

Onwards and Upwards

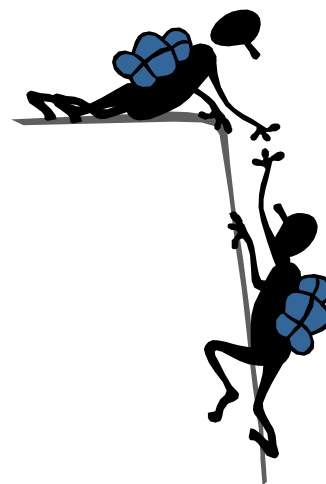
One of the male's service users, who have been in my screen-printing group for a while, faced himself a very traumatic experience. He became very upset in the days to follow and within one week his anger was growing out of proportion.

I am talking about a very gentle man, his passion has been in Maori artwork, and he produced a great amount of artwork.

After being admitted for a couple of weeks, he returned and I noticed his spirit was gone, he was a broken man, did not speak at all and he did not participate in classes, he just sat there watching all the other consumers.

I was asked to work with the Henry Bennett Centre to provide Maori art and screen-print classes. I asked if I could bring one of the service users, to show and teach the other service users, who were involved in the programme at the centre.

Through this, he felt great and useful, he was being acknowledged for his skills, he felt important, and he felt awesome, for he was able to make a huge difference in other people's lives. The staff at Henry Bennett Centre praised him for his excellent skills and support towards the other service users.



Submitted by: F Klein