



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

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APHCV Recognizes February—April Donors:

Gilead Foundation
\$30,000

Leonard and Laila Rose
Foundation
\$24,000

Bristol-Myers Squibb
\$15,000

Gifts Under \$1,000
Rosaminda Lao

The Bonsai News - May 2011 -

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 the latest battle to save community health centers and how you can help.

Philippine Independence Day: Bayan Masaya

Everyone is invited to commemorate the Philippine's 113th Independence Day and the 150th birth anniversary of national hero and martyr, Dr. Jose P. Rizal. The June 12th celebration will take place in Historic Filipinotown at Lake Street Park, 227 N. Lake St., Los Angeles.



In conjunction with the Filipino Family Caregiver Program (FFCP) of the API Dementia Caregiver Network, a program of Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, Inc. (APHCV) with Alzheimer's Association of Southern California, the steering committee is staffed by Perla Reyes, FFCP Care Advocate at APHCV and founder of MOTHER Movement; Cecile Sebrio, MPH, APHCV Program Coordinator; and Rosanne Munoz, MOTHER Special Project Coordinator and also an APHCV staff member.

Thanks to the support of Eric Garcetti, President and Member of the Los Angeles City Council, and his Field Deputy, Ryan Carpio, the event will take place in the City of Los Angeles, 13th District, home of Historic Filipinotown (HiFi) and over 10,000 Filipinos.

This event is free to all, so come and show your Filipino patriotism in your barongs, patadions, moangs, salakots and other Filipino attire. Join us for the celebration and enjoy Filipino food and culture, as well as get information on local organizations committed to serving the Filipino community. Some of the services at the fair will include free basic health screenings such as blood sugar, cholesterol and blood pressure screenings provided by St. Vincent Medical Center through Pedro Ramirez, Director of Multicultural Health Awareness and Prevention. Asian Pacific Liver Center will be providing free Hepatitis B screening, to help provide early intervention for this chronic condition that is prevalent in the Filipino community. APHCV will be onsite providing health education to participants, as well as information on how to access health care

Miya Iwataki: A Champion for Health Care Equality

Community Advocate. Spokesperson. Innovator. Pioneer. These are just a few of the words that describe Miya Iwataki. For the last 14 years, Miya has served faithfully on the APHCV Board of Directors. To the Board she brought a passion for service unrivaled by any other until her retirement this past winter. Miya has spent her career advocating for the underserved. She got her start in the 70's at the Japanese American Community Services, Asian Involvement (AI, which means "Love" in Japanese) Program providing assistance to monolingual Japanese in Los Angeles in accessing health and social services. There she helped organize the first community service fair with dozens of partners and health plans providing medical care and social services to hundreds of underserved Japanese.

Soon thereafter JACS established the Asian Women's Center, naming Miya as the Executive Director. The first of its kind, the Asian Women's Center provided services to help women navigate public resources and receive referrals to services. Through a grant from the University of California, Los Angeles, JACS and the Asian Women's Center conducted a research project on the health care needs of Asian women, helping bring to light many of the issues that adversely affect access to health care among the Asian community, at a time when there was no literature on the matter.

One of Miya's greatest assets is her ability to raise awareness to people and issues that have no voice. After working at the Asian Women's Center she went to work for other community based organizations helping increase access to health care among the Asian community. She spent several years in media broadcasting at KCET and KPFK, developing programs that addressed issues of minorities, gays and lesbians, and HIV. She helped bring attention to issues that people were too afraid to talk about and educate those who were misinformed. Increasing her impact in the community and bringing issues of health care to the national stage, Miya later went on to work as the Press Director for then-Congressman Mervyn M. Dymally, serving as the Media Spokesperson for the 31st Congressional District, writing and editing the Congressional Newsletter, and reviewing and making recommendations on legislation and national policy issues.



Miya Iwataki (left) with Kazue Shibata, APHCV CEO and Phillip Chen, Health Deputy for LA County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

In 1988, Miya joined the Los Angeles County, Department of Health Services (DHS) where she became a champion for

Fireworks Safety Month



Summer is just around the corner and soon we will begin to see firework stands popping up on street corners around Southern California. The Fourth of July a time when friends and family get together to celebrate our nation's independence. These celebrations often include gathering in the yard and watching a fireworks display, but there are some important safety tips that we must all be aware of before lighting any fireworks. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), in 2009, there was an estimated 8,800 fireworks related injuries treated in U.S hospitals, over half of which were children. Of those injuries, approximately 5,900 injuries occurred between June 19th and July 19th. The safest way to prevent fireworks-related injuries is to leave fireworks displays to trained professionals.

Check with your local city parks and recreation for professional fireworks displays in your area.

If you decide to celebrate at home with your own fireworks display, make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them. Here are some tips to ensure the safety of you and your family this Fourth of July:

- Always buy legal fireworks that are from trusted vendors and include the manufacturer's name and directions. Fireworks that are unlabeled are usually for professional displays or illegal and should not be used by consumers.
- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks and always make sure there is adult supervision around any fireworks activities.
- Keep a bucket of water and/or a garden hose around and douse all fireworks after then have been lit.

For more safety tips visit the CPSC website or call their hotline 800-638-2772. Have a safe and happy Fourth of July!

APHCV - Belmont Health Services now a CHDP Provider

APHCV continues to grow to meet the needs of the members of our communities. At Belmont High School, the APHCV - Belmont Health Services, a fully licensed health center on campus serving students and families in and around Belmont High School has just received its certification as a Child Health Disability and Prevention (CHDP) Provider. This is great news for many low-income families that seek services at the Belmont Health Services as they now have more options in how they can help cover the costs of their children's health care. For more information, or assistance in enrolling into CHDP or other public health insurance programs contact our staff and visit our website for updates on the Belmont Wellness Center, the permanent health center that will be located on Belmont High School campus.

APHCV - Belmont Health Services

1575 West 2nd Street

Los Angeles, CA 90026

(Currently located on Union Place on the west end of campus)

Ph: (323) 644-3885



Rosario Rico, Belmont Health Services Coordinator (left) working with a family.

Celebrating API Heritage Month



APHCV staff attending the 2011 Asian Pacific Islander Preserve America Neighborhoods celebration of API Heritage month. From L-R: Alex Holshimer (Thai CDC), Nittaya Gibson (APHCV & Thai Town Committee), S. Kanchana (Thai Town Rotary Club) and Milford Wayne Donaldson (Chair, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation & California Historic Preservation Officer)

Philippine Independence Day: Bayan Masaya (continued from page 1)

services and Communities Actively Living Independent & Free (CALIF) will be offering social services and assistance for persons with disabilities, among others.

Sponsorship of this event has been generously provided in part by the Office of Los Angeles City Council Member Eric Garcetti, Gilead Sciences, Bristol Myer Squibb, Care 1st Health Plan, Law Office of John Ye, and Jollibee.

For more information, contact Perla Reyes at (323) 644-3880 ext. 341 or preyes@aphcv.org.

Miya Iwataki: A Champion for Health Care Equality (continued from page 2)

increasing cultural competency and health care access to linguistically isolated populations in Los Angeles County. She helped create new standards for the delivery of care to monolingual populations and creating equality in access to health care services. Her biggest accomplishment was the development of the Cultural and Linguistic Competency Standards for Los Angeles County. The standards included a cultural competency training that was made mandatory for all county employees attend. Each County hospital was given a guidebook to ensure that cultural and linguistic competency standards were implemented in all facilities with the help of a Limited English Proficient (LEP) Administrator to help implement the guidance. She also helped develop a 40-hour training for health care interpreters helping to increase the number of bilingual health care interpreters at DHS form 0 to 16 in 9 languages. DHS is also, now part of a statewide network of 15 counties that share interpreters to ensure that clients in need have access to linguistically competent health care services, whether in person or through video medical interpretation. A sweeping change that affected all of DHS was the simple question, "What language do you prefer to speak," required to be asked of all patients seen through DHS. Without asking this question, DHS never had the data to show the tremendous linguistic need in Los Angeles County and advocate for linguistic access. Today we now know that DHS serves over 2.5 million people every year, 1.34 million of whom are LEP and speak 98 different languages. That's 1.34 million people who now have a voice.

Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and inhumane (March 1966)," a mantra that Miya carries with her in all that she does and the legacy she leaves behind at Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, Inc. to ensure that all people have access to culturally competent and linguistically sensitive health care services.

Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, Inc. (www.aphcv.org) is a nonprofit, federally-qualified health center that operates three clinic locations throughout Los Angeles County. APHCV provides culturally competent health education and primary care services to over 12,200 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.

Los Feliz Health Center
1530 Hillhurst Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90027
Appointments: (323) 644-3888

Belmont Health Services
1575 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90026
Appointments: (323) 644-3885
(Currently located at Union Place and
West 2nd Street)

JMHS Health Center
3939 Tracy Street
Los Angeles, CA 90027
Appointments: (323) 665-1129
(Open to students of John Marshall
High School only)