



**National Technical Assistance Center
for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities**

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Center on Disability Studies: University Center for Excellence in Education, Research, and Service

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Dear

The University of Hawaii Center on Disability Studies (CDS) is beginning the second year of a grant from the U.S. Department of Education funding a National Technical Assistance Center (NTAC) to Increase Employment Opportunities for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities (NTAC--<http://www.ntac.hawaii.edu/>).

NTAC's objectives are to

- Establish collaborative linkages for strategic planning, technical assistance, training, outreach and service delivery, and dissemination
- Identify solutions to barriers for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) with Disabilities in accessing and participating in VR process
- Provide information to employers and industry organizations
- Provide culturally and linguistically relevant training on legal provisions
- Provide educational and vocational outreach to AAPIs with Disabilities
- Assist stakeholders to better understand related issues
- Develop a corps of AAPI leaders with Disabilities

One way NTAC hopes to move toward these objectives is to collect and distribute information about already existing programs that provide increased employment opportunities, especially for first and second generation Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities.

We seek your assistance in gathering information to be published in a directory with the working title of Promising Employment Practices for AAPIs with Disabilities.

We hope anyone who believes they are involved in a model program or project will share that information with us by responding to the enclosed questionnaire. If you prefer to respond on the World Wide Web you can do that at: <http://www.ntac.hawaii.edu/products/pp.htm>.

A sample questionnaire with responses is also available at this site.

If you have any questions you may get in touch with Lucy Wong-Hernandez at lucywong@hawaii.edu or 808-956-5344 (voice) or 808-956-7878 (fax).

We have enclosed a stamped, self-addressed envelope to facilitate this process. We would appreciate it if you could return the completed survey form by Friday, Dec 13, 2002.

We will publicize the results when they are published.

We also hope to facilitate a summit to discuss many issues raised by the NTAC in 2004.

Thank you for sharing your projects and ideas with NTAC.

Weol Soon Kim-Rupnow, Ph.D.
Project Director