

Memo

To: All Alameda County Behavioral Health Department Staff
From: Health Equity Division, Office of Ethnic Services
Subject: Celebrating Filipino American History Month
Date: October 1, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

As the crisp autumn air ushers in October, we at the Alameda County Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) are thrilled to embrace the vibrant tapestry of Filipino American History Month. This annual commemoration is a celebration and recognition Filipino Americans have had on the fabric of our nation and our local community.



A Glimpse into History

Over the last four centuries, America has benefitted from the existence of the Filipino community. In 1587, the first "Luzones Indios" set foot on what would become American soil, arriving in Morro Bay, California. This arrival marked the beginning of a rich legacy that would shape the cultural landscape of the United States.

Fast forward to the 20th century, and we see waves of Filipino immigrants contributing their skills, culture, and indomitable spirit to America. From the brave Manongs who toiled in the fields of Hawaii and California to the courageous Filipino American veterans who

fought alongside U.S. forces in World War II, the story of Filipino Americans is one of resilience, contribution, and unwavering determination.

In our own Alameda County, Filipino Americans have been integral to the growth and vibrancy of our communities. From healthcare to technology, education to the arts, contributions from the Filipino community have enriched our local culture and economy in countless ways.

Celebrating in Alameda County

Events & Local Highlights

- [Filipina Island Fest Alameda \(filipinoislandfest.com\)](http://filipinoislandfest.com)
- [FAHM Jam 2024 - Garden at the Flea](#)
- [SOMA is transforming into an urban art gallery dedicated to Filipino American heritage. - 7x7 Bay Area](#)
- [Contact Us – Filipino Advocates for Justice \(filipinos4justice.org\)](http://filipinos4justice.org)
- [Filipinos For Affirmative Action](#)
- [About Us - Filipino Americans of Northern California Organization \(fanconorthbay.org\)](http://fanconorthbay.org)

Let us embrace this month as an opportunity to deepen our understanding, celebrate diversity, and strengthen our commitment to serving all communities in Alameda County with empathy, respect, and cultural sensitivity.

Let's make this Filipino American History Month a testament to the power of cultural celebration and community connection.

Maraming salamat! (Thank you very much!)