

2013 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration - Citizenship Clinic & Health Fair

May 3, 2013 - Miami, Florida

The Asian American Federation of Florida (AAFF), NANAY, Florida Chinese Federation, Florida Department of Health - Miami-Dade County, Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC), GOPIO-FL, Miami-Dade County's Office of Community Advocacy, NAAPAC-FL, OCA South Florida Chapter, Thai-American Association of South Florida, United Chinese Association of Florida, and World Kwong Tung Community Association - Miami Chapter cordially invite you to the 2013 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM) Celebration through a Citizenship Clinic and Health Fair.

The coalition aims to build leadership embracing cultural values and promote inclusion of Asian Pacific American communities to celebrate the diversity of Florida's population, and to foster civic engagement through U.S. citizenship.

The Citizenship Clinic is offering FREE ASSISTANCE to eligible individuals to complete the US naturalization application.



According to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), there are about 8 million eligible green card holders who haven't chosen to become U.S. citizens yet. Nearly 3 million Asian-American and Pacific Islanders are eligible or will be eligible soon; but only 276,000 of them were naturalized two years ago, the latest figures available.

If you are eligible to apply for citizenship, you will meet with a trained volunteer to fill out Form N-400 and assist with any additional requirements to complete your application. For eligible low-income permanent residents, they may receive fee waiver for their application.

"South Florida has more than a quarter (over 125,000) of the Asian American Pacific Islander population in Florida," states Winnie Tang, AAFF President. "Yet, many of its residents aren't citizens due to language barriers and the high cost of citizenship. Even fewer of them are part of the voting electorate."

"We want to foster civic engagement of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders by encouraging them to become naturalized, and there is no better time than this May in celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month," continues Tang. "The drive is part of a statewide effort to sign on Asian and Pacific Islander immigrants as U.S. citizens."

AAFF will host a series of Citizenship Clinics in South Florida.

Workshop dates:

May 11 at NANAY Community Center - Miami-Dade County

May 25 at Hope Lutheran Church - Manatee County

June 15 at Chinese Baptist Church of Miami - Miami-Dade County

July 13 at Coral Springs Chinese Cultural Center - Broward County.

"We will help citizens-to-be fill out forms and will explain the U.S. citizenship process in their native language," says Joy Bruce, MD, NANAY President. "Due to the high cost of citizenship, the free workshop is designed to help green card holders determine their eligibility for citizenship. FLIC trained volunteers will help people complete their naturalization application and determine whether they are eligible for various waivers."

In addition to the Citizenship Clinic, in partnership with Florida Department of Health - Miami-Dade County, a mini Health Fair will provide basic health screening and HIV & STD screening to encourage healthier living in the Asian American community and community-at-large.

For more information, please contact Winnie Tang, AAFF President, at call 305-753-8791, Dr. Joy Bruce, NANAY President, at 305-951-5552, or FLIC hotline at 1-888-541-2826. You may visit FLIC website to learn more about the Citizenship Clinic via www.FLNewAmericans.org.

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Asian American Federation of Florida (AAFF)

Established in 1984, AAFF is a statewide 501(c)3 non-profit coalition that aims to foster unity and collaboration among the various Asian Pacific American organizations, and to empower its members to take active participation in civic, community and local/national affairs while building coalition to foster the spirit of cultural interaction in Florida. AAFF is a statewide organization made up of over 70 faith-based and community-based organizations, businesses and media representing the Bangladesh, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Iranian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Pakistani, Polynesian, Taiwanese, Thai, Turkish and Vietnamese communities.

www.AAF-Florida.org | 650 NE 125 Street, North Miami, FL 33161 | 305-753-8791 |
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NANAY

NANAY Inc. is a charitable organization made up of individuals who are committed to providing psychological, social, health and emotional support for youth and elders 60 years of age or older. Its major goal is to preserve cultural heritage and to assist, support and promote the welfare and well-being of youth and elders in the community, irrespective of race, sex or creed.

www.NANAY.com | 650 NE 125 Street, North Miami, FL 33161 | 305-981-3232 | nanay2011@aol.com |

Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC)

FLIC is a statewide coalition of more than 30 member organizations and over 100 allies, founded in 1998 and formally incorporated in 2004. We are led by our membership - grassroots and community organizations, farmworkers, youth, advocates, lawyers, unions and others. Its mission is to amplify the power of immigrant communities to impact the root causes of inequality, defending and protecting basic human rights, including the right to live without fear.

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