



# Ask SSG

Next Issue:  
June 22

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May - June 2005

## Cutting Edge News...

### SSG NOW PROVIDES MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AT AUGUSTUS HAWKINGS, SOUTH LA

Due to tremendous overcrowding in our emergency rooms, LA County has been working to reduce the number of clients who remain in the hospital, when in fact a lower level of care may be more appropriate. In October 2004, SSG was approached by Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Alcohol & Drug Program Administration (ADPA) to provide substance abuse counseling, assessment and referrals onsite at Augustus Hawkins Mental Health Center. Augustus Hawkins, which is located on the grounds of King Drew Medical Center in South Los Angeles, is a directly operated mental health clinic run by the Department of Mental Health. Within Augustus Hawkins, there is a newly opened Urgent Care Center which serves clients who are referred from the psychiatric emergency room. In Urgent Care, clients are able to stay for up to 23 hours and not be hospitalized. Once a client is referred to Urgent Care, they are assessed to see if substance use is related to their psychiatric emergency. If the treatment team at Urgent Care determines the client may have substance use issues, they are then referred to our onsite staff for assessment and referral. Initially this pilot started by providing services on weekends and holidays. **On April 18<sup>th</sup>, SSG began to provide our services 7 days/week at Augustus Hawkins.** Many of the staff at HOP were very instrumental in launching this project. A very special thank you to **Kathy Harvey** for coordinating all the scheduling, overseeing the implementation of the project, and even working many of the weekends herself. Congratulations to **Ernesto Quiroz** who was promoted to the Program Manager for the Urgent Care project. To date, over 30 individuals have been successfully referred to appropriate treatment facilities.

### More on SSG's Mental Health Services...



Hayley Levy

On June 2, 2005, **Hayley Levy, MA, LMFT**, SSG Director of Administration, was invited to speak on a prestigious panel at the *4<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Conference on Co-Occurring Disorders* held at the Long Beach Convention Center. The theme of the conference was "One Person, One Team, One Plan for Recovery". The panel included Rod Shaner, MD, DMH (cont. next column)

### Winner - Winner - Winner of the United Way Campaign Raffle

\$50 **Timothy Young** - APAIT  
 \$30 **Therese Velosquez** - BACUP  
 \$20 **Stephanie Feuer** - OTTP-LA

Please call **Tonie Diaz** at SSG to claim your prize  
213-553-1892

SSG would like to thank all the employees who contributed to the United Way Campaign.

### SSG Employee of the Year Awards 2005!



Nominations are now being accepted for SSG's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual 'Employee of the Year' Awards. Winners will be honored at the upcoming SSG Staff Appreciation Luncheon to be held sometime in Summer 2005. The nomination form is attached. For additional information, please contact the SSG HR Office at (213) 553-1892.

Medical Director, John Tsuang, MD, Dual Diagnosis Psychiatrist-Harbor UCLA Medical Center, Verda Bradley, Ph.D, Coordinator LACDMH COD Programs and Stephanie Shaner, MD, Chief Department of Addiction Medicine for Kaiser Permanente, Los Angeles. The panelists were given 4 vignettes to diagnose, treat and provide the most appropriate recommendations for treatment in psychiatric emergencies. Ms. Levy discussed the important linkage at Augustus Hawkins Medical Center and the coordination with the Community Assessment Service Center (CASC). The panel concluded the tremendous need for more appropriate assessment within the psychiatric emergency rooms. (cont. page 3, MH Services)



PLEASE RECYCLE

## THE FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS OF SSG 2004-2005

Thanks to the many public and private supporters of SSG!

### FEDERAL FUNDING

Dept. of Commerce - US Census Bureau  
 Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS) - Office of Minority Health (OMH)  
 DHHS - Administration for Children and Families/Administration on Children Youth and Families - Children's Bureau  
 DHHS Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) - National Center for HIV Prevention  
 DHHS Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) - REACH 2010  
 DHHS Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)  
 DHHS - National Institute of Health (NIH)  
 DHHS Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (SAMHSA/CSAT)  
 DHHS Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration - Center for Mental Health Services (SAMHSA CMHS)  
 Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program (EFSP)  
 - EFSP Local Board c/o United Way  
 Social Security Administration

### STATE OF CALIFORNIA FUNDING

AIDS Partnership California  
 California Association for Alcohol & Drug Program Executives (CAADPE)  
 California State Office of AIDS  
 State Department of Rehabilitation

### LOCAL PUBLIC FUNDING

City of Inglewood/CDBG  
 City of Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator's Office  
 City of Los Angeles Community Development Department  
 Housing Authority City of Los Angeles (HACLA)  
 Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority  
 LA County Department of Public Social Services/Community Service Block Grant (CSBG Program)  
 LA County Community and Senior Services/Workforce Investment Act (WIA Program)  
 LA County Community and Senior Services/Independent Living Skills Enhancement Program  
 LA County Community and Senior Services/Area Agency on Aging (AAA Program)  
 LA County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)  
 LA County Department of Health Services/Alcohol and Drug Program Administration (ADPA)  
 LA County Department of Mental Health (DMH)  
 LA County Department of Probation  
 LA County Department of Public Social Services/CalWORKS  
 LA County Human Relations Commission  
 LA County Office of Education (LACOE)  
 LA County Office of AIDS Programs and Policy (OAPP)  
 Orange County Health Care Agency  
 San Francisco Dept. of Public Health's Community Mental Health Services - Family Mosaic Project  
 San Francisco Dept. of Children, Youth and their Families  
 San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department/Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)  
 San Francisco Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice  
 Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Beyond the Bell Branch  
 San Francisco State University and Kai Ming Head Start  
 Supervisor Yvonne Burke, District II

### FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE FUNDING

4Life Rx, Inc.  
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 Broadway Equity CARES  
 Burt Children's Center  
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 The California Wellness Foundation (TCWF)  
 Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Foundation  
 Commercial Capital Bank Community Foundation  
 Edgewood Center for Children and Families  
 Entertainment Industry Foundation/Revlon Run-Walk  
 Gilead Sciences Inc.  
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 Kaiser Permanente - West Los Angeles  
 League of African-American Women Foundation  
 Los Angeles Times Family Fund  
 MAC AIDS Foundation  
 Macy's Passport (Foundation)  
 Northern California Grantmakers  
 Orange County Healthcare Foundation (Margaret Oser Fund)  
 Queenscare Foundation  
 Racial Justice Collaborative  
 Roche Pharmaceuticals  
 Sam's Club Foundation  
 SBC  
 Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation/LA County  
 The California Endowment (TCE)  
 Unihealth Foundation  
 United Way of Los Angeles  
 UCLA/Center for Community Partnerships  
 Virologic, Inc.  
 Wells Fargo Foundation  
 Western Drug Supplies

### FUNDING SUPPORT FROM COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS (CBO's)

Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF)  
 API Wellness Center  
 Children's Institute International  
 The Committee of 100  
 Family Mosaic Project  
 Korean Youth and Community Center (KYCC)  
 LA Gay & Lesbian Center  
 Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches (LAM)  
 Regional Congregations and Neighborhood Organizations Training Center (RCNO)  
 Shelter Partnership

## PROGRAM NEWS & SSG HIGHLIGHTS

### SSG Wishes Tak Maruyama a Happy Retirement

**Takuya ("Tak") Maruyama M.A.**, from **Census Data and Geographic Information Services**, has officially retired from SSG in May 2005. A dedicated volunteer with SSG since 1992, Tak was the main architect of the SSG Census Information Center, now housed under CD&GIS. His knowledge and expertise of community data, data application and its impact on community and social change goes back multiple decades and has been an invaluable resource for SSG. Tak, now 80, used to take the bus from his home in the Miracle Mile District to SSG's downtown office twice a week to organize the CD&GIS data library. He helped fill countless data requests from almost every SSG program and our community partners. The information was used for many successful grant applications and powerful presentations at conferences and advocacy efforts. His lifelong passion for good (and correct) data use has given us better knowledge of the communities we serve. Enjoy your retirement Tak! We miss you and hope you come visit often to make sure we're on the right track.



Takuya Maruyama

### A Year-End Thank You

from Sarah Bream, OTTP Director

The **OTTP Division** experienced many great challenges this past year. Many individuals experienced days, weeks, perhaps months of difficulty for various reasons. John C. Maxwell wrote, "Adversity lies at the heart of every success. The process of achievement comes through repeated failures and the constant struggle to climb to a higher level." I would like to commend the OTTP staff for their relentless commitment to their work in the face of such adversity. I thank you all for rising to the challenge and doing "whatever it takes." Because of your efforts, I truly believe that we have risen to that higher level. Many special people within the core office of SSG played a consistent and major supportive role to OTTP throughout the year, as well, and we couldn't have done it without you! It is an honor and a blessing to work side by side with each and every one of you. Thank you all for another memorable year!

### DMH BEGINS PROGRAM REVIEW /SITE CERTIFICATION /SITE RECERTIFICATION

On June 21, 2005, DMH will begin the all agency program review and site certification/recertification process with SSG. DMH is expected to be visiting and reviewing our program until at least July 22, 2005. If you are a staff member who works in one of our DMH programs, please be aware that you may be getting some requests to update your resume, fill out some forms, and anything else that might be needed for this process. DMH will be sending representatives to visit all your programs on scheduled days in the month of July. Please be sure your program office looks great and will be able to represent all the wonderful work you do. If you have any questions, please ask your program manager or feel free to call Hayley at SSG (213) 553-1828.

### Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team

*Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team* hosted a community and media luncheon at *Empress Pavilion* on May 19<sup>th</sup> in honor of the launch of the **Banyan Tree Project** on the first annual National A&PI HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. The Banyan Tree Project is a groundbreaking, year-round national campaign to fight HIV-related discrimination and stigma in Asian and Pacific Islander (A&PI) communities (please see <http://www.banyantreeproject.org> for more information). The luncheon was well-attended and a huge success!!!

#### APAIT Congratulations Staff

Kudos to APAIT's Health Educator, **Shirley Bushnell**, who received the *Connie Norman Award* from the Christopher Street West Gay and Lesbian Pride Committee for her longtime commitment and advocacy on behalf of transgender communities in the county of Los Angeles.

Congratulations to APAIT's Division Director, **Jury Candelario**, who was elected for a second term as *Board President of the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON)*, a coalition of over fifty Asian and Pacific Islander organizations that advocate for the rights and needs of the API community in LA County.



Mental Health Services, continued from page 1:

On April 21, 2005, **Hayley Levy**, SSG Director of Administration, presented at the *California Institute of Mental Health's* conference on the technological advancements in the clinical world. Ms. Levy presented the electronic charting system utilized by HOP for their substance abuse charts. In her presentation, Ms. Levy discussed some of the challenges of integrating electronic charts into a system that requires a paper chart be kept in addition to any electronic media.



**BACUP**  
SELF-ADVOCACY TRAINING PROJECT  
For Mental Health Consumers

**Free 40-Hour Self-Advocacy Training Begins in September**  
(Class limited to 15 participants)

**Become an advocate in your own community**

*Topics Include: Public Policy, Power & Money, Institutional Relationships, Leadership Qualities, Leadership Teams, Advocacy Process & Action Steps*

Call Jane for more info and to apply.  
Tel: 213-240-8601  
Website: [www.bacup.net](http://www.bacup.net)

## MORE SSG HIGHLIGHTS



Leo Pandac

PAADP Director Dr. Leo Pandac is the Chairman of the *Community Advisory Board for the 2005 Lotus Festival* sponsored by the City of LA Department of Recreation and Parks. The event will be held July 9 - 10, 2005 at Echo Park in Los Angeles. This year the Festival will highlight the people and culture of Korea. Please come and join this wonderful annual event. Don't miss the fireworks show scheduled on July 9th, 8:00 PM. For more information please go to [www.laparks.org/grifmet/lotus.htm](http://www.laparks.org/grifmet/lotus.htm).



### APCTC-Wilshire Bowling Team



(l to r front): Eric Lee, Isabel Chung, Al Choi  
(l to r back) Thanh Huynh, Mimi Cho, Lillian Kim, Pauline Kwan, Joseph Tong, and Jae Won Kim.

OAP says thanks to SSG Development Team for helping to develop an awesome, groundbreaking proposal to SAMHSA Targeted Capacity Expansion Grant.

Good Luck to All of us.



Independence Day is regarded as the birthday of the United States as a free and independent nation. Most Americans simply call it the "Fourth of July," on which date it always falls.

The holiday recalls the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. At that time, the people of the 13 British colonies located along the eastern coast of what is now the United States were involved in a war over what they considered unjust treatment by the king and parliament in Britain. The war began in 1775. As the war continued, the colonists realized that they were fighting not just for better treatment; they were fighting for freedom from England's rule. The Declaration of Independence, signed by leaders from the colonies, stated this clearly, and for the first time in an official document the colonies were referred to as the United States of America. ([www.state.gov/usa/holidays/july4](http://www.state.gov/usa/holidays/july4))

**July 4th is an SSG Holiday - Enjoy!**

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### Cell Phone Safety

A cell phone can be a useful safety tool for calling road service, reporting accidents and in other emergencies. But a cell phone can also put you in danger if your phone conversation becomes more important than your driving.

The safest way to use a cell phone is with your vehicle stopped. If you must make a call from your vehicle, wait until you're stopped at a traffic light to dial, or better still, pull safely off the road, stop, then dial. Look for an easy exit to a rest stop, shopping center, normal curb parking or other area away from hazardous traffic. Stopping on the shoulder of the road can put you in danger.

If you must make a call from your vehicle, follow these recommendations to maximize your safety:

- Be sure your cell phone is easy to see and reach; out of the case and plugged in.
- Know your phone's buttons so you can keep your eyes on the road while dialing.
- Program frequently dialed numbers in a one or two button memory.
- If you have to dial while driving, dial the first three numbers, check the road, then dial the rest.
- While on the phone, check mirrors frequently and avoid note-taking or looking for other reference material.
- Avoid making calls in heavy traffic, in poor visibility (fog, rain, snow, darkness), and if road conditions require excessive maneuvering (sharp turns, narrow roads).
- Avoid calls that require a high level of mental concentration or if you expect highly emotional exchanges.
- If you do a lot of phoning in your car, invest in a hands-free speaker phone.
- Know the emergency numbers (police, fire, cellular service) for your driving areas. Not all cellular areas use 911.

It's best to use your cell phone only for emergencies or to let people know your location or expected arrival times.



## PERSONAL UPDATES

### Staff Anniversaries\*

APAIT honors the following staff celebrating in May: **Dani Mejia** 3 years, **Marie Auyong** 2 years and **Jury Candelario** 7 years. Celebrating in June: **Michelle Morales** 2 years and **Noel Alunit** 12 years. Celebrating in August: **George Liou** and, **Nancy Sekizawa** 2 years and **Nick Truong** 6 years.

OTTP honors the following staff celebrating in May: **Will Taylor** 1 year, **Alana Madriaga-Sar**, **Angelica Miramontes** and **Charlotte Siongco** 2 years, **Vivian Ortiz** 3 years, **Kelly Shaw** 4 years and **Stephanie Feuer** 5 years. Celebrating in June: **Michelle Coats**, **Aracely Gandara**, **Carmonique Harris** and **Norma Quintero** 1 year.

OAP honors the following staff celebrating in June: **Yvonne Sun** 1 year.

*\* Please note that all work anniversaries are published only if submitted to Ask SSG.*

### Welcome New Staff

HOP welcomed the following staff in May: **Evelyn Arellano** and **Anthony Margain**, both have taken positions as Substance Abuse Counselors/Case Managers.

Congratulations and welcome to the team. **Tedman Cheung** became the new Program Analyst for the **Older Adults Program** in May.

### Baby News

On May 28th 2005, **Cynthia Huerta-Riddick** (OTTP-LA) delivered a beautiful baby boy named Adam who weighed 7lbs-2oz and 20 inches long.



### Congratulations

Ellaveline Pulido, MFT Intern successfully completed her internship at APCTC-Long Beach. She also just got married to Billy and they are now enjoying their new life together.

## Happy Birthday!

### July

Lori Williams	07/01	HOP
Anne Ji Yon Lee	07/01	OCAPICA
Jill Hall	07/01	OTTP
Denise Logan	07/02	HOP
Jung-Im Chang	07/02	APCTC
Todd Moore	07/02	OTTP
Meeha Hwang	07/03	APCTC
Kelly Henry	07/06	OTTP
Siu Chui Chan	07/06	APCTC
Nancy Jackson	07/08	OTTP
Iris Rene Leary	07/09	HOP
Aracely Gandara	07/09	OTTP
Sara Swope	07/10	OTTP
Rose Marie Johnson	07/11	FIC
Elizabeth Morocco	07/12	BACUP
May Violet Htoon	07/13	SSG Core
Phalla Corn	07/14	APCTC
Nicollette McNamee	07/15	FIC
Leah Aldridge	07/15	FIC
Archimedes Feria	07/15	PAADP
Crystal Dairo	07/16	OTTP
Roger Johnson	07/19	BACUP
Bich Thuy Doan	07/20	OCAPICA
Corinthia Resendez	07/20	OTTP
Eric Drake	07/21	OTTP
Bradley Estrin	07/21	APAIT
Naomi Kageyama	07/22	SSG Core
Antonia Regalado	07/24	SSG Core
Dani Mejia	07/24	APAIT
Cherrilyn Quiec	07/25	API Alliance
Salvador Trujillo	07/25	H&H
Jane Rosser	07/26	Dental
Parandzem Aladzhanyan	07/26	W. Blvd.
Debra DeLeon	07/27	OTTP
Anna Pascual	07/27	SSG Core
Andrea Camba	07/29	OTTP
Patrice Clausell	07/30	HOP
Andrea Hoge	07/31	OTTP
Leah Gottschalk	07/31	HOP

### August

Jae Won Kim	08/01	APCTC
Trang Leete	08/02	APCTC
Mitzi Ayala	08/04	HOP
Nellie Skeen	08/07	TCSC
Beverly Melendez	08/08	CRS
Yoshito Nakamura	08/08	APCTC
Fipe Fehoko	08/09	TCSC
Chong Suh	08/10	APCTC
June Chan	08/10	APCTC
Stacey Mitchell	08/10	OTTP
Beth Pfaffinger	08/10	OTTP
Jaime Fernandez	08/11	SSG Core
Nam Hee Thomson	08/13	APCTC
Elizabeth Berger	08/13	SSG Core
Anne Hu	08/13	PALS
Lashunda Woodson	08/18	HOP
Sylvia Montellano	08/19	OTTP
Natalie Sartin	08/21	OTTP
Jaee Son	08/21	AP Res.
Jacqueline Devries	08/22	OTTP
Cesar Ortiz	08/23	CRS
Deleena Vang	08/23	APCTC
Nancy Kim	08/23	APCTC
Alicia Yabana	08/24	OTTP
Louis Martinez	08/25	H&H
Nancy Sekizawa	08/25	APAIT
Carmonique Harris	08/25	OTTP
Kelly Shaw	08/26	OTTP
Shebra Miller	08/28	HOP
Sondra Graham	08/28	OTTP
Elizabeth Vasquez	08/29	APCTC
Rona McFadden	08/30	HOP
Theresia Choi	08/31	APCTC
Natalie Fong	08/31	APCTC

### May

Michelle Tsuda 05/23 APAIT

### IN MEMORIAM

APAIT commemorates our dear friend and colleague, **Patrick Sullivan**, who passed away on May 27, 2005. Patrick was the first staff to run APAIT's Prevention Case Management program in Orange County. He was a pioneer for his participation in the first ever statewide Pilipino HIV Positive Summit in 2002. He also actively served in the Orange County Prevention and Treatment Planning Committees where he advocated for Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS funding. Patrick became part of the APAIT family over thirteen years ago as a client of the CARE Services unit.



Leticia, daughter Angie, Mrs. Mata SSG Luncheon 2003

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Leticia E. Herrera** on April 19, 2005 after a long battle with cancer. She was the founder and long-time Director of SSG's Parents Neighborhood Youth Program established in 1986. Current project sites include Norwood and Trinity Elementary School Sites. She was a beloved member of the SSG family and will be dearly missed. She is survived by husband Miguel, children Raul, Angie and Gabriel and grandchild Jojo. SSG expresses condolences to her family and loved ones.

## Farewell



After four years, **Anne Lee**, OCAPICA's beloved Associate Director will be leaving OCAPICA on June 3rd. Anne will be taking the summer off to go hiking, camping, and trekking with her dog Dhori in the Southwest, Yosemite, Northwest, and possibly Mt. Kilimanjaro. After the summer, Anne will be looking for a job focused upon the environment. OCAPICA and SSG will truly miss Anne and her excellent knowledge, skills, and leadership.

SSG Core staff would like to say thank you, good-bye, and good luck to our two 2004-2005 MSW Interns, **Jorge Reyes** and **Carissa Lopez**. They were both wonderful assets to the team and will be missed.

**Lillian Kim**, Vocational Rehab Coordinator for **APCTC-Wilshire** will be leaving to join the CA State Dept. of Rehab as a Vocational Counselor. She will also be starting a Masters program in Rehab Counseling in the Fall. Much success Lillian!

"To Everyone at APCTC and SSG - I will never forget anyone I have met here in the past 4 years. You have all enriched my life more than you will ever know! I will miss everyone, especially my beloved Wilshire Bowling Crew! Take care and God Bless. Always, Lillian"

**SSG Employee of the Year- Nomination Form**  
**All submissions due by July 31, 2005**

\*Please fax to 213-553-8489-CONFIDENTIAL (no cover sheet needed)

Name of person submitting form:

Date of Submission:

Name of person you would like to nominate:

Name of SSG Division they work for:

What are some of the reasons you feel this employee should be considered for employee of the year?

What is the most significant contribution this employee has made to your division or the entire SSG entity?