



Special Service
for Groups, Inc.

Building and Sustaining Communities 2021 Community Report



LGBTQIA-2S



equity



Social Justice

Mental Health



Self Sufficiency

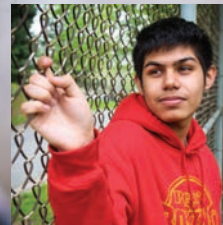
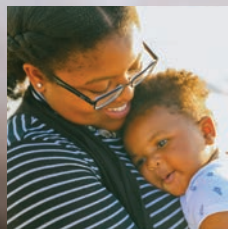
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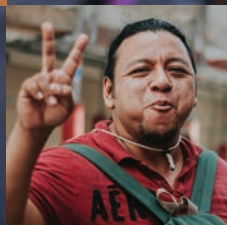
ADVOCACY

HEALTH ACCESS

RESEARCH



EDUCATION



RESOURCES

Empowerment
Housing

Collaboration

SURVIVAL



Dear SSG community,

At SSG we have always taken great pride in being of service to community and dedicating ourselves to those in greatest need. As we reflect over the past 2 years during the COVID-19 pandemic, our team of 1,200 stepped up in extraordinary ways to meet the community's need, each of us deeply invested in our work that needed to be accomplished in uncertain times.

In March 2020, as news of the COVID-19 pandemic hit, SSG moved quickly, modifying services to keep our doors open and serve the community through the challenging and uncertain times. We met the changing demands that the pandemic presented and even increased the number of people served.

Community need has always driven SSG's responsive program model. For 69 years, we have dedicated ourselves to serving the needs of our diverse community, especially those who lack access to healthcare, housing and basic services. In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, we continued to deliver these services through over 43 sites, and committed ourselves to the fight against race-based violence.

This 2021 Community Report is dedicated to all of SSG's team members who have been on the ground throughout these many months of the pandemic and who lead by example, setting high standards for service, care and professional integrity. Through our stories of resilience and recovery in this report, you will learn more about our work and get to meet some of our team members.

We are proud of our hundreds of community partners, agencies and organizations who strengthen our services and support our communities in need. We are grateful to the public officials and many supporters who have been generous with their wisdom and advice, resources and sustained partnership with SSG that enables us to continue our work.

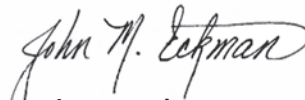
In closing, we're inspired every day by our staff and team who exemplify care, commitment and compassion in every aspect of their work. Thank you for being the core of what makes SSG and remaining strong and continuing to serve the needs of our community.

We don't say it often enough – thank you and we appreciate you all.

Sincerely,



Dr. Herbert K. Hatanaka
Executive Director



John M. Eckman, MBA
President



OUR MISSION

Special Service for Groups (SSG) is a non-profit organization dedicated to provide community-based solutions to the social and economic issues facing those in greatest need. SSG has evolved into a model organization designed to provide services for diverse groups with maximum efficiency and impact. This is achieved by developing and managing programs which serve our many communities by encouraging their involvement and self-sufficiency. SSG believes that the needs of groups and individuals cross traditional ethnic, racial and other cultural boundaries. SSG serves as a bridge between people with common needs to identify ways to pool resources for the greater good of all.

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ABOUT SSG

SSG is dedicated to delivering on our mission with the highest professional standards and quality service to all who seek assistance.

Creating a welcoming environment free from discrimination on the basis of age, gender, race, ethnicity, disability, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, or marital status.

Ensuring a harassment-free environment.

Honoring the privacy and confidentiality of all persons.

Respecting the rights and views of colleagues and others.

Serving the best interests of all persons and helping them help themselves.

Treatment of colleagues and all persons with respect, fairness, courtesy and good faith.

ETHICS & VALUES

SSG is committed to the highest standards of excellence in service, care and professional integrity.

PROGRAM PROFILES





MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE RECOVERY

A Safe Space: Doing Whatever it Takes

The confluence of events of what is now over 20 months, continues to take a toll on our society. From the COVID-19 pandemic to race-based violence, to the long-overdue racial reckoning that began with the public murder of George Floyd, more people are struggling with anxiety, depression, or some version of mental health challenges than ever before. While there remains a great deal of stigma and shame around mental health throughout our communities, it's important to recognize that all of us are experiencing these issues in a multitude of ways.

All of SSG's divisions serve as a bridge for people with common needs providing critical resources and services that cross traditional ethnic, racial, and other cultural boundaries. Team members are multicultural, multilingual, and offer multi-disciplinary

approaches, creating a unique understanding of the different groups they serve and their experiences. What emerged through conversations with each of the division directors were the similarities of shame and stigma experienced by all communities of color around mental health issues. An expression of mental health that was shared by a director rings true for many, "if something is ugly in your house, you don't go out and share it." One of the ways that SSG supports the community toward a path of healing is to provide opportunities to share stories so that people can find common ground. "We all have some form of mental health issues," Dr. Sheila Wu, Director of the Asian Pacific Counseling & Treatment Centers (APCTC) said, "but the good news is that resources are available." APCTC is a nationally recognized behavioral health services program for families,

including children and older adults, taking a multi-disciplinary and culturally sensitive approach to meet community and client needs.

The Black Visions of Wellness Program housed at the Weber Community Center is committed to eliminating stigma associated with mental illness and substance abuse. The program encourages African Americans and people of African descent to come together in community, share their struggles and build trust with one another. The center has created several activities for women, in particular, to step away from life's stresses and share a safe space with other women where they receive support, engage, and are in community. "There are historical complications that have come from sharing, but our work in the community is changing that," Deenne Houston, Director of Weber Community Center shared.

Sometimes the trust needed for a person to address mental health and move towards substance use recovery is to work with a peer specialist. SSG's Benefit Assistance Clients' Urban Project (BACUP) is a consumer-run mental health wellness program that promotes recovery through peer support from individuals who have lived through the process of recovery from mental illness, substance use disorder, or both. "An essential part of the recovery process is role modeling," Vera Calloway, recent Director of BACUP said, "we are successful because we can identify with our clients."

Collectively, each of the divisions works with individuals who are often forgotten or stigmatized. Their approach to the work is to "do whatever it takes" to support clients in rediscovering themselves and show possibilities to live in community. These rediscoveries often occur when clients participate in SSG's programs focused on recapturing identity through art therapy, photography, or courses in narrative medicine. "After ten years of being in a locked institutional setting, it was powerful to see the joy in my client's face while eating their first bowl of pho," said Dr. Trang Hoang, recent Director of Alliance and current SSG senior advisor. In some cases, rediscovery of self occurs during a crisis. The



"We all have some form of mental health issues, but the good news is that resources are available."

— Dr. Sheila Wu, Director of APCTC

team at AP Recovery, another SSG division based in mid/South LA and one of the pioneer providers serving homeless, justice-involved and other vulnerable groups, shined a light on a pregnant client with mental health issues and co-occurring disorders to show that caring for her baby was possible. "We showed her a contingency plan, and aligned with the client to identify her strengths," Natalie Fong, Director of AP Recovery shared. "Over time, we want to break the stigma and show that people with mental illness can be good parents." Other SSG behavioral health divisions like Occupational Therapy Training Program – Los Angeles and San Francisco (OTTP-LA and OTTP-SF) and the Integrated Behavioral Health Team (IBHT) likewise focus on client strengths for optimal results. Specific to youth, OTTP-LA and OTTP-SF have both been lauded for their innovative programming integrating art, outings and skills training. Creating space and rest, rediscovering self, and aligning one's strengths, powerfully centers SSG's clients to not only be resilient to the traumas of history, but also sets them up to thrive.

Thank you to the participants who contributed to this article: Dr. Trang Hoang-recent Director of Alliance, Natalie Fong-AP Recovery, Dr. Sheila Wu-APCTC, Vera Calloway-recent Director of BACUP, Veronica Lewis-HOPICS, Carmen Chacon-IBHT, Suzanne Afuso Sugano-OTTP-LA, Colleen Devine-OTTP-SF, Dr. Leo Pandac-PAADP, Yvonne Sun-SILVER, and Deenne Houston- Weber Community Center.



SERVICES FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS

Dignifying Lived Experience

Lived experience is a critical component when serving justice-involved individuals. Across many divisions, SSG values hiring people with experiences that range from being formerly incarcerated, formerly homeless, in recovery, or current mental health consumers. Divisions have found that staff members with lived experience have a positive impact on the clients they serve because of their history and firsthand experience navigating the inherent challenges. Gaining someone's trust is important, but also having your personal story of lived experience that someone can relate to creates an immediate connection and often has an impact on a client's recovery.

At the heart of hiring people with lived experience is the belief that people are restorable, even if

they committed crimes or made choices that seem unforgivable. "We want to give people chances, and employment is a critical factor for substance abuse recovery," Emily Bell, Director from SSG's Project 180 shared. Once people are employed, it provides them with an income, a safety net, and a purpose. One of the benefits of working at an organization like SSG is the work itself is meaningful, and at the end of the day, it feels good to help people who may be living through challenges they once experienced.

This is a common theme across SSG divisions, and a testament to SSG's leadership who are committed to creating the most effective means to transform lives. "We hire people with heart and compassion, and that compassion stems from a certain emotional and lived experience," Natalie Fong, Director of AP Recovery

shared. “We hire people who have been through the struggles.”

SSG’s Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care Services (HOPICS) team has one of the most diverse staff of SSG’s divisions and values the on-the-ground experience they possess. “Over forty percent of our staff are formerly incarcerated or formerly homeless,” Veronica Lewis, Director of HOPICS said, “We have a deep understanding of the population we serve.” Staff serve as true to life role models and exemplify that one can overcome challenges and achieve their recovery or re-entry goals.

SSG’s Project 180 developed a partnership with Homeboy Industries and the Los Angeles Department of Mental Health to provide individuals who are exiting gangs and exiting prison with a paid internship to gain experience in the field of social services. According to Emily Bell it has been a positive funnel for employment. “We have 20-30 staff members that were hired from the Homeboy internship.” Project 180’s approach to training is based on meeting the interns and new staff where they are in terms of experience. Whether that includes introducing new technology or developing a knowledge base on professional writing—the staff is supported to grow and thrive.

Project 180 has also nurtured a leadership development pipeline. While some employees move on to work for other organizations, several people remain and develop their skills at Project 180. Within a separate partnership that focused on peer mentorship, two of the current supervisors who spent many years in prison joined Project 180 as entry-level peer mentors. Over time, they were promoted to substance abuse counselors, to case managers, eventually to leads, and now oversee four houses through the Office of Diversion and Re-entry (ODR) program.

With the recent addition of the City Attorney’s L.A. Door Program, a new strategy funded by Proposition 47 to address addiction, mental health, and provide



“We want to give people chances, and employment is a critical factor for substance abuse recovery.”

— Emily Bell, Director of Project 180

an alternative to arrest, one of the requirements for the mobile outreach team is to hire staff with lived experience. The outreach team travels to a specific area in Los Angeles on a weekly basis and provides resources to people who are often considered the hardest to reach and deeply underserved. The goal of the program is to connect people with services, provide first aid, and build relationships over time. The lived experience of some members of the outreach team makes them deeply aware of how challenging it may be for someone to say “yes,” but also shows how success builds with one yes at a time.



Thank you to the participants who contributed to this article: Dr. Trang Hoang-recent Director of Alliance, Natalie Fong-AP Recovery, Veronica Lewis-HOPICS, and Emily Bell-P180.

National Alliance to END HOMELESSNESS



HOMELESS SERVICES

Striving to End Homelessness, One Client at a Time

SSG's housing and homeless service divisions specialize in helping the most vulnerable people in our community, including those who are chronically homeless, older adults with severe mental health issues, immigrants, refugees, and those who identify as LGBTQIA-2S¹ who are at risk of becoming homeless. Six of SSG's divisions are committed to addressing Los Angeles County's homelessness crisis through the provision of safe housing units and essential mental health services to ensure people can achieve long-term stability and independence. These are realized through the collaborative efforts with sister divisions and innovative leadership teams.

After 34 years of leading the charge to address homelessness in South Los Angeles, the team at Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care Services (HOPICS) knows what works. They not only possess a holistic understanding of the issues surrounding homelessness, but they also have a leadership team that takes risks, challenges the status quo, and asks the hard questions. "We know what it takes, and we have the expertise to solve it," Veronica Lewis, Director of HOPICS said. "We can get homelessness to functional zero if we can do what we know works."

HOPICS is in a unique position because of its footprint within the community and the effectiveness of its work. They have a seat at a wide spectrum of

¹LGBTQIA-2S stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (or sometimes questioning), Intersexual, Asexual and Two-Spirit.

community and leadership tables and are called upon to lend their expertise and weigh in on policy discussions throughout Los Angeles County. In ten years, they've grown from a staff of 35 employees to over 330. They serve as one of the five regional leads for the Coordinated Entry System (CES) with linkages to LA County's substance use disorder and mental health systems, the re-entry system, and California's Trauma Resource Centers.

With over 40% of HOPICS staff with lived experience of homelessness or in recovery, the team understands the problem firsthand. "We have an acute awareness of the gaps in services," Veronica shared, "and we push and advocate until resources are released, so we can address what's needed." A few years ago, the leadership of HOPICS, along with the leadership of SSG's division Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (APAIT), shared the challenges that transgender women endured with interim housing. They were aware that transgender women preferred to not stay in shelters because they felt safer outside. A special RFP was released for enhanced bridge housing for older adults and women, and the team realized this was their opportunity to propose housing for transgender women. The proposal never made it as far as the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) commission, and the fight began. The team called everyone they knew throughout the region to attend commission meetings and speak on the proposal's behalf. They worked to understand zoning and conditional use clauses, and fought against the notion that their proposal was discriminatory. Together, HOPICS and APAIT eventually triumphed, and in November of 2019, Casa de Zulma, the first publicly funded interim housing site for transgender women, opened its doors.

In a separate collaboration, HOPICS worked with Sustaining Independent Lives with Vital Empowering Resources (SILVER), to develop an enhanced bridge housing site dedicated to older adults who were experiencing homelessness. This population is often forgotten, yet there was a noticeable 20% increase in older adult homelessness in Los Angeles County from



"We can get homelessness to functional zero if we can do what we know works."

— Veronica Lewis, Director of HOPICS

2017 to 2020. The team at SILVER partnered closely with HOPICS to develop the Silver Villa housing site to provide mental health services to vulnerable adults. "There is a lack of understanding of older adults and their need for specialized programming," Yvonne Sun, Director of SILVER, said. "They have so much life left to be lived, and we help them sustain their lives and live with dignity."

Today, as we watch sweeps of encampments and anti-homeless campaigns emerge throughout Los Angeles County, the team at HOPICS responded with a campaign to quickly move people off the street and into homes. Their Street to Home project has successfully utilized existing resources within the community to move over 300 people from the sidewalk into homes, with extensive supportive services available at each site. Rather than criminalize homeless people, they offer people a chance to rebuild their lives. "People who are unstably housed are people," Veronica shared. "They have a history and have families that loved them. Their sense of humanity cannot be forgotten."

Thank you to the participants who contributed to this article: Dr. Trang Hoang-recent Director of Alliance, Jury Candelario-APAIT, Natalie Fong-AP Recovery, Veronica Lewis-HOPICS, Emily Bell-P180, and Yvonne Sun-SILVER.



COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING

Honoring Community Expertise

Community-based organizations (CBOs) provide critical services and support to historically marginalized communities through on-the-ground experience and knowledge of local community issues. However, a CBO's ability to carry out its mission successfully is often challenged due to lack of organizational capacity, staffing, and resources.

While SSG is known for its direct service delivery systems for mental health, homeless, justice-involved, and residential services, SSG is also an innovative leader in the nonprofit sector in regard to community capacity building for smaller CBOs and CBO networks. Within the increasingly complex and challenging world of nonprofit organizations, capacity building is critical to the sustainability of a diverse

nonprofit system. To overcome the challenges CBOs and nonprofits face, SSG is determined to implement and create community strengthening systems when possible. Along with their direct services, capacity building and community building are integral to SSG's mission to empower marginalized communities that face cultural, linguistic, and other barriers to achieving success.

SSG has many examples of community capacity building across the agency. Historically, SSG has advocated for multilingual and multicultural service networks to better serve diverse AAPI communities that face language, culture and generational barriers. This is especially true in the areas of mental health and now, tragically, with the rise of anti-Asian violence. In the areas of mental health, SSG divisions of note

are leaders of multi-CBO collaboratives including APAIT, APCTC, SILVER and Alliance. Respectively, each division has created long-term fiscal and service partnerships with trusted community providers. In response to rising hate crimes, SSG embraced the role as lead administrator in partnership with LA County Human Relations Commission for the LA vs. Hate/Rapid Response Network in 2019 that incorporates a large and evolving network of CBOs that proactively address racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, religious prejudice, and other divisive attitudes that lead to hate crimes and violence.

A clear example of SSG's community capacity building efforts can be seen within the SSG Research and Evaluation Team (R&E Team). The R&E Team supports small community-based nonprofits with historic roots and leadership within communities of color through participatory research and evaluation of social impact, while providing technical assistance and capacity building programs. "We honor community expertise and set priorities by following their lead," said Dr. Brian Hui, recent Director of R&E Team.

When the R&E Team engages with organizations around evaluation, they honor the organization's local knowledge and support them in ways that enable them to preserve their identity as they grow.

Dr. Brian Hui is most proud of a recent engagement with Blue Shield of California Foundation, AAPI Equity Alliance (formerly A3PCON), and six community-based AAPI organizations. The team engaged in a needs assessment on intergenerational violence within the Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, North Indian Hindu, and Pakistani Muslim communities entitled, "Relationship Violence in Five Los Angeles Asian American Communities". They gathered perspectives from youth, young adults, parents, and community leaders in six languages. The study's findings were vast and provided insights that challenged previous assumptions, promoted more discussions and training on domestic violence prevention skills, and led to the development of a pilot program for a violence prevention curriculum with a cohort of parents and youth.



"As our work aims to build research and evaluation capacity... we understand that we have a unique opportunity to uplift the issues in the Black community."

— Dr. Brian Hui, recent Director of R&E Team

Similarly, in South Los Angeles, the R&E Team has been working in partnership with Building Healthy Communities South Los Angeles (BHC SLA) and The California Endowment to change the narrative of South Central Los Angeles with a series of podcasts that highlight the socioeconomic drivers of disparity. The series highlights the historical context for each condition, as well as policies that disproportionately impact communities of color, the pervasiveness of police presence within the neighborhood, and racist policy and land use decisions made at the expense of South Central residents. Each episode invites a community leader or organization to discuss these issues and to share ways they are responding to create a healthier community. Topics of interest include unlocking the power of data and information to improve programs, supporting movements and social justice agendas and strengthening community building—all exemplify key tenets of the R&E Teams' work.

Thank you to the participants who contributed to this article: Dr. Trang Hoang-recent Director of Alliance, Jury Candelario-APAIT, Dr. Sheila Wu-APCTC, Maurice Harper-CRS, Veronica Lewis-HOPICS, Dr. Brian Hui-recent Director of R&E Team, and Yvonne Sun-SILVER.



HEALTH ACCESS AND ADVOCACY

Building Upon a History of Trust

Two pandemics, separated by over 30 years, while at the surface appear dissimilar, yet, couldn't be more connected. At the onset of the HIV/AIDS crisis in 1981, our communities were rocked by fear. Daily life was interrupted, there was a high mortality rate, and a tremendous amount of misinformation was given to the community. Similar to the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, the virus was downplayed, some government leaders were in denial, and the burden and stigma of the disease were placed on the most disenfranchised people in our society. During the HIV/AIDS crisis in the 1980s, SSG's Health Access and Advocacy groups were a trusted presence in the community, which made them uniquely positioned to respond to the challenges and urgency of the COVID-19 crisis.

SSG's Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (APAIT) was founded in 1987 and is the largest and most comprehensive provider of HIV/AIDS services for APIs in Southern California. APAIT's history is rooted in advocacy and provides critical services to the most vulnerable in the community during times of crisis and when larger support systems fail or are difficult to access. "Similar to the AIDS crisis, people were isolated and challenged by the unknowns of COVID-19," Jury Candelario, Director of APAIT, said. Their clients were desperate for information, and the requests for mental health services were at a historic high. Yet at the same time, the APAIT staff experienced similar challenges. Over 70% of the staff didn't work remotely during the pandemic, and in order to continue the support requested by their

clients, they also needed to sustain themselves. “We created safe spaces to talk about the challenges we were facing, and leaned on each other formally and informally,” Jury said. Through their campaign My Wellness Journey Starts with Me, they were able to raise awareness about mental health, and in the spirit of community, help each other and their clients.

When our health care system was challenged, the PALS for Health division was called on by the major hospitals throughout Los Angeles County to provide interpretation and translation services for limited-English proficient individuals affected by COVID-19. With the risk of infection, interpreters and family members had limited access to patients, but the reality of misunderstanding a doctor’s message could be the difference between life and death. Fortunately, when Mireya Muñoz, Director of PALS for Health, reached out to their consultant pool of interpreters, they responded to the call. “We told them, we don’t know what’s ahead of us, but let us know if you’re willing to provide services.” Despite their fears, the interpreters stepped up as the team navigated solutions to keep them safe. When the mother of a sick young man from El Salvador was eventually connected to an interpreter, with a look of relief she said, “Words don’t just have the power to connect us, they have the power to heal us.”

Since 2007, addressing food insecurity and the lack of access to healthy food has been a focus area for the team at Asian and Pacific Islander Forward Movement (APIFM). The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated an already broken food system, but APIFM was able to swiftly shift its operations and create an emergency food distribution system. With years of experience behind them, linkages with local farmers, and relationships with donors throughout the community, APIFM continued to provide essential food items. “Food is at the heart of what we do,” Heng Lam Foong, Director at APIFM said, “and it also provides us with an open door to inform, educate, and learn what is happening in our community.” While the team distributed bags of food to local churches and to community members’ homes, they had the



“Food is at the heart of what we do and it also provides us with an open door to inform, educate, and learn what is happening in our community.”

— Heng Lam Foong, Co-Director of APIFM

opportunity to discuss safety protocols and educate the community about COVID-19 prevention.

At the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak, the leadership at SSG hired an in-house medical doctor, infectious disease expert Dr. Parveen Kaur, to support each division as they shifted the functions of their work. “We were so fortunate to have a medical director on staff dedicated to addressing each division’s issues with COVID-19,” said Dr. Leo Pandac, Director of Pacific Asian Alcohol and Drug Program (PADDP).

Staff members supported each other in a variety of ways and created space to openly discuss their challenges. Within each division, the commitment of each staff member to show up on the front lines and put their clients’ needs before themselves was beyond heroic. No matter what type of crisis or pandemic arises, SSG’s staff has a proven legacy of embodying the meaning of the essential worker.

Thank you to the participants who contributed to this article: Jury Candelario-APAIT, Heng Lam Foong and Kyle Tsukahira-APIFM, Mireya Muñoz-PALS for Health, Dr. Leo Pandac-PAADP, and Dr. Brian Hui-recent Director of R&E Team.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS





Homeless Services

Black people make up only 8% of Los Angeles County's total population, but **34% of the people experiencing homelessness are Black.**

Black people are **4 times more likely to be homeless** than white people. The likelihood for Black people to become homeless is **10 times greater** than for white people.

Forensic Justice

Research shows that **it takes continuous touchpoints for someone experiencing homelessness to say yes to support.** The consistency of the mobile outreach team showing up every week is the key to the continued success of the LA Door Program.



Community Capacity Building

United Against Hate Week was November 14-20, 2021 and was designed to raise awareness about the dangers of hate and promote events to **counter acts of racism, intolerance, and hate** in Los Angeles.

Why should you report a hate incident to 211? By filing a report as a victim, witness, or advocate for a victim of hate acts, you **help identify areas in need of intervention and prevention** and connect with free services for support.

Mental Health

An estimated **26% of Americans** ages 18 and older (about 1 in 4 adults) **suffer from a diagnosable mental disorder** in any given year.



Health Access & Advocacy

48-51% of patients accessing health services **speak English less than well.** However, our health system currently encounters a shortage of healthcare interpreters, **1 in 3 Spanish limited-English proficient (LEP) patients has access to a qualified medical interpreter, 1 in 5 API LEP patients has access to a qualified medical interpreter,** leaving patients to resort to **unqualified bilingual individuals or no one at all.**

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS



"SSG is a true pillar in our community, serving AAPIs, and all marginalized communities in need of health care services, substance abuse and housing for successful reentry and to lead healthy lives. SSG has seeded and helped grow a multitude of community-based organizations, engaging in rigorous data analysis and policy advocacy critical to ensuring that resources are allocated equitably for the most vulnerable in Southern California."



Manjusha Kulkarni

Executive Director, AAPI Equity Alliance



"SSG has always been there for the clients and for us, even when it wasn't easy, they said 'yes' to getting the work done and the only way you get that response over and over again is when an agency is really committed, and holds onto the mission no matter what. We are grateful to have them as a partner in this work."

Kristen Ochoa, MD, MPH

Medical Director, Office of Diversion and Reentry, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services

"LAC DMH is very fortunate to partner with a massive network of community providers who push the mission with us as a family day in and day out. SSG, one of our longest standing partners, is well known for stepping up to the plate by taking on many of our most challenging cases. In particular, their high quality care, innovative programming and relentless advocacy for individuals involved in the justice system has helped to define LA County's way forward in leading the reform movement."



Jonathan E. Sherin, MD, PHD

Director, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

SSG PROGRAMS

Alliance	Occupational Therapy Training Program - San Francisco (OTTP - SF)
AP Recovery (APR)	Pacific Asian Alcohol and Drug Program (PAADP)
Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (APAIT)	PALS for Health
Asian Pacific Counseling and Treatment Centers (APCTC)	Project 180 (P180)
Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement (APIFM)	Sustaining Independent Lives with Vital Empowering Resources (SILVER)
Benefits Assistance Clients Urban Project (BACUP)	Riverside Counseling Center (RCC)
Court Referral Service (CRS)	SSG Research & Evaluation Team (R&E Team)
Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care System (HOPICS)	Weber Community Center (WCC)
Integrated Behavioral Health Team (IBHT)	
Occupational Therapy Training Program - Los Angeles (OTTP - LA)	

OUR REACH

SSG offers a variety of services at sites across Los Angeles County, as well as in Orange County, the Antelope Valley, the Inland Empire and San Francisco.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Retired, Southern California Edison

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City of Los Angeles

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DR. HERBERT K. HATANAKA

Executive Director, SSG

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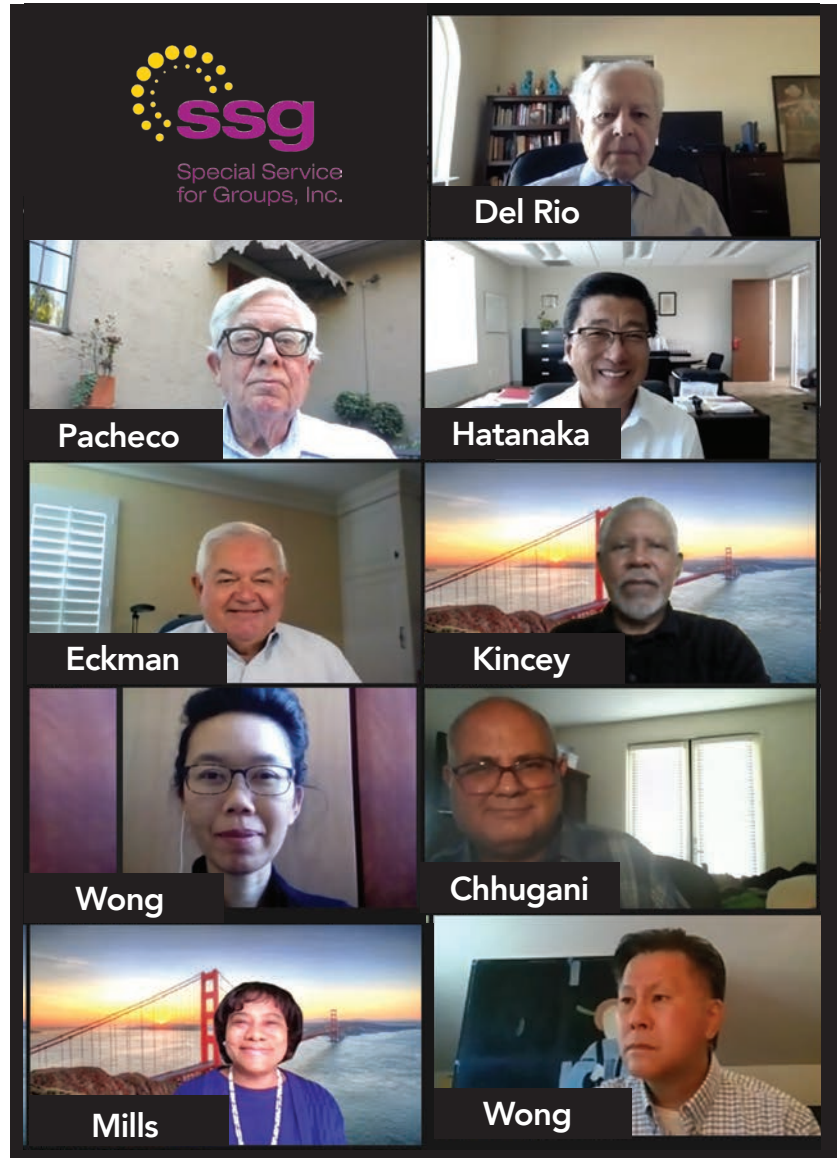
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APR Consulting, Inc.



SSG SENIOR MANAGEMENT



Dr. Herbert K. Hatanaka
Executive Director



Colleen Devine, MS, OTR/L
*Occupational Therapy Training
Program SF (OTTP - SF)*



Emily Bell, LCSW, MIA
Project 180 (P180)



Antonia Diaz, PHR
Director of Human Resources



Elizabeth Berger, MSW
Development Director



Natalie Fong, LMFT
AP Recovery (APR)



Jury Candelario, LCSW
*Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team
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*Asian Pacific Islander Forward
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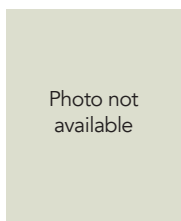
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