

Guest address: Introducing the Inclusive Aotearoa Collective Project

In the wake of the tragedy in Christchurch on 15 March 2019, many in New Zealand have realised that there is a need for some fundamental changes within society in order to make sure that something like this never happens again. Crimes that are fueled by hate and ignorance can only be dealt with through long-term solutions that bring people together. The Inclusive Aotearoa Collective has developed a project that will take a strategic approach across Aotearoa/New Zealand, bringing together a wide range of marginalised communities, in a community-led, community-focused initiative. This session will cover the factors that led to the development of the project, details of the project itself and next steps.



Anjum Rahman is a chartered accountant with over 25 years' experience, working with a range of entities in the commercial, farming and not-for-profit sectors. She also commits to various volunteer roles in the community. She was a founding member of the Islamic Women's Council of New Zealand, an organisation formed in 1990 to bring Muslim women together and represent their concerns.

Over the years, she has been Chair, secretary, and for many years, the media spokesperson. She has also been a founding member and trustee of Shama (Hamilton Ethnic Women's Centre), a social service organisation that provides support to ethnic women through its social work service, life-skills classes and community development. She is a founding member of the Campaign for Consent Waikato, an organisation working on sexual violence prevention, and in that role, has been involved a number of programmes to raise community awareness. Anjum has been an active member of the Waikato Interfaith Council for over a decade, and a trustee of the Trust that governs Hamilton's community access broadcaster, Free FM. The latter undertakes projects to promote awareness of human rights within the community. Along with these roles, she writes poetry, is a member of the interfaith choir, is a mother of two. She takes on various public speaking engagements on a voluntary basis. Her favourite activity, for reasons which should be evident, is sleeping.

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