



# *Asian American Advisory Council*

*Illinois Department of Children and Family Services*

## **AAAC Minutes for March 23, 2022**

### **Present:**

Sebastian Emmanuel; Stany D'Souza; Nancy Rodriguez; Jose Chacko; Maggie Mui;  
Jophia P. George; Bino Simon; Ryann M. Unabia;

**Guests:** Khushbu S. Dalal; Margaret S. Smith

**Excused:** Michelle L. Buckle Saju Philip; Benny Kuriakose; Santhosh Kurian; Michael  
Chan; Linson Thomas

### **Associate Deputy Director of Communications; Advisory Board Coordinator:**

Kara Hamilton

**Director's Liaison; Chief of Asian American Services:** Ada Tong

### **WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

Sebastian welcomed everyone and meeting was called to order. Everyone introduced themselves.

### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES (tabled: no quorum)**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Asian American Star (Bi-Annual Newsletter)**

Nancy reported that the Star newsletter articles for the second issuance will be submitted soon. Once reviewed and approved by council members, the DEI Department and DCFS Communications, the newsletter is anticipated to be issued in the D-Net August, 2022.

#### **DCFS Asian American Advisory Council History**

Stany and Nancy shared information with each other for the AAAC history draft. Stany completed and submitted the AAAC History draft on 3-23-22. Sebastian, Nancy, Benny, Santhosh and Marjorie received a copy of the draft for further feed-back. Stany does not have AAAC records for 2011-2012 since he was not a council member during this time. Once approved, the history pages can be added to our Star newsletter.



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## **Recruitment of New Council Members**

Khushbu Dalal is present and had submitted her nomination form. Khushbu began working with DCFS in October 2021. There was no quorum to vote.

## **Family Institute Day (June 2022 / Ada Tong, Chairperson)**

Ada asked council members to contact her if anyone can volunteer to be part of the Family Institute Planning Committee. Sebastian, Nancy, Stany, Ryann and Maggie volunteered for the committee. Sebastian asked Nancy to send topic categories to council members. The event will be a full day. Stany can send a copy of the last full day schedule to Ada. Stany cited multiple work-shops relevant to child welfare. Ada is working with UIC for this event. Ada had reached out to Loyola and was told that they were not available for this event.

## **Professional Development (tabled)**

### **Updates from the Chief of Asian American Services**

Ada stated that the Asian American Affinity group is scheduled to meet on 3-28-22 at 5:00pm. Ada has a list of Asian American youth in care. Ada sent flyers of this Affinity group to their Placement Workers so the information could be shared with the youths and their caregivers.

Ada attended the Asian American Coalition of Chicago annual gala in Oakbrook. Ada met staff and promoted recruitment for DCFS. Malaysian community hosted this year. The Thai community hosted in 2021. In 2023, the host will be the Vietnamese community. There are other groups/events that Ada plans to attend: Taipei Economic and Cultural Office; Japanese American Services Committee; Chinatown Boat Race; Chinatown Chamber of Commerce; Chinatown Summer Fair

### **OMA Training (website of Illinois Attorney General)**

Stany stated that in the past, the OMA training was completed annually. It was then changed to be completed by council members only once. Council members plan to inquire further from Kara Hamilton.

### **Officers Nominations and Elections**

Stany will send the AAAC Officer nomination form for nominations and election. A thirty-day notice will be provided to all council members.

### **Joint Advisory Council Meeting of 4-20-22, 2:00pm to 5:00pm; HOST: AAAC**

The DCFS Joint Advisory Council meeting is hosted by our council for 4-20-22. Nancy is providing the joint agenda. Nancy is still adding invitees to the WebEx virtual invite.

### **Bylaws Revision (tabled pending proposal)**

### **DCFS Asian American Advisory Council Handbook**

A copy of the updated handbook was sent to council members.



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## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2022 Ethics Training and 2022 Harassment and Discrimination Prevention Training**

Sebastian stated that the DCFS training department will send notification of when these trainings are available.

### **Next Regularly Scheduled Monthly Meeting is 4-27-2022**

Any other matter (none)

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:19pm.

*Nancy Rodriguez, Secretary*