

A3PCON UP-TO-DATE

ASIAN PACIFIC POLICY & PLANNING COUNCIL

January-February 2002

Community • Change • Leadership

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 7

A3PCON MEMBER AGENCIES

Asian American Drug Abuse Program
Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance
Asian Pacific American Legal Center
Asian Pacific Community Fund
Asian Pacific Health Care Venture
Asian Pacific Islanders for Human Rights
Asian Youth Center
Center for the Pacific-Asian Family
Chinatown Public Safety Association
Chinatown Service Center
Chinese American Human Services Association
Economic & Employment Development Center
Families in Good Health
Federation of Filipino American Associations
Gay Asian Pacific Support Network
Japanese American Citizens League
Korean American Coalition
Korean Health, Education Information & Research Center
Korean Immigrant Workers Advocates
Korean Resource Center
Korean Youth & Community Center
Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC)
LTSC Community Development Corporation
National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse
Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment
Pacific Clinics/Asian Pacific Family Center
Pacific Islander Community Council
People's CORE
Search to Involve Pilipino Americans
Service Employees International Union Local 660
South Asian Network
Thai Community Development Center
Thai Health & Information Service
University of California, Los Angeles Asian American Studies Center
University of Southern California
Asian Pacific American Student Services
Western Region Asian Pacific Family Services

API'sCAN Statewide Legislative Conference 2002 Advancing our Impact as API Communities

By Diane Ujiye, Asian American Drug Abuse Program

API'sCAN is catalyst for public policy and community development that promotes health, social economic and political equity for the diverse Asian and Pacific Islander communities through organizing, collaboration, leadership development and education.

On February 25th and 26th, nearly 100 Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) delegates reviewed, analyzed, questioned, and promoted budget and legislative issues in meetings with 36 state legislators.

Our budget and policy priorities this year include: Job Development and CalWORKS, and Health and Human Services. We are particularly watchful over the governor's budget, which has a number of funding and program reductions that directly impact our APIA constituents (eg. the termination of child care programs for CalWORKS participants, significant changes in eligibility requirements for healthcare).

API'sCAN is also positioning to have a greater presence at the State Capitol through legislation introduced by Assemblymember George Nakano and the API Caucus members: Wilma Chan, Judy Chu and Carol Liu. The establishment of a Commission on APIA Affairs would be a historical first and a direct vehicle for impacting statewide policy issues. API'sCAN will keep the community apprised of its development.

Our two-day conference highlighted the accomplishments of specific legislators who have served as advocates and allies to our communities. We presented the following awards:

Family Advocate Award: Senator Dede Alpert

Health and Human Services Award: Senator Deborah Ortiz

Civil Rights Award: Speaker Herb Wesson

Equal Access Award: Assemblymember John Longville

Courageous Advocate Award: Assemblymember George Nakano

API'sCAN looks to you to keep the momentum strong and to broaden our coalition base. Every ounce of time, expertise and forward thinking is needed. Please join the effort. ★



From L to R: Elena Ong-California Women's Commission, Assemblywoman Judy Chu-Vice Chair API Legislative Caucus, Assemblywoman Wilma Chan-Vice Chair API Legislative Caucus, Speaker of Assembly Herb Wesson, Jr., State Senator Deborah Ortiz, State Senator Dede Alpert, Assemblymember George Nakano-Chair of API Legislative Caucus, Assemblymember John Longville, Assemblywoman Carol Liu-Vice Chair of API Legislative Caucus, Kathay Feng-APALC, Mike Watanabe-AADAP, Inc., John Chiang-Board of Equilization Chair

New Study Reveals API Immigrant & Refugee Children Are Left Behind

By Veronkia Geronimo, Asian Pacific American Legal Center

The Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC) and the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON) Welfare Reform Task Force jointly released a new report, entitled, *Immigrant and Refugee Children Left Behind...Asian and Pacific Islander Families in the Aftermath of Welfare Reform*. The report presents the findings from a series of focus groups conducted with Vietnamese, Cambodian and Chinese welfare participants and concludes with recommendations to improve the welfare program to better meet the needs of immigrants and refugees. The focus groups were conducted with clients of two community-based organizations serving the API community, the Indochinese Youth and Community Center (IYCC) and the Asian Pacific Family Center (APFC). The report reveals that immigrants and refugees continue to face many barriers including English proficiency, mental and physical health conditions, and lack of child care and transportation, all issues that the original welfare reform legislation promised to address. Funding for the report came from the Asian American Drug Abuse Program. The report is being released as a larger nationwide effort to impact federal welfare policy, as Congress begins its debate over the federal welfare program. ★

Academic and Community Collaborations Explored at 2002 APACRR

By Jeff Murakami, USC Asian Pacific American Student Services

On Friday, February 22 community members, academics and students gathered together on the campus of Cal State University, Northridge (CSUN) for the Annual Asian Pacific American Community Research Roundtable (APACRR). The APACRR is a unique program that brings together researchers, students and community service providers for a day of sharing and dialogue with the specific intent of creating more relevant and constructive collaborations between local universities and the Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

The program began with welcoming remarks from Jolene Koester-Ph.D., President of CSUN, Ford Kuramoto-D.S.W., President of A3PCON, and Enrique de la Cruz-Ph.D., Director of the CSUN Asian American Studies Program.

A panel discussion titled, "Lessons from the Field: The Convergence of Academic Research, Student Learning and Community Needs," featured Professor Marjorie Kagawa Singer-Ph.D., UCLA School of Public Health and Asian American Studies Program, Bill Watanabe-Executive Director at Little Tokyo Service Center, and Melany de la Cruz-graduate student with the UCLA School of Public Policy and Social Research. The program was moderated by Dennis Arguelles, Assistant Director of UCLA Asian American Studies Center.

Morning and afternoon workshops that completed the program:

Service Learning: Understanding the New Paradigm, Church and (the) State of Research, On Growing Old in America: Perceptions of the Okinawan War Bride, The Role of Community Organizations in the Political Incorporation of Asian American and Latino Immigrants, Unauthorized Filipino Immigrants in California: Estimating Their Number and Identifying Their Characteristics, Mixed Race Issues, Asian American Historical Societies. A directory of presenters can be obtained from the A3PCON Office.

Sponsors of the 2002 APACRR were: the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON), CSUN Filipino American Student Association (FASA), CSUN College of Humanities, CSUN Dept. of Asian American Studies, Cal State L.A. Asian & Asian American Institute, Cal State Long Beach Dept. of Asian & Asian American Studies, UCLA Asian American Studies Center and USC Asian Pacific American Student Services.

For more information about how you can be involved in the ongoing work of the APACRR or the next conference, please contact Jeff Murakami at (213) 740-4999 or email murakami@usc.edu. ★

"Fat Saturday" Teamwork For Youths

By Kimberly Ta, Asian American Drug Abuse Program

On January 26 over 90 Asian American and Pacific Islander youth attended SNAPY's Fat Saturday Event. SNAPY is a committee of A3PCON, which stands for Service Network for Asian and Pacific Islander Youth that currently has over 25 agencies. Activities at the event were basketball shoot-out, relay race, kick-boxing class and flag football. This year, the teams were coached by SNAPY's high school youth leaders. Youths were lead by example and encouraged teamwork and good sportsmanship. SNAPY is currently making plans for their 8th Annual Youth Olympics scheduled on May 19, 2002 at the UCLA Drake Stadium. ★



Youths gather after a day of competition and good sportsmanship.

4th Annual Symposium Focus on Prevention for API HIV-Infected

By Jury Candelario and Plunket Phommachanh, Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team

The Asian Pacific Islander (API) HIV/AIDS Caucus of L.A. County, in partnership with the Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team held its 4th Annual Symposium, "Crossing Cultural Bridges" on January 24 at the Patriotic Hall in downtown L.A. This year was particularly unique as it focused on the needs of the HIV-infected API community.

The symposium highlighted speakers and members from the community including service providers, advocates, researchers and epidemiologists, government officials and representatives, and the API HIV-infected population. Dr. Walt Senterfitt, the Coordinator for the Prevention for HIV-Infected Persons Project (PHIPP) from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention, was the keynote speaker. Having served as an epidemiologist for the L.A. County Epidemiology Office prior to his current tenure with CDC, he has national expertise, as well as local knowledge on HIV/AIDS.

Current cumulative advanced AIDS cases within the API community of L.A. remain at 2% (n=857) as reported by the County of L.A. Dept. of Health Services and Public Health and the Office of AIDS Programs and Policy issued on October 2001. Filipinos have the highest rates of advanced AIDS cases, accounting for 30% of the API community, followed by Japanese, "Other Asian ethnicity," Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean communities.

Discussion groups on the federal, community and mental health levels were conducted with the goal of looking into next steps and sharing experiences on how to better serve the prevention needs of this target population. Dialogue focused on the need to strengthen the relationships between researchers, government entities and community-based organizations. Symposium participants discussed increasing the

community service providers capacity to meet the needs of the population through training, technical assistance, advocating on a policy level and additional funding resources.

Focus was addressed to identifying the psychosocial co-factors that API HIV-infected persons face including: self-esteem, substance abuse, immigration, cultural and linguistic barriers and immediate life issues such as housing, transportation, single-family structures and unemployment. It was noted that interventions must be catered to individual's risk behaviors.

The symposium aims to continue dialogue that HIV/AIDS knows no boundaries and that it continues to impact the API community. With collaborative and community mobilization efforts like the API HIV/AIDS Caucus, it hopes to curtail further infections and educate on the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS.

To gain more data or for further information about the symposium and the Caucus, please contact the API HIV/AIDS Co-Chairs, Jury Candelario at (213) 553-1894 or Virginia Lee at (626) 309-0425 or email inquires to apihivcaucusla@yahoogroups.com. ★



Walt Senterfitt, Ph.D., Coordinator of Prevention for HIV-Infected Persons Project CDC & Prevention educates audience.

Ethnicity	# of Cases	% of L.A. County based on 2% cumulative API AIDS Cases
Filipino	264	30%
Japanese	110	13%
Other Asian	102	12%
Chinese	75	9%
Vietnamese	59	7%
Korean	34	4%

Visit the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council Website at www.a3pcon.org

The A3PCON website, which is updated with current events on an ongoing basis, includes links to membership organizations and other online resources, community meetings at the A3PCON Center, calendar of events, recent news at A3PCON, current job opportunities at membership organizations, contact information for the Executive Committee, Officers and Committee Chairs and more. For information regarding the design of the website, contact Wataru Ebihara, Website Design and Consultant at ebihara@LTSC.org. For questions regarding the content, call (213) 680-4847. ★

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ASIAN PACIFIC
 Policy & Planning Council

Established in 1976, A3PCON is a coalition of Asian and Pacific Islander health, human services, educational, cultural and policy nonprofit organizations and individuals who advocate for the rights and services of the API community in Southern California, primarily in Los Angeles County.

2001-2002 Officers:

Dr. Ford Kuramoto, *President*
 Kathay Feng, *Vice President of Policy*
 Diane Ujjiye, *Vice President of Planning*
 Hamid Khan, *Vice Pres. of Administration*
 Johng Ho Song, *Secretary*
 Jury Candelario, *Treasurer*

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Upcoming Events

April 2002

Saturday, April 6, 2002, Festivities from 7:30 pm to 2:00 am
APEX Montecarlo Charity Ball at Club Soho, 333 S. Boylston St., Downtown Los Angeles. All proceeds benefiting the: 8th Annual APEX SNAPY Youth Olympics on May 18, 2002 at the UCLA Drake Stadium.

Saturday, April 6-Sunday, April 7, 2002, 11:30 am- 8 pm
Pasadena Cherry Blossom Festival at the Pasadena Center, 300 E. Green Street. For more information, call the Cherry Blossom Hot Line at The Rafu Shimpo at (213) 629-2231 x138 or go to www.pasadena-cherry-blossom.org

May 2002

Saturday, May 4-Sunday May 5, 2002, (Saturday: 10 am-6 pm, Sunday: 10 am- 5 pm) Pacific Islander Community Council (PICC) 13th Pacific Islander Festival: E Ho 'omalama Ana Kakou I Ka Pono at Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park, 25820 Vermont Ave., Harbor City-Wilmington. For more information, contact Ka'ala Pang at (714) 968-1785.

Saturday, May 11, 2002, 8:30 am-11 am, Evergreen Senior Center's Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration at the Japanese Garden, 6100 Woodley Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91406. For more information, call (818) 360-6581 or (818) 242-3080.

Sunday, May 19, 2002 8th Annual APEX SNAPY Youth Olympics at the UCLA Drake Stadium. For information on volunteering for the Youth Olympics, contact Denis Kwok at denis@apex.org

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Asian American Drug Abuse Program Outpatient Director, Drug Court Counselor, Youth Worker, Day Treatment Counselor, L.A. Bridges Counselor, Parent Trainer. Submit cover letter and resume to Dean Nakanishi, AADAP Inc., 5318 S. Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90043. Fax: (323) 295-4075, Email: dnakanishi@aadapinc.org

Alzheimer's Association Education and Outreach Coordinator. Submit cover letter and resume to Alzheimer's Association, Attn: Associate Director of Education & Outreach, 5900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90036. Email: alzajobs@alz.org (Word attachments ONLY)

Chinatown Service Center Health Start Project Coordinator, Recruiter/Outreach Specialist, Youth Curriculum Coordinator, Counselor II/Youth, Counselor II/Adult, Recruiter/Outreach Specialist, Recruiter/Trainer. Submit cover letter, resume and salary history to: Director of Human Resources, Chinatown Service Center, 767 N. Hill St., Ste. 400, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Fax: (213) 680-0787. Email: jng@cscla.org. For more information, contact Judy Ng at (213) 808-1700.

South Asian Network Licensed Social Worker for Domestic Violence Program. Submit resume and cover letter to: Hamid Khan, Executive Director, South Asian Network, 18000 Pioneer Blvd., Suite 101, Artesia, CA 90701. Phone: (562) 403-0488, Fax: (562) 403-0487, Email: saned@onebox.com



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Policy & Planning Council

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JOIN A3PCON TODAY!
For Membership Form requests, please call
(213) 680-4847

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