



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **AAPCHO Featured in National Study on Health Information Technology**

*Study examines impact of health information technology in communities facing health disparities*

**OAKLAND, August 2, 2012** – The Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) was featured in a national study released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services entitled, “Understanding the Impact of Health Information Technology in Underserved Communities and those with Health Disparities.” The study highlights the critical role of health information technology (HIT) in improving patient care and health outcomes.

The study, which aims to increase the use of HIT among health care providers, examines how current applications of HIT are designed to address the unique needs of underserved populations facing health disparities. AAPCHO’s case study entitled, “Enabling Services Accountability Project and Pacific Innovation Collaborative – Using Health IT to Ensure Patients Receive More than Just Health Care,” is one of nine featured in the report.

"AAPCHO is honored to be featured in this very important report," said Jeffrey Caballero, executive director of AAPCHO. "This study is an important step in ensuring that vulnerable communities, who often fall through the cracks within the health care system, are represented within HIT efforts and can benefit from the promise of these advancements in care."

Key findings and recommendations of the report include:

- Low-income, primarily uninsured and underinsured minority patients rely heavily on community health centers for enabling services (non-clinical services) in addition to clinical services.
- Tracking these services in a standardized way through the use of HIT can lead to more efficient delivery and improved quality of care, contributing to improved patient health outcomes.
- Increased funding for continued research and implementation is needed to address the challenges associated with adoption and effective use of HIT, especially in communities with disparities.

For a complete copy of the report and case study, go to: <http://www.healthit.gov/policy-researchers-implementers/reports>. To learn more about AAPCHO’s Enabling Services Accountability Project visit AAPCHO’s website at <http://enablingservices.aapcho.org>.

#### **About AAPCHO**

AAPCHO is a national association of 29 community health organizations dedicated to promoting advocacy, collaboration, and leadership that improves the health status and access of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islanders in the United States. For more information on AAPCHO and its Guiding Principles and Values, please visit [www.aapcho.org](http://www.aapcho.org). AAPCHO can also be found on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/aapcho](http://www.facebook.com/aapcho).

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