



THE BONSAI NEWS

Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, Inc. • Winter 1999

SEASONS GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD AND STAFF OF THE ASIAN PACIFIC HEALTH CARE VENTURE, INC!

Pictured in front of its newly purchased building in the East Hollywood area of Los Angeles include: (Front row, l-r) Tess Cummings, Nancy Sunnananda, Mika Aoki and Nanta Vudhinant. (Second row, l-r) Ketsuda Tongkul, Michelle Kwong, Paweena Theinpeng, Katherine Moncure, Kultida Arakul, Tina Chinakarn, Jeanne Aguinaldo. (Third row, l-r) Frank Diaz, Ponnary Bun, Poppy Osti, Lee Ventura, Sirina Panyaratanarat, Yunkyung Kim, Sareth Nor. (Fourth row, l-r) Dr. John Hoh, Chris Leong (Board Member) Kei Kokubun (Board President), Kazue Shibata, Art Dulay. (Fifth row, l-r) Lulu Quinones, Vanthalay Van, Andrew Ma, Joe Truong, Rossini Almario, Robert Marquez, Soji Kashiwagi. (Sixth row, l-r) Penny Kao, Damaso Uy, Amy Wong, Takaki Tominaga, Khim Kha, Nardo Beltran.

Not pictured: Patricia Choy, Jack De Jesus, Genny Johnson, Asuka Kato, Dominic Koh, Bee La, Luy Le, Dr. Diana Lee, Doris Lim Umbarger, Aika Makimura, David Sarun, Eddy Sugandhi, Nongyao Varanond, and Victoria Yin.



DECEMBER 1999

GREETINGS!

I hope you are doing well this holiday season! I wanted to let you know that this holiday season is a very special one for the Board and the staff of the Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, Inc. since we are providing health care services in the building that we finally purchased this past June. With your help, we raised close to \$2 million to establish a permanent home to provide health care and support for families in the communities.

The purchase of the building will allow APHCV to expand our current services as well as add new services to help communities achieve optimum health. Additional services we plan include vision, integrative medicine, dental, nutrition and healthy lifestyle activities. We believe everyone has the inner ability to heal and deserves to be healthy. Our role is to facilitate the process, as well as ensure access to such services.

I am very thankful for all the support from people in the communities, foundations and corporate supporters. And I am most thankful for the dedicated staff at APHCV, and the continuing support from our Board.

Sincerely,

KAZUE SHIBATA
Executive Director



(Photos by Douglas Kim)

Working Together for Community Health



Nurse practitioner Katherine Moncure listens to patient as language support staff member David Sarun looks on.



Nursing staff member Rossini Almario conducts blood pressure check on APHCV patient.



Young patient gets his hearing checked as his mother looks on.

We thank you for your support of APHCV's Center services!!

APHCV clinic programs are now in full force. Seeing more than 1,200 patients a month, APHCV continues to ensure the bilingual and bicultural services for many low income families. Most come from the Thai, Pilipino, Cambodian, Vietnamese and Japanese communities. They are working poor, the majority are monolingual, and 85% of APHCV patients are uninsured.

Because of language, cultural challenges and economic hardship, many of our patients come in for episodic care, and often with untreated delayed care. One patient came in with a blood sugar reading of 707 (normal is 100) and had diabetes without even knowing it. Yet another had a blood pressure reading of 230/130. We see too many diabetic or hypertensive patients for whom we are the first primary care providers since their arrival in the United States. For this reason, they suffer unnecessarily, and our treatment costs for these patients tend to be expensive.

The API populations in Los Angeles County are the fastest growing population, exceeding the Latino community. This growth is due to immigration, indicating the need for bilingual and bicultural services in the API communities will continue into the next decade. APIs also have the second highest rate of uninsured in Los Angeles. Lack of health care infrastructure to care for low income, uninsured and monolingual patients is a challenge APHCV faces every single day.

Along with the clinic programs, APHCV is also out in the community providing a wide variety of services through our Health Education programs. These services include tobacco education and outreach; the REAL Youth Center, which includes a youth clinic, two teen pregnancy prevention programs, a tobacco education program, a teen theater, a writer's workshop, a computer learning center and afterschool activities as well as HIV/AIDS testing and counseling services; and outreach at community festivals, street fairs and events.

Our services and programs for the community are made possible by a number of government and private sources. We thank and acknowledge the Federal Office of Minority Health, Federal Public Health Services, Bureau of Primary Care, the State of California Department of Health Services, the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and the City of Los Angeles HIV Programs. We'd also like to thank our private funding sources including the California Community Foundation, the California Wellness Foundation, Queens Care Charitable Foundation, California Public Health Foundation, Wells Fargo Foundation and Kaiser Permanente.

As we enter the year 2000, we see many challenges ahead. But when we see the happy faces of our patients and clients, we know why we do this. And we hope you will join and support us in our effort to help our communities stay healthy!! Over the past two years, APHCV Board, staff and volunteers worked very hard to purchase the building, but our effort to raise money to off-set the cost of services needs to continue. We thank you for your on-going support for our patients and communities!!



Kazue Shibata receives a certificate of recognition from California State Assemblyman Scott Wildman at APHCV's Open House event to launch the Capital Campaign.

APHCV's Building Purchase: Thank You to All Who Made it Possible

BACK IN JUNE OF 1998, APHCV's journey to purchase the building began when we launched our capital campaign at a special Open House event. The Bonsai Tree—known for its beauty and tranquility—was chosen as the symbol of the campaign, representing our vision of strong roots, caring and nurturing and growth for our communities.

Phase I of the Campaign could not have been possible without the generous support of a variety of sources, including patients, individual donations, fundraising events, foundations, corporations, the City of Los Angeles, the State of California, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC).

Phase II of the the campaign began in July, 1999. The goal of Phase II is to raise funds to repay two existing loans, and for expansion of services to eventually include dental, vision, integrative medicine and a comprehensive youth center.

On behalf of APHCV's Board, staff and clients, we would like to thank and acknowledge the following foundations, corporations and individuals for believing in our project and contributing toward our campaign:

FOUNDATIONS Ahmanson Foundation, Ralph M. Parsons Foundation (Phase II)

California Community Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, California Endowment, Grace Nixon Foundation, McKesson Foundation (Phase II)

CORPORATIONS Kaiser Permanente, Bank of America Foundation, The Los Angeles Times Fund (Phase II), Albertsons (Phase II) Merck Corporation, LA Care, The Gas Company, Pitney Bowes.

INDIVIDUALS & COMMUNITY We send our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported the campaign through individual gifts, our special events and drawings. A special thanks to the Aoki Family in Japan and Sadako & Hiroshi Kashiwagi for their generous contributions; and to the Thai Mass Media Association and the Wat Khmer Cambodian Buddhist Temple for their community contributions.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES Community Development Department

LOANS State of California Help II Program and Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

Special thanks to APHCV Board members Kei Kokubun, Bill Watanabe, Miya Iwataki, Chris Leong, Charauyporn Issarangura, Patricia Payuyo, Rosanna Suaza and our newest member, Dr. Thomas Yoshikawa for all their support and assistance! We'd also like to thank the Capital Campaign Cabinet members: Fred Hoshiyama, Glenn Sanada, Michael Lew, Pisan Promnoi, Manote Kongthong and Tom Sogi. And thank you to Erich Nakano of the Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation for his support, and Susan Scribner for guiding us through the process, and being with us every step of the way!

1999 Year of the Agency Fundraisers

BEFORE THIS YEAR, APHCV had no history of doing fundraising events.

That all changed in 1999.

In one year, APHCV's staff put on three benefit drawings, a yard and bake sale, a bowling tournament, a golf tournament and to top everything off, a benefit ballroom dance.

"It's been a busy year," said Kazue Shibata, Executive Director. "We've never done any of these events before, and I would like to thank our staff for organizing them, and the community for supporting us."



Two Benefit Drawings, Yard and Bake Sale, March 13 & 14, 1999
Staff combined two drawings for a 27" TV and a trip for two to Mazatlan, Mexico with a two day yard sale held in APHCV's parking lot.

Donations of second hand stuff came in from staff, their family and friends. Anne Woo and Mika Aoki of the Venture staff headed up the effort to sort, price and organize thousands of items for the sale. Members of the local community, people driving by and other assorted yard sale junkies then converged on our parking lot for two full days of bargain hunting and bargaining!

First Ever Bonsai Bowl-A-Thon, May 15, 1999

The challenge was put out to Asian Pacific community organizations to see who was the "King Pin" of the API community.

Twenty teams responded to the call and the first ever APHCV Bonsai Bowling tournament was held in mid May at the Bahama Lanes in Pasadena. Led by Venture staff Dominic Koh, Michelle Kwong and Lulu Quinones, the Bowling tournament also featured a number of staff, their friends and families who put together their own teams.

Taking home the first place trophy was the team from Asians for Miracle Marrow Matches (A3M), followed by APHCV's staff team of Art Dulay, Damaso Uy, Lee Ventura and B.J. Nate, which finished a close second. Mark your calendar for next

year's event: Saturday, April 1, 2000. Same place. Same time. No fooling!



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PHASE II UPDATE

Our greatest challenge during Phase II of the Campaign is to pay off the two loans we received from the State and LISC to complete the building purchase. In order to expand services and occupy the entire building (the current scenario has APHCV occupying the second floor and a tenant leasing the first floor), our goal is to pay off the loans, free up the downstairs space and expand to include vision, integrative medicine and dental services.

Toward this goal, the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation got Phase II off to a great start when it approved a grant in the amount of \$100,000 which will go specifically toward repaying the loan.

Here is a breakdown of the Phase II Goals:	1. Loan Repayment	\$750,000
	2. Youth Center	\$100,000
	3. Expansion/New Services & Start Up	\$735,465
	4. Renovations	\$ 66,000
	Goal for Phase II	\$1,651,465

1999 Agency Fundraisers

Continued from page 3



First Ever Bonsai Golf Tournament, June 4, 1999

Give them golf, a challenging course and a sunny day and golfers are in 7th Heaven. That's what we had at our first Bonsai Golf Tournament held in early June at the Cypress Golf Club in Los Alamitos.

Venture staffers Damaso Uy and B.J. Nate—avid golfers themselves—headed up this event which drew a variety of golfers from throughout

Southern California, including friends, weekend hackers, serious golfers and two corporate teams from LA Care and Kaiser Permanente.

Stacy Miyake's foursome impressed all with their "long ball" power, and walked away with the first place trophies.



Benefit Ballroom Dance: "Yugyugan and Chibugan," December 5, 1999

Shall we dance?

To top off a busy year, APHCV hosted its first ever ballroom dance earlier this month at the Star Dancers Horizon Ballroom in Glendale.

Inspired by the Pilipino community's love and passion for ballroom and swing dancing, APHCV's board member Cisa Payuyo, staff members Damaso Uy and Nardo Beltran along with community volunteers Eddie Imperial and Merlyn Dela Cruz headed up this event which featured an evening of dinner, dancing, and holiday cheer.

A highlight of the evening was the special dance instruction given by Bennie Pasqual and his partner Rhoda Samala, followed by a dance exhibition put on by this award-winning dance team. What followed after that was a fun evening of swing, cha cha, tango, jive, waltz and samba dancing featuring a mixture of seasoned dancers, people learning to dance and those with two left feet—all dancing and eating for a good cause!

Los Angeles Times Fund Contributes \$14,000 Toward Computer Learning Center for Youth

Thanks to the Los Angeles Times Fund, we will be able to establish the Los Angeles Times Computer Learning Center for our youth. The grant will go toward the purchase of six computer workstations, a laser printer, software and a computer consultant, who will provide hands on training for the youth. The Center will also be open to youth afterschool so they can work on their homework, papers and other projects. We thank Raul Bustillos of the Los Angeles Times Fund for believing in our project!

Grace Nixon Foundation Contributes \$10,000 Toward Phase II:

We send our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Ms. Grace Nixon for her recent gift of \$10,000 to APHCV. Thank you, Ms. Nixon, for your continuing support!

Robert Wood Johnson Board of Trustees Visit APHCV in September

We were honored to host a visit in September from the Board of Trustees of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The trustees, who, in 1997, awarded \$100,000 to APHCV on behalf of Executive Director Kazue Shibata for her outstanding leadership in the health care field, were in town for their annual visit to cities where they've contributed funds. During the visit, they heard presentations from Board President Kei Kokubun, Kazue Shibata, Dr. John Hoh, and were moved by testimonials from two APHCV patients and a youth.

Albertsons Contributes \$5,000 to APHCV

In November, Albertsons and Luckys got "married" and APHCV was invited to their community event to announce their merger. As part of their community service, Albertsons donated a gift of \$5,000 to APHCV. We thank Albertsons for this terrific wedding present!

McKesson Foundation Awards \$7,000 to APHCV for Youth Center

For the expansion of APHCV's Youth Center, the McKesson Foundation (parent company of Sparklett's Water) in San Francisco contributed \$7,000 for API youth earlier this month.

ASIAN PACIFIC HEALTH CARE VENTURE

1530 Hillhurst Avenue, Suite 200 Los Angeles, California 90027

Telephone: (323) 644-3880 Medical Appointments: (323) 644-3888 Fax: (323) 644-3892

CHECK OUT APHCV ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

APHCV has its own Web Page currently under construction. To check it out, go to our site address: <http://www.apanet.org/~aphcv>