

APIAHF Chronic Diseases Program Publications

AAPI Cancer Survivors Focus Group Summary & Recommendations Report

As an effort of the AAPI Cancer Survivors Capacity Building Project, APIAHF and its Consortium Partners in California, Hawaii, and Massachusetts implemented a series of focus groups during a two year period to assess AAPI community needs in regards to cancer and survivorship. The focus groups gathered cancer survivors, health care providers, and community members to exchange information about existing support services and their efficacy in the provision of care, encourage dialogue about the challenges and barriers in patients' pursuit of healthcare services, and brainstorm methods by which to address patient needs and concerns. The insightful feedback of patients and providers at these respective sessions have been instrumental in deepening APIAHF's and consortium partners' perspectives on appropriate care for AAPI cancer survivors and strengthening efforts to develop groundbreaking, relevant programs and resources. In addition to conducting face-to-face focus groups, APIAHF worked with evaluation consultants, La France Associates, LLC, to develop an online survey with similar questions from the focus group protocol. This online survey was sent to the Asian & Pacific Islander National Cancer Survivors Network (APINCSN) membership to capture those geographic areas not covered by the focus groups.



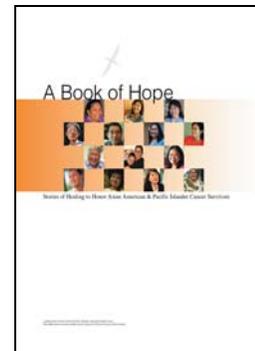
AAPI Cancer Support Groups Case Study

The Asian American & Pacific Islander Cancer Support Groups Case Study highlights successes, challenges, and best practices for developing cancer support groups specific to AAPI ethnic communities. While there are increasing numbers of AAPI ethnic specific cancer support groups available, there has not been a publication to showcase specific support groups that are in existence at varying stages of development. This case study was developed to assist organizations that are interested in developing cancer support groups that are AAPI ethnic specific.



A Book of Hope: Stories of Healing to Honor Asian Americans & Pacific Islander Cancer Survivors

A Book of Hope is primarily intended to educate and raise awareness about cancer survivorship among AAPIs by representing individual narratives of challenges and successes. One key message that the book conveys is that people thrive and have happy, fulfilling lives despite the physical and medical challenges imposed by cancer. The love and support of family members and friends are key elements in coping with cancer for AAPIs. *A Book of Hope* can be used to educate community members and leaders, policy makers, health care institutions, community based organizations, and health care providers about how cancer impacts the patient and their family and what is needed to improve health care delivery and outcomes. This is not only a collection of inspirational stories, but also a community driven and community developed advocacy tool.



Pacific Islander Cancer Survivorship Educational Forum – Pilot Project: Focus Group Summary

During the first year of this project, APIAHF worked with Guam Communications Network, Samoan National Nurses Association, and Taulama for Tongans to conduct in-language focus groups with Chamorro, Samoan, and Tongan cancer survivors and/or patients. Through the focus groups, qualitative information about cancer survivorship, availability of cancer resources, and cancer support needs that impact their communities has been compiled and is presented in this Focus Group Summary Report.



Pacific Islander Cancer Survivorship Educational Forum – Pilot Project: Proceedings Report

APIAHF developed the curriculum for two Pacific Islander cancer survivorship educational forums based on the recommendations from Pacific Islander in-language focus groups. These educational forums were held in Northern and Southern California February and March 2006. This report summarizes the sessions and presentations from the educational forums, which focused on cancer research and data, cancer survivor stories, clinical trials, support groups, and cancer survivorship issues in Pacific Islander communities.



Cardiovascular Risk in the Cambodian, Filipino and Vietnamese Communities

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) worked in partnership with the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum to conduct an assessment of the cardiovascular health status of AAPIs. Three formative research methods were used to study the communities: (1) focus groups with staff and volunteers from local community service agencies, (2) key informant interviews with community leaders, and (3) indepth interviews with community residents conducted by bilingual facilitators. These reports provide insight into the communities, its perceptions and knowledge of heart disease, and motivations to making healthy lifestyle changes.

- Cambodian study: Partnered with Lowell Community Health Center in the city of Lowell, Massachusetts.
- Filipino study: Partnered with West Bay Pilipino Multi-Services, Inc. in San Francisco, California.
- Vietnamese study: Partnered with the Research and Development Institute in Houston, Texas.



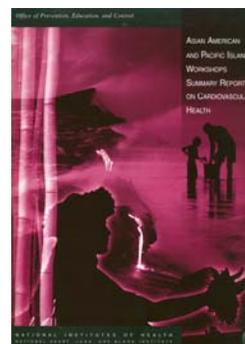
Eliminating Racial & Ethnic Disparities in Cardiovascular Health: Improving the Cardiovascular Health of AAPI Populations in the US

Funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the First National AAPI Cardiovascular Health Strategy Workshop provided an objective account of AAPI cardiovascular health profile and to mobilize public/private health sectors and AAPI communities to set priorities for the development of a National Asian American and Pacific Islander Cardiovascular Health Action Plan. This action plan identifies priority areas which must be addressed in order to improve the cardiovascular health of AAPI communities and to further the Nation's goal of eliminating disparities in health.



AAPI Workshops Summary Report on Cardiovascular Health

In its initial efforts to address heart health in AAPI communities, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute collaborated with Moloka'i General Hospital and the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum to conduct workshops on identifying cardiovascular health needs and strategy development. This summary report provides a description of the workshop agendas, a list of discussion questions developed to engage participants in exploring the needs and opportunities for cardiovascular health promotion in the AAPI communities, and community recommendations based on group discussions. In preparation for the workshop, APIAHF collaborated with AAPI researchers and community-based organizations to conduct a literature review of epidemiological research studies, key informant interviews, and ethnographic interviews on food habits and physical exercise.



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