

Advocacy and Health Resources For Those Working With Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities

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According to the U.S Census *Current Population Survey* published in 2002, Asian American and Pacific Islanders living in the United States represent 4.4% of the total population. Health issues affecting this sector of the population are in desperate need of attention in order to improve the health status, reduce disparities, and promote equal access to care for the 12.5 million Asian American and Pacific Islanders living in this country.

Listed below are numerous resources to assist health advocates in the understanding of the many issues facing Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. The list of resources is divided under **National Organizations** that provide health advocacy consultation, technical assistance, and research and publications to these communities as well as those working with them. A **Websites and Online Resources** section which provides culturally competent resources and information for working with and understanding the underlying issues facing Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. And finally, **Documents and Reports** developed by the leading organizations and researches on how to better design and implement culturally competent activities and programs targeting this community. The list will be updated periodically as new information and resources become available.

To receive a copy of this document and for additional information and resources, please visit our website at www.thepraxisproject.org or contact The Praxis Project via email at info@thepraxisproject.org or phone at 202-234-5921. We welcome your suggestions for new resources to be added to this list.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Asia Pacific Public Health Nutrition Association

<http://www.monash.edu.au/APPHNA/>

This organization fosters a professional network of public health nutritionists in the Asia Pacific region. The organization provides the opportunity for collaboration among researchers and professionals in international, national and regional, government and non-government institutions, by promoting research in health nutrition and providing a forum for the regular exchange of views and information.

Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum

<http://www.apiahf.org/>

A national advocacy organization dedicated to promoting policy, program, and research efforts for the improvement of health status of all Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

Asian Community Online Network

<http://www.acon.org/>

This network brings together Asian American and Pacific Islander non-profit organizations and concerned individuals to share news and information about the community. The foundation of the network is a series of email groups focusing on regional membership. This site includes online publications specific to the Asian and Pacific Islander population. Also of interest are the calendar of events and links.

Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (AFL-CIO)

<http://www.apalanet.org/>

Backed with the strong support of the AFL-CIO, APALA has emerged as a voice for Asian American and Pacific Islander workers in the labor movement, in the community, in the media, and in the political process. Established in 1992, 500 Asian American and Pacific Islander union members and their supporters joint together to form the first and only organization of Asian American and Pacific Islander trade unionists.

Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN)

<http://www.apen4ej.org/index.htm/>

APEN seeks to empower low-income Asian Pacific Islander (API) communities to achieve environmental and social justice. It currently works in three areas: direct organizing in local communities, building a network of API organizations, and promoting multiracial alliances to affect regional and national social change.

Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment and Leadership (APPEAL)

<http://www.appealforcommunities.org>

A leading national social justice network of organizations and individuals working towards a tobacco-free Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)

<http://www.aapcho.org/>

AAPCHO seeks to promote advocacy, collaboration and leadership that improve the health status and access of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders within the United States and its territories. This is accomplished by sharing the expertise among member organizations in providing culturally competent, linguistically accessible and affordable primary health care services.

National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse (NAPAFASA)

<http://www.napafasa.org/>

A private, non-profit, 501(c)(3) membership organization dedicated to addressing the alcohol, tobacco, and other drug issues of Asian and Pacific Islander (API) populations on the continental U.S., Hawaii, the six Pacific Island jurisdictions and elsewhere. Founded in 1988, NAPAFASA involves service providers, families, and youth in efforts to reach API communities to promote health, social justice and reduce substance abuse and related problems.

National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium

<http://www.napalc.org/>

Founded in 1991, the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium works to advance the human and civil rights of Asian Americans through advocacy, public policy, public education, and litigation.

National Asian Pacific Center on Aging

<http://www.napca.org/>

Serves as the leading national advocacy organization committed to the dignity, well-being and quality of life of Asian Pacific Americans (APA) in their senior years. Through NAPCA's employment programs, multilingual community forums and healthcare education, elders remain significant and valuable members of their communities.

National Asian Women's Health Organization (NAWHO)

<http://www.nawho.org/>

NAWHO is a national organization that works to achieve health equity via research and education regarding the needs of the Asian American community. Through innovative programs, NAWHO seeks to strengthen the capacity and partnerships among the Asian American community.

National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA)

<http://www.ncapaonline.org/default.asp>

NCAPA was formally instituted in 1997 as a coalition of existing Asian Pacific American (APA) advocacy organizations at all levels - from local/community groups to large national membership organizations.

Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC)

<http://www.searac.org/>

SEARAC's principal mission is to advance the interests of Southeast Asian Americans. It promotes community empowerment and leadership development by strengthening the capacity of ethnic networks and other community-based organizations.

WEBSITES and ONLINE RESOURCES

Asia-Pacific Alliance ~ Resources for Advocacy

<http://icpd.eastwestcenter.org/resources.asp>

A network of non-governmental organizations, government agencies, and related groups in countries of the Pacific Rim dedicated to advancing the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Agenda held in Cairo in 1994. The goal is to strengthen cooperation in support of the population, reproductive health, sustainable development, and other objectives set at the meeting. A section including tips on advocacy and resource materials for advocates can provide useful tools for individuals working with Asian and Pacific Islander communities in the United States.

Asian Language Project

<http://www.critpath.org/alp/>

This site is an online AIDS information resource. It provides free, downloadable information on AIDS and HIV-related topics targeted toward, and in the languages of, at-risk and affected Asian and Pacific Islander populations.

CSAP, Substance Abuse Resource Guide: Asian and Pacific Islander Americans, 1996

[http://www.napafasa.org/CSAP Substance Abuse Resource Guide.pdf](http://www.napafasa.org/CSAP_Substance_Abuse_Resource_Guide.pdf)

This resource guide provides information and referrals to help prevention specialists, educators, and community leaders locate resources appropriate for use with diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander (API) communities. It includes publications, studies, articles, programs, and organizations currently working in the API community.

Federal Drug Administration ~ API Women's Health

<http://www.apanet.org/~fdala/>

This multi-lingual site offers several languages to help Asian Pacific Islander (API) women in understanding the importance of having mammograms and pap smears at regular intervals. There is information about how to make appointments and prepare for the procedures. Clinicians will find special materials they can use to recommend mammography and pap smears to their patients.

Healthfinder ~ Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Other Pacific Islanders

<http://www.healthfinder.gov/justforyou/justforyou.asp?KeywordID=217&branch=1>

Developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services together with other Federal agencies, *Healthfinder*® is a key resource for finding government and nonprofit health and human services information on the Internet. A section targeting the unique needs of individuals, families, and communities of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders is available in English, as well as Chinese, Hmong, Khmer, Korean, Laotian, Samoan, Thai, Tongan, Vietnamese, and other Asian languages.

National Clearinghouse on Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI)

Culture and Prevention ~ Asian/Pacific Islander

[http://www.health.org/features/multicultural/default do.aspx?choice=16](http://www.health.org/features/multicultural/default_do.aspx?choice=16)

A list of publications from SAMHSA on Asian and Pacific Islander (API) alcohol and drug issues is provided in an easy to order format. In addition, a selection of resources and organizations focusing on API health issues is included.

National Library of Medicine, Asian American Health

<http://asianamericanhealth.nlm.nih.gov/>

An information portal to issues affecting the health and well-being of Asian and Pacific Islanders in the United States, including statistical information, behavioral issues, complementary and alternative medicine, publications, and other links to related information.

Office of Minority Health Resource Center (OMHRC)

<http://www.omhrc.gov>

This resource center offers information on many health topics, including substance abuse, cancer, heart disease, violence, diabetes, HIV/AIDS and infant mortality. The OMHRC offers customized database searches, publications, mailing lists and referrals of interest to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, as well as other racial and ethnic groups.

DOCUMENTS and REPORTS

AAPCHO, A Functional Manual for Providing Linguistically Competent Health Care Services as Developed by a Community Health Center, 2002.

The manual, funded by the Health and Human Services Bureau of Primary Health Care, is aimed at helping community health centers and health care providers ensure that limited English proficient (LEP) persons have access to health care services.

To order a free copy: http://www.aapcho.org/display.pl?template=pp_detail&fkey=id&fval=72

AAPCHO, Mobilizing Communities: A Compendium of AAPI Model Practices, 2002.

This guide features 13 AAPI health service models that are successful in serving AAPI communities. Information within the compendium is provided for organizations trying to develop similar programs within their own communities or searching for new strategies to strengthen or sustain existing programs.

To order a free copy: http://www.aapcho.org/display.pl?template=pp_detail&fkey=id&fval=71

APPEAL, Conducting Needs Assessments for Tobacco Control in Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities.

The needs assessment kit is designed to help those who work with AAPI communities on tobacco prevention and control to better design and implement their activities and programs. The goals of this kit are: to educate community advocates on the benefits of needs assessments to their tobacco control activities and programs; to help tobacco control advocates choose the best needs assessment for their program by instructing them on the different types of needs assessment and how to conduct them.

To request a copy of an educational kit, please contact APPEAL at appeal@aapcho.org or 510-272-9536.

APPEAL, Enhancing Cultural and Community Competence for Tobacco Control for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

The cultural competence kit is designed for tobacco control advocates and policy makers working in the tobacco control movement who wish to work with AAPIs in their communities. It emphasizes the importance of institutionalizing cultural competency activities in policies, programs, staff, and coalitions. The kit also includes an introduction to cultural competency resources and case studies, as well as how to assess institutional cultural competency, identify areas for improvement, develop a cultural competency plan, and sustain momentum.

To request a copy of an educational kit, please contact APPEAL at appeal@aapcho.org or 510-272-9536.

Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum ~ Resources

<http://www.apiahf.org/resources/index.htm>

Provides a list of publications and resources published by the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) American Health Forum and other organizations. Most of the publications focus on HIV and AIDS in the API community.

CSAP, Communicating Appropriately With Asian and Pacific Islander Audiences, 1997.

<http://ncadi.samhsa.gov/govpubs/MS701/>

With a focus on Asian and Pacific Islander audiences, this guide discusses the challenges of creating prevention messages and products in the context of varying cultures, languages, geographical locations and other factors.

Also covers key issues for A/PI audiences such as immigration, acculturation, and intergenerational conflict, in the context of substance abuse prevention.

CSAP, Responding to Pacific Islanders: Culturally Competent Perspectives for Substance Abuse Prevention, 1999.

This monograph investigates culturally-specific factors that influence the performance of substance abuse prevention programs and primary health care practices within Pacific Islander communities.

To order a free copy: <http://store.health.org/catalog/productDetails.aspx?ProductID=15438>

Kuramoto, Ford; Nakashima, John. Developing an ATOD Prevention Campaign for Asian and Pacific Islanders: Some Considerations, *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*, May 2000, vol. 6, no. 3, pp. 57-64.

This article provides an overview of the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) population in the US as it relates to developing targeted alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention media. Although APIs represent several ethnic subgroups, many API communities face the same risk factors including pressure on youth to achieve, immigration and acculturation stressors, shame and denial in addressing substance abuse, and racism and discrimination.

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Some descriptions were taken from the organization's websites or the publications.