

Montgomery County – DHHS
Asian American Health Initiative (AAHI) Steering Committee Meeting
November 8, 2016

Steering Committee	Present	AAHI Staff	Present
Organizational Members			
Jinhee Wang on behalf of Ji-Young Cho	X	Huyen Bui	
Wilbur Friedman	X	Perry Chan	X
Michael Lin	X	Karie Cheung	
Mayur Mody		Tanya Dang	X
Sam Mukherjee	X	Betty Lam	
Nguyen Nguyen (Vice Chair)	X	Karlie Leung	X
Thomas Tran	X	Sanjana Quasem	X
Sovan Tun		Alice Zic	X
Edward Wan	X		
Individual Members			
Nerita Estampador		Gwen Crider	X
Meng K. Lee (Chair)	X	Chau Huynh	X
Sunmin Lee			
Cynthia Macri			
Tho Tran			
Judy Wang			
Affiliate Members			
Anis Ahmed			

Welcome (Meng K. Lee, Chair)

- Meng K. Lee called the meeting to order at 6:15PM.

Approval of Agenda (Meng K. Lee)

- A motion to approve the agenda was presented. Wilbur Friedman moved to approve the agenda. Sam Mukherjee seconded the motion.
- Meng also called for a voice vote to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved by voice vote.

ACTION: Meeting agenda approved with no objections.

Approval of Minutes

- Meeting minutes were sent to Steering Committee (SC) members prior to the meeting.
- A motion to approve the minutes was presented. Wilbur moved to approve the minutes. Sam and Nguyen Nguyen seconded the motion.
- Meng also called for a voice vote to approve minutes. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

ACTION: Meeting minutes approved with no objections.
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Annual Retreat Part 2 - Mental Health

- Meng introduced Gwen Crider to continue the facilitation of the mental health discussion that was left unfinished from the retreat.
- For discussion details, see report of SC Retreat.

AAHI Program Updates (Perry Chan, Program Manager)

- Perry shared updates around AAHI's outreach efforts. Though there are only slightly more events than last year, AAHI has reached significantly more people. This is due to the staff's and Health Promoters' dedication on conducting more aggressive outreach this year.
- Perry provided updates on the mental health photonovel series. Photonovel #2 is completed and currently being printed. The hard copies should be ready by next week. The photonovel is translated to 5 different languages and will be available on the website when hard copies are ready.
- Photonovel #3 is at the planning stage and its target audience will be teens and youth. AAHI is hoping to partner with AALEAD, a community-based organization who has connection with teens, for the project. The goal is to have teens involved in this project then have them educate and empower other teens. Additionally, the teens can also educate the County Executive and County Council on teen's mental health issues. If AALEAD is not on board, AAHI will be recruiting the teens directly. The project will be part of an after-school program.
 - Sam suggested to keep the photonovel short because people will not have time to read it even if it is interesting.
 - Nguyen brought up the idea of using other platforms such as social media since this project is directed to youth. He suggested to produce a one-minute or ninety-second cartoon and post it on AAHI's website to convey the message. Committee members agreed that this platform could be more effective.
 - Perry stated that AAHI is open to other mediums but wanted to leave space for youth to have their inputs and be part of the decision making.
- There will be two Mental Health First Aid trainings held in the spring of 2017.
- The resource brochure, funded by the senior health funding, is one of the most popular handouts AAHI currently utilizes during outreach. It is available online and in 16 different languages. Between 1,000 to 1,500 resource brochures are handed out every year.

- Perry stated that there were two trainings offered with two faith-based organizations, called Faith-based Initiative for Resources and Service Training (FIRST). The trainings illustrated what resources are available in the County, provided in-depth information on how to search for them, and demonstrated the general application process. This training is the first step in the relationship building process between AAHI and the faith-based organizations. Once trust is built, AAHI will implement the Mental Health First Aid training and equip more people who are culturally and linguistically sensitive to help the community. AAHI is planning to implement two more trainings in Fiscal Year 2017.
- AAHI received two awards this year from the National Association of Counties (NACo): one for the mental health photonovel and one for the ECHO Project. The ceremony will be hosted by the County Executive in December, details are forthcoming. If Perry is given the opportunity to write a speech, he will highlight the importance of community engagement.
- The photonovel also won the Best Paper/ Publication PHEHP Materials Award from the American Public Health Association.

ACTION ITEM: Perry will keep members posted on information about the NACo award ceremony.

- AAHI will host the Empowering Community Health Organizations (ECHO) Workshop on December 6, 2016 as part of a series on seniors. The first workshop focuses on senior health, the senior population, and findings from last year's summit. Dr. Jay Kenny will be the keynote speaker. The second workshop will focus on resources on the local level, such as how to apply for Medicare, transportation, and social benefits. The third workshop will focus on senior safety, such as financial safety and housing safety.

ACTION ITEM: Meng welcomed and encouraged all to attend and participate in the ECHO workshop.

Advocacy Updates and Next Steps (Meng K. Lee)

- Meng stated that AAHI will not be asking for any additional funding this year. Instead the SC will advocate for the conversion of two merit positions. A call to those who would like to participate in advocacy with Meng was made and Michael, Sam, Wilbur, and Nguyen volunteered to be involved.

ACTION: Five SC members agreed to advocate.

- The first meeting will be with Uma Ahluwalia. The second step would be to talk to Chuck Short and Ike Leggett.

ACTION ITEM: Perry will collate information on this matter for the SC to use.

ACTION ITEM: Meng will schedule a meeting with Uma for early December.

Updates from Boards, Committees, and Commissions (BCC)

Healthy Montgomery (Nguyen Nguyen, Vice Chair)

- There were no updates from Nguyen.

County Executive (CE) Asian American Advisory Committee (Sam Mukherjee)

- The Advisory Committee will meet next week to plan for a session with Ike and representatives from different organizations in December. They will put forth requests about funding and budget for the next year.

Governor's Commission on Asian American Affairs (Edward Wan)

- Edward attended his first meeting. An all-day retreat has been scheduled on November 21, 2016. Edward and Sovan Tun are planning to attend the retreat.

ACTION ITEM: Edward and Sovan will share information from the November retreat with the Committee at the next meeting.
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Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs (Mayur Mody)

- Mayur was not in attendance to provide updates.

Leadership Institute for Equity and the Elimination of Disparities (LIEED) (Meng K. Lee & Sam Mukherjee)

- Meng and Sam reported that due to the recent change in committee structure, there have been no meetings and no updates.

Other Business

- On October 17, 2016, there was a Minority Health Initiative pot luck meeting and five Montgomery County Council Members were present. Council representatives in attendance included George Leventhal, Roger Berliner's assistant, Sidney Katz, Nancy Floreen, and Hans Riemer.
- On October 19, 2016, Perry and Meng attended the Mental Health Strategic Alignment meeting.
- Meng suggested the Steering Committee members to attend the gun violence public health issue forum occurring on November 17, 2016. The speakers for that forum will be George Leventhal, Montgomery County Council Member and George Benjamin, Executive Director of the American Public Health Association.

ACTION ITEM: Committee members are asked to attend the forum on gun violence on November 17, 2016.

- Nguyen brought up the discussion at the retreat suggesting AAHI to host a symposium on Asian American health in Fiscal Year or calendar year 2017, and the need to begin a preparation if SC members are still interested.

ACTION ITEM: The symposium will be added to the next meeting's agenda for discussion.

Adjourn

- Meng adjourned the meeting at 8:10PM.

ACTION: Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM.

Next Meeting: January 10, 2017.