

MAY 27, 2020

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

In recognition of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the Minority Fellowship Program at ANA share with you the profiles of several MFP/ANA Scholars of Asian/ Pacific Islander descent whose past and current work reflect their significant contributions to the nursing profession and mental health field.



Marife C. Aczon-Armstrong
PhD, RN-BC

Dr. Aczon-Armstrong is a SAMHSA MFP Alumna 2010. She received her MSN/PhD in Nursing at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and MS Counseling Psychology with a focus on Community Counseling at Chaminade University of Honolulu. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Hawaii Pacific University. Her doctoral dissertation was titled “Relation of Depression to Substance Use, Chronic Illnesses in Asian American Pacific Islanders in Hawaii.” Her peer-reviewed article, “Depression and Chronic Illness in Asian/Pacific Islander Adults in Hawaii” was published with Issues

in Mental Health Nursing in 2013. Dr. Aczon-Armstrong is a member of the Asian American Pacific Islander Nurses Association (AAPINA). Dr. Aczon-Armstrong’s past accomplishments include, but are not limited to, Fulbright Scholar Senior Specialist from 2014-2018, elected as President of Philippine Nurses Association of Hawaii (PNAH) in 2014, volunteer lecturer since 2011 for the Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc (NAMI), and organized, planned, and coordinated Roseman University College of Nursing’s Mission Trip to Uganda, Africa in 2019 with nursing faculty and students serving the underserved population in Natete, a slum area in Kampala, the capital city of Uganda. She served over 1,000 adults and children at Gospel of Light Church in Kampala and SIITA Nest Orphanage in Bugembe, Jinja. Another mission trip to

Binangonan, Rizal, and the Philippines with Roseman University of Health Sciences College of Nursing, College of Dental Medicine, College of Pharmacy and College of Medicine in December 2020 is underway. As a Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Aczon-Armstrong travels to Uganda Christian University in Mukono every summer to teach in the Master of Nursing Science - Nurse Education Track. This year she had to convert her class to virtual due to the covid19 pandemic. Dr. Aczon-Armstrong is the founding and current President of the Asian American Pacific Islander Nurses Association of Nevada and an Assistant Professor at Roseman University of Health Sciences College of Nursing and hosts a radio program, "Healthy Mondays with Nurse Experts On-Air," a community outreach. The show is broadcast every Monday over KNDI Radio 1270AM in a talk story format. Invited guests from local, national, and international health organizations join Dr. Aczon-Armstrong each week to talk about common healthcare issues in local communities. The concept originated from the National Institute of Health to promote healthy living starting on the first day of the week. A link to access this radio program can be found directly below this e-newsletter.



Jillian Inouye
PhD, FAAN

**Professor Emeritus at the John
A. Burns School of Medicine**

Dr. Inouye is an alum of the MFP class of 1987. Her career spans over 45 years with 25 years focused research on lifestyle behaviors, health disparities, chronic illness, and self-management with Asian Pacific Islanders. She has presented her research in many different countries, including Denmark, Japan, Thailand, Hong Kong, and Switzerland. Her research has made a significant impact on the health of vulnerable populations in Hawai'i and across the nation to advance knowledge in the field of 'ohana self-management to improve health-related quality of life and reduce health disparities in ethnically diverse populations with chronic illnesses; increase faculty opportunities in biomedical and behavioral

research; and study behavioral intervention for diabetes self-management among Asian/Pacific Islanders. She currently is a co-investigator on a U01 from the University of Montana and a consultant for a RO1 and P30. Her past positions include psychiatric nurse at George Washington University Hospital, nursing instructor at the University of Pittsburgh and University of Maryland, psychiatric clinical nurse specialist at St. Francis Hospital, clinical psychologist in Honolulu, and professor, graduate chair, PhD director, and

associate dean for research at the University of Hawai'i School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene. A former East-West Center grantee and Fogarty International fellow, Dr. Inouye was a founding member of the Asian American Pacific Islander Nurses Association (AAPINA), and was a past member of the SAMHSA Minority Fellowship Program's National Advisory Committee. Dr. Inouye was also instrumental in helping to create and launch the MFP formal mentoring program. She successfully launched a new open access journal, Asian/Pacific Island Nursing Journal (APN), the only nursing journal dedicated to the Asian groups, hosted by the University of Hawaii Bepress and served as founding editor-in-chief in 2014. Other past accomplishments include, but are not limited to, inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 2012, received the American Association of Nurse Practitioners' State Award for Excellence in 2013, and awarded the University of Hawaii's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2015.



Shin Daimyo

MPH, MSN, PMHNP-BC, CRNP

SAMHSA MFP Alum 2016, Shin Daimyo is currently the psychiatric nurse practitioner at Project H.O.M.E., a nonprofit aimed at ending chronic homelessness through permanent housing, opportunities for employment, medical care, education, and advocacy. In this role, he manages and develops all psychiatric evaluation, medication and psychotherapy treatment, referral, consultation, and primary care integration protocols and clinical flows, which includes leading the development of all psychiatric protocols to respond to COVID-19. Mr. Daimyo is one of the few psychiatric providers in Philadelphia accepting new patients who are on Medicaid, Medicare, homeless, or uninsured. Additionally, Mr. Daimyo had two publications this year based on his work with Partners In Health (PIH), developing sustainable community mental health systems in rural Haiti and Rwanda. Mr. Daimyo served as Senior Advisor and Clinical Program Officer for PIH, providing key service delivery, training, research, strategy, management, and capacity building advisement for PIH's mental health services in the Central Plateau and Artibonite region of Haiti, and acted as co-Investigator for the scale-up of mentoring and supervision of health center nurses to address severe mental disorders in the Bureau District of Rwanda. Mr. Daimyo provided advisement for the creation and integration of community-based mental health systems into the public sector primary care systems of Lesotho, Malawi, Peru, Mexico, and Russia and advised local non-governmental organizations (NGO) in Pakistan and India to work with local government primary care systems to build sustainable solutions for resource-poor communities with unmet mental health needs,

and worked as a Policy Fellow at the World Health Organization. Additionally, Mr. Daimyo has acted as a Behavioral Health Advisor to the New York City Office of the Executive Deputy Commissioner, Division of Mental Hygiene, providing technical expertise on the integration of behavioral health into primary care and social-services organizations, community-driven mental health service development, and creation of task-shifted, community-based mental health systems for New York City's \$850 million Thrive NYC initiative. He has also authored white papers and policy briefs related to the Affordable Care Act and acted as Director of the Obama Florida Health Care Policy Committee for the 2008 Presidential election. Mr. Daimyo is the first-ever nursing student to be awarded the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship. He is a graduate of the Yale School of Nursing, Boston University School of Public Health, and the University of Southern California.



Naomi Chan
BSN, RN

Current MFP masters Fellow, Naomi Chan is a second-year student in the PMHNP program at Vanderbilt University's School of Nursing (VUSN). Currently, Ms. Chan works at the Shade Tree Clinic, a community-based organization that serves people without insurance. In this role, she works to connect patients with mental health resources in the community. She also serves as the co-president of VUSN's Asian American/Pacific Islander Student Nurses Group, where she advocates for mental health issues uniquely impacting the Asian American

population. Naomi presented at the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association's Region IV Conference at Vanderbilt University, alongside Vanderbilt University Medical Center Residents, Dr. Barrington Hwang and Dr. David Xiao. This presentation detailed research regarding potential parenting challenges in Asian American households, as well as clinical implications of such concepts. For Naomi's portion of the presentation, she presented a case study depicted through one of Stanford Communication Health Interactive for Parents of Adolescents and Others (CHIPAO) vignettes. These vignettes were created by Stanford CHIPAO to model positive parenting strategies between Asian immigrant parents and their Asian American children. As a background, Stanford CHIPAO had created these vignettes for the community's Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) population in response to a concerning adolescent suicide cluster that occurred in Palo Alto in 2015, in which all of the adolescents who committed suicide were Asian American. Naomi weaved in concepts of the Cultural Formation Interview, cultural humility, and research regarding mental health issues in the APIA population. In March 2020, Naomi helped organize Vanderbilt's Asian

American Student Nurses Group's annual event. In this event, she talked about the increased rates of suicidal thinking and attempts in Asian American college students, when compared to White American students. Naomi discussed the researched reasonings behind this, including the cultural stigma associated with mental illness and the lack of cultural humble services. In addition, Naomi discussed clinical applications to such concepts. Last Fall, Naomi met with one of Vanderbilt's deans and advocated for increased diversity in the University's counseling center. She contributed to brainstorming campus-wide action items and ways in which new jobs at Vanderbilt's university counseling center (UCC) could attract a more diverse applicant pool. After completion of the PMHNP program, Ms. Chan plans to provide culturally competent mental healthcare for adolescents, particularly in the Asian, Asian American, and immigrant populations.

Healthy Mondays with AAPINA of Nevada

Radio Broadcast on PHLV Radio

