We all have at least one person in our lives that we’re so proud of, that we want everyone to know that we’re associated with. We too at SAN, have our fair share of people that we feel so honored to have worked and collaborated with. This Women’s History Month, it only makes sense that we celebrate Manjusha Kulkarni, a woman that SAN is honored to have been led by.

Manju (as we fondly like to call her) leading the South Asian Network as its Executive Director for almost 6 years is only one of the things we like to brag about! In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, a time when anti-Asian hate and bigotry in the United States re-surfaced, Manju sprung into action. She co-founded Stop AAPI Hate, a national non-profit that tracks and responds to incidents of hate, violence, harassment, discrimination, shunning and child bullying against the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. Stop AAPI Hate has now become “the” go-to resource for academics & activists, policy makers & politicians in addressing the malaise of anti-Asian hate in the United States.

In 2021, Manju was featured on TIME Magazine’s 100 Most Influential People List.

She has also been recognized for her leadership in social justice work and was hailed as a ‘Champion of Change’ in 2014 by the then-President Barack Obama.

Manju remains a true SHERO for SAN!

We move forward with yet another woman at SAN’s vanguard. Deputy Director Hina Ahmad comes with an experience of having worked for the Orange County Registrar of Voters (2016 General
Election) and as a Field Representative for a California State Assembly member covering the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, environmental and women's issues. She is very passionate about advocating for the rights of immigrant populations and uplifting the voice of women within the South Asian community. Hina has also previously worked as a Civil Rights Unit Advocate at SAN, and is doubly excited to now have the opportunity to share the organization's helm.

"I am extremely excited for the future of the South Asian Network. Over the past 8 months, we have hired six staff members and are in the works to reignite our Civil Rights Unit. My mission is to make SAN a place for community members to come together around gender-based violence and civil rights issues alike, to advocate and grow leaders in our community. We are expanding because of the kindness that staff show each other and the community - we wouldn't have it any other way!"

Hina Ahmad, Deputy Director - SAN

I feel immensely privileged to have Hina as my partner in leading SAN and for our shared passion to serve and empower the South Asian community.

- Shakeel Syed, Executive Director - SAN

A Recap of Our Activities!

- February 27th - Vaccination Clinic at the Shree Pashupatinath & Buddha Mandir, Norwalk
- February 28th - First Round of Parenting Workshop for Parents of Children Under 18, SAN Office
- March 6th - Vaccination Clinic at Sanatan Dharma Mandir, Norwalk
- March 6th - Outreach at 2022 Grand Picnic for Nepali Community, Artesia
- March 6th - Outreach at Khalsa Care Foundation, Pacoima
- March 8th - Older Adult Workshop at Sanatan Dharma Mandir, Norwalk

Here Are Our Upcoming Events!

- March 11th - Food Distribution
- March 12th - Volunteer Training Workshop, SAN Office
March 14th - Second Round of Parenting Workshop for Parents of Children Under 18, SAN Office
March 18th - Outreach at La Mirada Masjid MCSI

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We would love to hear from you.
If you'd like to volunteer with us, or even have feedback, reach out to us!

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