



# *Asian American Advisory Council*

*Illinois Department of Children and Family Services*

Minutes for February 26, 2020 Meeting

2:00-4:00 pm, Deerfield Office, 5<sup>th</sup> floor conference room or by phone. Call in # 888-494-4032. Access code 867 761 1253.

Call to Order: 2:15 pm

Welcome: Present by phone- Jose Chacko, Nancy Rodriguez, Lily Ruan; Present in person- Saju, Benny, Linson, Marjorie, Barbara (delayed due to ACRs); Excused- Santhosh (training), Stany (job duties conflict)

Review January 2020 minutes: Reviewed, No changes, and Ratified

Old Business Follow up on issues from the January meeting.

Institute Day Planning – National Louis site has been secured for 6/26/2020.

- National Louis University confirmed availability of venue for IL DCFS Asian American Advisory Council on Friday, June 26, 2020.
- Discussion the continuation of the Asian American Advisory Council Institute
  - Lack of participation of members
  - Director heading towards a Joint Institute
  - Joint Institute may start in FY 2021
- Action: Asian Chief to discuss with Chair if we should hold a special meeting in two weeks to get better guidance from Council members on the viability of going forward with the Institute Day
- Additional topics for Institute
  - Achieving Permanency
  - Judge Sanju Oommen Green Associate Judge, Juvenile Justice, Cook County Juvenile Center – how medical and legalized marijuana affects child welfare
  - Dr Goutham M. Menon Dean & Professor Loyola School of social work
  - DCFS Legal – Marijuana and Child Welfare
  - Child Safety
  - Law Enforcement and Marijuana
  - DCFS Licensing and medical and legalized Marijuana
  - NAMI
- FY 2021 Goals
  - Cultural Sensitivity Training for Frontline Staff
  - Asian American Employee Welcome Committee
  - Disaggregation of Asian American Data and in SACWIS
  - Research on Asian American Ethnicity
    - Farsi
    - Nepalese
    - Chinese
  - Asian American Sensitivity for Foster Parent surrounding religion
  - Change O to A for Asian American Employees



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- Attempts to engage training regarding the Family First Program has gone yielded no response.
- Cannabis usage is being explored with DCFS legal, Cook County State's Attorney and various law enforcement agencies.

## **New Business**

- Need to pick up the issue of membership and clean up the rolls so we may determine correctly when we have quorum.

**Next Council meeting**  
April 22, 2020

Adjourn at 3:35pm