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Archive: The Chinese Lunar New Year Parade in Chicago

GREETINGS



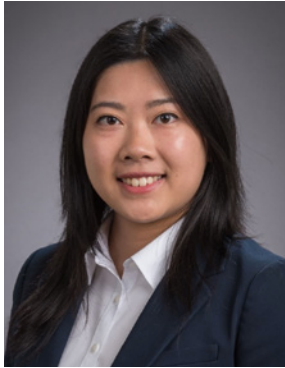
I am happy to introduce the first issue of the DCFS Asian American Advisory Council newsletter! It is our hope to use this newsletter to bring you news and information about Asian and Asian American culture, which is rich and diverse in our food, fashion, music, dance, religion, language, symbols and customs. When we are culturally aware, we achieve better outcomes for the Asian American children and families we serve. Please feel free to reach out to the Asian American Advisory Council members if you have any questions about the Asian community in Illinois or Asian American culture. I hope you enjoy this newsletter; and I thank the newsletter committee members Nancy Rodriguez, Maggie Mui and Michelle Buckle for their effort to make it a reality.

Best Regards,

Sebastian Emmanuel

DCFS Asian American Advisory Council
Chairperson

Someone you should know: Ada Tong



“building strong relationships”

Ada Tong is the chief of Asian American Services at the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Prior to working for DCFS, Ada served as constituent services coordinator for the first Asian American elected to the Illinois General Assembly. In that role, Ada organized the annual health and job fairs for the district in addition to building strong relationships with community leaders and constituents. She grew up in Chicago’s Chinatown

and currently serves on the associate board of the Chinese American Museum of Chicago. Ada holds a Master of Public Policy from the School of Global Policy and Strategy at University of California San Diego and a Bachelor of Arts in public health from the School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Welcome to our first newsletter! I am honored to have been elected secretary of the DCFS Asian American Advisory Council and chairperson of the Asian American Star newsletter. I hope you enjoy the many articles written by the Asian American Advisory Council committee members, including Maggie Mui and Michelle Buckle. We want you to be informed of important child welfare information, innovative health information and past and upcoming events. If you have any questions or an idea for an article you would like to see in a future newsletter, I can be reached by email at nancy.rodriquez@Illinois.gov.

Best Regards,
Nancy Rodríguez

Asian American Advisory Council Meeting Dates

- Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022 @ 2 PM
- Wednesday, Mar. 23, 2022 @ 2 PM
- Wednesday, Apr. 27, 2022 @ 2 PM
- Wednesday, May 25, 2022 @ 2 PM
- Wednesday, June 22, 2022 @ 2 PM

Asian American Advisory Council Membership

FY2022

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Barbara Hiramí

Someone you should know: Dennis Mondero



Dennis Mondero has served as executive director of the Chinese Mutual Aid Association (CMAA) since August 2013, after serving for approximately 10 years on CMAA's board of directors. Dennis is a first-generation immigrant. He was born in the Philippines and moved to Chicago's Uptown neighborhood with his family in 1971. Dennis received his bachelor's degree in English from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, his

law degree from Indiana University at Bloomington and his Master of Law degree in real estate from John Marshall Law School.

After some time practicing commercial real estate law, Dennis later joined the City of Chicago as chief counsel for the Department of Buildings, then subsequently held positions as deputy buildings commissioner, deputy chief of staff for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and senior vice president and chief administrative officer for the CTA.

Dennis is a past president of the Asian American Bar Association (AABA) and the Asian American Action Fund of Greater Chicago. Among his current activities, Dennis sits on the board of directors for Illinois Partners for Human Services, a statewide coalition of over 850 non-profit organizations;

and on the national board for the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NAFFAA). Dennis also serves on Illinois State Comptroller Susana Mendoza's Advisory Collective, the Illinois Department of Central Management Services' Asian American Employment Plan Advisory Council and various other community advisory boards, including the University of Illinois at Chicago, Truman College and the Chinese American Bar Association.

Contact:

dennism@chinesemutualaid.org

Asian American Upcoming Illinois Events

Date	Event	Location
Feb 5, 2022 (12-4 pm)	Argyle Lunar New Year Celebration	2210 W. Pershing Rd, Chicago, IL 60609
Feb 12, 2022 (5-11 pm)	The 38th Chinese New Year Party of Greater Chicago	720 S. Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60605
Feb 13, 2022 (1-3 pm)	Chinatown Lunar New Year Parade	S. Wentworth Ave and W Cermak Rd, Chicago, IL 60616
Feb 24 – Mar 2, 2022	Imagine U: The Ballad of Mu Lan	20 Arts Circle Dr, Evanston, IL 60208
Mar 12, 2022 (7 pm)	39th Annual Asian American Lunar New Year Celebration	100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
Mar 27, 2022 (3 pm)	The Peking Acrobats	360 N Wilmor Rd, Washington, IL 61571
May 20 – 22, 2022	Anime Central	Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N River Rd, Rosemont, IL 60018

7th Annual Asian American Advisory Council Family Institute



The Asian American Advisory Council held its 7th Annual Family Institute Day on June 25, 2021. This year's institute, **Creating Awareness on Racial Equity in Service Intervention**, was held entirely virtually – a first for our council – and was co-hosted by our Loyola University Chicago, School of Social Work faculty partners. Stany D'Souza, family institute committee chairperson led the event, co-hosted by Loyola University's Dr. Abha Rai, Dr. Maria Vidal de Haymes and Caroline Gosselin.

The event began with a welcome by Sebastian Emmanuel, acting council chairperson, followed by DCFS Director Marc D. Smith's opening remarks. The director stressed the importance of the council's input and guidance, especially in the view of federal government's Family First Prevention Services Act. Next, Daniel Fitzgerald, deputy director of the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, conveyed his message on racial equity and wished the council well in its future endeavors.

Dr. Goutham M. Menon, dean and professor with Loyola University Chicago, School of Social Work delivered the keynote address on *Privilege, Power & Ignorance: Misclassification of Asians in American Worldviews and Barriers to Service Utilization*.

Participants then chose between seven workshops presented by Gauri Goswami, child and family therapist; Dr. Caleb Kim, associate professor, Loyola University School of Social Work; Dr. Anne Saw, associate professor, Department of Psychology, DePaul University and Asian American Psychological Association board member; Dr. Shweta Singh, academic writer, coach and podcast

host; Kavita D'Souza, community liaison, Apna Ghar; Radhika Sharma Gordon, education and training manager, Apna Ghar; and Ruri Kim, licensed professional counselor. All attendees greatly appreciated each presentation for their unique perspective on effective service intervention.

The following agencies participated as exhibitors for this program: Apna Ghar, Heartland Alliance, Loyola University, Project Vision Chicago, Sanjeevani, Vietnamese American Association of Illinois and Loyola School of Social Work.

Special thanks to José López, chief of the Office of Latino Affairs, who is temporarily assigned to the Asian American Council; Alice Young and Brooke Taylor in the Office of Learning and Professional Development and Andy Martinez and Bert Tijerina in the Office of Communications for their support. We hope to see you again at our next annual event in 2022. Thank you all for your collaboration, participation, guidance and help to make the Institute a grand success!

Year of the Tiger Lunar New Year Poster Now Available

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Asian American Illinois Community Agencies

Agency	Location	Hyperlinks
Alliance of Filipinos for Immigrant Rights & Empowerment (AFIRE Chicago)	4300 N California Ave, Chicago, IL 60618	www.afirechicago.org
Apna Ghar	4350 N Broadway St, Chicago, IL 60613	www.apnaghar.org
Asian Americans Advancing Justice (Chicago)	4716 N Broadway Ave, Chicago, IL 60640	www.advancingjustice-chicago.org
Asian Health Coalition	5841 S Maryland Ave, Rm S-414, MC 4001, Chicago, IL 60637	www.asianhealth.org
Asian Human Services	2838 W Peterson Ave, Chicago, IL 60659	www.ahschicago.org
Bengali Association of Greater Chicago	1148 N Main St, Glendale Heights, IL 60139	www.bagc.herokuapp.com
Cambodian Association of Illinois	2831 W Lawrence Ave, Chicago, IL 60625	cambodianassociation.org
Chicago Tamil Sangam	PO Box 9606 Naperville, IL 60567	www.chicagotamilsangam.org
Chicago Telugu Association	152 Huron Dr, Broomfield, IL 60108	www.chicagoteluguassociation.org
Chinese American Association at Greater Chicago	PO Box 867 Wesmont, IL 60559	www.caagc.org
Chinese American Service League	2141 S Tan Ct, Chicago, IL 60616	caslservice.org
Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Chicago	250 W 22nd Place, Chicago, IL 60616	ccbachicago@comcast.net
Chinese Mutual Aid Association	1016 W Argyle St, Chicago, IL 60640 164 Division St, #305 Elgin, IL 60120	www.chinesemutualaid.org
Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community	2301 S Archer Ave, Ste 1, Chicago, IL 60616	www.cbcacchicago.org
Gujarati Samaj Chicago	Chicago, IL	www.gujchicago.org
Hamdard Health Alliance	1542 W Devon Ave, Chicago, IL 60660	www.hamdardcenter.org
HANA Center	4300 N California Ave, Chicago, IL 60618	www.hanacenter.org
Hanul Family Alliance	5008 N Kedzie Ave, Chicago, IL 60625	www.hanulusa.org
Indo-American Center	6328 N California Ave, Chicago, IL 60659	www.indoamerican.org
Invisible to Invincible (i2i)	Chicago, IL	www.invisible2invincible.org
Japanese American Service Committee	4427 N Clark St, Chicago, IL 60640	www.jasc-chicago.org
Japanese American Citizens League Chicago Chapter	5415 N Clark St, Chicago, IL 60640	www.jaclchicago.org
KAN-WIN	P.O. Box 996, Park Ridge, IL 60068	www.kanwin.org
Midwest Asian Health Association	230 E Cermak Rd, 2nd Fl, Chicago, IL 60616 4360 E New York St, Rm 105, Aurora, IL 60504	www.maha-us.org
Muslim Women Resource Center	2828 W Devon Ave, Chicago, IL 60659	www.mwrcnfp.org
Project: VISION	236 W 22nd Place, #1, Chicago, IL 60616	www.projectvisionchicago.org
Pui Tak Center	2216 S Wentworth Ave, Chicago, IL 60616	www.puitak.org
Refugee One	5705 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago, IL 60659	www.refugeeone.org
Sanjeevani	664 S Illinois Rte 59, Naperville, IL 60540	www.sanjeevani4u.com
South-East Asia Center	5120 N Broadway St, Chicago, IL 60640	www.se-asiacenter.org
Vietnamese Association of Illinois	5110 N Broadway St, Chicago, IL 60640	www.hnvi.org

Teaching Asian American history soon to be mandated in Illinois Public Schools



There are many groups within the Asian-American community that represent a complexity of cultures and intersectionality awareness is important. Beginning next school year (2022-2023), Illinois public schools will be required to teach an Asian American History curriculum in an effort to combat false stereotypes.

The Teaching Equitable Asian American History (TEAACH) Act

was signed into law by Governor JB Pritzker on July 9, 2021. It makes Illinois the first state in the nation to require Asian American history to be taught in public schools. This comes at a time when hate crimes against Asian Americans have been at an all-time high.

In Illinois, curriculum will be added to every public elementary and high school to teach students about Asian

American history and the story of Asian Americans in fields such as arts, sciences and civil rights.

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Special thanks to:

Daniel L. Fitzgerald, deputy director, Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Ada Tong, chief, Office of Asian American Services; Bert Tijerina, graphic designer, Office of Communications

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