



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

Commission Subcommittee Summaries

September 2022

Belonging, Inclusion, Anti-Asian Hate, 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, Dr. Robert Underwood
- **DFO:** Carol Wu

Summary of Meetings and Presentations

The Belonging, Inclusion, Anti-Asian Hate, Anti-Discrimination Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission's second meeting on May 12, 2022, the Subcommittee met on June 14, June 28, July 12, July 26, August 9, August 16, August 30, and September 20. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Kiran Kaur Gill, Executive Director, Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF):** Presented on the effect that racially motivated mass shootings have had on Asian American and Pacific Islander communities and spoke to policies that could help prevent and address gun violence.
- **Kareem Shora, Executive Vice President, Programs and Policy, Human Rights First (HRF):** Presented on HRF's work to address the overarching threat of white supremacy and its effect on AA and NHPI communities across the United States.
- **Chad Reifer, Chief, Domestic Terrorism Branch, Counterterrorism Mission Center, Office of Intelligence & Analysis, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS):** Presented an overview of DHS's domestic terrorism strategy and data regarding incidents of racially or ethnically motivated violence.
- **Norman Chen, Chief Executive Officer, The Asian American Foundation; Aryani Ong, Senior Advisor, Anti-Hate & Belonging Program, The Asian American Foundation; and Kathy Ko Chin, Senior Advisor, Programs, The Asian American Foundation (TAAF):** Presented an overview of TAAF's work and on their Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Action Centers that are combatting anti-Asian hate at the regional level by building infrastructure to improve AAPI advocacy, power, and representation.
- **Stewart Kwoh, Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director, The Asian American Education Project; Dr. Virginia Loh-Hagen, Co-Executive Director, The Asian American Education Project; and Sandy Sakamoto, Director of Creative Development and Counsel, The Asian American Education Project:** Presented on The Asian American Education Project's mission and work to combat anti-Asian hate by integrating the history of AA and NHPI communities in the United States into K-12 curriculums.

- **Rosemarie Hidalgo, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence at the White House Gender Policy Council:** Presented on the White House Task Force to Address Online Harassment and Abuse and the disproportionate impact that online harassment and abuse has had on the AA and NHPI community.

Summary of Recommendations

The Belonging, Inclusion, Anti-Asian Hate, Anti-Discrimination Subcommittee approved the following draft recommendation to present at the September 28, 2022, full Commission meeting:

- Recommendation to increase hate crimes reporting among AA and NHPI communities through improved language access and community town halls.

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:** Min Guo

Summary of Meetings:

The Data Disaggregation Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission's second meeting on May 12, 2022, the Subcommittee met on June 6, June 22, July 6, July 18, August 1, August 15, and August 29, 2022. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Dr. Joshua Quint, Unit Chief, Vaccine Data and Equity, Immunizations Branch, California Department of Public Health, and Data Consultant for the Native Hawaiian Health Organization Papa Ola Lokahi:** Presented on data disaggregation efforts in Hawaii during COVID-19. Shared the best practices on COVID-19 case reporting.
- **Margo Schwab, Co-chair of the Equitable Data Working Group, Branch Chief for the Statistical and Science Policy, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and Senior Science Policy Analyst, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA):** Provided an update on the Equitable Data Working Group and anticipated next steps. Shared a new website, Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, for a catalogue of available disaggregated data sets and big surveys for AA and NHPIs. Discussed the June 15th OMB press release with forthcoming formal review to revise OMB's race and ethnicity standards process.

- **Dr. Stella Yi, Associate Professor, New York University Grossman School of Medicine, Section for Health Equity, Department of Population Health:** Presented on the Innovations in Data Equity for all Laboratory (IDEAL) projects between NYU and the New York State Governor’s office to advise on the best practices for the collection of specific subgroup data for all ethnic groups for the New York State Department of Health.
- **Jordan Matsudaira, Deputy Under Secretary and Chief Economist, U.S. Department of Education:** Presented the efforts of Department of Education on data disaggregation. Showcased the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) program data collection plan to include the six largest Asian American groups and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders for the 2024-2025 FAFSA form beginning in October 2023. Discussed the partnership with Census Bureau on this pilot effort.
- **Karthick Ramakrishnan, Founder and Co-director, AAPI Data; Howard Shih, Managing Director, AAPI Data; and Ryan Vinh, Data and Community Partnerships Specialist, AAPI Data:** Presented the most recent report published by AAPI Data with three recommendations highlighting community engagement and data accessibility. Discussed obstacles that are faced by AA and NHPI communities in the data equity realm.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Data Disaggregation Subcommittee approved one draft recommendation to present at the September 28, 2022, full Commission meeting:

- Recommendation that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) amend the minimum data collection standards for race to include guideline recommendations to collect, analyze and report data on smaller populations for federal surveys and that OMB partner with the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (WHIAANHPI) to convene an annual AA and NHPI Data Summit.

Language Access Subcommittee

Subcommittee Membership:

- **Co-Chairs:** Dr. Amy Agbayani, Victoria Huynh, Dr. Kimberly Chang
- **Members:** Kerry Doi, Grace Huang, Dr. Kamal Kalsi, Ajay Bhutoria, Simon Pang
- **Non-Commission Member:** Deeana Jang
- **Ex-officio Member:** Lauren Laglagaron, Attorney Advisor, Federal Coordination and Compliance Section, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice
- **DFO:** Maysee Jacobs

Summary of Meetings:

The Language Access Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission's second meeting on May 12, 2022, the Subcommittee met on June 10, July 8, July 22, August 5, August 19, September 2, and September 16, 2022. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Laura Godfrey, Manager at USA Gov, Technology Transformation Services, U.S. General Services Administration (GSA):** Provided an overview of the efforts to standardize the provision of translated web content across the federal government, including both challenges and opportunities.
- **David Hyams, Chief of Enforcement and Regional Partnerships, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Civil Rights (OCR), Conscience and Religious Freedom Division:** Provided an overview of civil rights protections in language access and requirements for those receiving federal funds to provide language access.
- **Nani A. Coloretti, Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB); Melissa Newman, Senior Policy Analyst, OMB; and Shaibya Dalal, Senior Equity Fellow, OMB:** Presented information about the process for setting benchmarks on language access spending and needs and how the process and eligibility works. Also provided information on the process to allocate more money for language access into federal agency budgets and how to empower small community-based organizations that do language access and translation work to receive federal funding.
- **Young Noh Jung, Policy and Programs Manager, National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA); Gregg Orton, National Director, NCAPA; Azizah Ahmad, Policy & Community Advocacy Manager, Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF); Adam P. Carbullido, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO); Marita Etcubañez, Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives, Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC); and Navdeep Singh, Interim Policy Director, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA):** Presented on recommendations and principles to revamp the federal government's efforts regarding language access for AA and NHPI communities, particularly in light of relatively smaller populations and its vast cultural and linguistic diversity.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Language Access Subcommittee approved the following three draft recommendations for presentation at the September 28, 2022, full Commission meeting:

- Recommendation for language coordinators to strengthen the executive branch's ability to incorporate language access into operations.
 - Recommendation to allocate funding to increase language access resources.
 - *In collaboration with the Immigration and Citizenship Status Subcommittee:* Recommendation to expand dissemination of Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' information in multiple languages and increase AA and NHPI community outreach.
-

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:** Maysee Jacobs

Summary of Meetings:

The Economic Equity Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission’s second meeting on May 12, 2022, the Subcommittee met on June 10, June 24, July 8, July 22, August 5, August 19, September 2, and September 16, 2022. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Kemba Hendrix, Senior Advisor, U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM):** Provided an overview of the government-wide strategic plan to advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) in the federal workforce. Gave examples of actions the government has taken to advance DEIA and strategies that can increase representation of underserved communities.
- **Udachi Onwubiko, Senior Policy Advisor, Wage and Hour Division (WHD), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL):** Provided an overview of the strategic enforcement efforts to combat high labor violation rates in low-wage industries where vulnerable AA and NHPI workers are impacted, and strategies to better reach and serve these workers through community-based outreach and in-language resources.
- **Kamal Essaheb, Counselor to the Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS):** Provided an overview of the Department, what it has done and is doing to protect against the possible exploitation of low-wage immigrant workers.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Economic Equity Subcommittee approved three draft recommendations for presentation at the September 28, 2022, full Commission meeting:

- Recommendation for recruitment to increase the percentage of AA and NHPI applicants in the federal workforce.
 - Recommendation to increase the number of new AA and NHPI entrants to the federal marketplace to reverse the decline in small business suppliers.
 - Recommendation to support AA and NHPI workers in low-wage jobs and care workers by advancing strategies that ensure a strong direct care workforce meets the rapidly growing demand for long-term services and supports (LTSS); protecting Asian immigrant workers exercising their civil and workplace rights while advancing economic security, opportunity, and equity; and directing the Department of Labor to convene a domestic work advisory board to improve job quality for domestic workers.
-

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
- **Non-Commission Member:** Dr. Quyen Ngo-Metzger
- **DFO:** Min Guo

Summary of Meetings:

The Health Equity Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission's second meeting on May 12, 2022, the Subcommittee met on June 16, June 30, July 14, July 28, August 11, and August 25, 2022. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Jennifer Joseph, Director, Office of Policy and Program Development, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS):** Provided an overview of HRSA's mission, program services, funding opportunities for Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC). Also discussed resources in mental health services, health equity for AA and NHPI populations, and language access assistance in the framework of health centers' operational plan.
- **Rebecca Malberg von Loewenfeldt, Associate Director, Healthcare Career Advancement Program (H-CAP):** Provided an overview of training and resources about the Department of Labor funded H-CAP programs, as well as the Registered Apprenticeship Programs in healthcare.
- **Tara D. Spencer, Chief, Nursing Education and Practice Branch, Division of Nursing and Public Health, Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS):** Provided an overview of BHW programs with benefits, loans, and resources for healthcare professionals. Discussed funding opportunities and potential partnerships with Department of Labor on training healthcare workforce.
- **Joe Bañez, Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS):** Provided a briefing on the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act passed in June 2022, which received a total of \$800,000,000 in funding for five programs provided to SAMHSA.
- **Dr. Matthew Tejada, Director, Office of Environmental Justice, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):** Provided insights on the Inflation Reduction Act's climate provisions, as well as an overview on EPA programs that impact AA and NHPI communities.

Summary of Recommendation:

The Health Equity Subcommittee will not be proposing any recommendations during the September 28, 2022, full Commission meeting. They will be discussing issues that include gun violence, domestic violence, mental health, human trafficking, COVID-19 and equitable response, environmental justice, challenges of healthcare access, and healthcare workforce. They will solicit feedback from the full Commission and collaborate with other subcommittees on cross-cutting issues.

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:** Amanda Baran, Chief, Office of Policy and Strategy, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- **DFO:** Carol Wu

Summary of Meetings

The Immigration and Citizenship Status Subcommittee meets bi-weekly. Following the Commission's second meeting on May 12, 2022, the Subcommittee met on June 15, June 29, July 13, July 27, August 10, August 24, August 31, and September 21, 2022. The Subcommittee received presentations from the following subject matter experts who helped to inform their recommendations:

- **Gregory Chen, Director of Government Relations, American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA):** Presented on AILA's efforts to provide free legal representation to individuals in removal proceedings.
- **Francey Lim Youngberg, Assistant Director, Office of Partnership and Engagement, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS):** Answered Commissioners' questions on immigration enforcement, check-in processes, and alternatives to detention.
- **Lawrence Bartlett, Director, Office of Refugee Admissions, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, U.S. Department of State (DOS):** Presented an overview of DOS's efforts to process refugee populations from the Asia-Pacific region.
- **Lauren Edwards, Senior Advisor, Refugee Programs, Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS):** Presented an overview of ORR's refugee resettlement process in the United States.

Summary of Recommendations

Draft PACAANHPI Recommendations (September 2022)

The Immigration and Citizenship Status Subcommittee approved the following two draft recommendations for presentation at the September 28, 2022, full Commission meeting:

- Recommendation that the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement establish enforcement policies and procedures that keep families together, restore dignity, and ease the hardships faced by individuals and families living with long term immigration removal orders.
- Recommendation that the Department of Homeland Security United States Citizenship and Immigration Services establish procedures that allow for the stamping of H-1B and L visas in the United States.