



Kuia

Mere Hammond

Ngati Kahungunu

Mere's nursing career began in 1956 at Wairoa Hospital. She is an inaugural recipient of Te Whetu Kanapa (Te Ao Māramatanga).

A Registered Psychiatric Nurse, Mere was awarded the Winston Churchill award to study Psycho drama at Clark Institute Psychiatry Toronto Canada for three months in 1977, gained NZ Merit Award, managed setting up Maori Mental Health Services for Hawkes Bay DHB in 1996 and went on to be the Manager for four years, held two 3 year terms on the NZ Nursing Council.

Mere is also a former member of the Maori expert committee of the Mental Health Commission, the Mental Health Foundation, Māori Council, and Maori Women's Welfare League

Currently Mere is Kuia for the NZ Nursing Council and the Regional Rangatahi Acute Inpatient Services in Wellington Capital Coast DHB which covers the area of the six DHBs in the lower North Island.

<http://www.maornursinghistory.com/interviews/meretene-ray-hammond-nee-cooper>