

Asian & Pacific Islander HIV Forum

A quarterly newsletter published by the Asian & Pacific Islander HIV Capacity-Building Assistance (API HIV CBA) Program, a national program of the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF) funded by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through Cooperative Agreement No. U22/CCU918544-02.

The Asian & Pacific Islander HIV Capacity-Building Assistance Program is a national program of the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF). Our HIV Capacity-Building Assistance Program, seeks to increase the organizational and programmatic capacities of community-based organizations (CBOs) who provide HIV prevention interventions to API populations in the United States and U.S. jurisdictions.

Meeting at the Crossroads: API Youth & HIV/AIDS Meeting

By Rachel Gacula, APIAHF Staff

For the first time in Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum's history, a group of youth, youth providers and advocates came together to begin an alliance called the National Asian & Pacific Islander Youth and HIV/AIDS Network. The three-day meeting took place in San Francisco, CA and had over 35 participants at the retreat. Twenty-five different agencies from the East Coast to the Pacific Island Jurisdictions participated including the hosting agencies: Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (San Francisco, CA), Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center (San Francisco, CA), & National Youth Advocacy Coalition (Washington, D.C.).

Youth and provider staff members collaborated on intense working sessions to discuss and develop the network's priority issues, mission, structure, and activities. Several youth contributed as facilitators in the sessions and opening exercises. The network has been consistently meeting through conference calls each month since convening a recruitment workshop meeting in April 2001 at APIAHF's VOICES from the Community Conference. Four subcommittees are currently developing projects: API Youth and HIV/AIDS "Best Practices Guide/Programs That Work", "Queer Resource Guide", "Leadership Development", and "Resource Library and Center". (continue on pg. 2)

Participants in an energizer exercise.



We welcome your comments, suggestions, and/ or contributions. Please send to:

APIAHF - API HIV CBA Program
ATTN: Program Assoc.
 942 Market St., Suite 200
 San Francisco, CA 94102
 or email rgacula@apiahf.org

Main line: 415.954.9988

Fax: 415.954.9999

Agency Website: www.apiahf.org

HIV Capacity-Building Assistance

HIV Program Website

www.apiahf.org/programs/hivcba.html

HIV CBA Program Staff

Prescott Chow - Program Manager

ManChui Leung - Program Coordinator

Nina Nanda - Program Coordinator

Rachel J. Gacula - Program Associate

HIV CBA Partner Agencies

Asian and Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS (APICHA)

150 Lafayette St., 6th floor
New York, New York 10013
212.324.7940
www.apicha.org

Asian Health Coalition of Illinois (AHCI)

4554 North Broadway, Suite 306
Chicago, IL 60640
773.878.3539
www.asianhealth.org

Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center (A&PIWC)

730 Polk St., 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94109
415.292.3400
www.apowellness.org

Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (APAIT)

605 West Olympic Blvd., Suite 610
Los Angeles 90015
213.553.1830
www.apaitonline.org

Malama Pono - Kaua'i AIDS Project

P.O. Box 1950
Lihu'e, HI 96766
808.246.9577
www.malama-pono.org

Youth & providers collaborating in a break-out session.



continued from pg.1 "Meeting at the Crossroads"

The National Asian & Pacific Islander Youth and HIV/AIDS Network is a group of youth, youth providers, advocates and allies interested in addressing the critical HIV/AIDS related issues facing Asian & Pacific Islander youth in the United States, including the Pacific Island Jurisdictions. **If you are interested in joining this group, please contact ManChui Leung @ 415.954.9993/ mleung@apiahf.org.** You may also subscribe to the electronic mailing list by visiting the HIV website www.apiahf.org/programs/hivcba.html or emailing a blank request to apiyouth_hivsubscribe@topic.com.

More details about this three-day retreat will be uncovered in the upcoming free newsletter featuring API Youth and HIV/AIDS related stories, events, programs, updates, and resources. If you would like to subscribe to the tri-annual newsletter, please send the subscription form (also available online) below to: **APIAHF, ATTN: HIV Program Associate, 942 Market St., Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94102 or fax to Rachel Gacula at 415.954.9999.**

Yes, I would like to subscribe to APIAHF's API Youth & HIV Newsletter.

I am interested in becoming a part of the National API Youth and HIV/AIDS Network. Please contact me and send information about the group's activities.

NAME: _____

POSITION: _____

AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

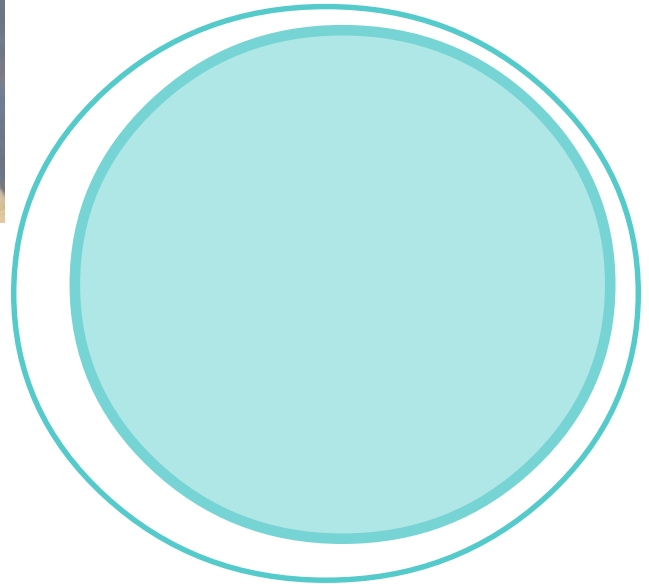
TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

New Program Staff

NINA NANDA

Hi, everyone! My name is Nina Nanda and I am a new HIV Program Coordinator within the Community Health Division. Last year I worked as an HIV-Test Counselor through the UCSF AIDS Health Project and part-time as a Research Assistant at a UCSF Microbiology & Immunology Lab. Prior, I was involved with the Youth Mentor Program at UC Berkeley for three years and served as Student Coordinator during my final year. I'm excited to be a part of APIAHF and look forward to getting to know everyone. Please contact me at nnanda@apiahf.org or call 415.954.9956.



Prevention for Positives in the Asian & Pacific Islander Community **By Nina Nanda, APIAHF Staff**

On January 25-26, APIAHF hosted the first national API Prevention for Positives Meeting at the Handlery Union Square Hotel in San Francisco. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently began allocating HIV prevention funds for individuals living with HIV/AIDS. To address this innovative strategy, the API HIV CBA Program convened this national meeting of over 34 community stakeholders, researchers, graduate students, CDC members and CBA providers to discuss ways to enhance HIV prevention towards People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA).

“...the API HIV CBA Program convened this national meeting of over 34 community stakeholders, researchers, graduate students, CDC members and CBA providers to discuss ways to enhance HIV prevention towards People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA).”

Following a welcome by Prescott Chow and Daniel Bao (Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center) on the first day, several presentations on projects with a focus on those living with HIV/AIDS were presented. Projects included “Serostatus Approach to Fighting the HIV/AIDS Epidemic” (SAFE) at UCSF’s Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS), “Rethinking Service in the Third Decade of HIV/AIDS” by members of Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (APAIT) in Los Angeles as well as “Positively Sexy” program at Life Foundation. The afternoon session held a “story-telling” panel of HIV-positive individuals, who gave greater insight into the prevention needs of HIV-positive individuals and discussed ways to increase the efficacy of prevention strategies.

The second day, the break-out session divided the meeting attendees into smaller groups to each discuss one of four recurring themes regarding HIV prevention for individuals living with HIV/AIDS: 1) Care-Based Interventions; 2) Prevention-Based Interventions; 3) Research; 4) Leadership Development of API PLWHA. Groups returned for extensive report backs and a brainstorming session of goals and next steps. From this productive and insightful two days of hard work and collaboration, APIAHF looks forward to continued success.

If you are interested in more information about the January meeting and or about the HIV CBA Program’s work with Prevention for Positives, please contact Nina Nanda at nnanda@apiahf.org or call 415.954.9956.

PIJAAG

Pacific Island
Jurisdiction AIDS
Action Group

Corner

By Prescott Chow, APIAHF Staff

In our HIV CBA Program meeting, Rachel asked me to submit an update article on the Pacific Island Jurisdictions AIDS Action Group (PIJAAG). As I sat down to write this, I've realized that we have included PIJAAG articles in the past two issues of the HIV Forum. This is really a testament to the frenzied activities PIJAAG has buzzing in and around it. It is equally amazing that the group has done so much in such a short time (PIJAAG celebrates its 1 year anniversary in February). So, as PIJAAG updates seem to be a regular feature of our newsletter, I thought I'd call this "PIJAAG's Corner", a column to get your fix of the latest PIJAAG activities...

This year PIJAAG will continue its advocacy work with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Office Minority Health (OMH), and other federal agencies. The group will also continue to move forward on concrete action steps for the group, including regional and local HIV services planning and training. This past quarter, PIJAAG has helped support the development of peer-to-peer support and mentorship. For example, PIJAAG Guam member Josie O'Mallan recently consulted with Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands member David Rosario and his HIV team on its program development. Guam also followed up with a Pacific Islander culturally specific training by Bernie Schumann and Bal Aguon on pre- and post-test counseling. CBA Provider NASTAD (National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors) also helped support this training. Other opportunities for cross-jurisdiction trainings are being scheduled for this year.

In January 2002, PIJAAG met in Atlanta for the HIV Surveillance Meeting. The Surveillance Meeting included Pacific Island Jurisdiction breakout sessions to begin addressing issues specific to the region, including specimen shipments, laboratory capacity, and other surveillance issues. PIJAAG also held several marathon meetings, planning its activities for the coming year. PIJAAG will continue to advocate for a modified HIV prevention program announcement for the jurisdictions. The CDC program announcement, planned for 2004, is the main federal HIV prevention funding source for all state and territorial health departments. Currently, all Health Departments apply and compete for dollars using the same federal program announcement (for example, states like New York and California are answering the same application as jurisdictions in the Pacific). If PIJAAG and other advocates are successful, the jurisdictions will be answering a modified announcement that is much more specific to the realities of the region.

PIJAAG will also be presenting at the upcoming Pacific Islander Health Officers' Association (PIHOA) in March being held in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. This is an opportunity for PIHOA to learn about PIJAAG and discuss the issues that impact HIV prevention and care services in the region. As a representative body for the Pacific region on multi-health issues, PIHOA's engagement in HIV issues is a priority. Finally, PIJAAG will be going international, with abstracts on its collaborative process submitted to the 2002 Pacific Regional Public Health Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii and the XIV International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, Spain.

Subscribe to HIV CBA's Electronic

Mailing Lists: Visit the website or email a blank request to the subscription address you interested in receiving information from.

→ **Asian & Pacific Islander HIV Info:**
api-hiv-subscribe@topica.com

→ **Asian & Pacific Islander Women's HIV/AIDS National Network:**
apiwhann-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

→ **National Asian & Pacific Islander Youth and HIV/AIDS Network:**
apiyouth_hiv-subscribe@topica.com

Announcements



Tell Us What You Think! HIV CBA Program Technology Evaluation Survey

We would like to continue improving organizational and programmatic capacity of community-based organizations providing Asian American and Pacific Islander populations with HIV/AIDS prevention and care through the increased utilization of communications technology. This includes our internet website, electronic mailing list (api-hivinfo), and other capacity-building assistance services. Please fill out our evaluation survey to help us assess and develop our program.

You can download 2 versions of the survey (PDF & Word format) online @ www.apiahf.org/programs/hivcba.html.

You may send your survey through...

mail: APIAHF, ATTN: HIV Program Assoc., 942
Market St., Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94102
fax: 415.954.9999 or
email: rgacula@apiahf.org

Consultants Wanted!

Are you a grant writing expert? Have you started or implemented HIV programs before? Do you have skills as an advocate on your Community Planning Group? Have you helped mobilize your community to be involved in HIV prevention?

APIAHF is expanding its database of consultants to help build capacity of CBOs and Health Departments regarding HIV Prevention programs targeting Asians & Pacific Islanders. We're looking for consultants in different priority areas, including organizational development, program development, community mobilization, and HIV prevention community planning. We will be recruiting consultants in all regions, including the Northeast, the Midwest, the South and Southwest, the Northwest, the West, Hawai'i, and the Pacific Island jurisdictions.

If you would like to be on our database, please contact us and send us your resume. We will also send you an application. We will also be posting the announcement and application on our website @ www.apiahf.org.

For questions and info, contact: Prescott Chow
@ 415.954.9970 / pchow@apiahf.org.

Have an event you would like to announce? Please contact Rachel @ rgacula@apiahf.org/ 415.954.9969



NYAC Fifth Annual
National Youth
Summit
May 18-20, 2001
Washington, D.C.
www.nyacyouth.org



National Leadership
Summit to Eliminate
Racial & Ethnic
Disparities in Health
July 10-12, 2002
Washington, DC
www.omhrc.gov



Global Public Health: Issues and
Strategies for Hawaii and the Pacific
June 12-14, 2002
Honolulu, HI
www.hawaiiublichealth.org



Sixth Annual United States
Conference on AIDS (USCA)
September 19-22, 2002
Anaheim, California
www.nmac.org/usca2002



XIV International
AIDS Conference
July 7-12, 2002
Barcelona, Spain
www.AIDS2002.com/NET_Home.asp

HIV Mini-Grants

What is it all about? Through a competitive application process, APIAHF's HIV Mini-Grants program awards 6-8 mini-grants between \$2500-\$5000 to not-for profit, community-based organizations currently providing HIV prevention and/or care services to Asian and Pacific Islanders in the U.S. and U.S. affiliated Pacific Island jurisdictions.

The HIV Mini-Grants Program aims to provide one-time funding to agencies to conduct short-term telehealth/ technological activities that will increase the capacity of organizations to provide improved HIV prevention and care services to Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

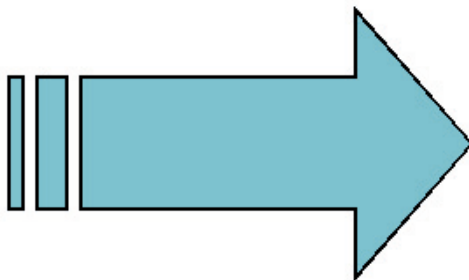
Capacity Building for APIAHF is a general term used to describe the development of individual skills and organizational resources to be able to respond to the long-term health needs in the community. Capacity building can include: leadership development among community members and youth, training and technical assistance, building collaborations, strategic planning and needs assessments. HIV Mini-Grants are available for projects under two general technology capacity-building categories: Supporting HIV Interventions through New Technologies and Implementing HIV Interventions Utilizing New Technologies.

Supporting HIV Interventions through New Technologies includes projects that will use new technologies to support new or existing HIV interventions. For example, projects could

include HIV internet resources training for staff to enhance or strengthen a program's HIV program curricula; supporting teleconferencing to encourage HIV staff peer-to-peer support and learning; or purchasing hardware/software for HIV staff to better perform their jobs, etc. **Implementing HIV Interventions Utilizing New Technologies** includes projects that will conduct HIV interventions, through new or innovative approaches utilizing new technologies as one of its main activities. For example, projects could include purchasing internet access for HIV staff to conduct chatroom HIV prevention outreach; developing agency websites to include HIV information and linkages; purchasing hardware/software for clients to access HIV treatment information; developing an online forum for peer-to-peer discussion on safe sex, etc.

Through these types of activities, the HIV Mini-Grants Program aims to enhance the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum's vision of an integrated telecommunication infrastructure that will increase access to and improve delivery of HIV services to API communities by promoting the use of advanced communications and information technologies by API-serving organizations.

The HIV program currently has eight grantees under this mini-grant program. Between these programs or organizations, there is a versatility of different types of small and large projects. The review process for 2001-2002 Cycle 2 is on its way.



Who are the
HIV Cycle 1
Mini-Grantees
for 2001-2002?

- **Asian Health Coalition of Illinois (AHCI) – Chicago, IL**
Increase culturally and linguistically specific HIV online information by categorizing API specific HIV links for individual and organizational access.
- **Asian Pacific Islanders for Human Rights (APIHR) – Los Angeles, CA**
Establish an interactive website on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersexual queer and questioning issues impacting the API community that is accessible in English, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Tagalog, Thai and Vietnamese.
- **AIDS Services in Asian Communities (ASIAC) – Philadelphia, PA**
Distribute health referral contacts to API MSMs (Men Who Have Sex with Men) on line, conduct internet chat room outreach, and make ASIAC's website linguistically accessible in 5 different Asian languages.
- **Cambodian Dancers of San Diego (CSDS) – San Diego, CA**
Purchase equipment to increase CSDS's youth ability to build a network with other Cambodian youth via the internet to discuss issues affecting youth, including HIV/AIDS.
- **Chuuk Public Health – Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia**
Establish a network among API Serving Organization to increase collaboration and sharing HIV/AIDS Intervention and Information through a listserv and other on-line resources.

(continued from pg. 6 “HIV Mini-Grants”)

- **Coral Life Foundation – Hagatna, Guam**
Design an agency website that promotes accessibility of culturally and linguistically appropriate HIV information to the community of Guam.
- **Malama Pono – Lihu’e, HI**
Update the current agency’s website and develop a plan to move toward the utilization of technology for provision of HIV prevention interventions in chatrooms.
- **Youth-2-Youth (Y2Y), Guam Communications Network – Long Beach, CA**
Create a network of AAPI youth from the Pacific Basin and throughout the U.S to involve youth in HIV/AIDS advocacy activities. Develop HIV/AIDS multimedia educational materials that are youth-focused as well as culturally and linguistically appropriate.

If you have any questions about the HIV Mini-Grants, please email **Kim Nguyen** at knguyen@apiahf.org or call **415.954.9962**. You may also contact the HIV Program Manager, **Prescott Chow** at pchow@apiahf.org/ **415.954.9970**. To view the Mini-Grant application, please visit www.apiahf.org/programs/hivcba.html.

Have you thought about being part of a HIV Capacity-Building Discussion Board?

If so, here’s your chance to join the APIAHF HIV Program’s pilot discussion board site. The program has instituted a new online site that will be use to test HIV program/organization related discussion boards and other possible interactive activities. This discussion board is for community members, providers, researchers, students, policy-makers and advocates involved in HIV/AIDS prevention and care, and working towards improving the health and wellness in Asian & Pacific Islander communities. **You are welcome to contact Rachel Gacula at 415.954.9969/ rgacula@apiahf.org , if you would like to begin a group discussion board page or have topics of interest you would to see part of the discussion board.** Visit the general discussion board and post your comments.

What is a Discussion Board? A discussion board is an online bulletin board, which provides a way for users to be informed of news and relevant information, or get involved in discussion topics. Members can disseminate and receive information quickly, as well as maintain an archive of posted information by topics. Posted information on the discussion board can be easily referred back to and printed out.

Users can add their own discussion or reply to other messages. This is called “threading”, which is a way members can link discussions on the board (similar to replying and posting emails). This ensures that information is quickly shared organized, and kept-up-to date all in one place. Archiving the discussion on an online bulletin board is a method that helps ease the hassle of organizing conversation-type emails that can get lost in the email inbox and are difficult to refer back to.

Highlights:

- Place important information quickly and easily online all in one central place.
- Allow users to share information, feedback, notes, etc.
- Quickly access specific message topics and reply/post messages.
- Access information at anytime, from anywhere.

How does it work? There are two discussion board types on the site: general and group discussion boards. Users will mainly access the group discussion boards. The general discussion board will be mainly utilized for user feedback and very broad topics.

It is not intended to be an anonymous user site and therefore only enrolled authorized users will have full access to available features. However guests will at least be able to take part in the general discussion board. If you would like to view the site (including the general discussion board) as a guest, visit: www.blackboard.com/courses/API-HIVCBA. Please bookmark this link for future reference if you plan to visit the site again.

User Manual Guide You may download the user manual (PDF and MS Word) from the HIV Program’s website at www.apiahf.org/programs/hivcba.html or from or the the Blackboard.com site (click on Course Information) at www.blackboard.com/courses/API-HIVCBA.