**Brief Bio for Dr Diane Mara**

Dr Mara was the National President of PACIFICA Inc. from 2006-2010.

She was also on the first Executive Committee of PACIFICA as Assistant

Secretary in 1972 at the founding Conference in Auckland. She has been a member of three branches: Auckland Central, Newtown, Tiare Ahuriri Hawkes' Bay where she is currently the President. She is also a Life Member of the organisation.

Dr Mara’s professional career has involved training of teachers,

development of Pacific early childhood qualifications, academic

publications and conference presentations nationally and in the Pacific

and she has served on a number of regional and local boards and

committees. Her interests have moved since 2017 into health, disability

and social services as member of the Hawke's Bay DHB Consumer Council;

IHC Member Council; Member Oranga Tamariki Pacific Panel; MSD Pacific

Steering Group which developed its Pacific Prosperity Plan in 2019.

Dr Diane Mara, of Napier, received the Insignia of a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit on 24 March 2009 for services to the Pacific Islands community.