



Asian American Employment Plan Advisory Council

FY2026 Quarterly Meeting (#1)

Wednesday, July 30, 2025 | 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Minutes

I. Call to Order – Chair Jani

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 by Chair Jani.

II. Roll Call – Chair Jani

Council Members

Asian American Employment Plan Advisory Council				
Attendance Roster: Council Members				
Members	Present			Absent
	In person Chicago	In person Springfield	via WebEx	
Nimish Jani, Chair			X	
Shree Gurusamy			X	
Nasir Jahangir			X	
Kalpesh Joshi				X
Abin Kuriakose				X
Phimmasorn Lisa Luangsomkham				X
Grace Chan McKibben			X	
Dennis Mondero				X
Hae D Paul Park				X

Total: 4 members present, 5 members absent. Quorum was NOT achieved. The meeting was held via WebEx video conference.

Agency Representatives

Asian American Employment Plan Advisory Council Meeting				
Attendance Roster: Agency Representatives				
Agency	Representative	Present		
		In person Chicago	In person Springfield	via WebEx
Central Management Services	Patricia Santoyo-Marin			X
	RoxAnne LaVallie-Unabia			X
	Naomi L. Salcedo			X
	Francisco Alvarado			X
	Chris Naranjo			X
	Jill Kilroy			X
	Bobby Tucker			X
Illinois Department of Natural Resources	Eric Shirley			X
Illinois Department of Employment Security	Anna D’Ascenzo			X
Illinois Department of Agriculture	Heather Bosie			X
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency	Pam Smith			X
	James Wilcockson			X
Illinois State Police	Mary Dowdy			X
Illinois Gaming Board	Dwayne Taylor			X
	Elizabeth A. Kaufman			X
Illinois Lottery	Peter Romano			X
DCEO	Teri Morris			X
Illinois Department of Transportation	Brian D. Hendricks			X
	Brandy Phillips			X
Illinois Department of Public Health	Lance Morgan			X
	Ericka Williams			X
Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology	Hannah Rabideau			X
	Vickie Simpson			X

Total: _23_ CMS and other Agency Employees attended this meeting.

Members of the Public

Asian American Employment Plan Advisory Council Meeting				
Attendance Roster: Members of the Public				
Name	Entity Represented	Present		
		In person Chicago	In person Springfield	via WebEx

Total: _0_ member of the public attended this meeting.

III. Old Business

A. Approval of the April 23, 2025, Q4 Meeting Minutes

- i. Quorum was not achieved, meeting minutes not approved

IV. CMS Updates

- A. CMS D&I Team New Positions and Staffing –CMS Deputy Director of Diversity & Inclusion, Patricia Santoyo-Marin
 - i. Closing out of largest D&I Internship cohort, the most diverse cohort in history of program. Internship highlights include trip to Springfield and final presentations.
 - ii. CMS D&I team has gone from two to twelve employees and has been approved for two additional positions such as an entry level administrative assistant (union), as well as a senior leadership Statewide Manager for Bilingual Needs/Pay (merit), to assess Language access in state workforce and services in collaboration with Governor's Office of New Americans. Positions should be posted in two months; council will be notified. Please note: both positions are bilingual coded for Spanish.
 - iii. Notice for Council and sister Agencies, CMS D&I in the midst of annual report survey for over 55 agencies collecting workforce data. Agencies invited to attend two Q&A info sessions.
 - 1. Statewide Manager Naomi will connect on sections relevant to Council such as the bio and photos to include in report.
- B. CMS Outreach and Recruitment – CMS Statewide Manager for Asian American Diversity and Inclusion, Naomi Leilani Salcedo
 - i. Recap for closing out AANHPI Heritage Month in Quarter 4
 - 1. 4/30 Asian American Legislative Caucus Reception
 - 2. 5/1 AACC AANHPI Heritage Month Kickoff
 - 3. 5/3 AIANA Annual Asian Heritage Fest
 - 4. 5/6 Mayor's Brandon Johnson's AAPI Heritage Month reception
 - 5. 5/9 Asian Night Market at Oakton College
 - 6. 5/24 GFCF 's ANHPI Heritage Month Celebration

V. New Business

- A. Call to Action
 - i. Feedback from Council and Agency partners on continued commitment and engagement within Council meetings
 - 1. For agencies: Please be sure to list and be specific about partnerships: who are you engaging with for outreach efforts? In your share backs, be clear on what your goals are for FY26, name challenges encountered and strategies considered to address them.
 - ii. For flag: Outreach will be limited between now and February as D&I staff complete the Annual Report.
 - 1. CMS now has a designated recruitment team
 - 2. FYI: There will be a 1 week window for questions from council regarding the survey/ Separate copy of the questions will be provided. Survey will remain the same as FY25.
- B. Establishing By-Laws
 - i. Council Member Grace Chan McKibben and Council Member Nasir Jahangir interested in forming subcommittee to develop By-Laws
 - ii. Statewide Manager, Naomi L. Salcedo will connect with council members offline to schedule a meeting.

C. FY26 Q2 Asian American Employment Plan Advisory Council Meeting on Wednesday,
October 29, 2025, 2:00pm – 4:00pm (Webex)

VI. **Public Comment**

A. No public comments or questions were recorded during the meeting.

VII. **Adjournment**

A. COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED at 2:35pm