Asian American Experiences: Focus on High-Need Issues

Eliza Noh, Ph.D. & Tu-Uyen Nguyen, Ph.D. NRCAL PD Session April 15, 2015

## Workshop Goals

- Quick facts on high-need issues (5 min.)
- Free writing and small group discussions (20 min.):
  - Sharing experiences with high-need issues
  - Community survey input: Whom should we survey? What kinds of resources do you want to know about?

• Reporting out and general discussion (20 min.)

## Academic Achievement

- Asian American and NHPI adults in Orange County age 25 and older are less likely than Whites and African Americans to have a high school diploma or GED.
  - Asian American 87%
  - NHPI 90%
  - White 96%
  - African American 92%
- Cambodian (25%) and Vietnamese (28%) Americans are among those least likely to have a college degree.

### Mental Health

- From 2000-10, **suicide** was the 8th leading cause of death among Asian Americans overall (compared to 10th among whites).
- Asian American adolescent girls (G5-12) have the highest rate of **depression** across race and gender.
- Approximately 23% of Asian American adults in OC have a physical, mental, or emotional **disability**.
- Asian Americans exhibit the lowest rates across gender, age, and geographic location of utilization of mental health services compared to other ethnic populations.
- Over 87,000 Asian Americans in OC do not have **health insurance**. Nearly 3 in 10 Korean American are uninsured.

# Immigration

- Orange County has the **fourth largest** number of Asian American immigrants (62%) among counties nationwide.
- Nearly all Asian American ethnic groups have populations that are majority foreign born: Taiwanese (72%); Korean (69%); Vietnamese (69%).
- Japanese Americans are the only Asian American ethnic group in OC that is majority **native-born** (72%).
- Approximately 14% of Asian American youth are immigrants, with Korean American youth most likely to be foreign-born (21%).
- There are no official estimates of the number of **undocumented** Asian American immigrants in OC, however some estimate a minimum of 52,000 from a national average of 1.3 million.

#### Family Issues

- Over ¾ (76%) of Asian Americans speak a language other than English, a rate second only to Latinos (80%).
- One in four Asian American households in OC (25%) are linguistically isolated (every member 14 years or older is LEP). This rate has increased 21% since 2000.
- Vietnamese Americans (160%) and Japanese Americans(146%) had the greatest increases in the number of **unemployed** between 2007-2012.
- In OC, 1 in 10 Asian Americans live in poverty and nearly a quarter are low-income.

### Free Writing & Small Group Discussion

- What high-need issues have you encountered or experienced in working with students?
- Community Survey: Inventory of Language-Related Resources
  - Whom should we survey?
  - What **kinds of resources** do you want to know about?
  - Other survey questions?

### Reporting Out & General Discussion

- What high-need issues have you encountered or experienced in working with students?
- Community Survey: Inventory of Language-Related Resources
  - Whom should we survey?
  - What kinds of resources do you want to know about?
  - Other survey questions?