



Ask SSG

Next Issue:
October 21st

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July - August 2005

Congratulations to this year's Employees of the Year

The following is excerpted from their nominations.

Josephine Vu, Older Adults Program (OAP)



Since she was hired in 2003, Josephine's willingness and openness to new challenges made her an exemplary employee, and she has grown significantly over the years. In times of difficulty, she always finds a way to remain level headed as well as to calm others around her. She is a team player, and she quickly volunteers to take upon new responsibilities when

asked, as well as to assist other team members. Josephine always applies her best effort to all her work. Josephine has contributed to OAP and SSG by giving the program a name in the community she serves by providing quality services, mobilizing the community, and organizing health fairs and other events. She is highly recognized and admired by the funders of OAP, by the network of other providers, and most importantly by the community and the individual clients she works for.

Woo Kim, Occupational Therapy Training Program (OTTP)



Woo has been with OTTP since 1998, exhibiting a positive attitude and high motivation. He is consistently willing to assist co-workers and managers, takes on work without hesitation, and does 'whatever it takes.' Woo successfully took on a number of additional responsibilities this year – including but not limited to completing complicated

WIA program intakes - and maintained an outstanding attitude every single day. He realizes the importance of being a team player and how his individual contribution to the team will ensure success. Woo is the founder and group facilitator for the mentoring group, a men's support group. He has impacted male clients by giving them a positive outlet and supportive environment where they can express themselves, and he strives to deliver creative and fresh ideas to the young men. Woo demonstrates how a positive attitude and a sense of humor can help anyone persevere, even during busy days

Gloria Solorio, Children's Dental Program



Gloria has been with the Dental Program since 1998 and is always reliable, hard-working, and compassionate. She raises the spirits and morale of the small, tight team at the clinic. She takes the time to gain the trust and respect from families who typically are mistrustful and frightened of mainstream organizations and systems.

Although not in her job description, she often takes on the role of mentor, case manager, and friend to the families she serves. She symbolizes what it means to 'help the community' and has committed her heart and soul to helping those in need. She will often go out of her way to provide additional support to clients, such as organizing gift drives for specific families in need. Gloria has a special way of making people feel at ease and not ashamed or 'different' in any way because of their economic situation. Gloria has shown how caring and concern for children brings out the very best in all of us.

Veronica Kelley, Faith in Communities



Veronica has been with FIC since 2004. She is extremely successful at work that is central to SSG's mission of supporting emerging community groups and organizations. She develops training and technical assistance relationships with these organizations in order to support their growth and success and, ultimately, to better serve the community. She juggles a complicated schedule of multiple projects, ensuring that each client organization receives quality services. At the same time, she is instrumental to the

coordination of the huge annual AI-Impics, which is a prominent South Los Angeles substance abuse recovery event. This event has been an enormous success over the last few years. Veronica is dedicated and organized, and she does this important work without often being in the limelight.



PLEASE RECYCLE

PROGRAM NEWS & SSG HIGHLIGHTS

SSG Welcomes New Board Member

SSG is honored to welcome **Donald Kincey** as a new Board Member, July 2005. He has over 20 years experience in community development and banking in Los Angeles. He currently works for Comerica Bank to promote and build partnerships to facilitate the delivery of financial services to businesses in LA and San Diego. In previous positions, he was responsible for managing the community health programs division of the WATTS Health Foundation and he has served as vice president with several major banks including Wells Fargo and Chase Manhattan.



PALS for Health

FUNDRAISER - Take a trip to the tropics for dinner on Monday, September 19, from 6-9 PM. It's a pretty casual affair, just come hungry and remember to bring you friends, family, neighbors, strangers, anyone really. Oh, and of course everyone should bring a copy of the flyer, find it on line at (www.palsforhealth.org/events) so that the restaurant can donate to **PALS for Health 15%** of all meal receipts.

Yazmin Malaysian Restaurant

27 E. Main St. (@Garfield), Alhambra, 91801

Asian Pacific Islander Mental Health Alliance

On September 23, 2005 the **API Alliance** will hold their **3rd Annual Sports Festival** at the Cerritos Regional Park in Cerritos, CA. The event hosts a wide variety of sports competitions including baseball, basketball, volleyball, badminton, team relays and board games. This year the program is expecting over 100 participants which include clients, their families, friends and agency staff. It is truly a day of fun - playing sports, catching up and spending time with old chums. For more information about this event please call **Trang Hoang**, Clinical Director at 310-383-3085.



Census Data & Geographic Information Services

CD&GIS recently conducted two workshops entitled "*Accessing Census and Other Community Data Online*". To discover how such information can support your programs and to schedule a training on-site, contact **Eric Wat**, Data Manager at 213-553-1820 or ewat@ssgmain.org.

Faith In Communities

Feeling Alive in 2005. The **Fifth Annual LA AL-Impics** will be held on **Saturday, September 17, 2005, 7am-4pm**. Over 3,000 individuals and children in recovery from alcohol and drug abuse come together for one day to celebrate sobriety and wellness. The Olympic-style event includes track & field, basketball, volleyball, weightlifting and social games. The day begins with a parade and banner competition and ends with entertainment and an awards ceremony. Event will be held at:



Compton Community College
1111 E. Artesia Blvd., Compton 90221

For information on how to participate or volunteer, contact **Veronica Kelley**, 213-236-9389 or vkelly@ssgmain.org

Orange County Asian & Pacific Islander Community Alliance

Weaving an Islander Network for Cancer Awareness, Research and Training (WINCART) is a university-community consortium to undertake community-based participatory research processes for development of a sustainable network to reduce preventable cancer incidence and mortality among five Pacific Islander communities (Chamorro, Marshallese, Native Hawaiian, Samoan and Tongan) in So. CA. SSG's Tongan Community Service Center in partnership with OCAPICA (Community Coordinator for this Project) is involved in this exciting venture. The WINCART Kickoff Event was held on August 29th, 2005 at the Carson Community Center. Principal Investigator is Dr. Sora Park Tanjasiri of CSUF.

Mary Ann Foo, Executive Director of OCAPICA is a recipient of *The Raise Foundation's 2005 Caring Communities Award*. She will receive the award on September 17th at the Balboa Bay Club and Resort. Congratulations!

The **SSG Institutional Review Board (IRB)** held a meeting on July 29th, 2005 to complete a review of community based research projects approved by the IRB in 2004-2005. Projects include the Southeast Asian Health Research Project/OCAPICA, Outcomes Research and Evaluation Project/Program For Torture Victims, Caring for Our Family Program/APCTC and Measuring the Sustainability of Performance Outcomes/OTTP-LA. The SSG-IRB is certified by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Human Research Protections.



Front row (l to r): Dr. Megan Berthold, Naomi Kageyama (Chair) and Eric Wat (Administrator). Back row (l to r): Dr. Leo Pandac, Akiko Mimura-Lazare, Cheryl Branch, Saul Sarabia and Jacqueline Tran. Members not present: Dr. Herbert Hatanaka, Sarah Bream, Mary Anne Foo, Dr. Trang Hoang, Lola Sablan-Santos and Rev. Eugene Williams.



CELEBRATING SSG'S SUPERSTARS 2005



MORE SSG NEWS

PAADP Has Moved!

On August 11, 2005, the LA County Refugee Service Center located at 523 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90020 was evacuated due to structural damage and the need for environmental improvements.



The various public and private social service programs housed in the Refugee Service Center have been requested to relocate immediately. This includes the SSG/PACIFIC ASIAN ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM (PAADP).

Please note that PAADP's services will continue at the following locations:

Site 1: LA County
San Gabriel Valley Service Center
1441 Santa Anita Ave
South El Monte, CA 91733
Phone # 626- 442-0222
Fax # 626-442-2619

Site 2: SSG - Downtown Site
333 S. Central Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Phone# 213-620-5712 Ext. 105
Fax# 213-621-4155

If you need to speak with Director **Leo Pandac**, please contact him at leopandac@earthlink.net or by cell phone @ 213-810-0279.

The International Day of Peace September 21

The International Day of Peace provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations and nations to create practical acts of Peace on a shared date. It was established by a United Nations resolution in 1981, and first celebrated Sept.1982.

How: Through various paths to personal and planetary Peace: Join people throughout the world in one minute of silence (or more!) his Day, and at NOON every day, in our common commitment to Peace. Ring a bell, light a candle for Peace. Be kind, forgiving and compassionate in all relationships. Promote the Day as one dedicated to nonviolence and global ceasefire.

Participate in a Peace-Building project that is inter-generational and inter-cultural.

85th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote!

Constitutional amendments giving women the right to vote had been introduced in Congress regularly beginning in 1878. All were defeated until June 4, 1919, when Congress finally passed what was known as the Anthony Amendment, named for famous suffragist Susan B. Anthony, who had died in 1906.

After five decades of tireless work, the Democratic and Republican parties both endorsed women's right to vote. On August 24, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was finally ratified, allowing women to vote.

Some Dates to Remember September - October!

(Please refer to your Payroll Schedule for a complete listing of agency observed holiday.)

9/5 Labor Day (SSG Holiday)
9/22 Autumn Begins
10/4 Rosh Hashanah
10/4 First of Ramadan
10/13 Yom Kippur
10/16 Boss' Day
10/30 Daylight Savings Ends
10/31 Halloween