Journal Special Issue Focuses on Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Health Issues

In an effort to help raise awareness about health issues in Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AA and NHPI) communities, Progress in Community Health Partnerships (PCHP) has published a special issue in cooperation with the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF) and the Health Through Action Program via support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

The journal, published by The Johns Hopkins University Press, has devoted its Spring 2012 issue (Volume 6, Number 1) to information about community initiatives focused on health problems within these communities.

“The dramatic changes to the national population landscape requires new understanding and recognition of health and health care inequities and their root causes, particularly among underserved or underrepresented populations,’ wrote Gail C. Christopher of the Kellogg Foundation in the introduction of the issue.

“Participatory design and research offers the potential and promise to cultivate racial healing and health equity across diverse populations. AA and NHPI children and families are growing at a phenomenal rate across the United States, and so must our commitment to ensure equitable opportunities for all.”

PCHP, edited by Johns Hopkins University researcher S. Darius Tandon, is the first scholarly journal dedicated to Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR). This type of research identifies and publicizes programs using community partnerships to improve public health, promotes progress in these methods, and stimulates action to improve the health of people and communities.

Marguerite Ro, from Public Health-Seattle & King County, says the research included in the special issue can help local health departments like hers focus resource allocation and policy changes in the areas most in need.

“Our diverse communities have values, practices, and solutions that can benefit us all,” she writes in the journal. “What we learn from CBPR can and should help to move us forward in collectively and collaboratively reforming our health and public health systems and in creating health-promoting environments.”

The APIAHF will sponsor a briefing in Washington, D.C., in May during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to discuss the journal issue in greater depth.

About The Johns Hopkins University Press
Founded in 1878, The Johns Hopkins University Press, recognized as one of the world’s finest and most accomplished scholarly publishers, publishes over 70 scholarly periodicals and more than 200 new books each year.

About The Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Founded in 1986, the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF) influences policy, mobilizes communities, and strengthens programs and organizations to improve the health of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.