

The Healthy Elders Leadership Project

HELP Email-Alert

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE

February 8, 2007

I. IN THE NEWS:

Immigration Fee Increases in June 2007

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) proposed a fee increase on Citizenship and Green Card applications that will take effect in June of 2007. Under the proposed plan, the cost for applying for citizenship would increase from \$400 to \$675 and for green card would jump from \$325 to \$905. For more information on the USCIS fee hike and to express concerns during a 60-days public comment, click on this link:

<http://www.uscis.gov/files/pressrelease/PRBuilding1.pdf>

II. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES:

Bank of America Accepting Applications for Neighborhood Excellence Initiative

Grants of up to \$200,000 for leadership training and general operating support for nonprofits, honoring a community's local heroes, and embracing the next generation of student leaders. For information on the RFPs process, click on the following link:

http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation/index.cfm?template=fd_neighborexcell&statecheck=CA

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

III. TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Public Relations Training for Health Advocates

The California Endowment Health Journalism Fellowships Program at the USC Annenberg School for Communication is pleased to present Health Care in the Headlines: Public Relations for Health Advocates. This one-day training workshop, led by the SPIN Project, is designed to offer fundamental media relations skills to California's health care advocates, and will be offered in San Francisco (Feb. 15) and Los Angeles (March 7). To learn more, click here:

<https://secure.spinproject.org/modinput4.php?modin=93>

Grant Writing Workshops

The Foundation Center's training programs are specifically designed for grant-seekers—either representatives of nonprofit organizations or individuals—who want to enhance their

understanding of the grant-seeking process and various aspects of funding research. All classes listed below are offered free of charge unless noted otherwise. See the training calendar at the San Francisco Foundation Center website to sign up for FREE classes/workshops:

http://foundationcenter.org/sanfrancisco/sf_training.html

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

- March 3, 2007 - Central California - Fresno
- March 24, 2007 - Central California – Stockton
- April 21, 2007 - Northern California - East Bay/ San Francisco (**NEW DATE**)

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

IV. COMMUNITY RESOURCE

Tips for Using Grant Writing Consultants

Thinking of hiring a grant writing consultant? Non-profit organizations use grant writing consultants for various reasons. If your organization is considering working with a consultant, then check out this FREE resource from MOSIACA: The Center for Nonprofit Development and Pluralism. Tips for using grant writing consultants can be downloaded by clicking on the link below:

<http://mosaica.coure-tech.com/resources/tipcons.pdf>

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>