



Asian American Advisory Council

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

AAAC Minutes for October 27, 2021

2:00- 4:00 pm

Council Members Present:

Stany D'Souza; Sebastian Emmanuel; Nancy Rodriguez; Barbara Hiram; Linson Thomas; Maggie Mui; Jose Chacko

Director's Liason; Chief of Asian American Services: Ada Tong,

Guests: Jophia George

Excused: Benny Kuriakose; Santhosh Kurian; Saju Philip; Michael Chan; Michelle Buckle

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Sebastian called the meeting to order.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-11-21 Minutes: Stany motioned, Barbara second the motion to approve the minutes. Minutes passed with no objections.

3-24-21 Minutes: Linson motioned, Barbara second the motion to approve the minutes. Minutes passed with no objections.

6-23-21 Minutes: Linson motioned, Stany second the motion to approve the minutes. Minutes passed with no objections.

7-28-21 Minutes: Stany motioned, Barbara second the motion to approve the minutes. Minutes passed with no objections.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Asian American Newsletter**

The Asian American Advisory Council newsletter articles were completed. Feedback was provided by Stany and Ada by email. The three proposed names for the new newsletter are: Asian American Star; Asian American Times; Asian American Newsletter

- **DCFS Asian American Advisory Council Booklet / Manual**

Nancy will review the Asian American Advisory booklet / manual again then ask the DCFS Communications to approve and put in form of booklet form along with a cover. The newsletter is priority for the DCFS Communications to complete then the booklet.

- **DCFS Asian American Advisory Council History**

Stany reached out to the DCFS Communications Department and is waiting for a response. Nancy will reach out to the DCFS Communications Department and CC Stany. History



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information and documents of the DCFS Asian American Council are needed for our council to put together a history page.

- **Professional Development**

The Professional Development event will be conducted in February 2022 (or March). Stany agreed to be the Chair-person of the Professional Development event. Stany will reach out to Loyola University for collaboration of this event.

- **Recruitment of New Council Members**

Stany received the nomination form of Jophia George. Jophia is present in our meeting. Jophia introduced herself. She had formerly been employed at IDHS. She is currently employed with DCFS for the past 6-7 months. Nancy motioned and Barbara second the motion to accept Jophia as our new council member. Motion passed with no objections.

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

Nancy requested by email that there be an Asian Advisory Youth Council in DCFS as created for the Latino Youths and the African American youths. Ada reported that she spoke with Luis Carrion about creation of the Asian Advisory Youth Council. There is a total of 78 Asian American youths statewide. Of that number, 28 of those youths are ages 13-18. George Vennalasseril reached out to Ada for data to be able to effectively recruit Asian American foster-parents.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Family Institute Day**

The Asian American Family Institute event is anticipated to occur in June 2022. There is a possibility that staff may be returning to office in 2022. Sebastian stated that our council can plan for an in-person event. Stany reported that he will not volunteer to be the Chair-person for the event.

- **Any Other Matter**

Our council has decided on new meetings dates for November and December due to the holidays:
November 16, 2021 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm
December 15, 2021 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Ada will check to see if our council meetings can be conducted in person at DCFS – Deerfield.

- **Meeting Adjourned**

Secretary: *Nancy Rodriguez*