



The President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders

Commission Subcommittee Summaries

March 2023

Belonging, Inclusion, Anti-Asian Hate, and Anti-Discrimination Subcommittee

Subcommittee Membership:

- **Co-Chairs:** Luisa Blue and Dr. Kamal Kalsi
- **Members:** Emily Chen, Grace Huang, Daniel Dae Kim, Naheed Qureshi, Smita Shah
- **Non-Commissioner Member:** Madihha Ahussain
- **DFO:** Zeyen Wu

Summary of Meetings and Presentations:

The Belonging, Inclusion, Anti-Asian Hate, Anti-Discrimination Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission's fourth quarterly meeting on December 5 and December 6, 2022, the Subcommittee met on December 13, 2022, January 10, January 24, February 14, February 21, and March 7, 2023. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Mary McCord, Executive Director, Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection (ICAP), Visiting Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center:** Provided an overview about hate and white supremacist ideology, as well as specific commentary about the context of hate incidents against AA and NHPI communities arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Kate Peterson, Director of State Victim Resource Division, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), U.S. Department of Justice; Jasmine D'Addario-Fobian, Director of Discretionary Programs Division, OVC, U.S. Department of Justice:** Provided an overview of the operations of OVC, including sources of funds, programs, grantees, and other information. The speakers also provided information about AA and NHPI-serving grantees.
- **Cynthia Deitle, former FBI Special Agent, and former Director, Civil Rights Reform, Matthew Shepard Foundation:** Provided information about the investigatory operations and outreach mechanisms of the FBI and local law enforcement as it pertains to communities vulnerable to hate incidents, as well as ideas and initiatives to improve hate crimes reporting and tracking.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Belonging, Inclusion, Anti-Asian Hate, and Anti-Discrimination Subcommittee approved the following two draft recommendations to present at the March 14, 2023, full Commission meeting:

- The Commission recommends that the federal government establish a permanent home agency with permanent career and political staff, and ongoing funding, to support the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders

(WHIAANHPI) and the President’s Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

- The Commission recommends that the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) increase the availability and accessibility of victim services for AA and NHPI crime victims through outreach, increased emphasis on AA and NHPI-serving organizations, and expanding the capacity of existing grantees to serve AA and NHPI communities.

Data Disaggregation Subcommittee

Subcommittee Membership:

- **Co-Chairs:** Sarah Min, Dr. Raynald Samoa, Dr. Robert Underwood
- **Members:** Emily Chen, KaYing Yang
- **Non-Commission Members:** Dr. Ninez Ponce, Dr. Joseph Keawe Kaholokula
- **DFO:** Sarah Edwards

Summary of Meetings and Presentations:

The Data Disaggregation Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission’s fourth quarterly meeting on December 5 and December 6, 2022, the Subcommittee met on December 12, 2022, January 9, January 23, February 6, February 27, and March 6, 2023. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Anna Owens, Deputy Chief, Office of Strategic Alliance, U.S. Census Bureau; Mayumi Hairston Escalante, Partner Liaison, Office of Strategic Alliance, U.S. Census Bureau; Nicole Scanniello, Assistant Division Chief for Communications, American Community Survey Office, U.S. Census Bureau; Bina “Kawe” Mossman-Saafi, Branch Chief, Congressional Affairs Office, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Census Bureau:** Presented an overview on the U.S. Census Bureau’s Office of Strategic Alliance, as well as their outreach strategies to reach AA and NHPI communities and facilitate data sharing.
- **Neil Weare, President and Founder, Equally American; Cara Brumfield, Associate Director, Center on Poverty and Inequality, Georgetown Law; Jae June Lee, Policy & Data Analyst, Center on Poverty and Inequality, Georgetown Law:** Presented on advancing data equity in the U.S. territories.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Data Disaggregation Subcommittee approved the following draft recommendation to present at the March 14, 2023, full Commission meeting:

- The Commission recommends that the White House issue an Executive Order that gives the U.S Territories comparable treatment to Puerto Rico in the standards, policies, and norms in federal departments and agencies regarding the treatment of U.S. Territories in the statistical system.

Language Access Subcommittee

Subcommittee Membership:

- **Co-Chairs:** Dr. Amy Agbayani, Victoria Huynh, Dr. Kimberly Chang
- **Members:** Kerry Doi, Grace Huang, Ajay Bhutoria, Simon Pang
- **Ex-officio Member:** Laureen Laglagaron, Attorney Advisor, Federal Coordination and Compliance Section, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice
- **DFO:** Zeyen Wu

Summary of Meetings and Presentations:

The Language Access Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission's fourth quarterly meeting on December 5 and December 6, 2022, the Subcommittee met on January 3, January 20, February 3, February 17, and March 3, 2023. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Cannon Han, Senior Program Manager, Asian Pacific Institute for Gender Based Violence:** Provided information on language access challenges/barriers of AA and NHPI limited English proficient (LEP) communities, and recommendations based on implementation of Title VI in state and local government.
- **Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a, Director of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language, Member, Native Educator Education Committee of the National Indian Education Association, Board Member, World's Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium:** Provided background on the history of Native Hawaiian language preservation and current language revitalization efforts, including programs, funding, and federal support, for Native Hawaiian language promotion and preservation.
- **Stanton K. Enomoto, Senior Program Director, Office of Native Hawaiian Relations, U.S. Department of the Interior:** Provided an overview on the relationship between Native Hawaiians and the federal government, and shared information about current federal efforts to incorporate Native Hawaiian language and perspectives into the Department of Interior's work.
- **Monica Johnson, Director, 988 and Behavioral Health Crisis Coordinating Office, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department Health and Human Services (HHS-SAMHSA); John Palmieri, Deputy Director, 988 and Behavioral Health Crisis Coordinating**

Office, Office of the Assistant Secretary, HHS-SAMHSA; James Wright, Division Director, Crisis Operations, 988 and Behavioral Health Crisis Coordinating Office, Office of the Assistant Secretary, HHS-SAMHSA: Provided background on the structure and basic operations of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and information about current interpretation and in-language options for 988.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Language Access Subcommittee approved the following draft recommendation for presentation at the March 14, 2023, full Commission meeting:

- The Commission recommends that HHS-SAMHSA expand the availability and access to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline by providing language assistance services in multiple AA and NHPI languages, and expanding outreach to AA and NHPI communities.

Economic Equity Subcommittee

Subcommittee Membership:

- **Co-Chairs:** Ajay Bhutoria, Simon Pang, Smita Shah
- **Members:** Luisa Blue, Dr. Kimberly Chang, Kerry Doi, Michelle Ka‘uhane, Kevin Kim, Ai-jen Poo
- **DFO:** Caroline Goon

Summary of Meetings and Presentations:

The Economic Equity Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission’s fourth quarterly meeting on December 5 and December 6, 2022, the Subcommittee met on January 6, January 20, February 3, February 17, and March 3, 2023. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Summer Lee Haunani Sylva, Senior Advisor for Native Hawaiian Affairs, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI):** Provided an overview of DOI’s initiatives for the Native Hawaiian community, including its draft consultation policy and procedures, Hawaiian Homes Commission Act oversight, and native language preservation efforts.
- **Exodie C. Roe, III, Associate Administrator for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU), General Services Administration (GSA); Paul Martin, Director, IT Services Contract Operations Division, GSA; Carena Jackson, Acting Director, Small Business Compliance and Goaling Division, OSDBU, GSA:** Provided an overview of the GSA contracting and procurement process,

including the selection, awards, and post-awards process, and data related to AA and NHPIs.

- **Arun Venkataraman, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets, and Director General of the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, International Trade Administration:** Provided an overview of the resources available to small businesses, and information related to the increase of global exports from the U.S.
- **William W. Beach, Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor:** Provided an overview of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and shared relevant data regarding industries that AA and NHPI workers are concentrated in, including low-wage industries.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Economic Equity Subcommittee approved one draft recommendation for presentation at the March 14, 2023, full Commission meeting:

- The Commission recommends that the federal government provides support and resources to AA and NHPI small businesses to help them expand their export operations in order to help reduce the U.S. import/export trade imbalance.

Health Equity Subcommittee

Subcommittee Membership:

- **Co-Chairs:** Teresita Batayola, Kerry Doi, Mia Ives-Ruble
- **Members:** Victoria Huynh, Dr. Kimberly Chang, Michelle Ka'uhane, Kamal Kalsi, Ajay Bhutoria
- **Non-Commission Member:** Dr. Quyen Ngo-Metzger
- **DFO:** Caroline Goon

Summary of Meetings and Presentations:

The Health Equity Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission's fourth quarterly meeting on December 5 and December 6, 2022, the Subcommittee met on December 15, 2022, January 12, February 9, February 23, and March 9, 2023. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Amy Alexander, MD, President & Founding Member, Association for College Psychiatry, President-Elect, Association of Women Psychiatrists, Director, Student Mental Health Fellowship, , and Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University School of Medicine; Anne**

S. Li, MD, DFAACAP, Director, Children's Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program, NYC Bellevue Hospital Center, and Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, New York University Langone; Warren Y.K. Ng, MD, MPH, President, American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Medical Director, Outpatient Behavioral Health, Director, Clinical Services Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University Medical Center and New York-Presbyterian/Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital; Donna Tran, MPH, National President, Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association, Medical Student Rep, Association for College Psychiatry; Maryam Zulfiqar, MD, Student Mental Health Fellow, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University School of Medicine: Provided an overview on the landscape of mental health, bullying, suicide prevention, and other topics of concern to the AA and NHPI population.

- **Mina Fedor, Founder and Executive Director, AAPI Youth Rising; Jaslene Lai, Founding Board Member and Website Manager, AAPI Youth Rising; Ethan Su, Board Member and Middle-School Representative:** Provided information and perspective on the barriers and challenges facing AA and NHPI youth as it relates to mental health and other health inequities that affect AA and NHPI youth.
- **Eliseo J. Perez-Stable, MD, Director, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health (NIH); Shobha Srinivasan, PhD, Senior Advisor for Health Disparities, Office of the Director, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute, NIH; Yuling Hong, MD, PhD, FAHA, Chief, Epidemiology Branch, National Heart, Lung, Blood Institute, NIIH; T. Jake Liang, MD, Chief, Liver Diseases Branch, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, NIH; Gabriel Lai, PhD, Program Director, Environmental Epidemiology Branch, Epidemiology and Genomics Research Program, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute, NIH:** Provided an overview of the current landscape of AA and NHPI health disparities/outcomes research, and highlighted barriers and challenges to supporting this work, including low funding rates for AA and NHPI research grants.
- **Carter Blakey, Deputy Director, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); Emmeline Ochiai, Senior Advisor, ODPHP/OASH/HHS:** Provided an overview of the Healthy People 2030 Framework and how its mission is to promote, strengthen, and evaluate the nation's efforts to improve the health and well-being of all people.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Health Equity Subcommittee approved the following three draft recommendations for presentation at the March 14, 2023, full Commission meeting:

- The Commission recommends that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Department of Education (ED) take several steps to launch an AA and NHPI youth mental health campaign; increase targeted funding to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for research on culturally competent effective treatments and approaches for AA and NHPI individuals with mental health symptoms; and expand the

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) minority fellowship programs and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) loan repayment programs to target AA and NHPI behavioral health trainees and professionals.

- The Commission recommends that HHS and ED establish national programs to raise awareness, evaluate, and address health disparities, such as heart disease and obesity, in AA and NHPI sub-groups living in the United States, specifically with a focus on children and youth.
- The Commission recommends that HRSA collect language access data from federally-funded community health centers, and develop measures for reporting in the Uniform Data System (UDS) on the percentages and numbers of patients with preferred languages other than English, including data on the languages spoken; the percent and number of patients who are limited English proficient (LEP); and the percent and number of visits in which professional interpreters were utilized for LEP patients.

Immigration and Citizenship Status Subcommittee

Subcommittee Membership:

- **Co-Chairs:** Grace Huang, KaYing Yang
- **Members:** Ajay Bhutoria, Simon Pang, Dr. Amy Agbayani, Dr. Robert Underwood
- **Ex-Officio Member:** Carol Wu, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- **DFO:** Sarah Edwards

Summary of Meetings and Presentations:

The Immigration and Citizenship Status Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission's fourth quarterly meeting on December 5 and December 6, 2022, the Subcommittee met on, January 11, January 25, February 8, February 14, February 22, and March 9, 2023. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Matt Adams, Legal Director, Northwest Immigration Rights Project:** Presented an overview on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Controlled Application Review and Resolution Program (CARRP), including the factors used to make determinations and recommendations to improve the process.
- **Bureau of Consular Affairs, U.S. State Department:** Presented on the processing of immigrant visas, including family-based, employment-based, and diversity visas.
- **Mary Cheng, Deputy Director, Executive Office for Immigration Review, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ); Lauren Alder Reid, Assistant Director, Executive Office for Immigration Review, DOJ:** Presented on language access in immigration courts, including how current policies and resources impact decision making for limited English proficient or non-English speakers.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Immigration and Citizenship Status Subcommittee approved the following three draft recommendations for presentation at the March 14, 2023, full Commission meeting:

- The Commission recommends that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) expand access to legal representation for those in removal proceedings through grants to non-profit and other legal aid organizations with the purpose of providing universal legal representation. The President's annual budget request to Congress for FY 2024 should include allocations to support these programs.
- The Commission recommends that DHS' U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) extends the grace period for H1-B workers from 60 days to 180 days to allow those who have lost their jobs to find a new sponsor.
- The Commission recommends that DHS' USCIS grant employment authorization documents (EADs) and travel documents to individuals who have approved I-140 employment-based visa petitions in the EB-1, EB-2, and EB-3 categories, who have been waiting in the visa backlog for five or more years, regardless of whether they have filed applications for adjustment of status.