

The Healthy Elders Leadership Project

HELP Email-Alert

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January 17, 2007

I. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES:

James Irvine Foundation New Connections Fund Grant

The New Connections Fund is now accepting applications from community-based organizations around the state with projects that are well-aligned with our NCF program strategies. The NCF provides grants of up to **\$50,000**, over one or two years. Applications are considered on an open, competitive basis and are due on March 8, 2007. For additional information on how to apply, click on the link below:

http://www.irvine.org/grants_program/howto/new_connections/application_process.shtml

Health through Action: Community Partnership Grant

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation and Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF) announce a new and exciting community grant opportunity. This is a multi-year national grant program supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. It is designed to strengthen and bolster community approaches to improving the health of vulnerable Asian American (AA), Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (NHOPI) individuals and families, and children of these families by strengthening the capacity of AA and NHOPI led, local community based organizations and by capitalizing on local assets to meet health needs. The W.K. Kellogg Foundation and APIAHF anticipate **awarding grants of up to \$150,000 per year for four (4) years to approximately eight (8) communities**. The eight communities will represent diverse AA and NHOPI subgroups, urban and rural areas, population sizes, and geographic locations. To be considered for this grant, please submit a Letter of Intent no later than February 28, 2007. To learn more about how to apply, visit the following website <http://www.apiahf.org/programs/hta/index.htm>

II. MEDICARE PART D UPDATES:

No Medicare Part D Late Fee for Low-Income Enrollees

CMS Acting Administrator Leslie V. Norwalk announced the elimination of the 2007 late enrollment penalty for any beneficiary eligible for the low income subsidy for a Part D plan even if they failed to sign up by the program's initial deadline. Generally, Medicare beneficiaries who are qualified to join a prescription drug plan, or Part D, but choose not to enroll during their initial enrollment period, may be subject to a late enrollment penalty (LEP). These fees were intended to encourage Medicare beneficiaries to sign up for the drug coverage plan when they first become eligible, but may cause some low-income beneficiaries to avoid seeking coverage.

For more information, please see the CMS Press Release at:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/apps/media/press/release.asp?Counter=2070&intNumPerPage=10&checkDate=&checkKey=&srchType=&numDays=3500&srchOpt=0&srchData=&keywordType=All&chkNewsType=1%2C+2%2C+3%2C+4%2C+5&intPage=&showAll=&pYear=&year=&desc=&cboOrder=date>

Medicare Needs to Play Key Role in Eliminating Health Disparities

Racial and ethnic minorities tend to receive lower-quality health care than whites, even when insurance status, income, age, and severity of conditions are comparable. These disparities, which have been thoroughly documented, represent a pressing national problem. Even among Medicare beneficiaries, significant disparities persist in health care, although disparities in the use of health care services by race and income have diminished since Medicare's implementation. This article briefly discusses Medicare's historical significance in providing universal health care access, reviews the current situation of health disparities among the Medicare population, and, drawing on the work of National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI), examines Medicare's role in moving towards a lasting solution. To see a full article and download report, click below:

<http://www.cahealthadvocates.org/newsletter/2006/12/disparities.html>

III. TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

LEAP Civic Engagement Conferences

The LEAP Civic Leadership Institute (CLI) was created to address the need for more civic participation, voting, and electoral representation by one of the nation's fastest growing ethnic groups - the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, as well as create a path for motivated and promising AAPI leaders to seek and secure elected and appointed positions at the local, state and federal levels. Through the CLI, we seek to provide the spark for meaningful discussions on public policy issues important to AAPI communities, and to also provide participants with a skill set and knowledge that will allow them to become effective advocates for the policies and communities they seek to represent.

This year LEAP is planning to hold four (4) Regional Civic Engagement Conferences:

- February 3, 2007 - Northern California - East Bay/ San Francisco
- February 10, 2007 - Southern California - Orange County
- March 3, 2007 - Central California - Fresno
- March 24, 2007 - Central California – Stockton

For brochure and registration information contact: Jade Agua, jagua@leap.org, (213) 485-1422, ext. 4107 or http://www.leap.org/docs/2007_CLI_Flyer.pdf

CPHEN Train-the-Trainer Workshop Series

The next round of the Data & Democracy project in Fresno will kick off with the community assessment Train the Trainer Course. **Data and Democracy's Train the Trainer** course seeks to improve the capacity of community-based organizations to conduct and use community assessments. The training is scheduled February 22, 23 and March 2 at the Central Valley Health Policy Institute. Registration is now open, go to <http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/healthdata/calendar.html>.

IV. COMMUNITY RESOURCE:

Comprehensive Legal Glossary

The California Superior Court of California now has a comprehensive legal glossary in eleven different languages. The legal glossary has been translated into Arabic, Armenian (Western), Hmong/Mong, Mien, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Urdu and Vietnamese. They are currently working on Hindi and Mandarin (Traditional Chinese) translations which will be available in the near future. The legal glossaries can be found on the Court's website at: http://www.saccourt.com/geninfo/legal_glossaries/legal_glossaries.asp. There is also a link to the legal glossaries on the Court's home page at www.saccourt.com."

For more information, call or email SEARAC's California office:

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HELP is collaborative project of the Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC), California Health Advocates (CHA) and National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA) through generous grants from The California Endowment (TCE) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service-Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). The project provides California-based Southeast Asian American community organizations – mutual assistance associations (MAAs) and faith-based organizations (FBOs) – with sub-grants, training, and technical assistance in order to improve their work with underserved elderly community members. Information and resources about the HELP project are available at <http://www.searac.org/help>