



News Release

Release

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Pan Asian-American Leadership Caucus Announces Outreach Plan to Promote the 2004 Opportunity Conference

The **Pan Asian-American Leadership Caucus (PALC)** today announced an extensive campaign to outreach the Asian American community on the 2004 Opportunity Conference to take place at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington D.C. on **October 12, 2004** from 9:00am-5:30pm.

The goal of this one-day conference is to help Asian Pacific Americans and Hispanic Americans gain a greater understanding of the many programs available throughout the government including employment (job training), economic development (small business development, assistance from faith based and community-based institutions), and the federal grant and procurement processes. The conference is organized by the U.S. Department of Labor and co-sponsored by the **US Pan Asian-American Chamber of Commerce and the US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.**

PALC is a community partner of the 2003 and 2004 Opportunity Conference. PALC Legal Counsel **Irwin Liu** outlined the group's efforts to promote the conference including direct-mail and media outreach, "PALC is pleased to further expand the marketing efforts of this conference to ensure another successful conference this year."

"USPAACC is proud to be once again, one of two national co-sponsors of Opportunity Conference 2004. We believe the quality of our work that brought Opportunity 2003 to the Asian Pacific American community last year is one reason why the U.S. Department of Labor has selected us for this assignment," said **Howard Li**, President of the USPAACC East Coast Chapter.

Karen Czarnecki, Director of the Office of the 21st Century Workforce provided an outlook of the conference program and added, "The Opportunity Conference is an example of what we do at the Labor Department to build our communities, through education, small business advancement and growth of community organizations."

Betty Wu, Chair of the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, said, "President Bush and Secretary Chao are deeply committed to the Asian Pacific American community. This is yet another initiative that Secretary Chao has started to help the Asian Pacific and Hispanic Americans succeed in mainstream America."

Yuk Chan, President of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, underscored the Administration's high level of support for faith and community-based organizations, "I am pleased the Labor Department under Secretary Chao's leadership is committing the massive resources to create these opportunities. She is truly opening the doors to the American Dream for our immigrant communities."

The 2004 Opportunity Conference aims to reach out to small business owners, non-profit, faith-based organizations and community leaders, providing a rare networking opportunity for Asian Pacific and Hispanic American community leaders and key federal agency officials. Workshops of the Conference include: basic grant writing, business planning, Small Business Administration matchmaking program, federal procurement requirements, and marketing advice. For more information and registration, please visit: www.opportunityconference.gov or call the toll free number: 1-866-487-2365.

Attending the PALC press announcement were chief officers of Asian and Hispanic American civic and business organizations.

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