

NOVEMBER 2019 | ISSUE NO. 4

# APPEAL

Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment,  
Advocacy and Leadership

*A bimonthly newsletter*



*Pictured here:* Participants and staff of Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi's diabetes support group

## ALSO IN THIS EMAIL DIGEST:

- Poverty and Working AANHPIs in CA
- A Call for Focus Groups
- Upcoming Hepatitis B Disparities Webinar

## DIABETES AWARENESS

Written by our **ASPIRE** Partner Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi

Diabetes affects about 13% of the adult population in Hawai'i. Native Hawaiians & Pacific Islanders are 2.2 times more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes than the white population in Hawai'i. Along with heart disease, diabetes remains the leading chronic illness of Native Hawaiians. Diabetes doesn't have to take lives.

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At Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi (Hui Mālama), our mission is to uplift the health of the Hawaiian nation. We work to address and alleviate health challenges that affect our community, such as diabetes. Hui Mālama provides diabetes education services, nutrition counseling, diabetes counseling, free diabetes management classes, and a free diabetes support group. With these services, Hui Mālama encourages those affected by diabetes to take control of their health and their diabetes. Recently, Hui Mālama received recognition from the American Diabetes Association, which has empowered us to provide the highest standards and most up-to-date services. To learn more about our diabetes services, visit [hmono.org/diabetes](http://hmono.org/diabetes).

*Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Incorporated in 1991, Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi serves as the Native Hawaiian Health Care System for Hawai'i islander, providing medical, behavioral health, and community education services with the sole objective of improving access to quality healthcare, education, and services for the people of Hawai'i. Hui Mālama Ola Nā 'Ōiwi is dedicated to improving the wellness & well-being of Hawai'i island so that all residents can Live Longer & Feel Better, Together.*

## IN THE NEWS

### Dealing with Poverty for Working AANHPIs in California

An executive summary released by the Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) reveals that nearly one in four working Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, or Pacific Islanders in California is grappling with poverty. The study found significant differences by subgroup, showing that Hmong (44%) and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (36%) communities have the highest percentage who are working and dealing with poverty. On the contrary, Koreans (15%) are the least likely to be working and dealing with poverty.

Read more [here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Webinars

#### Tobacco Use Among Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in California

December 5, 2019  
12-1 PM PT

*Hosted by the LOOP, our own Cassie Park and Rod Lew will discuss the history of AANHPI populations in the U.S., differences in tobacco product use, and more!*

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER:**

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5562966289561371405>

# CALL FOR FOCUS GROUPS

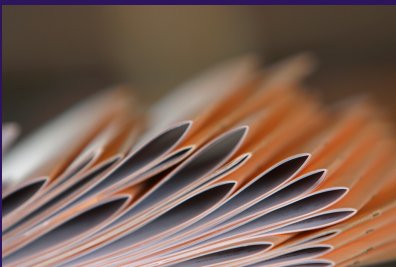
**We want community input!**

The API Statewide Coordinating Center (SPARC) is developing culturally specific educational materials for topics including second-hand smoke, multi-unit housing, and more.

We are looking for representation from multiple backgrounds across the AANHPI population to provide important input and feedback for materials.

Focus group participants are asked to dedicate 1 hour in exchange for a **\$25 gift card**.

Any interest or questions should be directed to:  
[baurelio@appealforhealth.org](mailto:baurelio@appealforhealth.org)



## RECENT EVENTS

### Critical Conversations: APPEAL Communications Institute

📍 Atlanta, GA



In September we held our 2nd Annual Communications Institute. Joined by fellow AANHPI public health champions and CDC staff from across 4 divisions, we had critical dialogue about how we can successfully address health challenges facing the diverse AANHPI population. Moreover, we discussed how we can all work together towards health equity in our communities. We are looking forward to continuing these conversations in the coming years!

### California Rising: Empowering Communities to Advance Health Equity

📍 Sacramento, CA



On November 13 and 14, our SPARC team attended California Rising, a health equity conference put on by the California Tobacco Control Program.

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There were some important discussions about policy change, data collection, and overcoming barriers in tobacco control across priority populations.

Our regional project, Asian Pacific Islander Partners & Advocates Countering Tobacco (API PACT) program also led a workshop about establishing trust within AANHPI communities. They discussed their experiences working with AANHPI organizations in the Central Valley.

## Rod Lew Receives Andre Stanley Memorial Health Equity Award

📍 Philadelphia, PA



*Above: Award recipients at the ATOD Awards Ceremony  
To the left: Rod Lew and Linda Bosma (APPEAL's Evaluator)*

On November 5, our Executive Director Rod Lew was awarded the Andre Stanley Memorial Health Equity Award by the American Public Health Association's Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Section (ATOD)! This award honors an individual who has contributed to public health efforts to build health equity and reduce health disparities in areas of substance abuse. ATOD recognized Rod for his leadership to address the disproportionate impact of commercial tobacco among Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities and other priority populations.

**CONGRATULATIONS, ROD!**

# RESOURCES

## Upcoming Webinar: Hepatitis B Health Disparities in Priority Populations

December 12, 2019 | 10-11:15 AM PT

**REGISTER HERE:** <https://bit.ly/2OZGR0T>

Join the **APPEAL/ASPIRE** Network and **NAATPN** for a webinar on hepatitis B-related health disparities in priority populations. Chronic infection with Hep B and Hep C viruses are the most common risk factors for liver cancer in the United States. Despite the significant decline in viral hepatitis B infection in the U.S. since the 1990s, hepatitis B remains a significant cause of health disparities in communities of color, especially in Asian and Pacific Islander (API) and African American communities. This webinar will focus on addressing these health disparities and highlight prevention efforts for these priority populations.

### In this webinar participants will learn:

- How hepatitis B disproportionately affects API and African American communities
- Campaigns to increase Hep B awareness, screening, and vaccination
- Risk factors for Hep B and liver cancer, including tobacco

### Speakers:

Kate Moraras, *Hepatitis B Foundation*

Dr. Richard Andrews, *HOPE Clinic Houston*

Farma Pene, *NYC Health Department*



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Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL) is a national health justice organization working to achieve health equity for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and other underserved communities.