



Inside *ACCESS*

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

Vol. X, Issue I

September 2015

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ACCESS Celebrates It's 10th Anniversary!

Many thanks to all of you who attended, invited friends, sponsored and/or helped with our 10th Anniversary Celebration & Fundraising Dinner Gala last November 1st! The weather was cold outside, but the gathering was very warm at the Happy Valley Dim Sum and Asian Cuisine Restaurant in Norcross, GA, with about 200 people in attendance and Eugene Rhee as our guest speaker. Many commented that they were touched and encouraged by Eugene's sharing. Under the theme "Journeying into the Next Decade" Eugene congratulated ACCESS on it's decade of service to the community and shared about the importance of supporting a ministry like ACCESS, recounting how counseling made an impact on his own life.



Fundraising Dinner Guest
Speaker Eugene Rhee



Welcoming guests to our ACCESS 10th Anniversary Celebration
and Fundraising Dinner Gala

It was fun to have Peter Choi again for our Master of Ceremonies as he energized the crowd. Serving as the emcee of our fundraising dinner for the second time, this time he came all the way from across the country to be at our celebration! We greatly appreciate his support. We also experienced the unique vocal performance of Will and Princess Tsang as our guest musicians, who sang traditional Cantonese opera songs with a Christian twist.

In honor of the 10th Anniversary Celebration of ACCESS, there was also an anniversary cake, a ten year photo slideshow, a reprise of a musical tribute slideshow by an ACCESS client from five years ago, and a surprise special recognition of Executive &

Clinical Director Rebekah Wang by ACCESS Board Chairperson & President Cecilia Shou for Rebekah's years of dedicated service these first ten years.

Many thanks to those who donated that evening, or sent in donations before or after our fundraising dinner, which again enabled us to finish the year in the black. We were also thankful for the generous prize donations for our door prize gifts, as we are for all our event sponsors, volunteers, guests, and donors. Thanks to everyone for helping to make our 10th Anniversary Celebration and Fundraising Dinner Gala an overall success! We could not do it without all of you! (For more photos, see p. 6)



Message From the Executive Director

Dear Supporters and Friends:

Welcome to those of you who have joined our mailing list in the past year! We are thankful for you, just as we are so thankful for those of you who have supported ACCESS all along the way since we started in 2004. Even though we celebrated our 10th Anniversary last year, it still feels unreal that ACCESS is eleven years old!

After our milestone 10th Anniversary celebration last year, it was a good time for our Board of Directors and Staff to look back on our decade of service and re-evaluate, to see what we've been doing well and how we can operate more effectively. In January of this year, the Board of Directors, Staff, and some special guests, including some of our Advisory Board members, gathered for a Retreat/Planning Meeting. Some things discussed in

our meeting are still in the works, but some changes have already been implemented or will be seen in our upcoming fundraising dinner. There have also been a number of developments since our last newsletter issue, which you can read about in this issue, most notably, Board and Staff losses.

Especially for those who were not able to attend our 10th Anniversary Celebration, I have included some of the information from my 10 Year Report that night, as well as from our commemorative program booklet, in this issue, along with again incorporating an abbreviated annual report into our newsletter, for everyone's information, rather than publishing a more extensive annual report just for our donors. Thanks to your generosity at our successful fundraising dinners, as well as God's provision, we've been able

to raise enough to keep us in the black at year end the last several years, as well as to stay in our main office, which we were in danger of having to give up.

Our next fundraising dinner will be back to our usual timeframe of early November, so please save November 7th on your calendars and note the enclosed flyer for ticket orders. If you need any additional flyers, or want to help spread the word about our event for ticket orders and/or sponsorships, you can download flyers, sponsorship forms, and sponsor letters from our website. We hope you will be able to join us!

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



ACCESS 10th Anniversary Celebration cake

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 the 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 2014. If you would like to become (or rejoin as) an ACCESS Partner, please call or email Rebekah Wang.



Long time ACCESS Partners
Dr. & Mrs. Philip Low at
last year's 10th Anniversary
Celebration & Fundraising
Dinner Gala

*Dr. Rebecca Chang
Leonard & Christina Leo
Mr. & Mrs. Cheng Kuang Lin
Dr. & Mrs. Philip Low*

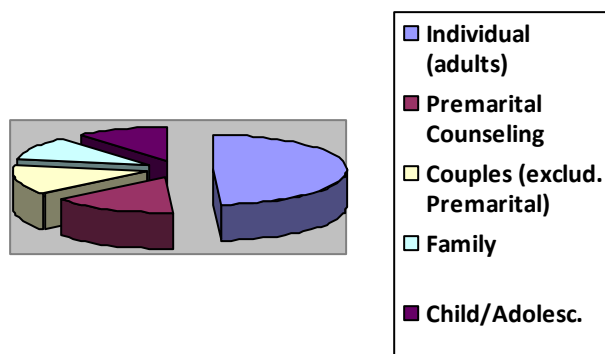
*Mr. Mike Thio
Joshua & Julie Wang*

Thank You

ACCESS 10 Year Report

— By Rebekah Wang, Executive & Clinical Director

The following information is a summary of what was reported at the ACCESS 10th Anniversary Celebration presentation by Rebekah Wang, as well as some ten year highlights included in the 10th Anniversary Commemorative Program booklet. Below is a diagram shown at the dinner graphically representing the breakdown by percentage of the types of clients seen at ACCESS in our first ten years (not including counseling groups). The specific percentages for the graph were listed in the “10 Year Highlights” in the special commemorative booklet, and also excerpted below:



Types of Counseling Clients Served (2004 - 2014)



Dr. Edward Lai speaking at our Youth Parents seminar for Atlanta Chinese Christian Church-Northwest (ACCCNW) in May 2014

People continue to find out about ACCESS, and the needs are definitely out there. Unfortunately, without appropriate bilingual counselors in the last couple years, we were unable to help a number of people asking for counseling in Chinese and Korean. Although unable to meet language needs, we continue to carry out our mission of more affordable counseling. In our first 10 years, we have offered an average discount of **48%**, with some clients given as much as an **83%** discount in fees. These clients have included single parents, those who lost their jobs, and those with financial problems or large debts.

Because of the great need for counseling services such as ours for the Asian and Asian American population, the lack of such services available in the Metro Atlanta 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. Over the years, we have been operating on an **average** of only about **41% of our budgeted needs**. We saw some of our most difficult times financially during the recent economic crisis, but **we are thankful that God has seen us through**. Still, we greatly need your help, and we're 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 2014 donors on pages 2, 4 and 5.

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.

10 Year Highlights

- **954.5** Client Sessions (not including counseling group sessions): **49%** Individual (adult), **15%** Premarital, **14%** Couples (not including Premarital Counseling), **11%** Family, **11%** Child/Adolescent
- **7** Different Staff Counselors (1 – 5 staff at a time, with as many as 5 staff in 2008)
- **6 to 7** Languages offered over the years for counseling: English, Mandarin Chinese, Taiwanese/Hakka, Korean, Japanese, Cantonese
- Over **\$17,592** in Discounted Client Fees
- **913*** Telephone/Email Inquiries (from across the country and around the world; *since start of record-keeping of inquiries in 2006)
- Extended phone consultations (pro bono) to graduate students in counseling all over the country and to Asian Christian counseling ministry start-ups in Seattle, Houston, and Philadelphia.
- **108** Seminars/Workshops/Talks to over **2,220** people (an average of almost 2 workshops per month, with more than half of them offered in Chinese!)



**2015 ACCESS Fundraising
Dinner Gala Guest Speaker
Paul Tokunaga**

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

2015 ACCESS Fundraising Dinner Coming Soon!

Plans have been under way for our upcoming 2015 Fundraising Dinner Gala, which will be on Saturday, November 7th from 6 - 9pm at the always supportive Canton House Restaurant in Chamblee. This year's fundraiser will be under the theme “A Road Less Traveled.”

We are excited to have Paul Tokunaga as our guest speaker. Paul has worked with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF) since 1973 in a variety of leadership and management roles, including Southeast Regional Director, National Asian American Ministry Coordinator and Associate Dean for Leadership Development. He is currently Vice-President, Director of Strategic Ministries, overseeing Greek, Nursing, International Students, Evangelism, Arts, and Athletes. A third generation Japanese-American originally from Northern California, Paul has a Master's of Christian Studies degree from New College Berkeley. He is also an author and speaks regularly at conferences, not only for college students, but also for young adults and adults, including at the internationally-known mission conference Urbana (1990). We are privileged to have him share his moving testimony and how counseling profoundly impacted his life and marriage. He, his wife Margaret, and their son Sam have all lived in the Atlanta area for many years.

With an upgraded menu, we will have a feast of a multi-course gourmet Chinese banquet, great music, and the chance at winning fun door prizes, in addition to Paul's sharing and a brief ACCESS presentation. We hope you'll be able to join us that evening and invite others as well. 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 and to order tickets, 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. This includes the donation of gifts for door prizes. Please see 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 2014 Fundraising Dinner Sponsors!



**Jade Sponsors Elder & Mrs.
Fred Lee at last year's 10th
Anniversary Celebration &
Fall Fundraising Dinner**

Diamond Sponsor

Ken & Louisa Wang

Sapphire Sponsor

Trude & Darrell Chan

Ruby Sponsor

Angela & Paul Calvin
Dr. & Mrs. Kedong He

Jade Sponsor

Everlink Logistics, LLC
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Lee

Friends Sponsor

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Tsang

Gift Sponsor

Dr. Rebecca Chang
Mr. & Mrs. Boon Lau
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Shou
Mr. Stanton J. Singleton, Jr.

2014 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 p. 4 for Sponsor list) to ACCESS during 2014:

Church Support/Donations

Atlanta Chinese Christian Church (ACCC)
Atlanta Chinese Christian Church North (ACCCN)
Grace of God Gospel Mission/Rev. Peter Tsang

Foundations/Grants

McKesson Foundation (Matching Gift)
UBS Employee Giving Program/Cyber Grants
(Matching Gift)

Business/Organization Donations

Ms. Janice Marie Alexander/Artistic Angels
Atlanta PRIME MED/Dr. Luke S.C. Chang
KLH Investment, Inc./Ms. Evelyn Phuah
Kroger Community Rewards Program
S&L Unlimited, Inc./Mr. & Mrs. Sean Liew
Mr. Stanton J. Singleton, Jr., P.C.

Individual Donors (excluding ACCESS Partners & Fundraiser Sponsors)

Mr. & Mrs. Min Au-Yeung

Ms. Henny Bun

Byron & Nelly Chan

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Chang

Pastor & Mrs. Eric Chang

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Chang

Mr. & Mrs. Hai-Ru Chang

Ms. Elizabeth Chao

Alex & Tabitha Chee

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Chen

Mr. & Mrs. Kuei Lin Cheng

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Cheng

Rev. & Mrs. Allen Chi

Mr. & Mrs. Fuling Chiang

Ms. Sally Chow

Tony & Jean Chow

Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Chu

Ms. Rena Crews

Mrs. Joyce Dalrymple

Mr. Leo Efstathiou

Aaron & Cecilia Hermes

Mr. Zebedee Hinton

Mr. & Mrs. Liang Liang Hong

Li-Wan & Joey Hsu

Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Kai Sen Hsu

Rev. & Mrs. Caleb Huang

Mr. Chien-Kai Huang

Jen & Peter Jeng

Mr. & Mrs. Simon Jung

Mr. & Mrs. Thao Kane

Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Khoo??

Ms. Margaret Kotow

Dr. & Mrs. Edward Lai

Kevin & An-ling Lam

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Lan

Boon & Paulynn Lau

Anne Wu-Lauer

Rev. David D. Lee

Dennis & Lyrice Lee

Mr. & Mrs. Kenny Lee

Mr. & Mrs. Tin-tsun Leung

John Chan & Angelina Li

Mr. & Mrs. Fu Chung Li

Ms. Lichun Li

Mr. & Mrs. Lih Lim

Mr. & Mrs. Jing Tian Ling

David & Dora Liu

Mr. & Mrs. Fulin Liu

Mr. Teh Mao Liu

Mr. Tiebin (Kevin) Liu

David & Belinda Loh

James & Lian Lu

Rachel & David Lu

Hong & Richard Matthews

Mrs. Mary Kay Murphy

Mr. Larry Otsubo

Dong Pan

Richard & Yu-Ping Perng

Pastor & Mrs. Christopher Poh

Ruth Santos-Ortiz

Mr. Alexander Shane

Ms. Grete Shelling

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Shin

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Shou

Mrs. Marsha Shroeder

Mr. Wan H. Sih

Caroline & Jamie Sturm

Rev. & Mrs. Allen Swanson

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Tai

Becky & Jeremy Tan

Victor & Felicia Tan

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Ting

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Tieo

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Tsang

Cindy & Jack Tu

Ms. Sandra Upton

Mr. Edward Vega

Mr. Abraham Wang

Mr. & Mrs. David Wang

Ms. Janet Webb

Mr. Wilson Wei

Mr. Jim Whitcomb

Mr. & Mrs. William Wong

Mr. Jason Wu

Mr. Dave Yang

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Yang

Mr. Zhang

Mr. & Mrs. Shawn Zhang

An Zhou

Mr. Matthew Zhu



A Special Thank You To Our Founding Chairperson

Words cannot express our deepest, most heartfelt gratitude for our founding Chairperson of our Board of Directors and Board President Cecilia Shou. Cecilia has not only served as President and Chairperson of our Board of Directors since ACCESS started, but more importantly, was one of the two visionary women, alongside Betty Lu, who shared their concerns about the needs they saw and had a meeting of the minds to come up with the idea of starting a counseling service like ACCESS to help serve the growing needs of the Asian and Asian American population in the Atlanta area. We are forever grateful for Cecilia's vision, compassion, energy, tremendous generosity, and support, which, of course, was also very much done in partnership with her loving husband Philip.



ACCESS Founding Chairperson Cecilia Shou and her husband Philip at last year's ACCESS 10th Anniversary Celebration



Because of the need to tend to her ailing father overseas, Cecilia realized that she is not able to serve as Board Chairperson and President as needed, and decided to step down from these leadership roles, although she still very much believes in the mission of ACCESS. While it is hard to imagine ACCESS without her as our "fearless leader," we certainly understand her decision and need to do so. We wish her and her family all the best and we're thankful that this is not "goodbye." Thank you, Cecilia, for over a decade of service and for everything you have done for ACCESS!

Pictured Left: Cecilia with fellow-visionary Betty Lu cutting celebration cake at our 2004 ACCESS Dedication Ceremony

10th Anniversary/Fundraising Dinner Gala Photos

-Photos by Shawn Zhang



ACCESS 10th Anniversary Celebration Emcee Peter Choi welcoming dinner guests



Musical guests Princess and Will Tsang at our ACCESS 10th Anniversary Celebration and Fall Fundraising Dinner



Pictured left: Happy door prize winner of one of the "Tower of Goodies" Minister David Loh with ACCESS Board members Ken Wang and Cecilia Shou in the background

Pictured Right: Dinner guests—Felicia and Victor Tan's table



ACCESS Executive & Clinical Director Rebekah receiving a surprise recognition award from ACCESS Board Chairperson Cecilia Shou

ACCESS Staff Updates

We are sad to announce that our Japanese Bilingual counselor, **Yoko Ishizuka O'Brien**, has resigned from our ACCESS counseling staff. In need of much more client hours for her pursuit of licensure as an LPC (Licensed Professional Counselor), and presented with an opportunity to take over at another clinic for a Japanese psychologist friend leaving Georgia for New York, she regrettably had to leave ACCESS. We appreciated the time Yoko was on our staff, bringing in our first Japanese-speaking clients, and wish her all the best at her new workplace. We are still searching for new bilingual counselors, especially those who speak Chinese or Korean.



Easy Ways to Support ACCESS

You may not be able to counsel those in need or make a huge donation to ACCESS, but you can make a difference by helping to support ACCESS in any number of different ways, some of which are very easy and don't cost any money. Here are some ideas to consider:

- 1) Spread the word about ACCESS — help break through stereotypes and stigma of counseling by sharing with others about the services of ACCESS and our various events.
- 2) Volunteer — there is a whole list of volunteer opportunities on a form available on our website. Just go to our supporters page at: <http://www.asianchristiancounseling.org/supporters.shtml> and click on the highlighted words "Volunteer Opportunities Forms" (in blue). You could also volunteer as a prayer supporter by signing up to pray for ACCESS.
- 3) Matching Gifts Programs — double your giving and the impact for ACCESS with workplace matching gifts programs. Companies with such programs will match your charitable contribution to a 501(c)3 organization dollar for dollar. To find out if your employer has a matching gifts program, contact your human resource or community relations representative.
- 4) Kroger Community Rewards — ACCESS is an approved charitable organization to receive donations from Kroger. You can help support ACCESS just by shopping at Atlanta area Kroger stores as you normally would.
- 5) Donate goods — if you recently upgraded your computer or laptop and your older one still works well or you are no longer using your old software, such as CD's of genuine Windows 7 or Quickbooks Nonprofit, consider donating them to ACCESS. ACCESS is eleven years old, and so are our computers (one desktop and one laptop), so we are still using Window XP and other 2003 and 2004 software.
- 6) AmazonSmile — ACCESS is also an approved charitable organization to receive donations from Amazon. For those of you who like to shop on Amazon, you can help support ACCESS when you shop by purchasing eligible product and going through their AmazonSmile website, which we can only provide online.

For help with any of these ways to support ACCESS, please call the ACCESS office.





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Fax: 770-980-0811

Visit our website:
www.asianchristiancounseling.org

Asian Christian Counseling & Educational Seminar Services, Inc.

Events and Presentations by ACCESS

September 20, 2014 — “Calling All Young Women! (Finding Your Calling)”

Young Women’s Seminar at Atlanta Chinese Christian Church North (ACCCN)

Speakers: Irene Eng Wong, M.Div.; panelists

November 1, 2014 — ACCESS 10th Anniversary Celebration & Fundraising Dinner Gala: “Journeying Into The Next Decade”

Happy Valley Dim Sum & Asian Cuisine Restaurant
Emcee: Peter Choi

Musical Guests: Will & Princess Tsang

Guest Speaker: Eugene Rhee, M.A., M.Div.

April 2015 (postponed)

Children’s Ministry Team Building Seminar at Atlanta Chinese Christian Church Northwest (ACCCNW)
Speaker/Facilitator: Rebekah Wang

May 2, 2015 — “Family Fun Night”

Youth and Parent Seminar at Atlanta Chinese Christian Church (ACCC)

Speakers: Rebekah Wang, Pastor David Park

August 16, 2015

Monte Jade Association College

Planning Seminar at ACCCN
Speaker/Panelist: Rebekah Wang
(speaking on “Dealing With Stress and Youth/Parent Communication During the College Application Process”)



Upcoming Events:

September 5, 2015 (postponed)

Community Seminar at ACCCN
Speakers & Topic: TBA

November 7, 2015 — 2015 ACCESS Fundraising Dinner Gala: “A Road Less Traveled”

Canton House Restaurant (Chamblee, GA)

Guest Speaker: Paul Tokunaga, M.C.S.

(SAVE THE DATE and see flyer insert or go to our website for more details)