



ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICAN BOYS AND MEN FORUM

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016

5:30PM-8:00PM

ELIHU HARRIS STATE BUILDING, AUDITORIUM, OAKLAND, CA

This forum will focus on some important issues impacting the Asian and Pacific Islander American community such as: health care, education, incarceration, re-entry and strategies to strengthen our community.

Community leaders, key government officials and experts will be there to talk about how we come together to improve outcomes in our communities and quality of life for API Boys and Men.

Co-hosted by:



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MINA SANCHEZ AT MINA.SANCHEZ@ACGOV.ORG OR CALL (510) 272-6687

PROGRAM

Networking/Refreshments

Welcome and Overview

Emcee: Sherry Hirota, CEO, Asian Health Services

Special Remarks:

Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson
Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan
Brandon Baranco, Assemblymember Tony Thurmond

Shattering the API Model Minority Myth: Eddy Zheng, Co-Chair, Asian Prisoner Support Committee (APSC)

API Youth Data (prepared by Asian Health Services, Banteay Srei, The Spot, AYPAL): Joshua Lee, Program Director, AYPAL and Nkavj lab Yang, Program Director, Banteay Srei

Videos

Ben Wang, Co-Chair, Asian Prisoner Support Committee (APSC)

Roots Program, Asian Prisoner Support Committee

Panel Discussion: “Reversing the Pipeline”

Moderated by Eddy Zheng

Migration/Immigration: Sou Saechao and Spencer Pulu, AYPAL Youth Alumni

Education: Vinh Trinh, former Principal, Oakland Unified School District

Criminal Justice: Harrison Seuga, Re-Entry Director, APSC

Deportation: Aelam Khensamphanh, Former Juvenile Lifer, APSC

Mental Health: Robin Gurun, Mental Health Advocate, Community Health for Asian Americans (CHAA)

Questions and Answer Session

A Call to Action and What’s Next:

Eddy Zheng, Sherry Hirota
Assemblymember Rob Bonta
James Head (tentative)

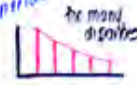
Closing Comments

WELCOME!

SHERRY HIROTA
AHS

Dr. Paul Christaker
at the center - the
disaster is manmade

the moral
disorder



Our humanity is challenged

SUP. KEITH CARSON

In SQ - recognizable
↑ in young API + Latino
thank you for all
your work - thank
you for being here

MINA SANCHEZ
(Asian Comm. Collaborative)

collab of 30 API orgs -
today - about bringing voice
to API men/boys

MARY JANE FLORES -
(Sup. Wilma Chen)

Committed to addressing
poverty among API men

BRANDON BARRANCO -
(Assemblymember Tony Thurmond)

ready to work on moving
the API agenda

DEBRAH GILES - EBOF

Oakland MBK plan -
reflects our community

EDDY ZHENG
SHATTERING THE API
MODEL MINORITY MYTH

HEALTH: the overarching theme -
the means to shatter and
reverse the pipeline



DATA IMPLICATIONS

"We don't fix what we
don't know" Mayor Schaff

Need disaggregated
data!



The API Men and Boys Forum was held on April 8, 2016 at the Elihu M. Harris State Building in Oakland. The purposes of the Forum were to:

- Raise awareness and increase learning about important issues impact the Asian and Pacific Islander American boys and men such as the migration/immigration, education, criminal justice and deportation pipeline.
- Identify strategies to reverse the pipeline and build alliances with those most affected.

The group was welcomed by Moderator, Sherry Hirota, and opening remarks were presented by several local and state officials.

Eddy Zheng, Co-Chair of the Asian Prison Support Committee, provided an introduction and context for the evening's program.

REVERSING THE PIPELINE THROUGH HEALTH
Addressing the Social Determinants of Health

Social determinants of health

reverse - using health as the overarching theme

REVERSING THE PIPELINE

Vietnamese ★ **MIGRATION/IMMIGRATION**
(Volunteer & Forced)

SOU SAECHAO

- parents left Vietnam - settled in OK - came to Oakland
- felt different; picked on - target because I was Asian - school was different -
- Went to Laney - don't feel as if I have a place - don't belong - depression is real - it's not easy growing up Vietnamese
- The films were hard to watch

SPENCER PULU (PULU)

- Tongan American -
- grew up in Oakland
- became an organizer w/ AYPAL
- parents came here as young people
- difficult growing up - had to be one way at school, another at home - lost my parents
- AYPAL + EBAYC - have been very helpful to me.

AMERICAN DREAM \$ faith

We had a presentation on API Youth Data, which was prepared by Asian Health Services, Banteay Srei, The Spot, AYPAL): Joshua Lee, Program Director, AYPAL and Nkavj Lab Yang, Program Director, Banteay Srei. The data emphasized the importance of advocating for disaggregated data related to our communities.


Following the presentation were two videos (1) by Ben Whang, filmmaker and Co-Chair of the Asian Prison Support Committee and (2) by SEAFN about the ROOTS program in San Quentin.

Eddy Zheng then introduced the panel presenters who provided their stories and experience vis a vis the pipeline.

★ EDUCATION - Vinh Trinh - OUSD Oakland Promise

came here at 5 w/ mom
dad shot when I was 12
poor - bullied - all that

① as a teacher at Garfield -
had to file CPS report - for neglected kids -

 this is a reality for our community -
a wake up call as an educ. in Oakland

② We work w/ all kids looking at data -
it's a crime for our Black & Brown kids

In Oakland - we are working -
our Mayor & Superintendent - are in sync

★ CRIMINAL JUSTICE - Harrison Seuga

3rd gen. Samoan family -
as a 17 yr old - tried as an adult

⊙ What you see in film - result of our laws

⊙ w/ API - not supposed to get in trouble -
punishments - harsher
these events/^{laws} affect families for generations:

just for
being who
they are

⊙ We have to confront the issue now -
ONE is too many

⊙ We can't be silent about the issues

⊙ We need culturally competent services
to address these issues

★ DEPORTATION - Aelam Khensamphanh

came w/ parents to US in 1987
at 17 changed and lived as an adult
did 22 yrs.

then had to go through immigration -
even w/ green card 

Judge said I had to go back to
my country - What country?

I've been here since 8 yrs old

I know nothing about Laos.

I am in limbo right now

We have to remember
our women + girls
who are also impacted



★ MENTAL HEALTH Robin Qunung CHAA (MH advocate)

I feel so connected after hearing these stories - thank you
refugee - at 3

in our communities - most people are suffering
many suicides - primarily men : boys - MH - a major issue
We need to empower our communities

Men - supposed to be strong - don't seek help -
change this



train and
empower
our youth

STIGMA

it's not an
individual issue -
it's a social issue!

Assemblymember Rob Bonta -

- 1st Filipino Assembly person in CA
My family left Philippines during Marcos era - became farmworkers in CA
- We need to unlock our men: bus of education and health
- We need disaggregated data
- Health for all
- Make connections to data


how to build allies -
- All of Us or None
Prop. 21 - youth tried as adults
Working on repealing

Q: A

- Q Culturally responsible ways of working w/ other groups?
- A When partnering w/ other groups, make sure parents/families are involved - don't forget about young girls
- Q What can we do better for API at reentry?
- A Support CBOs it's about community ethnic studies culturally relevant services healing Readjust funding for community
- Q What will disrupt the pipeline?
- A Ethnic Studies - integrate in high school Include stories Focus on **CH** Culture Healing Identity

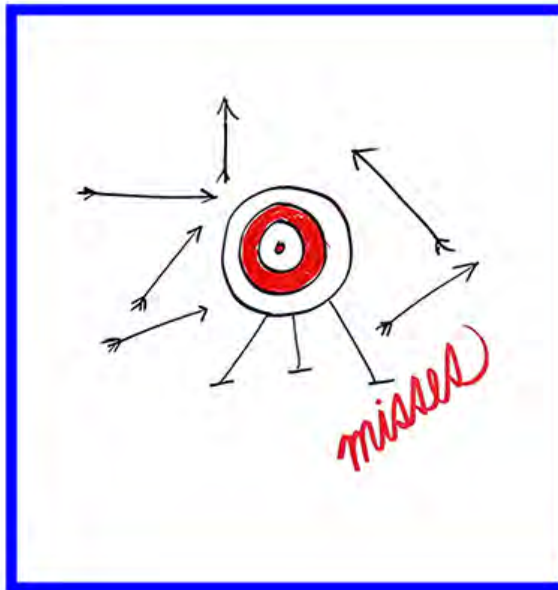


- how to we feel/ Support solidarity w/ #BlackLivesMatter + our latino brothers + sisters
- James Head, Pres/CEO EBCF ensure the power of these experiences get shared Capture/share  
- as a community foundation - feel responsible to community

- 1 Create - PRISON → LEADERSHIP
- 2 develop allies w/ Af. Am. + latino communities - while being culturally competent - where differences bring us together - not divide us
- 3 Community engagement **advocacy organizing**  power is not given to you - it's usually taken - have to write and take it **PEOPLE POWER!**

Assemblymember Rob Bonta thanked the group for its work and supported the need for disaggregated data and health for all.

Following a brief Question and Answer session, the forum closed with a Call to Action by Sherry Hirota and James Head, President/CEO of the East Bay Community Foundation.



Participants provided input on the forum: Kisses, Misses, and Outside of the Box Ideas and Comments.