

The



Asian Network  
Incorporated

**Working Towards Development For  
Asian Communities in New Zealand**



Health

Auckland, NZ

## Vision

Asian New Zealanders enjoy optimal quality of life and well being.

## Mission

TANI is to develop strong and healthy Asian communities in Aotearoa New Zealand by:

- Networking and connecting up diverse Asian communities
- Advocating for and promoting the welfare of these communities
- Ensuring their active participation in policy making
- Liaising with local and central government, and other stakeholders
- Identifying further opportunities for collaboration
- Responding to the changing needs of Asian communities and stakeholders
- Being a credible national voice

## History of TANI

In October 2000, the Auckland City Council organised the first Asian Forum to facilitate liaison and build rapport between various statutory and non-statutory agencies, and to raise awareness about issues faced by Asian peoples in the Auckland region.

This event identified the need for a support network for Asian communities. The Asian Network Steering Committee was established to respond to this need.

The Committee consisted of members from different ethnic groups, predominantly from Asian communities. The Committee worked with clearly defined objectives to advocate on behalf of Asian communities and provide opportunities for Asian communities to be heard in the public arena. In

December 2002, The Asian Network Steering Committee got itself registered as an incorporated society under the new name of **The Asian Network Incorporated (TANI)**.

## Team TANI

- Currently TANI has seven Committee members.
- Members have strong connections with various Asian ethnic communities.





- There are four staff members currently working at TANI.
- All members and staff are from different cultural and professional backgrounds.
- Members have connections with statutory and non-statutory agencies.
- TANI operates mainly on volunteer-based effort and manages a volunteer workforce which is comprised of volunteers from diverse Asian backgrounds.

## How TANI Works

- Conduct monthly Committee meetings to make decisions in implementing the goals of TANI.
- Hold quarterly General Network public meetings to support and promote various projects and initiatives within the communities TANI serves.
- Liaise with various statutory and non-statutory agencies and ethnic groups to meet the aims of TANI.
- Organise workshops, forums, and seminars on topics relating to the health and wellbeing of the communities TANI serves.

## Achievements of TANI

TANI is primarily engaged in improving public health for Asian peoples and in networking with various government and non-governmental organisations.

### *Improving Public Health for Asian Peoples:*

Since its formation, TANI has worked closely with the Ministry of Health and other health agencies in promoting the public health needs of Asian communities. This includes organising seminars, forums and workshops with these agencies and with the local Asian ethnicities. These projects range from raising mental health awareness, improving access to healthcare, preventing communicable disease (e.g. TB), and educating on public health law and legislations.

### *General Networks Meetings:*

TANI organises general network meetings quarterly where Asian community leaders and representatives from various service providers take part. These meetings feature presentations focusing on issues and services of interest to Asian communities in Auckland and beyond. TANI also issues a quarterly newsletter to its members.

### *Research:*

TANI has taken a lead role in promoting and facilitating research to address gaps in knowledge about Asian communities in New Zealand, particularly in public health. In 2002, TANI played a key role in publishing the '**Asian Public Health Project**' co-ordinated by the Ministry of Health. In 2005, TANI published the first systematic review of the health of Asian peoples in New Zealand, '**Asian Health in Aotearoa: an Analysis of the 2002/03 New Zealand Health Survey**' and also contributed to the '**Asian Health Chart Book 2006**' published by the Ministry of Health.

## Other Activities:

- TANI co-hosted second and third International Asian Health Conferences in collaboration with Centre for Asian Health Research and Evaluation, University of Auckland in 2006 & 2008 respectively.
- TANI has been organizing Asian Forums annually. These forums provide a platform for the community, stakeholders and other service providers to identify and respond to the emerging Asian health needs.
- TANI also provide cultural advice to organizations to deliver culturally appropriate services to Asian community.

### Contact info

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## Glimpses

