



Auckland Community Accounting

Auckland North Community and Development (ANCAD) (CC30911) is a registered charity with the mission of supporting and strengthening community groups. They offer a range of different services to achieve their vision of building resilient, safe and connected communities.

In 2016 ANCAD partnered with Massey University to develop a collaborative service to support community groups with financial matters. After the success of community accounting initiatives in places like Dunedin and Palmerston North, ANCAD and Massey University wanted to bring something similar to Auckland. In 2018 Auckland Community Accounting started operating.

Auckland Community Accounting brings together Massey University accounting students, Chartered Accountants and community groups. Students are put in teams and paired with a community group in need of support or advice on financial matters. Each student team is also assigned a Chartered Accountant from Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ) who volunteer their time to supervise and mentor each team.

The students meet regularly with the community group they're paired with, giving free and confidential support that usually lasts for approximately 6-12 weeks.

Since Auckland Community Accounting first opened its doors in 2018, over 140 community groups have requested assistance. They offer support to diverse groups across the community sector, including a significant number of Māori and Pacific community groups.



Auckland Community Accounting Project Manager and student team meeting with a charity representative.



Those involved in Auckland Community Accounting at the 2020 Presentation Ceremony at Massey University.

The support that these groups need also varies. Students help groups complete their performance report, understand their governing board's financial responsibilities, improve their accounting practices or any other financial matter.

Auckland Community Accounting benefits both the students and the community groups they work with. Community groups who take part in the initiative come away with a greater knowledge of their financial responsibilities. They understand that good financial reporting can help improve their accountability and transparency to their communities, donors and volunteers. They gain confidence in their ability to complete their financial reporting and knowledge of the variety of support that's available.

Participating in the Auckland Community Accounting initiative is also beneficial for the students involved. Students appreciate the opportunity to apply their knowledge in the real world. Through working with community groups, they gain exposure to financial matters in the community sector, often for the first time.



Students presenting at a Board meeting of a charity.

The students involved in Auckland Community Accounting also come away with a greater appreciation for the charitable sector. Several students have gone on to volunteer as treasurers of the community groups they worked with. Others have expressed interest in doing the same after participating in Auckland Community Accounting.

After the success of Auckland Community Accounting's first year, Community Accounting Aotearoa launched in 2019 with the aim of reaching community groups outside the main centres. Community Accounting Aotearoa uses digital technology like Zoom to connect community groups and Massey University accounting students studying by distance.

Since its establishment Auckland Community Accounting has had great success. In 2019 ANCAD were the recipient of the 2019 Massey Business Partner Award for their delivery of the Community Accounting Programme. The programme has grown quickly with many community groups interested in participating.

You can find out more about **Auckland Community Accounting** [here](#) and **Community Accounting Aotearoa** [here](#).

Other Community Accounting Programmes include: **Dunedin Community Accounting** (where it all started) and **Palmerston North Community Accounting**.