



APICHA Community Health Centers Names New Chief Medical Officer

May 28th, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New York, NY – October 28th, 2008 – APICHA is proud to announce that Robert Murayama, MD, MPH, has been appointed Chief Medical Officer. Dr Murayama brings a wealth of knowledge to the organization, having spent 18 years specializing in the medical care of people living with HIV/AIDS, and in primary care for the LGBTQ community.

Dr. Murayama is a board-certified internist and HIV specialist. He completed his postdoctoral training in primary care internal medicine at Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine's residency in Social Medicine. He received his medical degree from SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse and a public health degree from Columbia University's School of Public Health. Dr. Murayama is also a certified Acupuncturist. As a member of the NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute's ADAP Medical Advisory Committee, Dr. Murayama advocates for coverage of new medical therapies. He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at NYU Medical School.

Dr. Murayama's connection with APICHA began over 18 years ago, when he volunteered as a medical advisor to the HIV Support Group and a trainer for employees. About his newest affiliation with the organization Dr. Murayama says, "Over the years I have watched APICHA develop into a unique organization providing primary medical care as well as testing, advocacy, case management and prevention services. I am excited to be part of APICHA as it expands to serve the needs of a growing and diverse A&PI population."



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ABOUT APICHA

Founded in 1989, Asian & Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS Inc. (APICHA) provides comprehensive primary care and other medical services, including mental health, STD and Hepatitis and supportive services targeted to Asians and Pacific Islanders, the LGBT community and individuals living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Over the last twenty-one years, APICHA has shown a considerable growth from a grassroots HIV prevention-focused organization to a patient-centered medical home.

In 2010, the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) awarded APICHA Medical Services Level 3 recognition as a Patient-Centered Medical Home, the highest level of recognition. In 2011, APICHA served over 2,600 patients, including a majority of people of color, LGBTQ and low income individuals in New York City. About a half of APICHA's patients identify themselves as A&PIs from over 20 ethnic groups, including Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Asian Indian, Vietnamese, Thai, or Indonesians. APICHA has been a pan-Asian organization with multilingual/multicultural staff fluent in 17 languages with 24 fulltime staff capable of speaking one or more Asian languages.

For more information: www.apicha.org