

Inside ACCESS

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

Vol. XI, Issue I

August 2016

Many Deeply Moved by ACCESS Fundraiser Speaker

Board of Directors

Kenneth Wang Acting Chairman, Acting President

Stanton Singleton, Jr. , J.D. Secretary

Joe Tai, CPA Treasurer

Ping Ku

Clinical Staff

Rebekah Wang, LMFT Executive & Clinical Director Many thanks to those of you who attended, sponsored, and/or helped with our 2015 Fundraising Dinner Gala last November 7th! Despite the wet weather and some schedule conflicts with other major events, it was a wonderful turnout with over 180 people in attendance at the Canton House Restaurant in Chamblee, GA. Our musical guests Tina Cui and Jiang Dan delighted the crowds with their soprano voices (in English and Chinese!) and we were honored to have loe Kelly again as our emcee, now our most frequent host of ACCESS events.

Our guest speaker Paul Tokunaga deeply moved many,



Fundraising Dinner Guest Speaker Paul Tokunaga



Attendees of our 2016 ACCESS Fundraising Dinner Gala

some even to the point of tears, by his sharing from his life, especially about his mother's passing in a tragic accident, and the surprising impact it and marital counseling would have on his life. Paul also donated several gift packs of his books as door prizes.

In addition to many wonderful door prizes from Paul and other Gift Sponsors, this time there was also a special fundraising sale at our dinner, thanks to items for sale from sponsors Artland Jewelry Company and Joshua and Julie Wang. From watches and jewelry to collector coin sets and stuffed animals, this fun sale had a little bit for both young and old! All money (\$560) from items sold at the dinner were donated to AC-CESS (see some of the items

sold in photo on page 4). Thank you to Loretta Law for coming up with the idea and for her generosity!

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, donors, and to those who brought friends since we again had quite a few people new to ACCESS there that night. Thanks to everyone for helping to make our Fundraising Dinner Gala an overall success! We could not do it without all of you! (For more photos, see p. 6)

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MailChimp.

Message From the Executive Director

Dear Supporters and Friends:

Welcome to those of you who have joined our mailing list in the past year! Whether you recently joined our mailing list, have supported ACCESS from the beginning, or just picked up a copy of this newsletter at our office or one of our events, we are thankful for you and your interest in ACCESS!

To be honest, I'm wrestling with how best to communicate with you all about AC-CESS and how to make our newsletters more helpful to you as our supporters and friends. In this day and age where most people rely heavily on their various electronic devices for news and communication, rather than by mail, obviously this newsletter doesn't work well on mobile phones, but we also don't want to abandon those of you for whom we do not have email ad-

dresses or prefer to receive newsletters the oldfashioned way (although that number continues to decrease as more of you help us go green by joining our email list!). Current trends towards social media are one thing, but it does seem like printed newsletters and other print media have gone by the wayside. While we have no plans to start using Twitter or Snapchat, I do enjoy our new email service MailChimp. Since we started using MailChimp, I have been able to send out a little more news and information to our email list, and I hope those of you on our email list have enjoyed the nicer looking emails, even though I'm still on a learning curve with them.

In this issue, we are 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 the generosity of many of you and God's provision, we were again able to raise enough to keep us in the black at year end.

Our next fundraising dinner will be on November 5th, so please save the date 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 AC-CESS, 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!



Long time ACCESS Partners Mr. & Mrs. Cheng Kuang (John) Lin at our 10th Anniversary Celebration & Fundraising Dinner Gala

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 2015. If you would like to become (or rejoin as) an ACCESS Partner, please call or email Rebekah Wang.

Dr. Rebecca Chang Leonard & Christina Leo Mr. & Mrs. Cheng Kuang Lin Dr. & Mrs. Philip Low Mr. Mike Thio Joshua & Julie Wang

hank You

ACCESS 2015 Report

- By Rebekah Wang, Executive & Clinical Director

The two main programs of ACCESS are 1) direct counseling services, and 2) preventive and educational programs. The number of telephone and email inquiries about our services and the number of clients served remained about the same in both 2014 and 2015, despite being down to only one clinical staff. The number of inquiries for 2015 was 98. The following charts (written and graphic) below provide information about the types of counseling services offered by ACCESS during 2015:

Type of counseling	Number of sessions
Individual Couples Family Children/Adolescents	6 8 38.5
Total number of sessions	63.5

Due to the lack of bilingual counseling staff, the only language provided in 2015 for counseling as well as our seminars was English, and we were only able to offer five workshops/talks at two seminars to a total of approximately 210 people (not including presentations at our fundraising dinner).

People continue to find out about ACCESS, and the needs are definitely out there. Unfortunately, without appropriate bilingual counselors in the last few years, we were unable to help a number of people asking for counseling in Chinese and Korean. Some counseling was tried with the help of a translator, with limited effectiveness. Although unable to meet language needs, we continue to carry out our mission of more affordable counseling. For those unable to afford our regular fees, we used our sliding scale for discounts, and for those who unable to afford even our sliding scale

Individual (adults) Premarital Counseling Couples (exclud. Family



Types of Counseling Clients Served (2015)



Budget/Expenses/Income (2014 & 2015)

fees, we also used our special needs fund called the Barnabas Fund, which can provide financial assistance to a client for a maximum of 10 session and/or \$200 per calendar year. Overall, in 2015 we offered \$1,446.25 in discounted client fees, as well as \$210 in subsidies from the Barnabas Fund, giving an average discount in 2015 of 50%, with some clients receiving as much as a 78% discount. These clients included single parents, those whose husbands were detained by immigration, those unable to work due to physical/emotional difficulties, and those with financial problems or large debts. We also gave \$400 in discounted speaking fees.

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. 2015 was no different, even though you can see from the diagram above that we tried to trim the budget. We are thankful that our 2015 income was higher than in 2014 (2015 Total Income: \$57,157.58). Still, over the years, we have been operating on an average of only about 41% of our budgeted needs, with 2015 at 38% of our budgeted needs (2015 Total Expenses: \$54,291.96). 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 2015 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.



2016 ACCESS Fundraising Dinner Coming Soon!

 ${\bf P}$ lans have been under way for our upcoming 2016 Fundraising Dinner Gala, which will be on Saturday, November 5th from 6 - 9pm at the always supportive Canton House Restaurant in Chamblee. This year's fundraiser will be under the theme "Breakthrough!"

We are excited to have Sharon Xu as our guest speaker. Sharon is the Global Vice President of Internal Audit for Techtronic Industries, a world-class leader in design, manufacturing and marketing of power tools and equipment, floor care, and appliances for namebrands such as Ryobi, Homelite, Hoover, and Oreck. A graduate of Tianjin University with dual degrees in chemical engineering and management, Sharon also earned an International MBA degree from University of South Carolina. She has a wide range of experience, working in production, journalism, administration, finance, operations, global sourcing and internal audit with many large-scale global companies. Passionate about education and training others, Sharon not only serves a variety of leading and educational roles at her church, but is also a frequent speaker at global organizations such as IIA and ACFE on the topic of anti-corruption and good corporate governance. We are privileged to have her share her moving testimony about her life and marriage. She, her husband Eric Zhou, and their daughter lived in the Atlanta area previously, but currently live in the Baltimore area.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35

We are pleased to have one of our Advisory Board members and former keynote speakers, Rev. David D. Lee as our emcee this year. As usual, 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 Sharon's testimony 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.



Fundraising Sale by Gift Sponsors Artland Jewelry Co. and Joshua & Julie Wang at last year's Fall Fundraising **Dinner Gala**

Silver Sponsors

Paul Calvin/CoNexus CPA Group Trude & Darrell Chan

Friends Sponsors

Ms. Margaret Kotow Ms. Dawn Ngo Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Tsang

Advertising Sponsor

Buford Travel International

Gift Sponsors

Artland Jewelry Co. Stanton J. Singleton, Jr. Paul Tokunaga Abraham Wang & Minnie Lee Joshua & Julie Wang Mr. & Mrs. Ken Wang

2015 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 2015:

Church Support/Donations

Atlanta Chinese Christian Church North (ACCCN)

Foundations/Grants

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

Business/Organization Donations

Atlanta PRIME MED/Dr. Luke S.C. Chang Dynasty Chinese Restaurant Grace Realty of Georgia/Mrs. Dora Liu KLH Investment, Inc./Ms. Evelyn Phuah Kroger Community Rewards Program Liu & Associates, P.C. PBI Foundation S&L Unlimited, Inc./Mr. & Mrs. Sean Liew

Individual Donors (excluding ACCESS Partners & Fundraiser Sponsors)

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Donors Raffle Grand Prize of a gold chain necklace with diamond and natural garnet floral design pendant

Congratulations to our Donors Raffle Winners!

I hanks to the generosity of our fundraising dinner gift sponsor Artland Jewelry Company (Loretta Law and Michael Cheng), we awarded some beautiful necklaces as prizes for our Grand Door Prize at our 2015 Fundraising Dinner Gala on November 7th, as well as for our Donors Raffle Drawing on January 18th, 2016. Our Grand Door Prize given at the fundraising dinner was an 18 inch fresh water cultured pearl necklace valued at \$150. Congratulations to Grace Ouyang on winning the pearl necklace that night.

For our Donors Raffle Drawing, the prizes were even nicer. This drawing was held for those who donated \$50 or more to ACCESS, and the prizes were another 18 inch fresh water cultured pearl necklace, this one valued at \$280, and a gold chain necklace with diamond and natural garnet floral design pendant valued at \$780. Congratulations to Mary Gao on winning the pearl necklace and to Bernadeta Chen on winning the diamond and garnet pendant necklace! All three ladies were quite surprised and thrilled to win their necklaces. Thanks to the accounting firm of Moore Colson for graciously sending CPA Jake Patton to help audit and monitor our drawing, and thanks to all you donors who gave generously to support AC-CESS, for whom we had the Donors Raffle Drawing.



Left to Right: Jake Patton from Moore Colson, ACCESS Executive & Clinical Director Rebekah Wang, and ACCESS Board Member Stan Singleton at the AC-CESS Main Office for the Donors Raffle Drawing on January 18th

2015 ACCESS Fundraising Dinner Gala Photos



2015 ACCESS Fundraising Dinner Emcee Joe Kelly announcing door prize winning ticket number

A Tribute To Our Wonderful Fundraising Dinner Volunteers



Musical guests Tina Cui and Jiang Dan preparing to sing at our Fundraising Dinner



Fundraising Dinner videographer Jerry Chen and his wife Karen



-Photos by Shawn Zhang

Fundraising Dinner photographer Shawn Zhang and his wife Dr. Jane Zhong

I his year's newsletter edition of fundraising dinner photos is a special tribute to our wonderful volunteers, especially since we did not have a program booklet in which to acknowledge them this time, and we had technical difficulties with the PPT slideshow in which they were listed and acknowledged. We greatly appreciate them all! Not all of them are pictured here, but they were:

Joe Kelly (emcee), Tina Cui & Jiang Dan (musical guests), Ping Huang (sound/AV), Shawn Zhang (photographer), Jerry Chen (videographer), Minnie & Abraham Wang (check-in), and Joyce Dalrymple, Yoko O'Brien, and Louisa Wang (set-up/ushers).

ACCESS Board and Staff Updates

We are sad to announce that since our last printed newsletter issue last year, we have lost a couple more Board members after last year's resignation of our founding Board Chairperson Cecilia Shou, both for very different reasons. Those of you who attended our fundraising dinner last fall know that our founding Board member **Rev. Allen Chi** officially resigned from our Board of Directors and "unofficially" swapped places with his wife **Ping Ku** on our Advisory Board (officially, he nominated her to be on the Board of Directors). We appreciate Ping's willingness to serve on our Board, as well as Pastor Chi's service on our Board in the past. This summer, Board member **Eric Shin** also resigned, but in anticipation of exciting changes in his life. We are grateful for his service as well on our Board of Directors, and congratulate him and his wife on the birth of their new twin daughters, born on July 24th! We are in the process of recruiting new Board members and are also still searching for new bilingual counselors, especially those who speak Chinese or Korean, since those are the languages of higher demand for counseling in Atlanta.

Sign Up for Our ACCESS Email List

Y ou can now sign up for our email list directly from our website! Those of you who are already on our email list are hopefully enjoying our nicer-looking emails and more frequent news through our MailChimp emails. For those of you still receiving these newsletters by mail, or for anyone who picked up these newsletters at one of our seminars or events, we invite you to join our email list. By joining the email list, you not only help us by saving time and money on postage and printing, but will also have access to color photos, receive more news from us than these very infrequent (mostly annual) paper newsletters, and more. You can also sign up to receive prayer updates. For those of you already on our email list, don't forget you can always update your email address anytime through MailChimp, without having to go through the ACCESS office.

It's Time to Re-Enroll Again!

If you signed up to support ACCESS through the Kroger Community Rewards program, it's time to re-enroll again! The new program year starts September 1st, so if you haven't re-enrolled already, please do so as soon as you can. If you are new to the program or have never participated, we invite you to support ACCESS by enrolling in the program, especially those of you who normally shop at Kroger anyway.

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. All you need to do is register your Kroger Plus card at

www.krogercommunityrewards.com with our organization using our name, Asian Christian Counseling & Educational Seminar Services, Inc. (ACCESS), or by entering our NPO (nonprofit organization) number 44487. After you register your Kroger Plus card with our organization, every time you shop with your Kroger Plus card, you'll earn rewards for AC-CESS. If you don't have a Kroger Plus card, you can sign up for one at any Kroger store customer service desk.

The more people enrolled to support us, the higher potential for donations from Kroger, so we are hoping more will sign up to support us in the new program year. Unfortunately, you can only support one organization at a time, but compared to schools and large organizations with members, we have a much smaller pool of people, so please consider us.



Newest ACCESS Board Member Ping Ku and her husband, former ACCESS Board member Rev. Allen Chi





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Asian Christian Counseling & Educational Seminar Services, Inc.

Events and Presentations by ACCESS

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

Canton House Restaurant (Chamblee, GA) Emcee: Joe Kelly Musical Guests: Tina Cui & Jian Dan Guest Speaker: Paul Tokunaga, M.C.S.

May 19, 2016 — "Cultural Barriers in Mental Health Treatment" "I Am More Than..." United Way Mental Health

Forum Panel Discussion The Carter Center (Atlanta, GA) Speaker/Panelist: Rebekah Wang

July 3, 2016

ACCESS Presentation & Community Resource Table 2016 Southeastern Chinese Church Conference, Shocco Springs Conference Center

(Talladega, AL) Speaker: Rebekah Wang Resource Table Representatives: Rebekah Wang, Ping Ku, and Ken Wang

August 20, 2016

Monte Jade Association College

Planning Seminar Chinese Cultural Center of

TECO in Atlanta (Chamblee, GA) Speaker/Panelist: Rebekah Wang (speaking on "Dealing With Stress and Youth/Parent Communication During the College Application Process")



Upcoming Events:

November 5, 2016 — 2016 ACCESS Fundrais-

ing Dinner Gala: "Breakthrough!" Canton House Restaurant (Chamblee, GA) Emcee: Rev. David D. Lee Guest Speaker: Sharon Xu, I.M.B.A. (SAVE THE DATE and see flyer insert or go to our website for more details)