October 12, 2011

Kathy Lim Ko Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum 450 Sutter Street Suite 600 San Francisco CA 94108

Dear Ms. Lim Ko,

We appreciate your support and recommendations for the Web-Based HIV Behavioral Survey among Men who have Sex with Men project.

We have reviewed the Proposed HHS Section 4302 Data Collection Standards for Collection of Race and Ethnicity. After these standards become finalized, we will modify our survey instrument to meet these data collection standards.

We agree that it is important to monitor HIV risk behaviors, HIV testing and access to and utilization of prevention services by Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander MSM. This project aims to reach a diverse number of internet-using MSM across the U.S., including racial and ethnic minority MSM. Although we are not oversampling any particular sub-group of MSM for this survey, we have a large target sample size that will help us achieve adequate representation of demographically diverse MSM at the national level, including MSM who identify as Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander.

The survey instrument currently is available in English and Spanish. Due to funding limitations, we are unable to translate the instrument into other languages at this time. However, if additional funds become available, translation of the survey into Asian languages will be reevaluated.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Kristina Bowles, MPH Epidemiologist Behavioral and Clinical Surveillance Branch Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, NCHHSTP Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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