

## A Big Thank You to our Interns and Instructors!

On April 30th, we held an agency wide Intern Appreciation Luncheon to express our gratitude for our interns. Every year, we have interns ranging from different fields of studies such as MFT (Marriage and Family Therapist), MSW (Master of Social Work), OT (Occupational Therapist) and more. The luncheon was an opportunity to celebrate the end of an academic year for the interns and also to recognize their hard work and commitment to community service. In addition, we wanted to thank the instructors who have devoted their time and effort for the interns as well.



**ALLIANCE** I-r: Younga Huh (instructor), Justin Kumar (intern), Jennifer Chen (intern), Jennifer Chou (intern), Anita Tsang (instructor)



**APAIT (Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team)** I-r: Mayon Yen (instructor), Joel Nellis (intern)



**OAD (Older Adults Division)** I-r: Herbert Hatanaka (Executive Director), Jorge Camarena (intern), Pablo Isais (intern), Lei Lei Yuan (intern), Yvonne Sun (instructor), Erin Bo (intern)



**Weber Community Center** I-r: Carlos Moran (instructor), Gamaliel Beltran (instructor), Andrea Garnica (instructor), Paola Guzman (intern), Tamara Alvarado (intern), Cheyenne Hosseini (intern), Jennifer Schott (instructor).



**Project 180** I-r: (Interns) Samantha Weiss, Eliane Oliveira, Perri Kruse, Charles "Ray" Cochran, Hallie Havican, Hayley Schleifstein, Jennifer Lee, Beltran Chow, Tina Angulo, Jacqueline Finch



**OTTP-LA (Occupational Therapy Training Program)**  
I-r: Ruth Sun (instructor), Sarah Hui (intern), Jessica Richman (intern), Lina Awshee (intern)

**OTTP-LA (Occupational Therapy Training Program)**  
I-r: Michelle Steins (instructor), Clea O'Kieffe (intern), Elliana Ixta (intern), Elysia Morgan (intern)



## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TRAINING PROGRAM - SAN FRANCISCO

### Graduations at OTTP-SF

OTTP-SF is celebrating the graduations of seven high school students who receive occupational therapy (OT) services through the Family Mosaic Project. Several of the students are pictured here. Each student used their unique strengths, determination and perseverance to overcome obstacles and achieve this important milestone.

One student described her achievement this way: "From my time working with OT, I feel that it has helped me grow more, and realize the potential I have. I've learned how to cope with difficult situations, and to be able to speak up for myself. Because I've seen the changes I've gotten from working with OT, and they have all been positive changes, I feel I will be able to help other youth change their lives."

We are so proud of the youth we serve, and learn as much from them as they learn from us. Congratulations class of 2014!



## PARENT'S NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH PROGRAM

### PNYP Celebrates the End of the School Year

PNYP hosted a fun celebration for its students to mark the end of another successful year of providing homework tutoring and after-school fun.



The SSG Corporate Offices (Administration, Human Resources, Fiscal, Risk, Development Team and Research and Evaluation along with APIOPA, SURV, NSWM and AP3CON will be moving this summer, the exact date still to be determined.

New Address:

905 E. 8th St., LA 90021  
Enter parking lot from Gladys St.

## Benefits Assistance Clients' Urban Project/ LIFE Center

### CA Mental Health And Spirituality Initiative Steering Committee Meeting



Front I-r: Rocco Cheng, Andrew Posner, David Lukoff  
Back I-r: Wesley Mukoyama, Kumar Menon, Patty Blum, Gigi Crowder, Jairo Wilches, Camile Duria  
Not Pictured: Rev. Monique Tarver

The CA Mental Health and Spirituality Initiative Committee met at BACUP on May 28, 2014. The members discussed the implementation of spiritual support being offered throughout the community mental health system in CA. Plans are also in the works for a Spirituality Conference to be held in October in Alameda County; clients and families from all parts of the state will be in attendance. Andrew Posner is the Co-Chair of the committee and will become the Chairperson this year.

## SSG NEWS &amp; HIGHLIGHTS

## ASIAN PACIFIC COUNSELING AND TREATMENT CENTERS



Seated on Left: Dr. Suh

APCTC Director Dr. Chong Suh was invited to the White House on May 8-9, 2014 to participate in an *AAPI Behavioral Health Forum* that was organized by SAMHSA and White House Initiative on AAPIs. Those in attendance were community organizations/leaders, consumers and federal officials who addressed personal experiences, issues, challenges and opportunities for strengthening behavioral health within the AAPI communities.

## PROJECT 180

### Jose Rodriguez honored as a Homeboy Hero



**Jose Rodriguez**, Addiction Specialist at Project 180 received a *Homeboy Hero* award at Homeboy Industries annual Lo Maximo event on May 3, 2014. Jose is a Homeboy Industries graduate, and was recognized for his personal growth and accomplishments since becoming involved in Homeboy Industries. Jose first came to Project 180 as a Homeboy Intern and was hired as a full-time staff

member in November, 2011. Congratulations Jose, we are so proud of you!

## SSG - Annual Staff Appreciation Day 2014

It is almost time to honor all the wonderful staff of SSG! So - everyone is asking what we are doing for 2014? Although no firm date is set, the Staff Appreciation Day will be celebrated in late Summer/Fall of 2014. We're now over 600 employees strong! SSG Management has been exploring various ideas. A 'day off', 'special event' or a combination thereof has been discussed. If you have a creative idea to share, please send an email to [events@ssgmain.org](mailto:events@ssgmain.org). Thank you!

## SSG's Executive Director Speaks at CDP Summit

Herbert K. Hatanaka, SSG's Executive Director was a panelist at the *California Institute for Mental Health's Building the Evidence Summit for Community Defined Practices*. The event took place on Friday, May 30, 2014 and was held at the Crowne Plaza Anaheim in Garden Grove, CA. The summit focused on building the evidence for Community Defined Practices (CDPs). Presenters spoke about approaches for building the evidence for community-based approaches and programs that target the Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander, African American, and Native American communities. Dr. Hatanaka was joined by other presenters on the "We know it works but how do we fund it? Building the Evidence for Community Defined Practices (CDPs)" panel. The panel was a dialogue with funders and evaluators sharing their perspectives on "What it takes" to build the evidence and successfully sustain programs.



l-r: - Moderator Will Rhett-Mariscal, PhD, Acting Associate Director, CiMH, Cheryl Branch, MS, Executive Director, Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches, Lillian Bando, JD, MSW, District Chief, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, Heriberto Escamilla, PhD, Research and Program Documentation, National Comrades Network, Herbert K. Hatanaka, DSW, Special Service for Groups)

## CiMH Webinar Series on API Mental Health

The CA Institute for Mental Health (CiMH) hosted an ambitious months-long webinar series that focused on community-defined practices (CDPs) and promising practices in racial and ethnic communities. Specifically for the Asian and Pacific Islander populations, CiMH collaborated with A3PCON to identify speakers and presenters from within A3PCON's agency members. SSG Alliance coordinated 12 presenters from several A3PCON agencies for the 3 webinars:

- *Outreach & Engagement Strategies*: APFC, KYCC, PACS and SSG/ALLIANCE (Dr. Trang Hoang).
- *Culturally Competent Services with APIs Across the Life Span*: APFC, SSG/ALLIANCE (Angela Kang, LCSW), SSG/APCTC (Dr. Brett J. Sevilla), and SSG/OAD (Yvonne Sun, LCSW)
- *Community-Defined Practices - Development & Implementation*: PACS and SSG/APCTC on 'lessons learned' from the Caring for Our Families CDP model. APCTC speakers included Dr. Sheila Wu, Dr. Lan Nguyen-Chawkins and Dr. Karen Cheng-Lim.

These API Webinars were held throughout April 2014. More information available on the CiMH website [www.cimh.org](http://www.cimh.org)

## Occupational Therapy Training Program - Los Angeles

### Highlights from Occupational Therapy Month!!

April was National Occupational Therapy Month!! The occupational therapy staff at OTTP-LA came together to celebrate and promote awareness of the unique work they do. This year was no exception. The OT staff kicked off the month by hosting a fabulous breakfast which included an amazing spread of homemade dishes and an interactive educational activity. Our crown jewel event was the OTTP Art Show which took place in the evening on April 24<sup>th</sup>. The OT staff transformed our youth center into a full-fledged art gallery. This year marked the fourth year of this fantastic event. The event provided our clients with an opportunity to showcase their visual art and performance talents to the public. The audience was treated to an array of client performances (singing, rapping, poetry reading, etc.). A few friends of one of the clients performing even took a bus all the way from Chinatown to our youth center in Torrance, to support their friend as she presented her original poetry. On behalf of the OTTP staff, we would like to say a HUGE thank you to Big Man Bakes in downtown Los Angeles and Wienerschnitzel in Torrance (on W. Carson St.) for donating gourmet cupcakes and corn dogs. They were quite the hit! Here's to next year!

### Wellness Fair at Narbonne High School



Front l-r: Sarah Hui, Paula Corano, Jana Garrett  
Back l-r: Leo Lopez, Jorge Gomez, Dana Granado, Jim McLindon

On Saturday April 26, OTTP joined Narbonne High School for its annual Wellness Fair. This health fair was a wonderful opportunity for students, parents, faculty and community members to receive more information about different health topics and local health services in the South Bay. OTTP provided an

opportunity for participants to create their own stress balls while learning about OTTP's comprehensive services for clients of all ages. Students and community members enjoyed learning about Torrance Health & Wellness Center (a new coordinated care program of medical and mental health), Parent Child Interaction Therapy (for 2-5 year olds and their caregivers), SHAPES (HIV/substance abuse prevention program) and LIFE (parenting). OTTP also had its certified enrollment counselor answer questions about health care enrollment. Two OTTP clinical therapists presented an in-service on Adolescent Mental Health Issues that was well-attended. In addition, OTTP was excited to share a table with its medical co-location partner, South Bay Family Health Care, who provided pediatric height and weight measurements.

## HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM INTEGRATED CARE SYSTEM

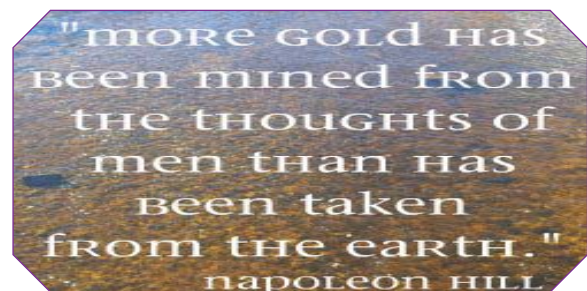
### AI-Impics 2014: HOPICS



The Los Angeles AI-Impics Host Planning Committee (coordinated by Renee Williams and Veronica Lewis) extends great gratitude and appreciation to Los Angeles County Substance Abuse Prevention and Control, Los Angeles County Board Supervisor Don Knabe, 4<sup>th</sup> District and Alkermes for their financial support of the 2014 AI-Impics. The Los Angeles AI-Impics is an annual event designed to promote and celebrate wellness and recovery. Each year, this one day of fun, brings together recovering persons, families and friends for friendly competition that includes: men's and women's basketball, weightlifting, social games, track and field, and volleyball. The highlight of the day's activities is the opening parade that is the platform for the agency specific choreography and banner competition. The 2014 AI-Impics theme was *"Breaking the Chains of Addiction: Mind, Body and Spirit"*.

HOPICS participates in the AI-Impics each year to show support for all of our clients, family members, and friends who are in recovery. HOPICS is happy to announce that we took home 1<sup>st</sup> place in the women's (ages 18-29) track and field- in the 440 and 100 and 50 yard dash (shout out to staff members Melissa Cerda and Stephanie Castillo). Additionally, HOPICS ranked among the top five best agencies for best choreography and uniform in the opening parade ceremony.

Special thanks to all HOPICS staff and clients who coordinated and participated this year and recognition to the high school recruits of the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity for putting together an awesome performance for the opening parade ceremony.



SSG NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS

**Spotlighting  
SPA 6 Coordinated Entry Systems (CES) Pilot Program  
June 2014**

*What is Coordinated Entry Systems (CES)?*

The CES pilot program is a 100-day pilot project in LA, CA developed in response to mandates by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development for local Continuums of Care (CoC) to create a coordinated system as a means to efficiently connect chronically homeless individuals to the most appropriate permanent housing and support services. Service Planning Area 6, under the direction of CES Co-leads Veronica Lewis, HOPICS Division Director, and Quanetha Hunt, Volunteers of America-LA Assistant Director, collaborated with A Community of Friends, the U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Watts Labor Action Committee, First to Serve, and the Los Angeles Dept. of Mental Health, to design a CES system that best serves the needs of the region (South LA, Compton, Lynwood, Paramount, and contiguous cities).

*SPA 6 CES Goals:*

Assess-265 individuals utilizing the Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). The VI-SPDAT is a nationally recognized screening tool designed to measure the vulnerability of each participant on a scale of 1 to 4; with score of 3 and 4 indicating the most vulnerable individuals.

Assist- 60 of the most vulnerable Individuals with completion of permanent housing documentation packets.

Assign- 20 of the most vulnerable individuals to permanent housing by March 12th, 2014.

*SPA 6 CES Successes:*

We exceeded our initial assessment goal by 65. Of the 330 individuals assessed nearly 50% were screened and had prioritization scores "3 and 4". At least 20% of our most vulnerable clients are housing ready. A Veteran was permanently housed and there are 20 clients pending housing placements.

*Client(s) Spotlight:*

"My guardian angels (SPA6 CES Staff) have really encouraged me by getting me off the streets, helping me maintain my sobriety, get regular treatment for my health issues, get my documents, and helping me to become employed and live a healthy life. I am really blessed and grateful to God to have the staff in my life at a time when I was ready to give up". B. P.

"I am so grateful for the CES program. I had almost gave up and CES staff really helped me to get back on my feet. I am clean, I now have housing, and my family who is also homeless is getting help too. It's crazy because I have a S8 voucher and I will be moving into my own place, which is across the street from my last place of residents. I am just overjoyed". L. G.



**Asian and Pacific Islander Obesity Prevention Alliance**

**APIOPA is Growing Our Roots (CSA)**

The Asian and Pacific Islander Obesity Prevention Alliance (APIOPA) recently received a cargo van to help us with our Roots Community Supported Agriculture (Roots CSA) Program! We'd like to extend a huge thanks to our friends from the Circle of Change for providing the funding to make this possible and to Enterprise for the great deal.

This van will enable us to drop off more produce to affordable housing units, community organizations, and low income families who lack access to affordable, fresh, healthy, and culturally relevant produce. If you are interested in partnering with us, visit [www.rootscsa.org](http://www.rootscsa.org), or please feel free to contact Scott Chan, [schan@apiopa.org](mailto:schan@apiopa.org).

**WE JUST RECEIVED A NEW CSA VAN!!**



**HUGE THANKS TO:**



### New Children’s Playground at Weber Complex

Monday May 12, 2014 marked the grand opening of Weber Complex’s new Children’s Playground. Weber Complex is comprised of Weber Community Center, Umma Community Clinic, and HOP-ICS Weingart Center. The playground, located on the former parking lot of Weber Complex, was officially completed on May 9, 2014. The ground breaking took place March 31, 2014. The new playground allows children a safe place to run around and safely play while being strictly supervised by either staff or parents. The playground is another step at making Weber Complex a safe and fun place for families to come while receiving much needed services. Weber Community Center’s Incredible Years, a group for very young children, use the playground frequently and the children could not be happier. Property owner Steve Lee made the playground construction possible. Weber Community Center would like to extend a big Thank You to Steve Lee for helping their clients and community.



### Torrance Health & Wellness Center Collaboration Between OTTP & SBFHC

OTTP and South Bay Family Health Care (SBFHC) celebrated the formal opening of their new ‘Torrance Health & Wellness Center’ that was created on the premises of OTTP located at 19401 S. Vermont Ave. in Torrance, CA. Sponsored by the Harbor City Chamber of Commerce and attended by many local officials, the ‘ribbon cutting’ held on June 11, 2014 was a festive event celebrating community health.

SBFHC will provide primary care services for OTTP clients as well as other eligible residents including at-risk, low income children and youth age 21 and younger. The combination of physical health and behavioral health in a single setting emphasizes overall wellness and is the new medical model taking root across the nation. Plans are underway to expand services to adults in the near future.

For more information about the Torrance Health & Wellness Center please contact OTTP staff Monica Renteria at (310) 323-6887 ext. 306.



I-r: Richard Espinosa Health Deputy, 4th District Supervisor Don Knabe and Herbert Hatanaka, SSG Executive Director



I-r: Joeann Valle, Exec. Dir. of Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce; Bernard Hardy, Chief Medical Director of SBFHC; Suzanne Afuso-Sugano OTTP Division Director; Octaviano Rios, Harbor Area Representative from Mayor Eric Garcetti’s Office; Daisy Ybarra from the office of Councilman Joe Buscaino District 15; and Erika Braxton-White, Field Representative from Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi’s Office of the 66th District.

#### SSG WEBSITE FYI & REMINDERS

##### CAREERS

Place your Job postings on the Careers page on the SSG website. Limit one page in a Word document; for content questions, contact the H.R. Dept. at 213-553-1892 or email to the SSG HR Dept. at: hr@ssgmain.org.

##### DONATIONS

The SSG website can receive donations via credit card payments; this resource can be incorporated into your website or email campaign, contact Wendy Chiu, Dev. and Operations at: wchiu@ssgmain.org.

##### PUBLICATIONS

Forward publication information to: Wendy Chiu, Dev. and Operations at: wchiu@ssgmain.org. Include 2-3 sentences description of the publication, date published, and weblink or reference to the full article.

## PERSONAL UPDATES

*Live Well, Work Well***Sun Protection**

Research shows that people who rely on sunscreens alone tend to burn more than those who stay in the shade and wear long sleeves. Avoid the sun or stay in the shade when the sun is the strongest (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.), and dress right for the occasion. Wear a hat and clothing that's made from tightly woven fabric. (Dark colors are better at blocking UV rays.) Hold clothing up to the light; if you can see through it, the UV rays can get through, too.

When using sunscreen:

- Use enough. Apply sunscreen 15 to 30 minutes before you go outside. For lotions, use 2 to 3 tablespoons. For sprays, apply as much as can be rubbed in, then repeat. Regardless of which kind you use, reapply every 2 hours and after swimming or sweating.
- Use spray sunscreens carefully. The FDA has said it is exploring the risks of inhaling spray sunscreens. Until we know more, our experts say to avoid using sprays on children, and do not spray them directly on your face. Instead, spray sunscreen onto your hands then apply it to your face. Sprays are flammable, so let them dry before going near an open flame.



[www.consumerreports.org/cro/sunscreens/buying-guide.htm](http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/sunscreens/buying-guide.htm)



**SOME DATES TO REMEMBER FOR JULY - AUGUST**

7/4 Independence Day (SSG Holiday)

**Your Name or Picture May Appear  
in SSG's Newsletter and Website**

If you participate in an agency event and an article or picture from that event is submitted for publication, your name and/or picture may be included. If you do not want your picture or name to be included, please refrain from being photographed at events and let your supervisor know not to include your name in articles. You may also contact Tonie Diaz in the HR Dept. at [tonier@ssgmain.org](mailto:tonier@ssgmain.org) or Judy Lawyer newsletter publishing at [jlawyer@ssgmain.org](mailto:jlawyer@ssgmain.org).