



# API 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.



## API Community Planning Group October Meeting

By Prescott Chow, APIAHF staff

In collaboration with partner agency (and CDC 99091 grantee) A&PI Wellness Center, APIAHF along with other partner agencies planned and convened an API Community Planning Group meeting. The meeting focused on promoting networking, developing peer-to-peer leadership and support, and developing an Asian & Pacific Islander specific Community Planning orientation manual. Forty-eight (48) participants were invited to this two-and-a-half day working meeting based on CPG membership, leadership experience in the CPG process, geographic diversity, ethnic diversity, and target population experiences. The October 15 – 16 meeting was held in Hawai'i, the only state where the majority of CPG members are Asian and/or Pacific Islander.

The objectives of the 2-day meeting were 1) to improve participation in HIV Prevention Community Planning Groups by creating a training curriculum for new and prospective API CPG members and 2) to improve networking and support among current and past API CPG members.

Day one focused on networking and support within the group, started with a welcome from APIAHF, A&PI Wellness Center, and Malama Pono / Hawai'i Multi-Cultural HIV Resource Project (the local host committee) as well as a traditional Native Hawaiian blessing by Val Kanuha. After the objectives and expectations of the meeting were stated, the group took some time to introduce themselves and the CPGs they represented. An icebreaker was conducted so participants could get to know each other a little more and identify those in the group with whom they may share something in common. APIAHF staff Ignatius Bau and Gem Daus followed with presentations on the history of CPGs, and a description of existing CPG-related trainings and resources.

Two fishbowl exercises followed to highlight the experiences of APIs in different situations. The first fishbowl with API co-chairs had participants discuss their experience in leadership positions. Participants included Nancy Wong Beaumont (Florida), Cesar Cadabes (Hawai'i), Dean Goishi (California), Dredge Kang (San Francisco), Francisco Sy (South Carolina), and Ed Tepporn (Missouri).

The second fishbowl with APIs and Coalition Building had participants discuss their experience in coalitions and consortiums related to the CPG process. Participants included John Manzon-Santos (New York), Suki Terada Ports (New York City), Thomas Hsu (Georgia), Karen Hong (Hawai'i), Ramani Sripada-Vaz (Massachusetts), Phillip Huang (California), and Norma Timbang (Seattle-King County).

Day one ended with the participants breaking out by number of API members in their CPG (only one API, two APIs, three to five APIs, and where APIs are the majority members). The groups discussed their experiences and then prepared a skit to 'sell' or 'advertise' their CPG to potential members.

(Continued on page 2)

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We welcome your comments, suggestions, and/ or contributions. Please send to:  
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**Website:** [www.apiahf.org](http://www.apiahf.org)

#### **HIV CBA Program Staff**

Ignatius Bau - Policy Director  
Prescott Chow - Program Manager  
ManChui Leung - Program Coordinator  
Rachel J. Gacula - Program Associate

#### **HIV CBA Partner Agencies**

Asian and Pacific Islander Coalition  
on HIV/AIDS (APICHA)  
275 Seventh Ave., 12th Floor  
New York, New York 10001  
(212) 620 - 7287  
[www.apicha.org](http://www.apicha.org)

Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness  
Center (A&PIWC)  
730 Polk St., 4th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94109  
(415) 292-3400  
[www.apowellness.org](http://www.apowellness.org)

Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention  
Team (APIAT)  
605 West Olympic Blvd., Suite 610  
Los Angeles 900015  
(213) 553-1830  
[members.labridge.com/lacn/apait](http://members.labridge.com/lacn/apait)

Malama Pono - Kaua'i AIDS Project  
P.O. Box 1950  
Lihue, HI 96766  
(808) 246-9577  
[www.malama-pono.org](http://www.malama-pono.org)

Asian Health Coalition of Illinois  
4554 North Broadway, Suite 306  
Chicago, IL 60640  
(773) 878-3539

#### **API Community Planning Group October Meeting - continued from page 1**

Day two focused on the development of the API Community Planning orientation manual/ training curriculum through breakout groups. Participants self-selected into groups and created outlines of curriculum (as well as training curriculum) for their section. The groups also listed learning objectives and shared experiences around the topic. The group discussion included: Membership; Using Epidemiological and Community Need Assessments; Prioritization; Coalition Building and Alliance Building; Advocacy and Leadership Development; How to Develop & Maintain Knowledge Base on API HIV Prevention; and API Intra-Issues. Report backs of the breakout groups' outlines followed, with next steps and evaluations ending the meeting. Participants expressed interest in following up with the materials, and will help in the final manual write-up. In addition, participants expressed willingness to be used as consultants to provide these trainings for new and potential API Community Planning Group members.

Draft manual topic areas:

##### **1. Introduction**

A history of Community Planning Groups and API Involvement; about this manual and the meeting that created it. (not yet written)

##### **2. Intra API issues**

Facilitators: Vince Crisostomo, Clarita Santos

Chi Wai Au, Edd Lee, John Manzon-Santos, Erme Maula, Suki Terada Ports, Ramani Sripada-Vaz, Marlon Wallen

A section discussing Intra-API issues, including API issues, gender issues, and anti-oppression issues.

##### **3. Membership**

Facilitator: Javid Syed

Thomas Hsu, Ludy Resurrecion, Alex Silverio, Ron Sy, Norma Timbang, Darrel Wong

A section describing the role and responsibilities of API CPG members, and other membership issues.

##### **4. How to Develop HIV Knowledge Base in API HIV Prevention**

Facilitator: Prescott Chow

Bart Aoki, Laverne Fuller, Dredge Kang, Henry Ocampo, Billy Pick, Peter Silva, Francisco Sy

This section's objectives are to build confidence; to increase credibility; to increase effectiveness of advocacy; and to think critically to apply information to local needs. Also included in this section will be a self assessment tool to be taken periodically.

##### **5. Using Epidemiology and Community Needs Assessment**

Facilitator: Xuan-Lan Doan

Chwee Lye Chng, Chris Fung, Frank Wong, John J. Wong, Nancy Wongvipat

This piece gives an overview of data collection, tools & methodologies, epidemiology's relevancy to APIs, and resources. (Continued on page 5)

## Welcome New Staff Members



### ManChui Leung: HIV Program Coordinator

Hi! I just started at with the Health Forum's API CBA HIV Program at the end of January. I previously worked at the Chinese-American Planning Council-HIV/AIDS Services in New York City, the Asian Society for the Intervention of AIDS (ASIA) on the Facing Out Together project in Vancouver, Canada, along with other immigrant, queer and youth community organizations in both cities. I am looking forward to meeting and working with you and your organizations. If you have any questions about our program or any of the national working groups, please feel free to contact me at [mleung@apiahf.org](mailto:mleung@apiahf.org) or 415.954.9993.

Thanks!



### Rachel J. Gacula: HIV Program Associate

Hello everyone! I just began working with the Health Forum since January. I'm very excited about collaborating with the HIV program staff, partner agencies, and health organizations. I've worked at both Ohlone College and California State University, Hayward's Student Health Education Departments. Much of my experience in HIV has dealt with college health education outreach, workshop facilitation, program development, as well as testing and counseling. I look forward to meeting and working with many of you! Feel free to contact me. Email: [rgacula@apiahf.org](mailto:rgacula@apiahf.org) / Tel: 415.954.9969

## Asian & Pacific Islander Women's HIV/AIDS National Network Retreat: January 26 - 29, 2001

By ManChui Leung, APIAHF staff

The Asian & Pacific Islander Women's HIV/AIDS National Network (APIWHANN), formerly the National Asian & Pacific Islander Women's HIV Prevention Working Group, convened 14 steering committee members for a leadership retreat January 26-29, 2001 in the Medocino Coast, north of San Francisco, CA.

The main goals for the retreat were to build APIWHANN's capacity, build member support, and promote leadership. During the retreat, steering committee members got to know each other better and understand the context of each other's work and community. They also finalized APIWHANN's mission, goals and objectives, and identified gaps in the network's membership and activities.



ManChui & Denise in action

APIWHANN formed in 1998, as a grassroots effort to form a national voice in response to issues of invisibility, marginalization and underreporting affecting API women. In the past 2 years, APIWHANN has had many opportunities to meet face-to-face at various conference and meetings, but this was the first time the APIWHANN steering committee had the opportunity to have a retreat focused on team building, network structure, self-care, and action planning. (continued on page 4)

### Asian & Pacific Islander Women's HIV/AIDS National Network Retreat - continued from page 3

At the retreat, steering committee members from Chuuk (Federated States of Micronesia), Philadelphia, Washington D.C., San Francisco, New York, Los Angeles, Oakland, Seattle, Boston, Hagatna (Guam), New York and Honolulu along with facilitators from API Wellness Center and APIAHF from San Francisco learned more about the challenges and strategies of advocating and promoting API women's leadership and inclusion. Some highlights included learning more about the politics, economics and cultural histories of the Pacific Islands, especially Guam and Federated States of Micronesia; learning more about API women living with HIV/AIDS; affirming the importance of making APIWHANN inclusive and accessible; and learning about the benefits of API women working regionally, such as the Bay Area Women's HIV/AIDS Advisory Group, and strategizing ways to work better with regional groups.

APIWHANN steering committee felt this retreat provided a new beginning that brought members to a common understanding of APIWHANN's history, mission and direction. Some future activities include participating in A&PI Wellness Center's A&PI Women's Wellness Day on March 8, International Women's Day; a skills-building workshop at APIAHF's "VOICES: From the Community" conference from April 27-29, and finalizing the APIWHANN's re-search study.



APIWHANN Retreat participants

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Asian & Pacific Islander Women's HIV/AIDS National Network (APIWHANN) is to empower A&PI women impacted by HIV/AIDS through creating & maintaining a forum that develops leadership, provides support and advocates on HIV related issues.

#### OBJECTIVES

1. To produce and share research data on API women's needs.
2. To mentor API women through continual networking and support
3. To be involved in policy making through monitoring and advocating for API women's issues.
4. To build national and international collaborations, coalitions and networks with women living with HIV/AIDS, women of color movements and other social justice movements.
5. To link HIV/AIDS with other health and wellness issues.
6. To identify gaps within the Asian & Pacific Islander Women's HIV/AIDS National Network.

#### GOALS

1. To increase awareness and visibility of women's issues as they relate to HIV/AIDS prevention and care within API communities.
2. To address API women's HIV/AIDS issues within the larger context of health and wellness.
3. To understand how HIV spreads in different communities.
4. To build and expand community capacity among women in API communities.

If you are interested in APIWHAAN, please contact **ManChui Leung** at **415.954.9993/ mleung@apiahf.org** or join APIWHANN's listserv for the latest info on API Women and HIV through emailing a request to **apiwhaan@yahogroups.com**

## API Community Planning Group October Meeting - continued from page 2

### 7. Advocacy & Leadership Development

Facilitator: Gem Daus

Indira Parmar, Dean Goishi, Joslyn Maula, Joel Tan, Ed Tepporn, Hina Wong

A piece on advocacy roles and responsibilities of API CPG members and different models to support member's involvement and leadership.

### 8. Coalition and Alliance Building

Facilitator: Ignatius Bau

Nancy Wong Beaumont, Karen Hong, Anthony Ichishita, Plunket Phommachanh, Paige Peahu, Jess San Roque, Richard Liu

This section discusses the fundamental building blocks of coalition and alliance building, discussing diversity training, accountability, and tools to help facilitate the process.

### 9. Meeting & Dynamics of Meetings / API communication

This section will discuss the actual meeting process of community planning, including parliamentary procedures, etc. It will also include discussion on API communication issues. (the group thinks there are materials currently available to address this issue)

### 10. Final thoughts and wishes

Messages from current and past API community planning members.

### 11. Resources

This section will include literature, manuals, and materials currently available that are related to APIs and community planning. This section will also contain a glossary of terms. Finally, there will be a directory of API CPG members, both past and current.

Additional topics areas:

#### 1. Frequently Asked Questions

#### 2. Decision making & funding – education for funders.

Participants were enthusiastic about the on-going activities related to this project. Individuals committed to helping complete the orientation manual, with initial write-ups completed by session facilitators. Daniel Bao from Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center also plans to pilot the Prioritization curricula at the upcoming Asian & Pacific Islander Institute at the 2001 Community Planning Leadership Summit in Houston, Texas.

The new HIV Technical Assistance Trainer at Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center will develop the first draft of this curriculum with help from volunteers. This draft will be available by the end of Year 02 (October, 2001).

Subscribe to **API-HIV Info**

Visit the **HIV CBA webpage** and submit your email in the listserv box or send a blank email subscription request to:

**api-hiv-subscribe@topica.com**

## Upcoming Voices Conference:

By Rachel Gacula, APIAHF staff

Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum will be hosting another Voices from the Community: Building Community Readiness to Improve Asian American & Pacific Islander Health National Conference @ Hotel Sofitel in Redwood City, CA from April 27-29, 2001. 450-500 health professionals, youth, students, and organizational members will be expecting to attend the conference. The Health Forum hosted its first Voices Conference in 1997. Since then several advancements have been made in creating opportunities to help improve community health and well-being including the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and signing of the Presidential Executive Order 13166.

We are inviting individuals and organizations that involve Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in their health services, education research, or policy activities, and who are interested in capacity and leadership building to improve of community health and well-being on a local, regional, and national level. Visit the VOICES website at [www.apiahf.org](http://www.apiahf.org). Online registrations encouraged.



online info available @ [www.apiahf.org](http://www.apiahf.org)  
Hotel Sofitel - Redwood City, CA

### VOICES: API HIV Youth Session

As part of the VOICES conference, an API HIV Youth Workshop will be offered to give participants a chance to share experiences, knowledge, resources, and strategies on how to address matters pertaining to youth involvement in HIV programs through both discussion and interactive activities. Everyone is encouraged to join the session. The session will introduced the new National API HIV Youth Working Group and allow attendees to find out how they can get involved as well as to develop strategies and ideas for the working group. It will be a wonderful opportunity for individuals to begin communicating and networking with others who are interested in API HIV youth issues.

### Do you want to get involve in the Youth or Early Career Tracks?

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY 2001 would like to announce its YOUTH and EARLY CAREER TRACKS. We encourage youths (25 and under), students, and individuals just starting in the health field (within 2 years of service) to participate. These tracks will provide opportunities to meet other Asian & Pacific Islander youth, students, and early professionals doing community work; participate in intergenerational dialogues; and ensure that youth and early career voices are heard at a national level.

The YOUTH TRACK will offer a youth dialogue, intergenerational dialogue, youth lounge night, and workshops. The EARLY CAREER TRACK will include a career development workshop and intergenerational leadership lunch, which will provide opportunities to network with colleagues and established community leaders who are working together to improve the health, wellness and capacity of Asian & Pacific Islander communities. Both tracks will provide additional activities throughout the VOICES conference.

**For Youth and Early Career track participants, there will be an ORIENTATION LUNCH on Friday, April 27 at 11:00am in Hotel Sofitel.**

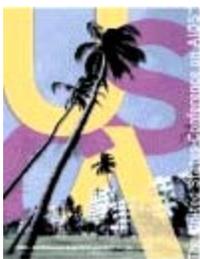
It is very important that track participants come to the ORIENTATION LUNCH.

- If you have not been contacted yet, those interested in the Early Career Track, please provide your name and interest as a mentor or mentee at the conference. Contact Susana Lowe at 415.954.9956/ [slowe@apiahf.org](mailto:slowe@apiahf.org) by Friday, April 6, 2001, 5:00pm PST. This is necessary to help ensure that you are included in the Early Career track.
- Youth track participants, please indicate if you are interested in the youth track by contacting ManChui Leung at 415.954.9993/ [mleung@apiahf.org](mailto:mleung@apiahf.org).
- If you're coming to the conference and interested in helping out, contact Rachel Gacula at 415.954.9969/ [rgacula@apiahf.org](mailto:rgacula@apiahf.org)

# Notes...



**NMAC  
Upcoming  
Event**



## **United States Conference on AIDS 2001**

September 13-16, 2001  
[www.nmac.org](http://www.nmac.org)

Fontainebleau Hilton Resort and Towers  
Miami Beach, Florida  
Contact: [info@nmac.org](mailto:info@nmac.org)

Check out  
the new  
Links @ the  
**API HIV  
CBA**

## **New Archive @ the HIV CBA Home Page**

**“What put gay men of color at risk for HIV? Is it ethnic identity? Gay identity? or Sexual sensation seeking?”**

by Chwee Lye Chng, Ph.D. (University of North Texas) &  
Jesus Geliga Vargas, M. S. (Resource Center of Dallas)



## **“Breaking Down Barriers”**

October 5-10, 2001  
Melbourne, Australia

6th International Congress on  
AIDS in Asia and the Pacific  
[www.icaap.conf.au](http://www.icaap.conf.au)

Contact: **Sue Chaplin**  
Email: [Sue.Chaplin@icaap.conf.au](mailto:Sue.Chaplin@icaap.conf.au)

August 12-15, 2001  
Hyatt Regency Atlanta Hotel  
Atlanta, Georgia



[www.2001HIVPrevConf.org](http://www.2001HIVPrevConf.org)  
conference hotLine: 404.233.6446

National Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health



September 4-6, 2001  
The Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.  
Contact: BETAH Associates, Inc.  
Phone: 1-888-516-5599  
Web Site: [www.betah.com/conferences/leadership/main.html](http://www.betah.com/conferences/leadership/main.html)