

2023 Jul, Aug, Sep



Our social cohesion projects foster unity, inclusivity, and resilience within communities and societies. These initiatives are designed to bridge societal divides, strengthen interpersonal relationships, and promote a sense of belonging among diverse groups of individuals. By addressing the root causes of social fragmentation, such as discrimination, inequality, and isolation, these projects aim to create environments where people from different backgrounds can collaborate, trust one another, and collectively address common challenges.



SOCIAL COHESION

Ties that Bind - Tūhonotānga Project Aims to improve social cohesion in disadvantaged, disconnected, and at-risk minorities of the pan-ethnic communities

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ETHNIC COMMUNITIES NETWORK

Community leaders, service provider representatives, dignitaries and kaumatua recently gathered at Hoani Waititi Marae in Auckland for a special occasion – the official launch of the Te Puna Aonui - Ethnic Communities Network.

Below, The Fatimah Foundation presents stories to Ministers, Police and the Network.



TE AOREREKURA

The launch of the Ethnic Communities Network today marked the final group established to contribute to the implementation and monitoring of Te Aorerekura – the National Strategy to Eliminate Family Violence and Sexual Violence, for all people in Aotearoa to live free from violence.



0800 222 432

info@fatimahfoundation.co.nz

6/115 Church Street, Ōtāhuhu, AKL



We are excited to share that a group of ethnic providers, including The Fatimah Foundation, have worked tirelessly alongside the New Zealand police in Counties Manukau to develop a coordinated approach to family violence, and today, they announced the formation of the SAMER+ Collective.

SAMER+ is abbreviated for South Asian, Middle Eastern, and (former) Refugees and '+' sign signifies our other ethnic communities. The name Samer is derived from Arabic and Persian origin. Its collective meanings hold virtues of companionship (one to whom you speak), a (fruit) tree that provides, and loyalty.

This symbolises the joint connections we embrace and nurture through dialogue, our identified need to grow in unity, and forming a foundation with trust as a small tree that grows over time into a giant, strong community. We acknowledge that family and sexual violence require all our efforts to ensure flourishing whanau and communities.

SAMER+ is a pilot to minimise the current rapid rise in family harm cases that are seen in communities settled in Manukau and identifying as South Asian (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal), Middle Eastern (Iraq, Iran, Syria, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia), Fiji Indian and former refugees. Providers have joined hands to form SAMER+.

The timely release of the Te Aorerekura Strategy and action plan provided SAMER+ with a framework to align with the solutions we were developing for our communities.

So, the SAMER+ working group has explored every shift and action of the Te Aorerekura Strategy and the Te Aorerekura Action Plan (Dec 2021- Dec 2023) combined. We have completed a SWOT analysis and identified our collective needs against the strategy.



GROUP PHOTO CAPTION:
FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: The Fatimah Foundation Team



GROUP PHOTO CAPTION:
FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Tony Tumai, Noeleen van de Lisdonk, Shivani Arora, Barrister Gul F Qaisrani, Hon. Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Sucharita Varma, Prof. Edwina Pio, Sgt. Gurpreet Arora (Project liaison), Ireen Rahiman-Manuel (Advisor) and Vishal Rishi

One common form of social cohesion projects involves community-building activities, such as neighborhood clean-up events, cultural festivals, and interfaith dialogues. These events provide platforms for people to interact, celebrate their differences, and discover shared values.



A snapshot of our Social Cohesion projects, including community-building activities and educational programs, promote cross-cultural understanding, empathy, and cooperation, leading to stronger and more inclusive communities in Aotearoa, New Zealand.



We share kai, reflection and korero with members of the Māori Women's Welfare League, Te Whānau o Waipareira Trust and Te Atatū Marae.

MATARIKI & SOCIAL COHESION

In Māori culture, Matariki, the Pleiades star cluster, marks the start of the new year in late June or early July. Aotearoa has declared it a public holiday in 2023. We aim to create a more inclusive Muslim community by explaining Matariki's significance. This year's theme, "Matariki Kāinga Hokia," emphasizes returning to roots and aligning with Matariki's principles. It resonates with Islamic values of remembrance and gratitude, found in Ramadan and the upcoming Hijra New Year. Both cultures share values of kinship, stewardship, and unity. This alignment enriches Māori Muslims' spiritual and cultural well-being, promoting unity, reflection, and optimism for the future. Mauri Ora.

Ngā mihi Aroha. 🌟🌟🌟



AWHI ORA - AFGHANI WOMEN'S HUB AND INTER-WELLBEING







Job-Ready Assistance Offered To The Bangladesh Skilled Migrant's Association.



Connecting With Like-minded People Like Peter In Organizations Such As The Glen Innes Foodbank.

Community Engagements



RCOI Meeting: Addressing the Government Inquiry on Severe Weather Events in North Island