



# *Asian American Advisory Council*

*Illinois Department of Children and Family Services*

**AAAC MINUTES for December 15, 2021**

2:00- 4:00 pm

**Present:**

Sebastian Emmanuel; Stany D'Souza; Nancy Rodriguez; Barbara Hiram; Michelle Buckle;  
Jophia P. George

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

**Excused:**

Benny Kuriakose; Santhosh Kurian; Saju Philip; Michael Chan; Jose Chacko; Linson  
Thomas; Maggie Mui

**WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No quorum for November minutes

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Asian American Newsletter**

Stany, Michelle and Ada submitted editing feed-back for the AAAC newsletter called Star. Nancy had created a list of Asian American community agencies. Ada has more agencies to add. Nancy will send the community agencies list to Ada. Ada will add the agencies.

**DCFS Asian American Advisory Council Handbook**

Nancy stated that she will follow-up with the DCFS Communications Department to see when our first AAAC Handbook draft will be ready.

**DCFS Asian American Advisory Council History**

Feed-back from George Vennikandam, Marjorie Moore and Benny Kuriakose is pending for our first AAAC History draft. Ada stated that she will reach out to George, Marjorie and Benny. Stany stated that prior to year 2015, AAAC Secretaries may have information. Lily Ruan and Barbara Hiram are our prior Secretaries.

**Professional Development (February 2022)**

Stany communicated with Loyola University staff. Loyola University staff may not be available for our first Professional Development collaboration. AAAC anticipates March 18, 2022 for our first Professional Development event. Nancy has communicated with Northwestern University. Nancy agreed to inquire with Northwestern University staff about collaborating for the March 18, 2022 event.



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## **Recruitment of New Council Members**

Sebastian received no new nominations. Sebastian plans to request for nominations be posted on the D-Net.

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

An Asian American Youth Advisory group is anticipated to start meeting sometime in January, 2022. Be Strong Families staff are taking the lead to youth advisory groups while also collaborating with DCFS. Ages of the youths are estimated to be 14 years and older. There are 89 Asian American youths which includes Pacific Island and Hawaiian. Ada will participate in the youth advisory meetings. Ada plans to visit the different DCFS offices to greet and meet Asian American staff. Ada plans to complete a survey of needs of Asian American employees. Ada will complete an outreach plan for recruitment.

## **Family Institute Day (June 2022)**

A Chair-person for the Asian American Family Institute is needed. This will be discussed at our next monthly meeting.

## **2022 Calendar**

Our monthly meetings are regularly every fourth Wednesdays with exception of November and December due to the holidays. For 2022, our alternate meetings dates are 11-17-22 and 12-15-21.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **OMA Training**

Council members who have not yet completed OMA have not been able to do so. The OMA website has not yet been updated. The OMA training would be listed in the website of the Illinois Attorney General.

### **Christmas Celebration**

In lieu of the Christmas celebration, our council will conduct a New Year celebration. Barbara's retirement was celebrated this month. Stany and Sebastian provided a verbal history of Barbara. This council honors Barbara and her retirement.

### **Rules 428 Revision**

The feed-back for revision of Rules 428 has a deadline of 12-15-21.

### **Next meeting is 1-26-2022**

Any other matter



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Meeting adjournment

*Nancy Rodriguez*, Secretary