



Inside *ACCESS*

Newsletter of Asian Christian Counseling & Educational Seminar Services, Inc. (ACCESS)

Vol. VI, Issue I

September 2011

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New Member Joins the ACCESS Board of Directors

As we enter our eighth year of serving the Greater Atlanta community, we at ACCESS are pleased to welcome a new member, Eric Shin, to our Board of Directors. Eric has been a long-time supporter of ACCESS and joined the ACCESS Board of Directors earlier this year, accepting the invitation in April and starting to attend Board meetings in June.

For those who have attended any of our fundraising dinners aside from last year's, Eric Shin should be a familiar name and face. He has performed at all of our major fundraising dinners except last year (when we gave him a break since he became a newlywed last fall, marrying his wife Jinny), most often with his good friend Peter Choi. He will again perform at our upcoming fundraising dinner on November 5th (see enclosed flyer and article on p. 6 for more information on our fall fundraising dinner).

Eric is the Director of Business Development at Pro Brand International, Inc., where he has worked for over 11 years, and is also a Board Member of another non-profit organization called Share International. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Oberlin College,



Eric Shin performing (saxophone) at our March 2008 ACCESS Fundraising Dinner with Peter Choi (keyboard)

where he played on the men's tennis team and co-chaired various student events.

As the youngest ACCESS Board member, we are particularly excited that he brings not only his strong support and concern for the work that ACCESS is doing, but also is more knowledgeable about more current tools and technologies to be used in the functions and promotion of ACCESS. For example, for this year's fundraising dinner, he introduced the QR code to our posters and flyers for smart phone users to be able to access our website directly from scanning the code on our posters and flyers (see enclosed flyer). Eric was also instrumental in finding our fundraising dinner

main speaker and promotional material designer (see flyers, tickets, etc.) this year, among other contributions, in addition to his willingness to again be our musical guest.

When asked why he wanted to serve on the ACCESS Board of Directors, Eric answered that he is a "staunch advocate for counseling" because he benefited from his personal experience of counseling years ago. Those who attended our first fundraising dinner in 2006 may remember his mention of his experience. His passion for counseling and the work and ministry of ACCESS is greatly appreciated. We are so happy to have him on board!



“Faith is being sure of what we HOPE for and certain of what we do not see...”

-Hebrews 11:1

Message From the Executive Director

Dear Supporters and Friends:

A special welcome to those of you who have joined our mailing list since our fundraising dinner last fall! We are thankful for you, just as we are very thankful for those of you who have supported ACCESS since the very beginning of ACCESS in 2004!

Like last year, we are incorporating an abbreviated annual report into our newsletter, for everyone’s information, rather than publishing a more extensive annual report just for our donors. The first half of 2010 was fair, despite the economic crisis, but the latter half of the year our client load and donations dropped off drastically, including our fundraising dinner sponsorships and donations. We were hit pretty hard, yet the fundraising dinner did raise enough to

keep us going, so we are thankful for God’s provision.

Despite and perhaps especially because of the ongoing financial crisis, ACCESS seeks to continue to be a resource of help and support to those in need, including those who have lost jobs (or are in danger of losing jobs), whether in need of help managing stress and anxiety, dealing with marriages that have been strained in the process, or needing guidance on job change. Last year we lost clients due to job loss, but a shocking layoff also brought in one client to our doors. We are glad to be able to help him process his shock and loss, as well as help him get back on his feet, as he is already gainfully employed again.

We continue to offer sliding scale discounts to those who have lost jobs or can’t

afford our regular fees for other reasons. In addition to all the greatly discounted fees we usually give, last year we also gave more subsidies from our special needs fund (The Barnabas Fund) than we have in any previous years!

During tough times like these, we are particularly grateful for your support and prayers. Your support enables us to provide culturally-sensitive and language appropriate counseling services for the Asian and Asian American population, and to continue offering our services at discounted rates. On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff at ACCESS, thanks again for your part in helping to make what we do possible!

Gratefully,
Rebekah Wang, LMFT
Executive & Clinical Director

A Very Special Thanks to our ACCESS Partners!

The “ACCESS Partner’s Program” is designated for donors who wish to support ACCESS on a regular basis, whether monthly, quarterly, or annually. We greatly appreciate our **ACCESS Partners**, who have so generously stepped out in faith (especially during these tough economic times!) with the vision to help us further the mission of culturally-sensitive, affordable professional counseling services, to help bring hope and healing to those in need. While some had to discontinue their support for various reasons, we want to acknowledge our ACCESS Partners listed below for continuing to support us during 2010. If you would like to become (or rejoin as) an ACCESS Partner, please call or email Rebekah Wang.



ACCESS Partners Dr. & Mrs. Philip Low and Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Leo at our recent Fundraising Dinner with fellow Philipians Fellowship members

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Leo
Mr. & Mrs. Cheng Kuang Lin
Dr. & Mrs. Philip Low
Pastor & Mrs. Christopher Pu
Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Wang

Thank You

ACCESS 2010 Report

— By Rebekah Wang, Executive & Clinical Director

The economic crisis hit ACCESS hardest in 2010, with funding sources dropping significantly last year and the number of client sessions falling sharply in the latter half of the year (see Fig. 2 below). The following diagrams depict the continuing overall increases in number of telephone and email inquiries (Fig. 1), since we began keeping records of them in at the end of 2005, as well as in the number of counseling clients served (Fig. 2). Note that Fig. 2 does not include the number of people served through our counseling groups and educational workshops and seminars.

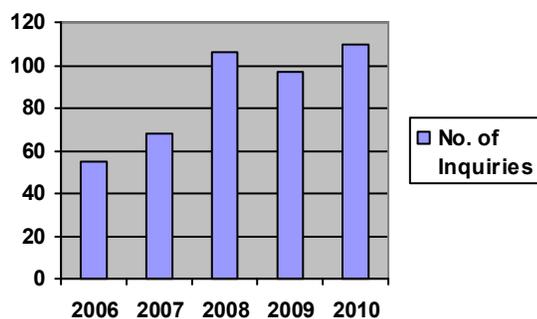


Fig. 1: Number of Telephone/Email Inquiries

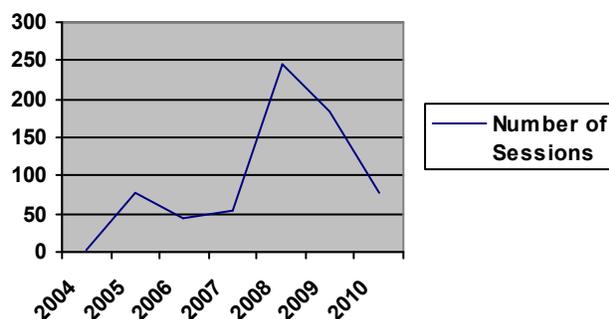


Fig. 2: Number of Client Counseling Sessions

As indicated in the diagrams above, more people are finding out about ACCESS, and the needs are definitely out there! The number of inquiries was our highest in 2010, although we were so hard hit by the economic crisis in terms of a sharp drop in clients and donations. Even though we're a small organization, we still receive telephone calls from all around the country, especially California and New York, and we have received email inquiries from as far away as Asia and Europe! 2010 also saw a drop in our number of workshops given, partly due to a cancellation due to a family emergency, with only 6 workshops to a total of about 105 people, with 2/3 of the programs again in Chinese, but positive feedback on all of them. Aside from Asian language needs, we have also carried out our mission of more affordable counseling, especially to those in financial need, giving an average discount our first five years of 50% to our clients coming in for counseling, totaling approximately \$11,800, with some clients receiving as much as an 83% discount!

There is no doubt about the great need for services such as ours, and that we can begin to fill the void of counseling services for the Asian and Asian American population in the Metro Atlanta area, if not beyond. Because of the need, the lack of such services available in the area, and the positive responses we receive from people as they find out about us, and more importantly because of the call to this mission, we are confident that ACCESS can grow in order to help meet those needs, but we cannot do it alone. Every year there are many important budgeted expenses which we have to cut or do without due to lack of funds. With the current economic crisis, the last couple years have been even more difficult, in 2009 even having to cut personnel costs, and **2010 seeing about a \$38,000 drop in income (fees, donations, and grants) from previous years, hitting our all-time lowest income level (\$42,414.06)**. Over the years, we have been operating on an average of only about **45% of our budgeted needs**, with 2010 falling as low as 33% of our budget (2010 Total Expenses: \$56,471.81). We need your help more than ever, and we are grateful for those of you who have already shown us so much support. Although there are more people supporting us in various ways, we acknowledge our 2010 donors on pages 2, 5 and 6.

The full financial statements are available for review upon request at our offices during normal business hours with reasonable notice. The financial statements of Asian Christian Counseling & Educational Seminar Services, Inc. (ACCESS) have been reviewed by Director/Treasurer, Joe Tai, Certified Public Accountant according to the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles of AICPA.



Attendees of our ACCESS seminar on "Priorities" at ACCCN last September





2010 ACCESS Fundraising Dinner Emcee
Joe Kelly

2010 ACCESS Fundraiser and Prize Winners

Many thanks to those of you who joined us at our 2010 Fall Fundraising Dinner last November, and especially to those of you who contributed to support our event and organization! We are sorry the program went so long this time, but are glad everyone seemed to enjoy the food and beautiful banquet hall at Happy Valley Restaurant!

In addition to the feast of a nine-course Chinese banquet, live music and the chance at winning great door prizes, the about 220 guests who filled the restaurant were entertained by our delightful Master of Ceremonies Joe Kelly, who previously emceed our 2008 Fundraising Dinner, as well as our 2007 Benefit Performance by the Yunnan Ethnic Culture and Dance Troupe. This time he even asked some friends to help him prepare a few words to say in Chinese!

This time we gave repeated musical guest Eric Shin a break from performing at our event. Instead, ACCESS Board Chairperson Cecilia Shou's friend Rev. Christine Liu was our guest vocalist, sharing both from her family experiences, as well as uplifting and inspirational songs. Christine was accompanied by her husband Frank, as well as her friend Beatrice Ko. Our guest speaker War-

ren Wen of Liu & Associates, P.C., with translation into English from Chinese by Dora Zeng, shared about some of his marriage experiences and the importance of growth.

Due to the popularity of our Donors Raffle Drawing held in honor of our 5th Anniversary, and thanks to generous donors for the great prizes, once again, we offered a Donors Raffle Drawing for our 2010 Fall Fundraising Dinner last November. Additionally, on top of other door prizes at the dinner, we had both a Grand Door Prize drawing that evening for a weekend stay at a lake house, which was drawn from the donation envelopes that evening instead of the regular dinner ticket stubs. Mr. Kenneth Wang won the drawing that evening, but he later declined the prize after realizing that ACCESS Board Members are supposed to be ineligible for door prizes, so the prize was added to the list of Donors Raffle Drawing prizes. The Donors Raffle Drawing was not only for those who donated at our dinner that night, but also extended to those who were not able to attend the event, sending in qualifying donations by December 31st, 2010.

Our Donors Raffle Drawing was held on January 17th, 2011 at 1pm at the ACCESS main office in Doraville (see photo). The

Grand Prize was a one week vacation package valued at over \$6,000, including a one week stay at an ocean-view Mauna Lani Point condo unit in Hawaii, and airfare for two up to \$2,000, won by **Mr. Kuei Lin Cheng**. With the extra Lake House Weekend prize put into the drawing after Kenneth Wang declined it as a Grand Door Prize, there was a drawing for two Lake House Weekend prizes, won by **Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lee** and **Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Leo**. Finally, there was also a drawing for three ACCESS Premarital Counseling Package Gift Certificates, good for our 7-session premarital counseling package, which regularly costs \$350, but is actually valued at about \$950. Although the gift certificates can be given to others, and might not be used by the winners themselves, due to the confidential nature of counseling, those winners will not be announced, but we congratulate all our winners, and are very pleased to have such great supporters of ACCESS win these great prizes!

ACCESS Board Member Stan Singleton drew the winning tickets, with Alicyn McLeod, CPA from the accounting firm of Moore Colson monitoring the raffle drawing. ACCESS Executive & Clinical Director Rebekah Wang and Board Member Kenneth Wang were also present. Thanks again to Moore Colson, our great fundraising dinner volunteers, and all of you who donated to ACCESS for our fundraising event and making the event a success!



Fundraising Dinner Guests



Donors Raffle Drawing —
Left to right: ACCESS Board Members Kenneth Wang and Stan Singleton (drawing tickets), Rebekah Wang, and Alicyn McLeod of Moore Colson

2009 ACCESS Donor List

ACCESS would like to sincerely thank the following donors for their support and contributions (including cash, non-cash donations, and tax-deductible fundraising event ticket sales, but not ACCESS Partners or fundraising event sponsorships; see p. 2 for ACCESS Partners and next page for Sponsor list) to ACCESS during 2010:

Church Support/Donations

Atlanta Chinese Christian Church (ACCC)
Atlanta Chinese Christian Church North (ACCCN)

Business/Organization Donations

ACCCN Chinese School
Liu & Associates, P.C.
Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta
(TECO)

Foundations/Grants

Chopstix for Charity/NAAAP-Atlanta
GA Asian Pacific Islander Community Coalition
(GAAPICC)/Center for Pan Asian Community Services
(CPACS)
Home Depot Foundation (Matching Gift Center)

Individual Donors (excluding ACCESS Partners)

Mr. & Mrs. Min Au-yeung
Mr. David Boey
Paul & Angela Calvin
Trude & Darrell Chan
Mr. & Mrs. Hai-Ru Chang
Mr. & Mrs. Kai Chao Chang
Dr. Rebecca Chang
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Chee
Mr. Wayne Chen
Jessie & Stephen Cheng
Mr. Kuei Lin Cheng
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Cheng
Mr. & Mrs. Jih-Shiang Chern
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Mr. Wai Ho
Judy & Lewis Hsu
Mr. Hamlet Hua
Rev. & Mrs. Jeff Huang
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Ms. Emily Khoo
Mr. Jason Khoo

Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Khoo
Ms. Grace Kim
Mrs. Josie Koenig
Mr. John Paul Koenig
Mr. & Mrs. Hong D. Kuo
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Lan
Eng Lee
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lee
Fui Chin Lee
Mr. & Mrs. Kenny Lee
Mr. & Mrs. Tin-tsun Leung
Ms. Bonnie Lewis
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Lim
Mr. & Mrs. Lih Lim
Russ & Ida Lin
Mr. & Mrs. Jing Tian Ling
Mr. & Mrs. Ping C. Liu
Hong & Richard Matthews
Ms. Nomaqhawe F. Mkwanzani
Dr. & Mrs. Jim Mi (Jimmy) Ng
Dr. & Mrs. Jian Ouyang
Mr. Doug Robinson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sand
Mr. Martin Sheline
Liqin Shi
Mr. Eric Shin
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Shou
Mr. William Shou
Ms. Rebecca Sigmund
Mr. Stanton J. Singleton, Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. James Siwy

Zhaojin Song & Hong Zhang
Jianrui Su & Tong Wang
Rev. & Mrs. Allen Swanson
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Tai
Becky & Jeremy Tan
Victor & Felicia Tan
Mrs. Iris Tham
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Ting
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Tioe
Mr. & Mrs. David Tsoh
Mr. & Mrs. David Wang
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Wang
Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Wei
Jim & Sylvia Williamson
Ms. Fanny Wong
Mr. & Mrs. William Wong
Mr. & Mrs. Choulin Woo
Su Chuan Yang
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Yao
Grace & Ting Yao
Bibo Zhang
Mr. Hao Wan & Ms. Ping Zhang
Mr. & Mrs. Shawn Zhang





*2010 Fall Fundraising
Dinner Musical Guest
Rev. Christine Liu*

*“It is more
blessed to give
than to
receive.”
Acts 20:35*



*Gold Sponsor Moore
Colson Table at the 2010
Fall Fundraising Dinner*

Next Fundraising Dinner Coming Up Soon!

Plans are under way for our upcoming 2011 Fall Fundraising Dinner on November 5th at Canton House Restaurant in Chamblee. This year’s fundraiser theme will be “In Our Own Skin,” with our main guest speaker David Park, who is the Associate Director of Reconciliation for Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA) and the Interim Pastor at Open Table Community Church. He will talk about how to be comfortable in our own skin, especially as Asian Americans, which fits with the ACCESS mission to help bring healing and wholeness, not only in terms of ethnicity, but to be comfortable in our own skin in general.

In addition to the feast of a nine-course Chinese banquet, the chance at winning door prizes, and special music by Eric Shin and possible others musicians, guests will also have the rare treat of hearing a special guest testimony from Dominic Yang, who will be sharing about counseling from a client’s perspective. This is rare because of the confidential nature of counseling. During our 5th Anniversary Celebration, we had the rare treat of a testimony from one of our ACCESS clients, as well as an anonymous client tribute through song and slideshow, both of which were very powerful. While Dominic is not an ACCESS client, you won’t want to miss his sharing.

We hope you’ll be able to join us that evening. Your support enables us to provide culturally-sensitive and language-appropriate counseling services for the Asian and Asian American population in the Metro Atlanta area. For more information, please see the enclosed flyer. If you would like to help sponsor the event or know of any potential sponsors, sponsorship brochures and sponsorship letters are available. Please look on our ACCESS website Events Page at www.asianchristiancounseling.org/events.shtml to download any of the forms or call our office at (770) 986-0800 to request them.

Thanks to our 2010 Fundraising Dinner Sponsors!

Platinum Sponsor

PBI Foundation

Gold Sponsor

Moore Colson, CPA

Silver Sponsor

S & L Unlimited, Inc.
UBS Financial Services/The Speigel Calvin
Group
Wells Fargo Bank

Supporting Sponsor

Atlanta DTH, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Chang
Ms. Nikki Kee/Kee Agency, Inc. (Allstate
Insurance)

Supporting Sponsor (cont.)

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lee
Rev. & Mrs. Mark Lin
Mr. & Mrs. Fulin Liu
Mr. & Mrs. Ping C. Liu

Friends Sponsor

Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Chu
Design & Character Company
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Tieo

Gift Sponsor

Chequers Seafood Bar and Grill
Rev. Christine Liu
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Shou
Mr. Stanton J. Singleton, Jr.
Mrs. & Mrs. Kenneth Wang
Ya Shu Yuen II Asian Bistro
Dr. & Mrs. Leon Yuan

ACCESS Staff Updates

We are sad to announce that our male Chinese bilingual counselor **Yi-Shi Hsiao** left ACCESS at the end of July to do a one-year internship in Taiwan. He will be greatly missed! We thank him for all his hard work and help at ACCESS and wish him all the best!

We hope to recruit new counselors, especially Asian bilingual counselors, to join our staff in the near future. Please feel free to let us know of any potential candidates.

ACCESS Seminar Recordings Now Available

Thanks to a helpful in-kind donation of a new high-quality digital audio recorder in December from one of our supporters, **we are now able to record our workshops and seminars** without having to depend on helpful volunteers to loan their recorders or record them for us, and we also now have the software to download the recordings **to produce CDs and finally make them available to people who may be interested.** We have long hoped to make our recordings available to the general public, and had been receiving requests for them from those who were unable to attend a particular seminar, wanted to give the recordings to friend who might benefit, or enjoyed the seminars so much they wanted a recording to review again in the future!

You can now order either **audio** (playable on CD players and most computers) or **data** (playable on computers only) **CD's of select ACCESS seminars and workshops.** Seminars currently available on CD are: "How To Discipline Your Children" (ACCCN Parenting Seminar - in Chinese only, 4/30/11), "Asian American Women's Mental Health" (AARC Asian American Women's Health Fair Workshop - English with Korean translation, 5/10/11), and "Facing Stress, Loss, and Suffering in Today's World" (ACCC Seminar - in Chinese only, 8/20/11).

The seminar of "How To Discipline Your Children" contains a brief introduction by Rebekah Wang in English, followed by Dr. Edward Lai's workshop on "The Purposes and Principles of Discipline" in Chinese, and Ruth Wu's workshop on "The Art of Reward and Punishment." These two workshop recordings may be ordered altogether on one data CD, or separately on either data or audio CD's, but Dr. Lai's workshop requires 2 CD's if ordered as audio CD due to the length. The seminar of "Facing Stress, Loss, and Suffering in Today's World" consists of Dr. Edward Lai's workshop on "Stress and Relaxation," Ruth Wu's workshop on "Dealing with Suffering/Loss," and a special guest testimony by Dominic Yang about his counseling experience as a young adult and it's impact on his life. Each can be ordered on three separate audio CD's or all together on one data CD.

Future recordings available will be noted on our website. At the early part of this learning curve on making these recordings and building our library of recordings available for the community, CD's are available for a suggested donation of \$5 for one CD and \$10 for a set of 3 CD's. You may order the seminar and workshop recordings by calling the office (770) 986-0800, or emailing info@asianchristiancounseling.org

We do have recordings of some previous seminars, but no way to duplicate them from CD's made for us from other people's recording devices. If anyone can help us in that area, please let Rebekah Wang know. Remember that our **newsletters are also available on our website**, so if you missed a previous issue, you can look for them online at www.AsianChristianCounseling.org/resources.shtml and click on the various links for the different issues. A big thank you to Abraham Wang for his continued help with our website!



ACCESS Chinese Bilingual Counselor Ruth Wu, with ACCESS Advisory Board Member Dr. Edward Lai at our ACCCN parenting seminar on April 30th, 2011



Ruth Wu speaking with Korean translator on "Asian American Women's Mental Health" at our first seminar for the Korean community!



2000 Clearview Avenue
Suite 205
Doraville, GA 30340
Phone: 770-986-0800
Fax: 770-980-0811

Visit our website:
www.asianchristiancounseling.org

Asian Christian Counseling & Educational Seminar Services, Inc.

Presentations by ACCESS

September 11, 2010 — “Priorities”: “The Art of Balance” and “But I was just trying to do my best...”

Community Seminar at Atlanta Chinese Christian Church North (ACCCN)
Speakers: Dr. James Siwy, Rebekah Wang

November 6, 2010 — ACCESS Annual Fall Fundraising Dinner: “Building Up The Family, Building Up the Community”

Happy Valley Restaurant (Norcross, GA)
Emcee: Joe Kelly
Musical Guests: Christine Liu, Frank Liu, and Beatrice Ko
Speaker: Warren Wen, Liu & Associates, P.C. (with English translation by Dora Zeng)

March 12, 2011 — Youth-Parent Communication Seminar

Joint Youth-Parent Seminar at Atlanta Chinese Christian Church (ACCC)
Speakers: Rebekah Wang, Dr. Edward Lai

April 30, 2011 — “How to Discipline Your Children” (in Chinese only)

Parenting Seminar at ACCCN
Speakers: Dr. Edward Lai, Ruth Wu



May 10, 2011 — “Asian American Women’s Mental Health” (with Korean translation)

Asian American Resource Center (AARC) Asian American Women’s Health Fair at Korean Presbyterian Community Church (KCPC)
Speakers: Rebekah Wang, Ruth Wu

August 20, 2011 — “Facing Stress, Suffering and Loss in Today’s World” (in Chinese only)

Cross-Church Seminar at ACCC
Speakers: Dr. Edward Lai, Ruth Wu

September 10, 2011 — “Transitioning Well”

Community Seminar at ACCCN
Speakers: Dr. Dee Lentsch, Chiu Hea Hills

September 24, 2011

English Ministry Care and Counseling Training at ACCC
Speakers: Rebekah Wang, Tabitha Chee

Upcoming Events:

November 5, 2011 — ACCESS Annual Fall Fundraising Dinner: “In Our Own Skin”

Canton House Restaurant (Chamblee, GA)
Guest Speaker: David Park, M.Div.