



PINOY PCOR BALITA

"Mag-PCOR Muna Tayo!"

December 2019

Volume 1

Issue 1

LEADERSHIP TEAM

National Collaborating Team

- ◆ Dr. M. Danet Lapiz-Bluhm- Project Leader
- ◆ Mara Althea Cabungcal- Research Assistant
- ◆ Tristan Busby- Research Assistant

FA - PCOR Nayons

California

- ◆ Dr. Katherian Abriam-Yago- (ARC)
- ◆ Rudy Asercion- (PAL)

Hawaii

- ◆ Marianela Jacob- (ARC)
- ◆ Gina Lardizabal- (PAL)

Texas

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New Jersey

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- ◆ Veronica Lavarro- (PAL)

New York

- ◆ Dr. Mary Joy Garcia-Dia- (ARC)
- ◆ Liza Santos- (PAL)

Consultants

- ◆ Dr. Melinda Bender
- ◆ Dr. Leo-Felix M. Jurado
- ◆ Marietta Dela Cruz

KAMUSTAHAN



Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Tayon!

2019 has been an eventful year for our “Mag-PCOR Muna Tayo” team. Foremost is the receipt of funding from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) that allowed us to move forward to forming a national network of leaders and advocates for Filipino-American (FA) health to create a Toolkit for Engagement of FAs in PCOR and Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER).

PCORI aims to help individuals “make informed healthcare decisions to improve healthcare delivery and outcomes by producing and

promoting high-integrity, evidence-based information that comes from research guided by patients, caregivers, and the broader healthcare community” (www.pcori.org). With PCORI’s support, it is our turn, as a united FA community, to provide information that will be useful for clinicians and researchers to address our healthcare research priorities towards better patient outcomes. To this end, we have formed FA-PCOR villages (*mga nayon*) in five states: CA, HI, TX, NJ and NY. I thank the Patient Advocate Leaders (PALs) and Academic Research Collaborators (ARCs) of each *nayon* and the rest of the leadership team (see sidebar). Each of the FA-PCOR *nayon* has conducted *pulong at sama-sama* (PASS meetings or focus groups) with respective stakeholders in their states. This first newsletter serves to highlight and recognize these teams!

As we welcome the new year 2020, we hope for your continued engagement to advance FA health. *Mabuhay tayong lahat!*

–Dr. Lapiz-Bluhm and the National Leadership Team

NAYON UPDATES

- Each FA-PCOR *nayon* will continue to hold their PASS meetings every other month. We encourage FAs to touch base with their state PCOR *nayon*. Be an FA health advocate now! For more information, please visit our website (www.filamhealth.org) and e-mail (fil.am.pcor@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you. FA-PCOR leaders, please do not forget to take photos!
- All FA-PCOR *nayon* leaders will attend the FA-PCOR retreat in San Antonio on February 28-March 1, 2020. We will summarize the data from each *nayon* as well as plan our next steps. We encourage all FAs to provide input to your FA-PCOR leaders!
- Are there health and healthcare issues you want to know more? Do you have any ideas on how to move forward FA health? Please let us know. E-mail us your questions and ideas!

FA- PCOR NAYON IN ACTION

Stakeholders for FA health participated in the *pulong at sama-sama* of their respective state's FA-PCOR *nayon*. Here are some snapshots of the teams from HI, TX, NJ, and NY! Also included is the FA-PCOR team with CA leaders who presented at the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) National Conference in August 2019.



Hawaii FA- PCOR *Nayon*



New Jersey FA -PCOR *Nayon*



Texas FA- PCOR *Nayon*



New York FA- PCOR *Nayon*



FA-PCOR participated at the 2019 NaFFAA Conference in CA

COMMUNITY LEADER HIGHLIGHT



Mr. Rudy Asercion is the FA-PCOR Patient Advocate Leader (PAL) of California. He is an elected official in San Francisco and is no stranger to the Filipino community having served as the former Executive Director of West Bay Filipino Multi-Service Center for eight years. Through his work, he served disadvantaged, at-risk

youths by helping them transition to responsible, productive adults.

Having served the US Navy for four years, he currently serves as Commissioner of the Veterans War Memorial Commission and continues to advocate for Filipino WWII veterans in San Francisco. Before West Bay, Mr. Asercion worked as an engineer with over 18 years' experience as a senior-level business executive actively engaged in providing consulting and energy conservation services to clients located in the United States and Asia. He has held senior executive positions in both international and domestic organizations, serving as President and CEO of the Environmental Energy Management System of Singapore, President of EMS Hong Kong, Principal of AB Engineering- USA, and President of EMS-USA. Mr. Asercion is a board member of the Philippine American Press Club and the San Francisco Filipino American Chambers of Commerce. He is the Region 8 Chair of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA).

Mr. Asercion and his life partner, Ester Aure Novero, are passionate advocates and champions for Filipino-American (FA) health especially diabetes prevention in California. He was instrumental in having our project, "*Mag-PCOR Muna Tayo*," be included in the NaFFAA 2019 National Empowerment Conference (see photo). At the NaFFAA conference, the couple together with Dr. Melinda Bender (FA-PCOR Consultant) and Dr. M. Danet Lapiz-Bluhm (FA-PCOR Project Lead) shared about the FA-PCOR project to promote advocacy for FA health empowerment, and health research among FAs (see photo). We thank, Mr. Asercion and Ms. Novero, for all their hard work for the FA community!

References:

1. <https://naffaa.org/leadership-main/rudyasercion/>

HEALTH TIPS

[Holiday Healthy Eating Tips from the American Diabetes Association \(ADA\) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

Follow the links below

- [Diabetes Educator](#)
- [CDC Holiday Healthy Eating](#)

CONTACT US

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