

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Asian American and Pacific Islander Community Symposium

JULY 28, 2018 | HARRISBURG, PA



RESOURCES



National Domestic Violence

1-800-799-7233

(Interpretation Available Upon Request.
Available 24/7 to talk confidentially.)

www.thehotline.org

Manavi

1-732-435-1414

(24/7. Free and Confidential.

An Organization for South Asian Women)

P.O. Box 3103, New Brunswick, NJ 08903

www.manavi.org

Sakhi for South Asian Women

Helpline 212-868-6741

P.O. Box 1333, Church Street Station,

New York, NY 10008

contactus@sakhi.org

www.sakhi.org

Islamic Center of Long Island

Helpline 516-385-8292

Domestic Harmony Project

P.O. Box 35, Syosset, NY 11791

info@dhnfy.org

www.dhnfy.org

Korean American Family Service Center

Helpline 718-460-3800

P.O. Box 54129, Flushing, NY 11354

contact@kafsc.org

<http://kafsc.org>

YWCA of Greater Harrisburg

24-Hour Hotline 1-800-654-1211

(Interpretation Available Upon Request.

Services for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.)

www.ywcahbg.org

Rape Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN)

1-800-656-4673

(Interpretation Available Upon Request
National Sexual Assault Hotline.

Free. Confidential. 24/7.)

<https://rainn.org/>

Hot Peach Pages

International Directory of Domestic
Violence Agencies

Information in over 110 languages

www.hotpeachpages.net

Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence Technical Assistance. Training. Research. Public Policy.

500 12th Street, Suite 330

Oakland, CA 94607

info@api-gbv.org

www.api-gbv.org

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-8255

(Interpretation Available
Free. Confidential. 24/7.)

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

Crisis Text Line

Text **HOME** to **741741**

(For free, 24/7 crisis support in the U.S.)

LGBT National Youth Talkline

1-800-246-7743

(Interpretation Available Upon Request
Youth Serving Youth Through Age 25)

www.glbthotline.org

National Runaway Safeline

1-800-7862929

Text: 66008

www.1800RUNAWAY.org

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence

3605 Vartan Way, Suite 101

Harrisburg, PA 17110

Office: **(717) 545-6400**

TTY: **(800) 553-2508**

www.pcadv.org

Crisis Intervention Services

24 Hour emergency mental health services

Crisis Intervention Program

100 Chestnut Street, Harrisburg, PA.

Phone number: (717) 232-7511

or **1-888-596-4447**

<http://bit.ly/2mHIO3>

Victim Witness Assistance Program

Comprehensive services for victim/witnesses

Dauphin County Courthouse

101 Market Street, Harrisburg PA 17101

Phone: **(717) 780-7075**

<http://www.victimwitness.org/>

Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania, Inc.

1-800-GAMBLER or **1-800-848-1880**

www.pacouncil.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) are now the fastest growing racial group in the United States; increasing over four times as rapidly as the total U.S. population and expected to double to more than 47 million by 2060. In 2015, the most common birthplace for the foreign-born residents of Pennsylvania was India, followed by China. The Asian populations in Pennsylvania increased by 18.3 % between 2010 and 2015, and the Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander populations in Pennsylvania increased by 42.1%, compared to an increase of only 1.3% for the total population.

Recognizing the tremendous growth and the unique needs within Pennsylvania's diverse AAPI communities, Governor Tom Wolf signed Executive Order 2015-10 reestablishing the Governor's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (Commission) on August 4, 2015. The Commission, chaired by Bibhuti Aryal and led by Executive Director Tiffany Chang Lawson, works to improve the quality of life and opportunities for AAPIs by serving as the advocate agency for the diverse AAPI communities across the Commonwealth and facilitating increased access to and participation in state programs.

Our inaugural AAPI Community Symposium serves as a platform for engagement between the AAPI community and state and local, as well as non-profit providers around complex issues such as the opioid epidemic, sexual assault and domestic violence, and bullying and microaggressions. This innovative approach ranging from AAPI inter-community collaboration to our on-the-ground community outreach, seeks to facilitate meaningful connections, and opportunities to learn about resources and programs available.

Welcome	4
Agenda	5
Presenters	10
Acknowledgements	17
Notes	19

Connect.

Interact with AAPI community leaders from across the Greater Harrisburg region working on diverse issues to advance the AAPI community.

Learn.

Connect with state and local agencies as well as non-profit providers and learn about what resources are available and the work being done to address these complex issues.

Share.

Engage in a safe place to discuss your experiences, stories, and what matters most to you on these issues with leaders and other participants.

Mobilize.

Gain tools and knowledge to mobilize your communities to expand access to resources and opportunities for AAPIs across Pennsylvania.

WELCOME



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



GREETINGS:

It is our pleasure to welcome everyone gathered here today to the inaugural Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Community Symposium.

This event serves to facilitate important conversations within the AAPI community in order to bring about meaningful change. The topics that will be discussed are difficult, but the connections made here will fortify the AAPI community to allow you to better fight these issues. Sexual assault, domestic violence, bullying, microaggressions, and addiction are problems that impact communities around the world, but they can be fought through the collaborative action of culturally conscious governance and concerned members of the community. I am deeply grateful to all partners who are here today to help address these issues with their work and services, and also to everyone who is here to participate. You are proving your commitment to your community through your action. It is our most sincere hope that these conversations will serve to benefit all those in attendance and inspire them to cultivate positive action in the AAPI community.

As First Lady, on behalf of the Governor, and on behalf of all citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, we thank all involved for your participation in this event. Please accept our best wishes for continued success.

FRANCES WOLF
First Lady
July 28, 2018

TOM WOLF
Governor
July 28, 2018

AGENDA

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

OPENING PROGRAM

State Museum Auditorium

Door close at 9:45am. Participants must be in their seats by 9:50am.

Opening Artistic Presentation and Remarks

Sikh Children's Choir

Mistress of Ceremonies: Tiffany Chang Lawson, Executive Director, Governor Wolf's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

Bibhuti Aryal, Chair, Governor Wolf's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

GACAPAA Regional Leaders Introduction: Vice Chair, Dr. Sue Mukherjee, Vice Chair, Thomas S. Lee, Esq., Commissioner Padam Rizal

Fireside Chat

AAPIs have and continue to play a critical role in the fight to end domestic violence both here in Pennsylvania and across the United States. Local and nationally acclaimed AAPI leaders from different fields will examine the intersection of vulnerable AAPI communities, the spectrum of domestic violence, its impact on AAPI families, and discuss strategies for how local communities can take the lead in catalyzing change.

Kavita Mehra, Executive Director, Sakhi for South Asian Women

Ho-Thanh Nguyen, President and Founder, Pennsylvania Immigrant and Refugee Women's Network

Farzana Safiullah, Chief Operating Officer, National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

Dr. Vasu Singh, Greater Lehigh Family Medicine

Moderator: Tiffany Chang Lawson, Executive Director, Governor Wolf's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

Presentation: Trauma-Informed Care

Robert K. Reed, Esq., Executive Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

Learn how trauma-informed care assists behavioral health professionals in understanding the impact and consequences for those who experience trauma. For people who have been physically injured, such as a woman suffering from domestic abuse, or a young man who has been shot, a trauma-informed approach goes beyond just treating their physical wounds. Instead, it recognizes that they may have experienced such abuse and other traumatic experiences and symptoms of trauma for years.

AGENDA

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

LUNCH & RESOURCE FAIR

Keystone Building Atrium

Join us for a delicious lunch donated by four local AAPI restaurants: Himalayan Fusion, Passage to India, Royal Buffet & Grill, and Yami Korean. Take this time to meet with state and local agencies as well as non-profit providers participating in our resource fair to learn more about available resources and programs. Volunteer interpreters will be available at the information table to assist in interpretation for the following languages: Hindi, Kannada, Mandarin Chinese, Marathi, Nepali, Taiwanese, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

WORKSHOPS

Keystone Building

Join a lively facilitated dialogue on an issue that matters most to you. In each session, experts and AAPI leaders will explore innovative solutions to pressing issues and increasing awareness of the resources and programs available for AAPIs. Please note: These sessions will take place in two different sections of the Keystone Building, Hearing Rooms 2, 3, 4, and 5 located in the four corners of the atrium and the Keystone Building Meeting Center (KBMC) Desert and Forest Rooms.

Bullying & Microaggressions: Youth Workshop (For Youth Only)

Keystone Building Meet Center: Desert Room

Education is often cited as the most important issue for AAPI communities. However, in today's social climate AAPI youth are increasingly vulnerable for xenophobic or Islamophobic bullying. Join AAPI youth leaders as they facilitate a discussion around bullying, how AAPI youth are experiencing it, and what to do when faced with bullying or microaggressions. This workshop is for AAPI youth only.

Syed Monzareen, Rising Senior at Cedar Crest High School

Zara Safiullah, Recent College Graduate of Temple University

Helen Zhang, Recent College Graduate of Pennsylvania State University

AGENDA

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

WORKSHOPS

Keystone Building

Bullying & Microaggressions: Adult Workshop (For Adults Only)

Keystone Building Atrium: Hearing Room 2

The United States is a nation of immigrants, and AAPI immigrant communities have shaped the very fabric of this country and our Commonwealth. However, there exists a persistent stereotype of AAPIs as perpetual foreigners. Perhaps you've experienced this in your life. Learn how this stereotype and others specifically about the AAPI community can manifest as microaggressions, and how you can define these experiences and respond to them on your own terms. Also, experience a unique presentation from the Community Responders Network as they share a scripted dialogue entitled, "Believed," and facilitate their acclaimed bystander training called, "I Wish I Had Done Something."

Opening Presentation: Dr. Warren R. Anderson, Vice President for Inclusion and Diversity & Chief Diversity Officer, Harrisburg Area Community College

Ann Van Dyke, Community Responders Network

Saima Mumtaz, Community Responders Network

Aaysha Noor, Community Responders Network

Susan Washinger, Community Responders Network

Domestic Violence in AAPI Communities: Continuing the Conversation

Keystone Building Atrium: Hearing Room 3

Join us as we continue the conversation about domestic violence in AAPI communities. Learn about local resources available for survivors of domestic violence as well as the life-long impact of domestic violence on families and children.

Dr. Hema Guruprasad, Professor, Clinical Pediatrics, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

Ho-Thanh Nguyen, President and Founder, Pennsylvania Immigrant and Refugee Women's Network

Dr. Vasu Singh, Greater Lehigh Family Medicine

Moderator: Kavita Mehra, Executive Director, Sakhi for South Asian Women

AGENDA

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

WORKSHOPS

Keystone Building

Sexual Assault: A Survivor's Story

Keystone Building Atrium: Hearing Room 4

This workshop will bring awareness, knowledge, and networks in serving sexual assault survivors. Participants will be provided resources for serving victims as well as learn about the process of reporting crimes to law enforcement and the criminal justice system. Participants will hear directly from a survivor of sexual violence.

Pearl Kim, Former Commissioner, Governor Tom Wolf's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

The Opioid Epidemic: Understanding its Impact and How to Combat it

Keystone Building Meet Center: Forest Room

Learn about current drug trends in Pennsylvania, what the local impact is and how to identify them. This presentation is pertinent for parents seeking to gain a better understanding of what your children could potentially be exposed to. Also, hear from AAPIs currently on the frontlines of the opioid epidemic and how they are working to reduce harmful consequences associated with drug use, sex work, and other activities that may contribute to poor health outcomes. Learn how you can get involved and take action to combat the opioid epidemic in Pennsylvania.

Opening Presentation: Sherry Clouser, Deputy Director, Dauphin County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services

Rohit K. Mukherjee, Community Organizer, SOL Collective

Rajani Gudlavalleti, Community Organizer, Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition

Trauma-Informed Care: Healing Invisible Wounds

Keystone Building Atrium: Hearing Room 5

Take a deep dive into how trauma-informed care assists behavioral health professionals in understanding the impact and consequences for those who experience trauma. For people who have been physically injured, such as a woman suffering from domestic abuse, or a young man who has been shot, a trauma-informed approach goes beyond just treating their physical wounds. Instead, it recognizes that they may have experienced such abuse and other traumatic experiences and symptoms of trauma for years.

Robert K. Reed, Esq., Executive Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

AGENDA

2.15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

CLOSING PROGRAM

State Museum Auditorium

*Join us back in the State Museum Auditorium for our Closing Program.
Doors will close at 2:10 PM.*

Closing Panel: Commonwealth to Community

Join us as we discuss the work of the Wolf Administration around the opioid epidemic, sexual assault and domestic violence, bullying, safe schools, and education, employment and housing discrimination.

Carol Kuntz, Director, Office for Safe Schools, PA Department of Education
Joyce Lukima, Chief Operating Officer, Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape
Andrew Pickett, Director, Bureau of Public Health Preparedness and Deputy Incident Commander, Opioid Command Center, PA Department of Health
Heather Roth, Harrisburg Regional Director, Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission

Moderator: Tiffany Chang Lawson, Executive Director, Governor Wolf's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

Reflections & Closing Remarks

PRESENTERS



TIFFANY CHANG LAWSON

Executive Director,
Governor Wolf's Advisory
Commission on Asian Pacific
American Affairs

Tiffany Chang Lawson serves as the Executive Director of Governor Tom Wolf's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs. The Commission is state's advocate agency for the diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander communities across the Commonwealth. In this role, Tiffany oversees state-wide Commission communications, events, initiatives, and community partnerships. Tiffany was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA but moved to Hershey, PA when she was eight years old to attend the Milton Hershey School. After graduating from the Milton Hershey School Tiffany pursued her undergraduate studies at Dickinson College located in Carlisle, PA. Tiffany graduated from Dickinson College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in a Self-Developed Major of Global Feminisms and a minor in Chinese Language.



BIBHUTI ARYAL

Chair,
Governor Wolf's Advisory
Commission on Asian Pacific
American Affairs

A Pittsburgher since age 9, Aryal finished an undergraduate degree in two years, graduating magna cum laude from Robert Morris University, before earning his MBA from Carnegie Mellon University's Tepper School of Business. He now is a technology and business consultant at Pittsburgh's SDLC Partners, and in his free time he is a founding member of the Pittmandu soccer team, the epitome of western Pennsylvania's blend of cultures. He is the CEO at the Rukimini foundation, which he started to honor his grandmother, an organization dedicated to reaching out to girls in Nepal and giving them an education.



DR. SUE MUKHERJEE

Vice Chair,
Governor Wolf's Advisory
Commission on Asian Pacific
American Affairs

Sue Mukherjee is the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Educational Intelligence for Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education. In this role, Sue leads the research enterprise for the State System and its 14 universities. Sue has an extensive background working at the intersection of higher education and workforce development for over a decade, has a Ph.D in Administrative Leadership, and is currently pursuing a Fellowship at Harvard University. Beginning August 1, 2018, Sue will assume the position of Chief Strategy Officer for Shippensburg University of PA.



THOMAS S. LEE, Esq.

Vice Chair,
Governor Wolf's Advisory
Commission on Asian Pacific
American Affairs

Thomas S. Lee is a Pennsylvania lawyer in the practice areas of banking and finance. He was appointed to the Commission in November 2015 and was selected to serve as a Vice-Chair of the Commission. Tom is an elected Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Membership as a Fellow is limited to one percent of lawyers admitted to practice in the United States, its territories and lawyers in jurisdictions outside the United States. The American Bar Foundation is affiliated with the American Bar Association and was founded in 1955.



PADAM RIZAL

Commissioner,
Governor Wolf’s Advisory
Commission on Asian Pacific
American Affairs

Padam Rizal was born and raised in Southern Bhutan. His family was subjected to ethnic cleansing and expelled from Bhutan in 1990. Prior to coming to the United States, he lived in a refugee camp in Nepal and worked in UNHCR’s Bhutanese Refugee Project for fifteen years. He is self-employed, and runs a language solutions business that provides translation, interpretation and transcription services to clients throughout North America. At present he serves as advisor to the Trustees at the Organization for Hindu Religion and Culture (OHRC) and Punya Foundation USA.



KAVITA MEHRA

Executive Director,
Sakhi for South Asian
Women

Kavita is committed to serving organizations that build equity, and advocate for justice. Prior to joining Sakhi, Kavita was most recently the interim Chief Executive Officer for the Boys & Girls Club of Newark. Kavita is an Advisory Board Member for the New Leaders Council’s New Jersey Chapter, a Board Member for LadyDrinks, and an Advisory Board Member for I Have A Dream Newark. Kavita has blogged for the White House initiative Act To Change as well as the Huffington Post. Kavita completed her Bachelor of Arts from New York University with a double major in both History and Gender Studies. She also holds a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, with a concentration in South Asian Studies, from Columbia University, as well as a certificate in Business Excellence from The Columbia Business School. She’s a lover of a good book, a challenging hike, or exploring a new culinary destination.



HO-THANH NGUYEN

President and Founder,
Pennsylvania Immigrant and
Refugee Women’s Network

Ho-Thanh Nguyen is a dedicated advocate for the rights of immigrants and refugees with limited English language skills, helping this community face injustice and campaign for fairness and equality. Nguyen is a refugee from Vietnam who gives back to her community by helping new immigrants and refugees have their own voices. She arrived in the United States in 1975, and by 1978, her story as an activist had begun. In May 2001, she found the Pennsylvania Immigrant and Refugee Women’s Network (PAIRWN). She saw a need for newly arriving women to gain the skills and self-confidence required for a successful transition to a new life; she also saw the need for local organizations, policies, and attitudes to change in response to the diversity and needs of immigrant and refugee communities. PAIRWN is a non-profit, grassroots, community service organization run by immigrant and refugee women and dedicated to the wellbeing of immigrant and refugee communities in Pennsylvania.



FARZANA SAFIULLAH

Chief Operating Officer,
National Resource Center on
Domestic Violence

Farzana leads and manages NRCDV’s fiscal operations, contracts, grants, administrative functions, human resources and information technology. She has extensive experience in managing federal programs funded by the U.S. Departments of Labor, Education and Health and Human Services, and managing non-profits. She has been with the NRCDV since 2005. Farzana is a founding member of the U.S.-based Muslim Advocacy Network against Domestic Violence, focusing on building collaborative partnerships and developing resources. She has a Bachelor’s in English and Anthropology and has her Master’s in Public Administration with a Certificate in Nonprofit Management. She also successfully completed a Harvard Executive Education Fellowship on Performance Measurement for Nonprofits. She is active in local community work in Harrisburg, PA, co-leading the Strategies for Community Action Committee of the Community Responder’s Network to expand community dialogue to protect and safeguard the safety, respect and dignity of all. Farzana is an active member of her mosque and the Muslim Women’s Leadership Council of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

PRESENTERS



DR. VASU SINGH

Physician,
Greater Lehigh Family
Medicine

Dr. Singh practices Family Medicine in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. She also serves as a Medical Director at the Department of Medical Assistance. She has been actively involved with the diverse populations in Lehigh Valley through various community initiatives.

Dr. Singh is the president of Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, Lehigh Valley Chapter. Her work has received recognition locally as well as at the national level. She also teaches and mentors Family Medicine residents at St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem, PA. Dr. Singh enjoys traveling, cooking and teaching Hindi. She lives in Bethlehem with her husband and three children.



ROBERT K. REED, Esq.

Executive Deputy
Attorney General,
PA Office of the
Attorney General

Robert K. Reed has been in public service for more than 35 years. Beginning in the early 1980s, Rob worked in United States Department of Justice and, in 2017, was appointed to direct the new Office of Public Engagement in the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General (OAG). Rob has been a trial prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO) in Washington, D.C. and the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, where he was the Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division and Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney. He has spoken across Pennsylvania on the opioid epidemic, gun violence, prisoner reentry, and hate crime. He has also continued his partnership with medical and mental health professionals to bring an understanding of Trauma and Trauma-Informed Care to communities and organizations across Pennsylvania. Rob has a Bachelor's of Arts Degree from the University of Pennsylvania, a Master's of Science Degree from the London School of Economics, and a law degree from Boston College Law School.



SYED MONZAREEN

Rising Senior,
Cedar Crest High School

Syed Monzareen is a Bangladeshi rising high school senior who aims to use what he's been through to help better the lives of others like him.



ZARA SAFIULLAH

Recent College Graduate,
Temple University

Zara Safiullah recently graduated from Temple University with a degree in Political Science. She is currently interning at the Office of Philadelphia City Councilman Kenyatta Johnson and with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence.



HELEN ZHANG

Recent College Graduate, Pennsylvania State University

Helen Zhang recently graduated from the Pennsylvania State University with a Double Major in Criminology and Psychology. She is currently taking prerequisite courses at Harrisburg Area Community College and will be applying to accelerated nursing program to pursue a career in Forensic Nursing.



DR. WARREN R. ANDERSON

Vice President for Inclusion and Diversity & Chief Diversity Officer, Harrisburg Area Community College

Warren R. Anderson, Ed.D. serves as the vice president for inclusion and diversity and chief diversity officer at HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College. Dr. Anderson also serves as the College's Title IX coordinator. Dr. Anderson has served in various senior and executive level roles within K-12 and Higher Education. In his current role, he is responsible for the direction, leadership and oversight of the College's strategic vision around inclusion and all aspects of diversity, including compliance with Title IX and other forms of discrimination. At HACC, Dr. Anderson also has functional responsibility for the departments of Disability Services across the College's five campuses. A native of Philadelphia, Dr. Anderson earned a doctorate of education in higher education from Widener University; a master's degree in education from Eastern University; and a bachelor's degree from Mansfield University.



ANN M. VAN DYKE

Community Responders Network

Ann M. Van Dyke was a civil rights investigator and trainer for the PA Human Relations Commission from 1979- 2012. She worked with communities and schools where hate crimes were committed, where there was tension because of population change, and where racial supremacist groups were rallying and recruiting. Ms. Van Dyke also conducted police/community relations training for municipal police departments. She often worked as a team with the PA State Police, the U.S. Department of Justice, the PA Office of Attorney General and with the PA and US Departments of Education. She has sponsored 11 refugees from Viet Nam, Bulgaria and Afghanistan, 6 of whom were her foster children. Since retiring from the State, she continues to do volunteer work related to civil rights, violence and poverty via The Community Responders Network, Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence, The Common Ground Community Center, Gather the Spirit for Justice and a regional Criminal Justice/Community Relations task force. Her motto is: Do good and have a good time.



SAIMA MUMTAZ

Community Responders Network

Saima Mumtaz currently serves as the President for the Women's Auxiliary of the Harrisburg Chapter of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community at Hadee Mosque. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is a dynamic, fast growing international revival movement within Islam spanning over 206 countries. She also serves as the Committee Chair of the Education and Prevention Team of the Community Responders Network (CRN), a grassroots organization preventing and confronting bias in Central Pennsylvania. Saima established and operates the Humanity First Harrisburg Food Pantry. She stays actively involved in the community for promoting peace and understanding through engaging in and arranging interfaith dialogue with diverse spiritual organizations. Her true passion however is education. Saima has worked on and continues to support several projects to eliminate stereotypes and discrimination through education in the community. She has been happily married for 20 years with four wonderful kids and is looking forward to joining Penn State University this Fall to pursue a master's degree.

PRESENTERS



AAYSHA NOOR

Community Responders Network

Aaysha Noor is an Asian American Muslim, and passionate advocate for equity and equality for all. She is passionate about social and racial justice. She sees diversity as a strength and works towards raising cultural awareness and bringing people together to collectively build a stronger community. She has planned, co-organized, and participated in numerous unity, Interfaith, educational, cultural, and women empowerment events. She was recognized for her community service and a recipient of the Peacemaker award from Brethren Community Ministries, as well as the Sarah Alyce Wright award from the YWCA Greater Harrisburg. She serves as the Co-Chair of the Rapid Response Team for the Community Responders Network, as well as the President and Founder of Asian Americans of Pakistani Heritage of Central PA. She serves on various board of advisors, and committees, including the Women's Fund with The Foundation for Enhancing Communities, Council on American Islamic Relations-PA, Dawah in Action (Muslims Helping Neighbors for a Better World), Race Against Racism YWCA.



SUSAN WASHINGER

Community Responders Network

Susan Washinger is a champion of the participatory processes for teaching and learning, program and organizational management, and community development. Susan embraces participatory processes as a pedagogy, culture, and philosophy. Her peak career moments include enjoying the shared outcomes of empowered and engaged collaborations. Identifying as a humanist, Susan values diversity and inclusivity, and exercises a facilitative style that is mindful of participant-driven learning and planning. Susan loves to connect friends and colleagues and is reputed as a bridge-builder and collaborator. Susan's experience includes 20 years in public health, education, and administration. She has a Master's Degree in Health Education from Pennsylvania State University.



DR. HEMA GURUPRASAD

Professor, Clinical Pediatrics Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

Dr. Guruprasad is a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University. She serves as a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. She completed her medical degree at Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College in Belgaum, India. Dr. Guruprasad completed two Residencies one St. Vincent's Hospital and Medical Center and Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital in New York, NY.



SHERRY CLOUSER

Deputy Director, Dauphin County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services

Sherry is currently the Deputy Director at Dauphin County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services. She has been with the county for 30 years and with the drug and alcohol department for 20 years. She has worked as a case manager, an intensive case manager, student assistance program liaison, prevention supervisor and currently as deputy director. Prior to that Sherry worked at Dauphin County Prison for 10 years as the Treatment Coordinator. Sherry holds an Associate's Degree in Social Science from Harrisburg Area Community College and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from The Pennsylvania State University. She is also a Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor, has a Gambling Certificate of Competence, and currently working on a Certified Prevention Specialist certification through the Pennsylvania Certification Board. Sherry is a proud mother/grandmother of one daughter, one grandson and one granddaughter. She also enjoys working with animals and is a certified dog trainer through Animal Behavior College.



ROHIT K. MUKHERJEE

Community Organizer,
SOL Collective

Rohit is a community organizer for SOL Collective and has worked in harm reduction for seven years. SOL Collective is a group of activists, medical professionals, and people in recovery who advocate for the rights and health of people who use drugs, and provides weekly outreach in North Philadelphia. He is an advocate for safe consumption sites and is passionate about expanding access to naloxone and syringe exchange. In the past, he directed a student-run clinic within a syringe exchange and founded a naloxone outreach program. Currently, he is a medical student at Drexel University College of Medicine and is pursuing a joint MD/MPH focusing on community health.



RAJANI GUDLAVALLETI

Community Organizer,
Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition

Rajani Gudlavalleti is community organizer for Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition, coordinating BRIDGES, Baltimore's grassroots movement for safer consumption spaces. She received her master's in public policy from Hopkins, focusing on gender-specific and racially equitable approaches to criminalized issues such as drug use and sex work. For over a decade, she has worked at the intersections of social justice, public health, and the legal system. Rajani has conducted this work through the Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore City Health Department, and Open Society Foundations. Rajani is also a trainer with Baltimore Racial Justice Action, co-organizer of Baltimore Asian Resistance in Solidarity, and board member of Foundation Beyond Belief. Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition (BHRC) is comprised of a diverse group of health professionals and community members who are committed to harm reduction principles and who engage in education, advocacy, and service in the Baltimore area and statewide. Harm reduction refers to a range of policies and practices designed to reduce the harmful consequences associated with drug use, sex work, and other activities that may contribute to poor health outcomes. Harm reduction is an alternative and, in some cases, a complement to the more conventional approaches of demand and supply reduction.



PEARL KIM

Former Member,
Governor Tom Wolf's
Commission on Asian Pacific
American Affairs

Pearl Kim was appointed to the Pennsylvania's Office of Attorney General as a Senior Deputy Attorney General. Kim served in the Executive Office under the newly formed Office of Public Engagement launched by Attorney General Josh Shapiro and led the AG's Campus Safety Initiative. Formerly an Assistant District Attorney in the Delaware County District Attorney's Office, Ms. Kim was Chief of the Human Trafficking Unit in the Special Victims and Domestic Violence Division. As a special victims unit prosecutor, Ms. Kim handled Protection From Abuse matters, child physical and sexual abuse, domestic violence, rape, human trafficking, and Internet Crimes Against Children cases. Ms. Kim served on the Joint State Government Commission's Advisory Committee on Human Trafficking and reported back to the PA Senate any recommendations for changes in state law, policies, and procedures and ultimately secured the first trafficking of persons conviction under Pennsylvania's trafficking statute. Governor Corbett and Governor Wolf appointed Pearl Kim to the Governor's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, and she currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania. Ms. Kim obtained her J.D. from Villanova University School of Law where she was the recipient of the Villanova Achievement Scholarship and received her B.A. from Bryn Mawr College.



CAROL KUNTZ

Director,
PA Department of Education

In December 2016, Ms. Kuntz joined the Pennsylvania Department of Education as the Advisor to the Deputy Secretary of the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. The focus was in working with the Office of School Services and the Office for Safe Schools in the organization and development of human resources and strategic planning within the Offices. In this role, she researched and developed the component of Pennsylvania's ESSA plan on neglected and delinquent youth. She had an integral role in the development of the Equity and Inclusion Toolkit. In April of 2017, she took over as the Interim Director of School Services and in June as the Interim Director of Safe Schools. In September, she accepted the position as the Director of the Office for Safe Schools.

PRESENTERS



JOYCE LUKIMA

Chief Operating Officer,
Pennsylvania Coalition
Against Rape

Joyce Lukima currently serves as the Chief Operating Officer for the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape. Ms. Lukima oversees training and technical assistance, communications and grants and contracts for PCAR. Ms. Lukima is experienced in individual and group counseling as well as the supervision of counselors; she has worked with issues related to violence and sexual assault for more than 30 years. Ms. Lukima conducts and organizes workshops, training and conferences to provide skill development for professionals' assisting victims of sexual assault. She acts as faculty member for the National Institute on the Prosecution of Sexual Violence a project of AEquitas: the Prosecutors Resource on Violence Against Women. As part of her work with AEquitas she teaches prosecutors how to better respond to vicarious trauma and the impact trauma has on victims of sexual assault. Ms. Lukima has worked with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections in the implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). She also participated on the planning committee for the National Judicial College's PREA education project and has co-authored Circle of Support: A basic resource guide for support groups responsive to sexual violence. Ms. Lukima has been appointed to Pennsylvania's Victim Services Advisory Committee. Ms. Lukima holds a Master's Degree in Psychology from Angelo State University and a Masters of Social Work from Temple University and is a licensed social worker.



ANDREW PICKETT

Director,
Bureau of Public Health
Preparedness
Deputy Incident
Commander,
Opioid Command Center
PA Department of Health

Andrew "Andy" Pickett is currently the Director of the Bureau of Public Health Preparedness with the Pennsylvania Department of Health, having been appointed to the position in April, 2015. In this role, he oversees the implementation of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) federal cooperative agreements, and manages public health and medical preparedness and response efforts across the commonwealth. This includes management and oversight of over \$25 million in federal preparedness and response funds, 9 healthcare coalitions, 168 hospitals, and 10 local health departments. Prior to this position, he worked for the City of Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion for 7 years, including 3 years as preparedness manager. Academically, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Geographic Information Science from Central Michigan University, and a Master of Science in Public Safety and Emergency Management from Eastern Michigan University.



HEATHER ROTH

Harrisburg
Regional Director,
Pennsylvania Human
Relations Commission

Heather Roth joined the PA Human Relations Commission in January of 2013 as the Regional Director for the Harrisburg Regional office. The Harrisburg Regional office serves 35 counties in PA. Roth's role is to direct and manage the investigative work of the staff as well as to conduct outreach and training for the communities in which the office serves. Roth also serves on several special project committees and is a trainer for new investigators. Prior to this role, Roth spent 15 years in the field of Human Resources Management. Roth has served in multiple senior manager roles and has directed the human resources functions for multi-site and multi-state organizations. Roth holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Penn State University where she studied Public Relations. She is certified through the HR Certification Institute. Roth first obtained her PHR from HRCI in 2004. She then went on to obtain her SPHR in 2010 which she currently holds. Roth was accepted into the Mid Atlantic ADA Leadership Network into 2016 and conducts trainings as a member of that organization.

2018 AAPI Community Symposium Planning Committee

Pankaj Agarwal
Laxman Buddineni
Tim Black
Sarah Charles
Joyce Davis
Frances Jackson
Tiffany Chang Lawson
Thomas S. Lee
Sarah Long
Samina Majid
Dr. Sue Mukherjee
Ho-Thanh Nguyen
Meena Ravi
Kathleen Riley
Padam Rizal
Farzana Safiullah
Ashok Shukla
Leena Shenoy
Patricia Stringer
Maureen Uleau
Suryakala Venkatadri
Jayanth Venkatadri
Cjloe Vinoya

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Participating Agencies and Organizations

Capitol Area Consortium for Higher Education
Central Pennsylvania Chinese Association
Community Responders Network
Dauphin County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services
Dauphin County Department of Human Services Director's Office
Dauphin County Children and Youth
Gaudenzia Inc.
International Service Center
Keystone Crisis Intervention Team (KCITS)
League of Women Voters of the Harrisburg Area
Mid Penn Legal Services
Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR)
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), Office of Victim Services
Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission (PHRC)
Pennsylvania Immigrant and Refugee Women's Network (PAIRWN)
Pennsylvania Immigration Resource Center (PIRC)
Pennsylvania Department of Education: Office for Safe Schools
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation: Bureau of Driver's Licensing
Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board: Alcohol Education Program
Pennsylvania Office of Administration, Talent Management Office
Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General
Women of Color Network, Inc
YWCA of Greater Harrisburg

Special Thanks

Sikh Children's Choir
Himalayan Fusion 2306 Patton Road, Harrisburg, PA 17112
Passage to India 520 Race Street, Harrisburg, PA 17104
Royal Buffet & Grill 2810 Paxton Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111
Yami Korean, Broad Street Market 1233 N. 3rd Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102
Department of General Services, Bureau of Publications
Department of General Services, Special Events
State Museum of Pennsylvania



pennsylvania

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COMMISSION
ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**Follow us by “liking” us on Facebook 
and subscribing to our newsletter @pagacapaa**