

Press Release

Event: Kaiser Permanente David Lawrence Community Service Awards

Time: 5:00 – 9:00 PM

Location:

**Westin Hotel -Ballroom
50 3rd Street and Market
San Francisco CA**

Contacts: Sandy Stokes, Lisa Liu, and Pauline Nee

Volunteers representing the Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care are being awarded today, Tuesday April 22nd, with Kaiser Permanente's David Lawrence Community Service Awards which recognizes individuals and groups that have demonstrated extraordinary efforts to improve the health of our communities. This coveted national award received over 120 nominations this year, and only 12 finalists have been selected for this special distinction.

The Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care was founded in December 2005 to address the lack of culturally and linguistically appropriate End of Life Care for the Chinese American community. Our enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers comprise of bilingual Chinese volunteers and caregivers as well as professionals from healthcare and other disciplines. Our participants bring a rich depth of knowledge, skills, and experience from fields inclusive of medicine, nursing, social work, pharmacy, law, spirituality, community relations, communication, and academia. Our Coalition upholds the mission and vision to build a community in which Chinese Americans are able to face the End of Life with dignity, respect, and meaning. Since its inception in 2005, our community-based organization has grown to encompass over 50 organizations. Participating organizations include Kaiser Permanente, National Hospice & Palliative Coalition Organization, California Coalition for Compassionate Care, American Cancer Society – California Chinese Unit, Alzheimer's Association – Northern California & Northern Nevada Chapter, California Transplant Donor Network, Hospice of the Valley, Zen Hospice, On Lok Senior Health Services, Laguna Honda Hospital & Rehabilitation Center, Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association, Herald Cancer Care Network, Stanford Geriatric Education Center, Hospice Foundation of Taiwan and Tzu Chi Foundation USA.

The CACCC is the only organization in the U.S. devoted to End of Life Care issues for Chinese Americans. Currently, CACCC efforts are focused in the San Francisco Bay Area and the Silicon Valley because of the concentration of Chinese Americans in these geographic areas. As the CACCC grows, we plan to expand our outreach.

Many areas of the United States have a relatively small Chinese American population and there may only be a few professionals who work exclusively with this community. It is important for health care professionals interested in improving End of Life Care for Chinese Americans to come together to share resources and expertise.

Our Coalition has:

- Identified multiple needs in the Chinese community for culturally and linguistically appropriate information, resources, and tools regarding end of life.
- Developed training for healthcare providers and volunteers/caregivers who work with Chinese patients and their loved ones at the End of Life.
- Collaborated with various organizations to provide volunteer service for patients and families. We have trained and certified bilingual volunteers that can provide cultural and linguistic services – serving as a liaison between health providers and patients/families.

Announcements:

Open Position: Coalition Coordinator

The CACCC is looking for a part-time contract Coalition Coordinator. The Coalition Coordinator will work with the Executive Director to ensure successful operation of the CACCC. This includes working with the Advisory Board; coordinating meetings, workshops and events; overseeing publication of CACCC materials in English and Chinese and managing the CACCC website; membership database and listserv; and supporting volunteers. This contract position is estimated at 20 hours per week. Salary based on experience. For more information please contact chair@caccc-usa.org.

Upcoming Training Opportunities:

“California Low Literacy Advance Health Care Directive for Chinese Americans” Training

This training is for medical interpreters, nurses, LCSWs & volunteer. During this training, you will learn, step by step, how to help Chinese speakers complete the “California Low Literacy Advance Health Care Directive” by completing your own Advance Directive. From the material covered in the lecture, you will also understand the rationale for and the context in which this form is introduced to a Chinese patient. The training is free.

06/28/2008 Sat. 1:00pm -4:00pm
Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center
375 Laguna Honda Blvd.
San Francisco, CA. 94116

Training for Respite Volunteers and Caregivers Providing Emotional Support to Cancer Survivors at End-of-Life

Are you a volunteer or family caregiver who is caring for a cancer survivor as they approach the end of life?

These interactive trainings can provide you with the information, skills and resources to help you at this difficult time. The training is free. Trainings will be in Mandarin, with English interpretation also available. Lunch and materials will also be provided.

06/14/2008 Sat. 9:30am -5:00pm
Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center
375 Laguna Honda Blvd.
San Francisco, CA. 94116

05/24/2008 Sat. 9:30am -5:00pm
Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara
700 Lawrence Expressway, Santa Clara, CA 95051
Conference Center 196 Room A2 - A5

For more information about the above announcements, please visit us at www.caccc-usa.org

About Kaiser Permanente

Kaiser Permanente is the largest nonprofit health plan in the United States, serving over 8.7 million members in nine states and the District of Columbia. Today Kaiser Permanente encompasses the not-for-profit Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and their subsidiaries, and the for-profit Permanente Medical Groups. We are an integrated health delivery system, which means that we provide and coordinate the entire scope of care for our members, including preventive care, well-baby and prenatal care, immunizations, emergency care, screening diagnostics, hospital and medical services, and pharmacy services.

As a nonprofit health plan, we are driven by the needs of our members rather than the needs of shareholders. We also believe that we have a responsibility to serve the communities in which we operate.

Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit

Improving the health of the communities we serve is core to who we are as an organization. Kaiser Permanente has been fostering the improved health of the communities we serve since our inception more than 60 years ago. Today we keep that tradition alive by focusing on four, broad areas of work:

- Care and coverage for vulnerable populations
- Community Health Initiatives for Healthy Eating, Active Living
- Health care safety net partnerships
- Developing and disseminating health knowledge

In all of our work, we are concerned with racial and ethnic health disparities. Our grants and volunteer programs are cornerstones for Kaiser Permanente Community Benefit.