



ASIAN PACIFIC HEALTH CARE VENTURE, INC.
"working together for community health"

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The Bonsai News -May 2010-

Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, Inc. (APHCV) welcomes you back to the "Bonsai News", our quarterly newsletter where you can learn the latest news about APHCV. Please read on to learn more about our health topic, mental health, a new addition to our Board of Directors, and more.

This month's health topic: Mental Health

Mental Health America, formerly the National Mental Health Association, recognizes May as Mental Health Month and the theme this year is "Live Your Life Well." This is a public education campaign dedicated to helping people cope with stress and teach them how to enhance their well-being.[1] Stress can have a huge impact on your health, and personal and professional life therefore it is important to keep your own mental health intact.

Here at APHCV we have begun a new program with the Alzheimer's Association to implement the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Dementia Care Network, Filipino Family Caregiver Program that focuses on the mental health and well-being of caregivers. Being a Caregiver can be a very demanding, and physically and mentally exhausting occupation. Caregivers of most frail adults are usually family members, relatives and friends who are non-professional caregivers. This is a challenging and difficult task for many who often neglect their own needs, including their health. The goal of this new project is to outreach, educate, and support Filipino family caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's Diseases and other forms of dementia.

[1] <http://www.nmha.org/go/may>

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APHCV Recognizes January–April Donors:

California Family Health
Council
\$149,956

Taproot Foundation
\$50,000 pro bono

Gilead Foundation
\$30,000

Susan G. Komen for the
Cure
\$15,000

Health HIV
\$15,000

Bristol-Myers Squibb
\$10,000

California Family Health
Council, Inc.
\$7,500

Tides Foundation
\$6,500

This month's health topic: Mental Health continued...

This program offers the following services to our patients and community members who are caring for loved ones with dementia: information and assistance, limited respite services (a brief period of relief or rest from care giving responsibilities), referrals to legal services, home visits (if necessary), diagnostic referrals to clinical services, supportive counseling, support groups, and case management.

Funded by the Weinberg Foundation and working in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association California Southland Chapter, the (API) Dementia Care Network, Filipino Family Caregiver Program is a part of a larger community-based collaborative model. The other partners in this project include Chinatown Service Center (focusing on the Chinese community), Little Tokyo Service Center (focusing on the Japanese community), Bet Tzedek Legal Services, LA Caregiver Resource Center, and Partners in Care Foundation. The goal is to expand caregiver support to the Filipino community, based upon the existing model provided in the Chinese and Japanese communities. Among the various agencies catering to the Filipino community, APHCV was selected to implement the program.



Jocelyn Estiandan, Cecile Sebrijo, Philippine Consul General Mary Jo Bernardo Aragon, Perla Reyes, and Philippine Vice Consul Charmaine Serna-Chua.

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New Addition to APHCV's Board of Directors

David Crocker is a new member to Asian Pacific Health Care Venture's Board of Directors. David was born and raised in Caro, Michigan a small town with a population of approximately 5,000 people. David earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a focus on Finance and Accounting from The University of Michigan. He then worked in finance for four years prior to attending the University of Southern California to earn his Master's of Business Administration. David's focus was on marketing and he has been in this field for about 20 years, starting his career at Nestle. Currently David is the Marketing Director for Lee Kum Kee, an internationally known manufacturer and marketer of Chinese sauces. David hopes to contribute his expertise and experience with finance and marketing to help APHCV navigate expansion and changes in response to the new health care legislation.

As a patient at APHCV for almost 2 years, David has found the respect and care he receives here to be excellent. He feels the care he receives is highly competent and comprehensive. The staff have also been very friendly and helpful. David acknowledges that APHCV provides services to clients in a culturally sensitive manner and in the language of their choice. This, he believes, is critical to ensure a great partnership between patient and provider. As a Consumer Board member David hopes that he can add value by providing some general guidance that will allow APHCV to continue to provide excellent healthcare and improve the quality of life for APHCV's clients.

This month's health topic: Mental Health continued...

Our team is comprised of Cecile Sebrío and Perla Reyes, the new Care Advocate. For the past several weeks, these staff have been outreaching to key stakeholders in the Filipino community, including Philippine Consul General Mary Jo Bernardo Aragon, as well as the members of the Rotary Club of Historic Filipinotown, the Chamber of Commerce of Historic Filipinotown, the Veterans Foundation, Philippine Association for Networking and Advocacy, Search to Involve Pilipino Americans, Filipino American Community of LA, Silver Lake Adult Day Health Care Center, Golden Agers of Los Angeles, and the Office of Councilmember Eric Garcetti, among others. They were all happy to learn about our new program and gave their commitment to help us identify families that can take advantage of this program.



Salud and Peter Estrada participate in the Filipino Family Caregiver Program activities.

With the support of everyone in APHCV we are looking forward to this rewarding endeavor. If you know of a Filipino patient or community member who is an informal, family caregiver to someone with memory loss, please let us know. You can call (323) 644-3880 ext. 341 or e-mail preyes@aphcv.org.



Perla Reyes, Care Advocate, meets with Anastacia Silvano and Felipa Duldulao.

2010 Health Care Legislation

On March 23rd, 2010, President Barack Obama signed health reform into law, completing a task that many Presidents attempted to complete before him. The American public's hardships with health care bills and insurance were motivations for signing the bill. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will expand coverage to 32 million Americans who are currently uninsured. Illegal immigrants will not be allowed to buy health insurance in the exchanges -- even if they pay completely with their own money.

Some changes will take place soon after the bill becomes law beginning on July 1, 2010. For example, insurance companies cannot repeal the coverage policies of consumers who become ill; health insurers can no longer deny coverage to children with pre-existing conditions; lifetime coverage limits and restricted annual coverage limits will be eliminated; young adults will be allowed to remain under their parents' health plans until age 26; uninsured adults with pre-existing conditions will be given the opportunity to obtain coverage through a new program that would expire in 2014, when the new state-based insurance exchanges begin operating; eligible seniors can receive a \$250 rebate to bridge the "doughnut hole" coverage gap in the Medicare prescription drug benefit plan; some small businesses will receive a tax credit to help them provide coverage to employees; and a 10% tax on indoor tanning services will be implemented.

By 2014, it will be required that nearly all residents have insurance; insurance subsidies will be in place to help individuals buy coverage through new health insurance exchanges; and Medicaid eligibility will increase to 133% of the federal poverty level for all non-elderly individuals.

So what does the new law mean for Community Health Centers like APHCV?

Community Health Centers will play a pivotal role in covering the newly insured, as well as continuing to serve a large population expected to remain uninsured beyond implementation. Beginning in 2014, new state-based health insurance exchanges will allow eligible individuals and small businesses to purchase affordable coverage. Private insurers offering plans through the exchange must contract with "essential community providers," including community health centers, to ensure that individuals will have access to their local community providers. All plans within the exchanges will also have to reimburse health centers at their federally approved Medicaid Prospective Payment System (PPS) rate, ensuring that health centers are paid adequately and reliably for providing a health care home to millions of newly insured patients. APHCV has a long tradition of helping the uninsured and underinsured save money and avoid hospitalization and providing exemplary managed care.

By 2015, Community Health Centers will receive \$9.5 billion to expand operational capacity to serve nearly 20 million new patients and to enhance medical, oral and behavioral health services. \$1.5 billion over the same five years will be given to expand and improve existing facilities and construct new sites.

APHCV is Expanding!



On April 7, 2010 Asian Pacific Health Care Venture purchased a new facility located in the El Monte/Rosemead area of the San Gabriel Valley. Our new facility is scheduled to open in Spring 2011.

Outreach in Action

APHCV participated in the 7th Annual Thai New Year Songkran Festival in Hollywood on Sunday April 4, 2010.



APHCV staff with Thomas Livzey join in the celebration and outreach to the Thai community in Hollywood CA.



Traditional Thai performances and music completed the New Year celebration.

Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, Inc. (website) located in Hollywood and serving the greater Los Angeles area, is a Federally Qualified Health Center that provides culturally competent health education and primary care services to 12,000 patients annually, more than 75% of whom are uninsured. APHCV provides its health education and health care services in ten Asian languages (Thai, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Khmer, Japanese, Bengali, Mandarin, Cantonese, Indonesian, and Korean), English and Spanish. APHCV administration can be reached at (323) 644-3880. Medical appointments can be made by calling (323) 644-3888.