

Media Release

Issued: 3 April 2023

Beds for parents with children in hospital

Joe Samau and Dana Timani can now keep tabs on their son overnight – thanks to brand new pull-down beds in the Rangatira children’s ward at Waitakere Hospital.

Young Mana Timani-Samau was recently admitted to the ward and his proud dad Joe, says being able to stay overnight has made the world of difference to the family’s hospital experience.

“The bed is great. It makes it so easy and convenient to stay and support your loved one,” Joe says.

“We’ve been in here for weeks, so it’s really made this room a home away from home.”



Pictured: Joe Samau with son, Mana Timani-Samau

Every year, more than 1350 tamariki from birth to 15 years-old are admitted to the Rangatira Ward.

The ward provides specialist paediatric care and treatment for children with a wide range of acute medical conditions, as well as those with long-term illnesses and disabilities.

Until now, bedside recliner chairs were provided to a parent or caregiver wanting to stay overnight but this wasn’t always practical – especially in a hospital environment where sleep can be disturbed by noises and activity.

Now, 13 of Rangatira's single rooms have a pull-down bed that folds out alongside the patient.

Charlotte Akehurst, Charge Nurse Manager for the Rangatira Ward, says the upgraded sleeping solution provides parents with a more comfortable place to sleep so they are well rested during the day to focus on supporting and caring for their unwell tamariki.

"We know how important it is for parents to be with their tamariki during such an uncertain time, especially at night," Charlotte says.

"Having a decent sleep means Mum and Dad can focus on what matters most during the day."

Joe and Dana are looking forward to taking Mana home in the future. In the meantime, they are comforted with the knowledge that they can be at the hospital at any time – day or night.

ENDS

Media contact:

Media Line: 09 487 1276
