



Next Issue:
January 5

Ask SSG

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September - October 2006

SSG Receives Corporate Leadership Award

SSG received the 'Corporate Leadership Award' from the Federation of Filipino American Associations (FFAA) during their Recognition Night held on October 19th, 2006 in Long Beach. OAP Director David Yim represented the agency to receive the honors. This award was presented to four agencies that have demonstrated exemplary leadership in the Asian American community by implementing programs and supporting organizations to address key needs. SSG has partnered with FFAA for seven years through our Older Adults Program which provides health and social services. The following week, on October 24th, the City of Long Beach presented a 'Certificate of Recognition' commemorating this award during the City Council session. Tonia Reyes Uranga, 7th District Councilmember presided over the formal presentation to Executive Director Herbert Hatanaka. SSG thanks FFAA Executive Director Paul C. Blanco and all those who made these events possible.

Prop 63- MHSA is Rolling Out...

Beginning November 1, 2006, SSG launches a new mental health service - 'Full Service Partnerships' as part of the Department of Mental Health's County-wide plan to expand and enhance needed mental health services. Best of luck to all of SSG's mental health providers and partner agencies! Watch for upcoming issues for more details.

TCCSC Art Show and Gala

SSG Executive Director Herb Hatanaka shares a laugh with Tessie Cleveland Community Service Corporation (TCCSC) Executive Director Moses Chadwick during TCCSC's 'Art is for Everyone' Art Show and Gala held September 22nd, 23rd and 24th. SSG was recognized as a committed partner and supporter of TCCSC during the Gala held at The City Club in downtown LA.



Herb Hatanaka & Moses Chadwick

New SSG Board Officers



John Eckman

On September 28, 2006, the SSG Board of Directors voted and approved new Board Officers. The new Board officers include: **John Eckman, President; Donna Wong, 1st Vice President; Donna Mills, 2nd Vice President and Don Kincey, Treasurer.** SSG thanks all the Board Officers and Members for their dedicated leadership.

SSG Helps Host Retirement Event for John Hatakeyama

Long-time Department of Mental Health Children's Bureau Chief **John Hatakeyama** retired in September 2006. He was a tireless advocate for families and children in need of mental health services. He guided and supported many organizations to maximize service delivery. He was the past Director of the Asian Pacific Counseling & Treatment Center. This is just one of his many endeavors that leave a lasting legacy. SSG was the hosting agency for Mr. Hatakeyama's retirement held at the Golden Eagle Hospitality Center/Cal State LA on September 28th, 2006.



Happy fishing John!

Some Dates to Remember for November-December

- 11/03 Day of the Dead
- 11/07 Election Day
- 11/10 SSG Holiday (Veteran's Day Observed)
- 11/11 Veteran's Day
- 11/23 Thanksgiving (SSG Holiday)
- 11/24 Day After Thanksgiving (SSG Holiday)
- 12/16 Hanukkah
- 12/22 Winter Begins
- 12/25 Christmas (SSG Holiday)
- 12/26 Kwanzaa begins



**TODAY, November 7th is
Election Day
Please Vote**



PLEASE RECYCLE

SSG NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

TONGAN COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER

The Tongan Community Service Center has been awarded a 2-year grant from the USDA to conduct a *Food Stamp Outreach Program*. TCSC staff will be providing education, eligibility screening, and system navigation for qualifying clients. If you have clients that may benefit from this service, please contact Nellie Skeen to make a referral at 310-327-7501.

ORANGE COUNTY ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY ALLIANCE SSG AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION

On Monday, October 9, 2006 WINCART (Weaving an Islander Network for Cancer Awareness, Research and Training) partners gathered at The California Endowment's Center for Healthy Communities to reflect on the accomplishments of the last year and to strategically discuss plans for continued cancer education, training, and research for the year ahead. Over 70 participants representing the 8 community based organizations and 5 academic universities in the WINCART collaborative were in attendance, as well as other community members, health care professionals, students, and community advocates.

Another OCAPICA event:

On Tuesday, October 17, 2006 OCAPICA in partnership with the Asian Pacific American Legal Center held a press conference to highlight the release of a report on *Asian Americans and the Ballot Box*. The report highlighted demographics on civic engagement by our Asian American populations in Los Angeles and Orange County. Since 1990, the report shows, that Asian American participation has increased tremendously and that Asian Americans tend to vote based on issues as opposed to party lines. The growth in voter activity highlights the increased engagement of Asian Americans in civic government. The report also highlights the need and importance of providing voter information in-language so that voters are fully informed about the information on the ballot. For more information, please contact Duc Nguyen, Program Manager at (714) 636-9095 or at ducnguyen@ocapica.org.

**NEW SUITE NUMBERS FOR 2 SSG PROGRAMS
LOCATED AT 605 W. OLYMPIC BLVD.
(mailing address is still Suite 600)**



Older Adults Program - Suite 720
API Mental Health Alliance - Suite 780

PARENTS NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH PROGRAM

2006 Scary and Frightening Halloween Party at the Parent Neighborhood Youth Program - Norwood!



This is before we put our costumes on, gobbled our treats and tricked our teachers.....Are you scared yet???

SSG DEVELOPMENT TEAM

SSG Development & Contract Support attends annual *Census Information Center Training Conference* in Washington, D.C.



SSG is a designated Census Information Center (CIC) and has a cooperative agreement with the Census Bureau to address census data needs of underserved communities. (Contact the CD&GIS Program at (213) 553-1820 for more information about data and training available.)

This year members of the Development and Contract Support team - **Judy Lawyer, Elizabeth Berger, Dianna Malak-Lopez, and Elena Fiallo** – represented SSG at the annual training conference where the Census Bureau convenes CIC's for networking and training on new data and resources.

HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM/ICS

**Project Homeless Connect Day, Los Angeles County
Wednesday, December 6**

The County of LA, partner cities and agencies will hold a one-day event, with venues throughout the County to help connect homeless individuals and family with needed services. HOP/ICS is a *participating agency and a host site*. Your support is needed through monetary and in-kind donations and volunteer support the day of the event.

Contact: Stan Dowells at 323-948-0444.

Get involved and make a difference.

SSG NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

ASIAN PACIFIC AIDS INTERVENTION TEAM

APAIT held its 5th Annual Quest Pageant promoting transgender awareness and community empowerment on October 7. Held at its new home, the Japan America Theater in Little Tokyo, over 500 participants witnessed Maria Roman (representing LA CSW Pride) crowned as Miss Quest. She will represent APAIT at many events including the upcoming Transgender Day of Remembrance, on November 17, commemorating transgender hate crime victims.

The celebrity studded event was attended by America's Next Top Model producer Clint Catalyst, Project Runway designer Nick Verreos, Calvin Klein supermodel Jenny Shimizu, and many others.



Left to right: John Wirfs-APAIT Board Member; model Jenny Shimizu; Quest 2006 title holder Maria Roman; America's Next Top Model producer Clint Catalyst; and APAIT's Noel Alunit.

WORLD AIDS DAY

Save the Date - December 1st, 2006. APAIT will commemorate this year's World AIDS Day by focusing on YOUTH. APAIT partners with Rage Night Club in the heart of West Hollywood during its "Gameboi" night promoting HIV awareness and testing. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that one in four Americans are unknowingly living with HIV. Join APAIT in promoting HIV testing by visiting our website at www.apaitonline.org or by contacting our HIV Testing Clinic at MATH@apaitonline.org, 213 553-1846.

AL-IMPICS 2006 FAITH IN COMMUNITIES

The Life Is A Gift 2006 Los Angeles Al-Impics took place on Saturday, September 30, 2006 at Compton College. This annual event hosted more than 5,500 people in a celebration of wellness and sobriety. More than fifty alcohol and drug treatment providers from LA County and beyond participated in the various activities. The Al-Impics is a living manifestation of the power of the recovery as a life altering experience.



CENSUS DATA AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SERVICES

CD&GIS is conducting "Building a Logic Model: A Workshop on Program Planning and Evaluation." This workshop is for you, if you are interested in the following:

- ☀️ Develop a program that is responsive to the needs of your target population
- ☀️ Determine the different components for your program, e.g. inputs, outputs, and outcomes
- ☀️ Design a clear and effective evaluation plan for your program
- ☀️ Decide what type of evaluation tools will collect the data that demonstrate your success

Wednesday, 11/29/06

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The Center for Healthy Communities
Sierra Room

1000 N. Alameda St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

Free to SSG programs.

RSVP to Eric at ewat@ssgmain.org

BENEFITS ASSISTANCE CLIENT'S URBAN PROJECT

Self-Advocacy Training Program 2
November 2006-March 2007

BACUP is looking for: Committed, Highly Motivated, Learning Oriented Mental Health Consumers to participate in this very successful project. The goal is to develop self-advocacy skills and create the opportunities to test those skills first-hand.

Topic include: Leadership Qualities and Characteristics, Institutional Relationships, Public Policy, Insurance, Parity, Public Speaking and much more.

Limited to 25 participants.

To apply please call, Andy Posner at 213-240-8601.



SSG NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

Employee Safety**Freeway Driving**

SSG Human Resources Dept.

Freeway driving demands special skills. Although modern freeways show fewer accidents, collisions that do occur are more severe due to higher speeds. Higher speeds and traffic volumes often require drivers to make complex but quick decisions at critical points. Because of these factors, special driving techniques are needed. Here are some tips to prepare you for freeway driving.

Preventative Maintenance will help prevent costly and hazardous on-freeway breakdowns. Sustained high speeds generate heat, which puts stress on mechanical parts of the car. Tire pressure should be inflated to the maximum recommended pressure on the tire sidewall. Coolant level and condition of fan belts & hoses should be checked.

Advance Route Planning is important. Map your route before driving. Learn the name, route number, and travel directions of the roadway you will travel.

Entrance Ramps may require you to yield before entering onto freeway lanes. Begin checking freeway traffic with quick glances in your sideview mirror and over your shoulder to find a gap in the through lane. Begin to adjust your speed so that you merge into the gap at traffic flow speeds. Be sure to signal until you have entered the through lane. Small adjustments in speed may be necessary to blend smoothly with freeway traffic.

Choosing Speeds should be based on traffic, visibility and road conditions. Once on the freeway, choose a legal speed that matches the speed of other traffic. Frequent short glances at the speedometer will help you maintain your speed. Choosing the speed used by most drivers will reduce conflicts, make driving more relaxed, and save fuel.

Changing Lanes involves making sure there is ample space between you and the vehicle ahead. Fast moving vehicles from the rear can quickly enter your "blind spot". Always check inside & outside rearview mirrors and over your shoulder. Signal your movements in advance and avoid any sudden or unexpected moves. Steer gradually into the next lane and avoid reducing your speed since this can create a hazard by forcing a driver in the next lane to brake.

Look Well Ahead to build in a safe time margin of at least 12 seconds. Drivers often have less time to make safe choices at freeway speeds. Looking ahead will alert you to hazards such as a sudden cluster of vehicles on a previously clear road, or traffic suddenly coming to a stop.

Safe Margins of Space let drivers make better decisions. Maintain a 2-3 second time gap between your vehicle and the one ahead. This will give you time to adjust to maneuvers of other drivers and provide you with a better margin of stopping distance. Monitor traffic at least four seconds ahead.

Exit Lanes should be entered well in advance to avoid last minute movements. Look ahead for signs telling you what lane to use for the desired exit. Most freeways have deceleration lanes to allow drivers to reduce speed without endangering traffic to the rear. When you have signaled and are fully in the deceleration lane, reduce and adjust your speed so that you will be able to control the vehicle on the curve.

Breakdowns are potential hazards on the freeway. Make sure you are completely off the freeway and on the shoulder where possible. A raised hood or trunk and 4 way flashers will alert emergency crews and warn other drivers. If visibility is poor and if safe to do so, place flares or warning triangles behind your vehicle.



Save the
Date

Annual Staff & Board Appreciation Luncheon
July 27, 2007

SSG NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

PALS FOR HEALTH

PALS for Health and ALAS para tu Salud will be hosting its year end appreciation luncheon for all program interpreters and translators on Monday, December 18, 2006 at The California Endowment's Center for Healthy Communities' Mojave Room. The luncheon will be preceded by a continuing education seminar taught by Koy S. Parada, PhD(c), MPH, Project Director of AANCART-Los Angeles. The 2-hour seminar will focus on multiple cancers that affect communities of color. The seminar will be held from 10 am to 12pm, and the lunch program will follow. **RSVPs are required. Please contact Thi Trang or Tina Vasinamakin at 213-553-1818.**

GREATER WEST HOLLYWOOD FOOD COALITION

SSG AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION

The Greater West Hollywood Food Coalition is on the move again. The lease on our kitchen at 1040 N. La Brea, which we've had since we built the kitchen there in 2000, is now up and we are looking for a new space. We are doing the following things in response: continuing to negotiate with our current landlord and working with a longtime supporter who is also a developer to try and obtain the master lease or to buy the property. We have sweetened the pot by offering to paint all buildings inside and out. Failing that, our plan is to move temporarily to the kitchen of Project Angel Food at 7574 Sunset (they are moving in April) and possibly buy a mobile kitchen, which we could park in the garage of another supporter only a block away from our service site at Sycamore and Romaine. Buying anything- property or mobil kitchen is something we can only do with the help and support of members of the community who have come to our aid over the years. GWHFC began in 1987 and our current kitchen is our 6th, and we'd obviously prefer not to move again. However, the good news is that this time we have major supporters who are willing to stand with us to solve the problem ONCE AND FOR ALL.

Employment Opportunities

OTTP-LA has a full-time
Van Driver position available
Contact Kelly Miller at 310-323-6887
ext. 222

BACUP has 2 Community Specialist
positions available
Contact Andrew Posner at 213-240-8601

Happy Retirement and Best Wishes



Lumen Salcedo

Lumen Salcedo retired from SSG in August 2006. Lumen came to SSG through the National Asian Pacific Center of Aging (NAPCA) program. She began at APCTC in 1996 and then transferred to the SSG Core Fiscal Department as a Fiscal Clerk. In 2003, Lumen was hired by BACUP to eventually become their Office Coordinator. We will miss you Lumen! Please visit often. A lunch is currently being planned in her honor.

Passing of Co-Workers, Family and Friends

Condolences to the family of **Demetria (Demy) Lomibao** who passed away after a long illness on 9/30/06. Demy was a vital part of SSG through the NAPCA (National Asian Pacific Center on Aging) worker program - providing support to the SSG Core/Fiscal Office from 1992 - 2000. She will always be remembered. Our hearts go out to Demy's granddaughter *Maricar Tuzon of the SSG Fiscal Department*.

Another sad loss for SSG is **Pauline Briggs** who passed away in September 2006. Pauline was hired in 1992 and eventually promoted to Case Manager for the HOP/ICS Division. She continued to work for HOP/ICS until 1997. Pauline was the 'mother' of HOP - always willing to help out around the office. Pauline demonstrated the "triumph of the human spirit" in her work and she helped hundreds of homeless women and families get into treatment and into housing. Condolences to Pauline's family including daughter *Deetra Briggs who carries on Pauline's legacy at HOP/ICS*.

