

# Cultural CONNECTION

Winter, 2007-08

## New MHSA program welcomes community

**E**mployment Works provides Supported Employment for individuals with serious and persistent mental illness and co-occurring drug and alcohol abuse. Based in Garden Grove, the purpose of this program is to provide intensive job seeking and survival skills training, work experience, community job placement and support services.

With the support of the Cultural Competency and Multi Ethnic Services Department of the Orange County Health Care Agency, Employment Works recently hosted a series of culturally sensitive open house events, which culminated with a Latino open house celebration. The objective of the open house series was to invite our multicultural community to participate in Supported Employment services and improve their lifestyle and level of personal independence.

Carlos Burela, Employment Works Program Manager, coordinated the event and made the MHSA community feel welcome. Ms. Veronica Kelley, Service Chief of the Cultural Competency Department and her staff were instrumental in ensuring the success of the open house series. It was truly enriching to sponsor an event where attendees could learn and share from each other's multicultural backgrounds.

The turnout was excellent and everyone was impressed with the services offered at Employment Works. Keynote speaker Dr. Rafael Canul did a wonderful job present-

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*Attendees enjoy lunch outdoors at Goodwill's Employment Works.*

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COUNTY OF ORANGE  
HEALTH CARE AGENCY

# MHSA Progress Report

By Bonnie Birnbaum, DrPH  
Quality Management

Calendar 2007 has been a year of continued transformation of public mental health services in Orange County. We have made substantial progress in our planning efforts and program implementation. Highlights are described in the bullets below.

- All but one of the 16 programs included in the original three-year CSS Plan has been or will be implemented within the next few weeks.
- Implementation of Adult Crisis Residential has been delayed due to challenges in finding and developing a site for the facility.
- The CSS Growth Funding Plan was approved in July 2007. It includes expansion of four existing programs (Children's and Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Full Service/Wraparound Programs and two programs for Older Adults – OASIS and Mental Health Recovery Services.) All of these programs have been expanded.
- The CSS Growth Funding Plan also included four new programs: Mentoring for Children, Mentoring for Transitional Age Youth, Program of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) and the Consumer-run Wellness/Recovery Center. PACT and the mentoring programs have been implemented and

planning for the renovation of the permanent site for the Consumer-run Wellness/Recovery Center is in process.

- An extensive consumer planning process was conducted to provide input into the Request for Proposals (RFP) process for the Wellness/Recovery Center. Experts from other California counties and other states presented information that was used to establish priorities for features/services to be included in the new Wellness/Recovery Center.
- A plan for an additional \$1.3 million in one-time CSS Funding was submitted in December 2007. The full \$1.3 million requested was approved in January 2008. The funding will be used to expand an Adult Full Service Partnership Program and to increase the number of staff providing outreach services to Adults.
- Thus far, we have spent approximately \$22.9 million in MSA Funds.
- Since the original CSS Plan was approved in April 2006, MHSA funds have provided many services to our target populations. These include:
  - ▲ 384 Children and Transitional Age Youth (TAY) enrolled in Full Service Partnerships (FSPs)

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## MHSA

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ing HCA and MHSA's pledge to provide the highest level of services to our communities.

In addition to the many community members who attended, local elected officials and media were there as well. Councilman Vincent Sarmiento from the City of Santa Ana participated in the event as a keynote speaker. Also, Ms. Diana Nguyen, representing Orange County District One came along with Supervisor Janet Nguyen. Much to Goodwill's surprise, at the end of the Open House Claudia Ornelas, representative from California State Senator Lou Correa's office, presented Mr. Burela and Goodwill's Employment Works program with a Certificate of Excellence.

The Open House was a great success and showcased the excellent work performed each day by Employment Works staff.



Key note speakers for the event include Program Director Carlos Burela, Director of Training for OCHCA/BHS Cultural Competency Rafael Canul, PhD, Goodwill counselors Glenn St Julien and Yohana Lien and Goodwill CEO Don Rogers.

# Understanding Korean Americans and their families

By Minh-Ha Pham, PsyD

In spite of centuries of strong cultural influence from China and a 40 year long colonization from Japan, the Koreans were able to maintain their distinctive cultural identity in terms of their language (with the unique alphabet invented in 1446 by King Sejong), art, customs, and beliefs (Choy, 1979). Regardless of a North and South division and a civil war between 1950 and 1953, South Korea has been able to forge ahead since the 1960s with their industrialization efforts toward modernization and economic independence.

## Migration to the United States:

In the first wave of immigrants from Korea to the United States, over seven thousand men came to Hawaii between 1903 and 1905 for plantation work along with 1,100 picture brides who joined them; and later, between 1905 and 1945, students, intellectuals and political exiles also arrived. From 1951 to 1964, the second wave included 37,000 wives of U.S. service men, war orphans and students. Since 1965, the Immigration Act has allowed 20,000 Koreans a year to enter the U.S. and thus attracted the third immigration wave that consisted of a number of educated, middle and upper middle class, white collar professionals who came to seek better opportunities in America. This brought the Korean population in the U.S. to 70,000 by 1970. The 2006 American Community Survey from the U.S. Census Bureau reported a total of 1,335,075 Korean Americans resided in the U.S. and 79,657 in Orange County, California.

## Unique Korean Values:

Koreans generally emphasize education as the main and most viable avenue for success, social mobility and distinction. Influenced by their historical background and the ability to overcome very difficult foreign domination, Koreans are noted for their endurance and resiliency under the most adverse conditions. In a 1981 study of Korean immigrants in New York City, Kim reported that

the Korean War experience and the socio-cultural milieu of South Korea have created a personality profile strong in survival instinct and the ambition to seek new opportunities.

## Korean Family Characteristics:

Korean family, daily and social life has long been influenced by the principles implicated by Chinese Confucianism which established a rigid hierarchy structure and a patriarchal family system. Elders are to be respected and cared for, and by differential birth order older brother or sister was allowed to impose authority over younger ones (Min, 1988). In a traditional family, as the breadwinner and decision maker the husband exercised his role of differential authority over his wife and his children, via demands for their respect and absolute



obedience. To adapt to their lives as small business owners in America and by necessity for economic survival, many wives also work long hours side by side to help their husbands, and this change has led to a more equal marital partner role for Korean American women in the home today.

Korean Americans also adhere to their family-centered Confucian ethics with priority given not to the self, but

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# Cultural Events Calendar

## March

### Cultural Competence & Mental Health Summit XV

*Evolving with Communities to Achieve Culturally Responsive Approaches*

**Date:** March 25, 26, 2008

**Location:** Town & Country Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego

**Registration:** \$295 on/before March 4, 2008, \$325 after CEU's \$35

For more information, [www.cimh.org](http://www.cimh.org) or call 916-922-0856.

## Progress Report

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- ▲ 410 Adults and Older Adults enrolled in FSPs
- ▲ 1,013 contacts through our Outreach and Engagement Programs and 137 people linked to treatment
- ▲ 2,821 attendees at trainings, and a variety of other services for 1,521 individuals
- Orange County Funding for MHPA Components:
  - ▲ MHPA Housing \$33,158,300 (up to one-third of this funding may be spent on operating subsidies)
  - ▲ Prevention and Early Intervention (\$9,755,200 for FY 07/08 and \$16,400,00 in FY 08/09)
  - ▲ Workforce, Education and Training (\$8,267,000 for FY 07/08 and FY 08/09 combined)
  - ▲ Capital Facilities and Technology (combined) \$28.3 million
  - ▲ CSS \$36,307,136 for FY 07/08 – total of original CSS and CSS Growth Funding and an additional \$8,135,900 million for FY 08/09 CSS

## April

### NASW—California

*Annual Conference & Job Fair*

**Date:** April 3-5, 2008

**Location:** The Westin Los Angeles Airport, 5400 West Century Blvd., Los Angeles

**Registration:** Members by March 14—\$295, Non-Members—\$340

For more information, go to [www.naswca.org](http://www.naswca.org).

### The National Network for Social Work Managers

*Managing the Challenge of Homelessness*

**Date:** April 10-11, 2008

**Location:** Los Angeles

For more information, email [swevents@usc.edu](mailto:swevents@usc.edu).

### 2008 Native American Health, Wellness, and Safety Fair

**Date:** Saturday, April 12, 2008, 10:00 – 3:00pm

**Location:** Doheny State Beach, 25300 Dana Point Harbor Drive (at Park Lantern) Dana Point

For more information, contact [ccastiglione@ochca.com](mailto:ccastiglione@ochca.com).

### Growth Funding

- Planning for both the Workforce Education and Training Component and the Prevention and Early Implementation Component is nearly completed. DMH approved funding requests for Community Planning and Early Implementation for each of these two new components. Each of these components has an Advisory Committee to guide the planning process and numerous focus groups with stakeholders have been conducted. Prevention and Early Intervention also conducted both a Consumer

## May

### Institute for Healthcare Literacy

*Health Literacy in Primary Care: Best Practices and Skill Building*

**Date:** May 1-2, 2008

**Location:** Irvine

Register Early & Save

For more information, go to [www.ih4health.org](http://www.ih4health.org) or call 800-434-4633.

### The Center 2008 Gala Celebration

*Gayopoly*

**Date:** May 3, 2008

**Location:** Hyatt Regency Irvine

Updates and reservations, go to [www.thecenteroc.org](http://www.thecenteroc.org) or call 714-534-0862.

## June

### 22<sup>nd</sup> National Conference on Problem Gambling

*Family & Community Issues*

**Date:** June 26-28, 2008

**Location:** Long Beach

For more information, go to [www.ncpgambling.org/conference](http://www.ncpgambling.org/conference).

Survey and a Provider Survey to obtain further input. The Consumer Survey was available in Vietnamese and Spanish, as well as English.

- The MHPA Office was reorganized into two separate programs. One will be called MHPA Coordination and Reporting and the other Systems Navigation.
- The MHPA Coordination and Reporting Unit will have oversight and responsibility for the Community Services and Sup-

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# Log on-Speak up!

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), approved by voters in 2004 as Proposition 63, is launching its Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) program. The Health Care Agency wants to know what you think about mental health services to be offered and groups of people to be helped by prevention and early intervention programs in Orange County. With your ideas and assistance, we can better plan for the mental health needs of our community.

The prevention element of the PEI program is meant to reduce risk factors or stressors to prevent the initial onset of a mental health problem, as well as promote and support the well-being of "at risk" individuals under challenging life circumstances in order to reduce the suffering caused by mental health problems.



The early intervention element of the PEI program is designed to prevent a mental health problem from getting worse, or to avoid the need for more extensive mental health treatment or services.

Please go to: <http://ochealthinfo.com/mhsa/pei/> and take a few minutes to complete one of the on-line surveys to share your opinions and suggestions. The information you provide is confidential and anonymous.

If you have any questions or would like a questionnaire mailed to you, please contact Alan Albright at (714) 834-5572 or [aalbright@ochca.com](mailto:aalbright@ochca.com).

## Progress Report

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ports Planning, any new Growth Fund Planning, as well as the County's MHSA Capital Plan and the coordination of all MHSA reports and their submission to DMH.

- The Systems Navigation Unit is designed to assist families and consumers in understanding and navigating through the complex system of services offered by Behavioral Health. It will provide information about all Behavioral Health services, both county-operated and contracted services. Staff members will assist individuals in accessing services. Staff will also work closely with other community-based programs, services and faith-based organizations.



Do you work with someone who exemplifies Cultural Competency? Someone who is both sensitive and respectful to persons of all cultures, whether colleague or consumer? If so, the Cultural Competency Program would like to formally acknowledge these individuals.

Please fill out the necessary information and pony it back to us and we'll make sure this employee or consumer gets acknowledged in our next newsletter. Our pony address is 38-P.

Awardees will be honored at the County's Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting. Thank you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Work address/Pony address: \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_

Why you believe he/she is Culturally Competent:

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Example of dedication to Cultural Competency:

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## Korean Americans

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to the unity of and for the good of one's family. Through a historical stance of reliance on resiliency in the face of adversity, Koreans value the ethics of self-discipline and dedication to work. Long working hours and sacrifice for the sake of the family unity and ultimate well-being characterize many Korean immigrant's lives.

Korean American family systems represent a relatively stable and secure environment for Korean children as they adjust to being born in the U.S. Many Korean American children are exposed to their parents' firm beliefs about the value of education, hard work, adaptability, self-discipline, self-confidence and pride in their ethnic identity. Although there are intergenerational gap issues and substance abuse issues among some children and adolescents of Korean immigrant parents, compared to the national average, Korean Americans have a slight advantage with lower divorce and youth delinquency rates.

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## Cultural CONNECTION

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