**

- DECA integrates Kaihautū Māori and co-governance model, one member of Kaihautū Māori is also a DECA Co-chair. You can read more about our Stewardship Group [HERE](#)
- First phase of the DECA website - www.digitalequity.nz - went live.
- Affordable Connectivity hui was held on Zoom, with high attendance from telecommunications corporate and community members and resulted in the formation of a constellation of the same name.
- Welcomed our first paid intern to extend capacity.
- Officially welcoming the Waitaha Regional Digital Equity Group as a DECA constellation.

2021 DECEMBER

- Government submits and supports three separate rounds of government consultation work.
- Decision to collaborate with 2020Trust to take on, develop and maintain the Digital Inclusion in Aotearoa Mapping website (produced and shelved by InternetNZ the previous year) - with work forecast to begin in first quarter of 2022.
- Developed and honed the DECA Community Panel tool and the design of the emerging Resource Innovation Constellation.

2022 JANUARY

DECA funded the Waitaha Regional Digital Equity Group to develop a regional digital equity mapping framework and supporting resources, to be tested with another emerging regional group.



2022 FEBRUARY

Convened, codesigned, hosted and facilitated the first DECA Community Panel: a new tool developed to address issues of over-consulting, improve trust and enable more diverse and lived experience voices to be heard. The first Community Panel was with BNZ, and consulted with four frontline digital inclusion service leaders and users, to develop their plan to implement the BNZ Digital Boost Alliance pledge of \$600k toward F2F digital skills trainings. Great feedback was received from Paul Conway and the BNZ team.

2021 MARCH

- The Pacific Digital Equity Parallel process confirmed a working group and had a great strategy meeting.
- Collaborative DECA Stewardship Group tikanga document created.
- Continued establishment work with setting up robust financial and admin systems and processes, researching and developing financial sustainability proposals.

2022 APRIL

- The first Constellation Co-Lead meeting exploring structure, communication and the intersectionality of digital equity issues.
- Plans are in place to build the DECA team to increase capacity and ensure sustainability and agility of DECA's work.
- Collaborative development of the Digital Mapping Aotearoa Website with 2020T as a rangatahi-led and maintained space and practical pathway to tech career futures.
- Ongoing conversations with DPA, DPO and passionate individuals from the disability communities about digital inclusion needs.

2022 MAY

Convened and supported by DECA, a working group of local government people passionate about digital equity convened and co-created a National Local Government Digital Equity hui on Zoom.

This hui was open to those working in regional government, libraries and local boards. A high level summary of issues and solutions produced to help leverage change.

“The main aims of this hui were to flush out any heat surrounding digital inclusion issues within local government nationwide, explore solutions and the value of collaboration, and to ascertain next steps in the actions identified.”

Other developments in May included:

- [Phase two of the DECA website is underway](#), integrating images and video and building and populating the resource and constellation pages in support of the digital equity community.
- Decision by the Pacific Digital Village to use their seed funding to hire a [Pacific Digital Navigator](#) on contract for three months to ensure momentum on their mahi.
- Co-chairs and Community Manager working with Kate Frykberg from Thinktank to co-design a series of sessions to hone DECA’s strategy and how we work together.
- The [DECA intro video](#) is finalised. There are four more in development.

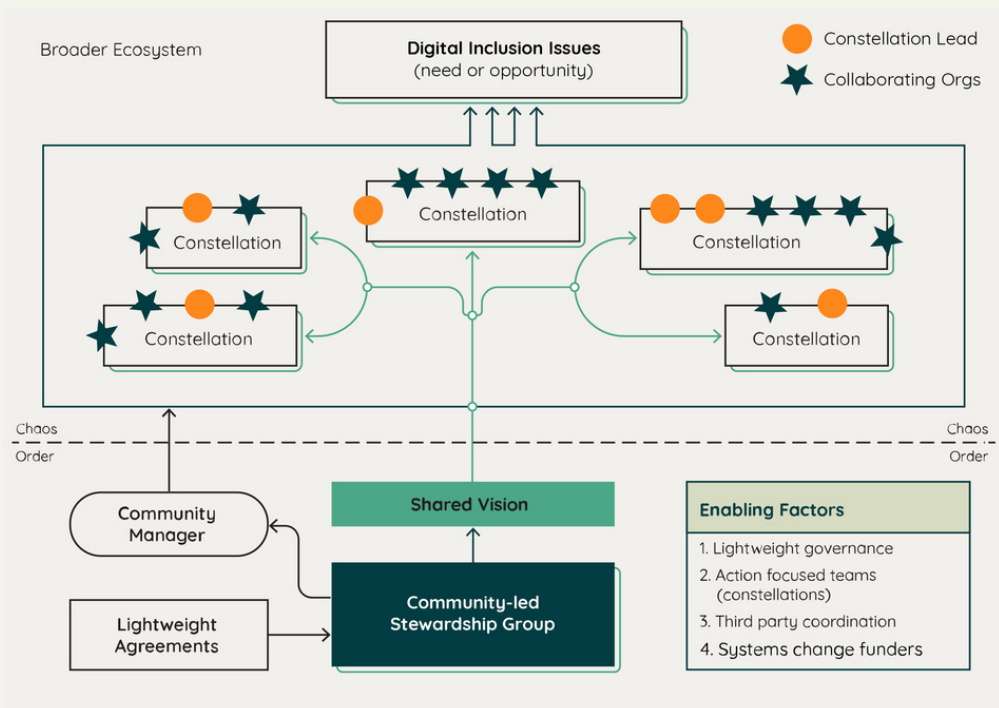
2022 JUNE

DECAversary! DECA has officially been in existence for a year!

DECA Constellations



The constellation model is a decentralised approach to change-making where different individuals and organisations work together to help solve a common problem. Members organise themselves around issues and initiatives of common interest and leverage the strengths and resources of each other. These groups are called constellations. This is where the work happens.



Constellations



The DECA Constellation Model

The highly consultative process of establishing DECA settled on a light touch governance model with the vital work being community-led and happening in constellations - self-organising working groups of individuals and organisations aligned with DECA kaupapa, focussed on digital equity issues. Constellations are spaces for collaborative work enabling more sustainable impact as a collective.



Affordable Connectivity Constellation

This constellation is emerging and in a seeding stage. It is led by key players in the digital equity community dismayed at the worsening of the digital divide due to COVID-19 lockdowns to discuss the challenges in accessing affordable connectivity, what affordable connectivity looks like and whether a DECA constellation could help to advocate for equitable and affordable connectivity.



Waitaha Regional Digital Equity Group

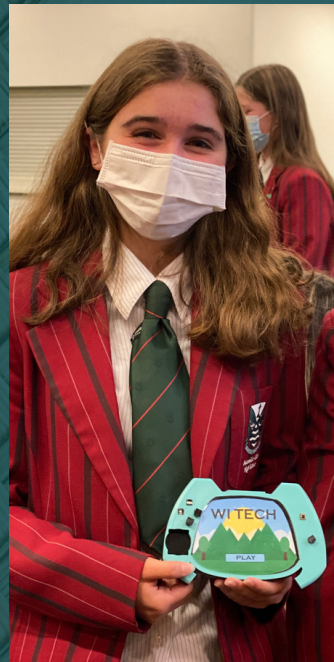
The Waitaha Regional Digital Equity Group has begun mapping what is happening in the digital equity space, exploring the use of tools that link with national, regional, and global strategies, whilst recognising the complexity of the space. This growing body of knowledge will be shared as an emerging framework with the whole DECA network



Digital Inclusion and Devices

The Digital Inclusion & Devices constellation meets monthly, bringing together leaders in education, government and community with a focus on centering voices of lived experience of digital inclusion.

Kia ora Thank you



On behalf of everyone who has worked so hard this year to enable better digital equity for all our communities, we thank you!

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou
Kia kaha, kia toa, kia manawanui.