

Speaker Bio – Simone Rodda

Dr Simone Rodda is an Associate Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience at AUT with more than 20 years of experience in the field of addiction across various roles including counsellor, educator, manager and researcher. Her background in clinical practice, education, and research particularly focuses on gambling harm and help-seeking behaviour. She leads interdisciplinary research that applies behavioural science to real-world challenges, informing evidence-based responses and strengthening policy and practice in Aotearoa New Zealand. Dr Simone is also a dear friend of Asian Family Services and has been our subject matter expert in developing a variety of trainings including *Respond to Gambling Harm*, supporting the delivery of effective, culturally responsive support for individuals and whānau affected by gambling harm.



Speaker Bio – Ying Wang

Dr Ying Wang is a research fellow at the Centre for Arts and Social Transformation, the University of Auckland. Her dedication stems from her passion for making a meaningful difference in people's health and well-being through the power of arts. As a Chinese immigrant with a background in clinical arts therapy, she has gained a deep understanding of the challenges faced by Asian immigrants, international students, and refugees. Her work explores social and cultural dimensions of community experience, contributing to understandings of how arts, transformation, equity and wellbeing intersect in Aotearoa. Dr Ying is the recipient of the 2024 Royal Society Te Apārangi Mana Tūāpapa Future Leader Fellowship, supporting her research on enhancing cultural competency for working with Asian learners in New Zealand schools.



Speaker Bio – Andrew Zhu

Dr Andrew Zhu is Director of Trace Research, where he leads research practice and analysis to inform evidence-informed decision-making. His work supports organisations and systems seeking to deepen understanding of social and community outcomes and translate research into meaningful action. He is also the lead author of the landmark New Zealand Asian Wellbeing and Mental Health Survey. With a PhD in Marketing from the University of Auckland and over two decades of research experience, he specialises in understanding the needs and experiences of Asian and migrant communities. His work spans both commercial and social sectors, but he is best known for pioneering large-scale studies that illuminate mental health, well-being, and service access for Asian New Zealanders. Dr Zhu is passionate about ensuring research translates into policy and practice that is inclusive, culturally responsive, and impactful.

