

DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

**Communities Addressing Racial/Ethnic
Health Disparities (CARD) Initiative**

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DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION

COMMUNITIES ADDRESSING RACIAL/ETHNIC HEALTH DISPARITIES (CARD) INITIATIVE AWARD JUSTIFICATION

BACKGROUND	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 (Senate Bill 241) with the responsibility for insuring over two million people in the State of Georgia to maximize the State's health care purchasing power, to coordinate health planning for state agencies, and to propose cost-effective solutions to reducing the numbers of uninsured. Within the Department, the Office of Health Improvement (OHI) focuses on education, heightened awareness and network development to change the current state of health disparities in Georgia by focusing on four major health diseases: heart disease and stroke, diabetes, cancer, and HIV/AIDS. These diseases affect all Georgians, but have a more profound affect on the state's impoverished citizens. In addition OHI also examines other critical health issues where there are major gaps in health prevention and education among Georgians.</p>
PROGRAM BACKGROUND	<p>In 2006, OHI and its Minority Health Advisory Committee (MHAC) began the Health Equity Initiative to meet the health disparities challenges faced by Georgia's minority communities. In 2008, OHI published the Georgia Health Disparities Report <i>"A county level look at health outcomes for minorities"</i>. The report detailed racial/ethnic specific data on the health status of Georgia's minority populations but was limited due to significant gaps in data for the Hispanic/Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Native American communities. Gaps in data for Georgia's Asian/Pacific Islander (API) populations were particularly noteworthy due to the fact that the state of Georgia is the nation's third-fastest growing area for Asians.</p>
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	<p>In response to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) Request for Grant Application for; <i>"State Action: Evaluating the Healthy People 2020 Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Agenda"</i> OHI developed the Communities Addressing Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities (CARD) Initiative. The CARD Initiative will expand the 2008 Georgia Health Disparities Report; and focus on the lack of data to effectively address and ultimately eliminate health disparities among Georgia's API populations.</p> <p>Using the Healthy People 2020 framework, population health improvement concepts; and building upon existing programs, planning processes and structure in addition to the 2008 Georgia Health Disparities Report; OHI developed the CARD Initiative as a novel approach to conducting participatory strategic planning activities and processes, with an emphasis on multi-sector collaboration. The outcomes of this undertaking will provide a supplement to the 2008 Georgia Health Disparities Report and allow the state to address health disparities to Georgia's API populations and develop tailored initiatives to meet the specific needs of that population.</p>
AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE</p> <p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Morehouse School of Medicine a CARD grant in the amount of \$7,250 to address racial/ethnic health disparities in Georgia and support HHS, Healthy People 2020 planning activities. DCH presents the CARD Initiative as a direct award in that DCH was required to identify grantees that meet the criteria to provide the specified services. Service providers were chosen based on need of OHI as well as existing programs, planning processes and structure. The following provides justification for naming Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) as a direct award grantee for the CARD Initiative.</p> <p>Since 1975, MSM has been dedicated to improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities; increasing the diversity of the health professional and scientific workforce; and addressing primary health-care needs through programs in education, research, and service, with emphasis on people of color and the underserved urban and rural populations in Georgia and the nation. MSM has a number of nationally recognized research centers and institutes, including the Center of Excellence on Health Disparities and the National Center for Primary Care established by Congress in 1997 as the nation's only National Center for Primary Care.</p>

	<p>MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE CON'T</p> <p>Additionally, the National Center for Primary Care at MSM employs some of the leading subject matter experts on improving health outcomes in the Southeast Region.</p> <p>The National Center for Primary Care at MSM has played an integral (unfunded) role in Georgia Health Equity Initiative since its inception. Staff at the National Center for Primary Care provided project oversight, technical assistance, data collection and analysis and guidance in the compilation of data and reports for the publication of the 2008 Georgia Health Disparities Report.</p> <p>As a Direct Awardee MSM, National Center for Primary Care team will continue to serve in its previous capacity. The team will work with the Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc., Georgia Asian Pacific Islander Community Coalition and related groups to produce a supplemental report to Georgia Health Disparities report specifically focused on Georgia's Asian Pacific Islander populations.</p>
<p>AWARD JUSTIFICATION</p>	<p>CENTER FOR PAN ASIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.</p> <p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award the Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc., a CARD grant in the amount of \$6,050 to address racial/ethnic health disparities in Georgia and support HHS, Healthy People 2020 planning activities. DCH presents the CARD Initiative as a direct award in that DCH was required to identify grantees that meet the criteria to provide the specified services. Service providers were chosen based on need of OHI as well as existing programs, planning processes and structure. The following provides justification for naming the Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc. (CPACS) as a direct award grantee for the CARD Initiative.</p> <p>Since 1980, CPACS has been providing its core group of services to immigrant and refugee families in Georgia. Established as a private non-profit organization, CPACS is the first and largest Asian and Pacific Islander (API) health and human service agency in the Southeast region. Its mission is to create and deliver culturally competent and comprehensive social and health services to counteract problems faced by immigrants, refugees, and racial-ethnic minorities. As the only agency of its kind CPACS serves Georgia's API community through its core program initiatives which include: health services; delivery of basic healthcare, health education and promotion, senior services, housing and financial services, legal services, youth programs, and community education to include counseling services targeting immigrants and refugee communities.</p> <p>As a Direct Awardee the Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc. along with Morehouse School of Medicine and the DCH/OHI, Minority Health Advisory Council will work together to produce a supplemental report to Georgia Health Disparities report specifically focused on Georgia's Asian Pacific Islander populations. CPACS will serve as the data collector and provide specialized expertise in dealing with the diverse API populations in Georgia. CPACS will also be responsible for identifying API communities for participation and coordinate the ethnic/racial component of the strategic planning process and be responsible for audience development for participation in the strategic planning process.</p>
<p>AWARD(S)</p>	<p>TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$ 13,300</p> <p>Total direct awards available for this project are \$13,300. DCH/OHI anticipates the issuance of two direct awardees as a result of this funding. The intended awardees are as follows:</p> <p>Morehouse School of Medicine - \$7,250 The Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc. - \$6,050</p>
<p align="center"><u>TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION</u></p> <p>Contact Kristal Thompson-Black, DCH Grant Administrator at kblack@dch.ga.gov no later than 4:00 on Monday, August 3, 2009</p>	