



Hundreds Participate at Keiro's Genki Conference in Pasadena

"Our community, especially adult kids with aging parents, really needs to take advantage of Keiro programs like this..." began Ron Dyo, panelist at Keiro's *Genki* Conference: Caregiver's Edition in Pasadena on Saturday, June 11. Dyo and his wife Cindy attended three separate caregiver conferences offered by Keiro prior to Cindy's mother coming to live with them in 2005. Dyo shared their experiences, describing cooking and modifying their two-story home to accommodate his mother-in-law. He also shared when her care exceeded their capacity at home and about making the difficult decision four years later to seek support through facility-based care near their residence. Following their panel discussion, "My Caregiving Story," Dyo and fellow panelist, Chris Naito, were approached by several conference participants. Their personal experiences and willingness to share insights and tips, in the spirit of helping current and future caregivers, were a central theme of the conference, combined with providing access to information and resources.

The *Genki* Conference: Caregiver's Edition was co-presented by Keiro and community partners, Pasadena Buddhist Temple, First Presbyterian Church of Altadena, Pasadena Japanese Cultural Institute, and Pasadena Nikkei Seniors to a capacity crowd of over 200, at the Pasadena Buddhist Temple. The all-volunteer conference organizing committee comprised of co-presenting organization members assisted Keiro in determining specific content for the

conference. In addition, co-presenting organizations recruited volunteers to provide event support.

Speakers from Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Center for Health Care Rights, Family Caregiver Alliance, and Millennia Personal Care Services, along with representatives from Keiro plus 22 health-related agencies and long-term care services provided resources and information to conference participants. Attorneys Nathan Watanabe and Staci Yamashita-Ida, and pharmacist Sheila Takayesu, provided estate planning and pharmacy consultations, respectively. All conference participants were offered complimentary stroke and fitness screenings provided by Independence at Home SCAN Health Plan.

The *Genki* Conference: Caregiver's Edition is just one example of Keiro's work in collaboration with various organizations, temples, churches, and other individuals to present meaningful and timely programming which furthers our mission of enhancing the quality of senior life in Our Community. 97 percent of people 65 and older are aging at home rather than in a nursing facility (2010 U.S. Census) and the National Center on Caregiving reports 90 percent of caregiving for U.S. adults is provided by family members or informal caregivers.

Keiro's *Genki* Conference: Caregiver's Edition was free to the community and made possible in part through event sponsors: Northstar Senior Living, Aspen Skilled Healthcare, Independence at Home by SCAN, with support from Sierra Madre Issei Memorial Foundation, Keiro's Community Partners, donors, and volunteers. Photos and Conference presentations are available at: www.keiro.org/caregiver-conference.

Keiro Going Forward



Following 22 years of dedicated, compassionate service to seniors in Our Community, Shawn Miyake retired from Keiro. His well-deserved retirement began June 30, 2016.

Shawn Miyake has provided invaluable care for our loved ones—for more than two decades at the helm of Keiro. We extend our deepest gratitude to Shawn for his commitment and years of service to Keiro, and the lasting impact his work has had on Japanese American and Japanese seniors and families.

As you are aware, earlier this year, Keiro repositioned its focus from operating long-term healthcare facilities to programmatically supporting thousands of Japanese American and Japanese older adults in Southern California. The organization is now expanding its reach from serving the 600 residents of its four former healthcare facilities, to serving the 70,000 older adults in our Japanese American and Japanese community who live in Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura counties.

As Keiro moves forward and as management needs shift following the recent sale of our facilities, the organization will conduct an extensive search for a new president & CEO with the skills, background and experience needed to guide the organization into the future. Keiro is in the process of engaging a firm to assist in its search for a new executive. With the firm's guidance, Keiro will recruit a high-level individual well-poised to lead the organization for years to come.

The Keiro Board of Directors has appointed Gene Kanamori to serve as interim president & CEO while the search process for the new president & CEO is underway. Having served as Keiro's Director of Administration and Human Resources for the past 10 years, the Board knows that Kanamori is a proven leader and the best choice for ensuring that Keiro's services and programs continue during this transition.



Gene Kanamori
Interim President & CEO, Keiro

We recognize this is a natural point for change and important next step in our organization's evolution and we are highly focused on recruiting a strong leader who will embody Keiro's values and vision for the future, upholding Keiro's mission to enhance the quality of life for seniors in Our Community.

Our thanks for your ongoing support of Keiro. As always, we will continue to share updates and information regarding the future of the organization. We appreciate your support and invite your continued participation, joining us, and helping Keiro move forward, continuing and expanding our work to helping older adults in Our Community age the way they choose.

前進する敬老

我々のコミュニティーの高齢者へ、献身的で思いやりに溢れた業務を22年間遂行してきた理事長兼最高経営責任者ショーン・ミヤケ氏が、2016年6月30日を最後に引退しました。

ショーン・ミヤケ氏は、敬老の指揮において20年以上、我々が愛する人々にかけてがえのない介護を提供しました。敬老での何年もの業務とその強い決意、そして日系米国人および日本人高齢者とその家族に末長く続くような影響を与えた業績に深く感謝します。

皆様のご承知のように、敬老は、今年の初めに長期介護施設の運営から離れ、南カリフォルニアに住む何千人という日系米国人および日本人高齢者をプログラムを通して支援するということに焦点を転換しました。4軒の旧施設で600人にサービスを提供することから、ロサンゼルス、オレンジ、ベンチュラ各郡に住む日系米国人および日本人コミュニティーにおける7万人の高齢者にサービスを提供することへと転換し、その対象範囲を拡大しつつあります。

敬老は施設売却に続いて、前進し管理体制も変更が必要となるにつれ、その組織を将来へと導くために必要な技能、経歴、経験を有する新理事長兼CEOを求めて広範囲な探索を行って

ます。敬老は新理事長を探すための支援を行う企業と協力中です。この企業の助言を得て、将来にわたって敬老を先導する高レベルで適切な人材を採用することになります。

これは変化に伴う当然の成り行きで、敬老の進化のための重要なステップです。我々のコミュニティーの高齢者の生活の質を向上させるという敬老のミッションを支持し、敬老の価値観と将来へのビジョンを具体化する強いリーダーを採用することに焦点を絞っています。

敬老理事会は、新理事長兼CEOを探している間、ジーン・カナモリ氏を暫定理事長兼CEOに任命しました。カナモリ氏は、過去10年間敬老の運営および人事部長を務めており、理事会も彼が証明済みのリーダーであり、この移行期間中に敬老の各種サービスとプログラムを保証するために最善の選択であると認識しています。

皆様の途絶えることの無いご支援に感謝いたします。従来どおり、皆様に敬老の未来に関する新たな情報の提供と更新をさせていただきます。今後も、我々のコミュニティーの高齢者が自ら選ぶ手段で歳を重ねていけるよう、そして、敬老が前進し続けることができるよう、皆様の変わらぬご支援をお願い申し上げます。



Internships: Developing and Inspiring Future Leaders

by Heather Harada

In 2005, while a college student, I participated in the Nikkei Community Internship (NCI) program. For two months during the summer, I interned at the Japanese American Services of the East Bay, now J-Sei, in Berkeley, CA. In addition to working on projects, I also accompanied then-Executive Director Laura Takeuchi to meetings with other aging services organizations throughout the Bay Area. It was a really eye-opening experience, going from being a participant in Japanese American community organizations to learning how they are run. Once a week, we also visited other community organizations and met with their leadership, both in the Bay Area and Southern California.



Keiro's 2016 NCI intern, Channing Lou with Heather Harada

Four years ago, Keiro hosted its first NCI intern and continues to host one each summer. It's wonderful to see this program continuing to expand the younger generation's experiences in the community. I enjoy meeting the interns each year as well, even though they often say "wow, you participated a long time ago." (It just shows the longevity and continued value of NCI).



2016 Keiro interns Jamie Yabuno (far left) and Jeremy Tuggy (center) working with Keiro staff at Genki Conference: Caregiver's Edition on June 11th in Pasadena

In addition to NCI, Keiro hosts several other interns from different programs each year. I got my start at Keiro as a graduate student intern five years ago through Keiro's partnership with the Leonard Davis School of Gerontology at USC, and worked on several interesting projects, including a community needs assessment, policies/procedures and licensing issues for the former retirement home, and community health education programs. Keiro's internship program provides valuable work experience for those interested in health care and aging services as well as community non-profits.

As part of our mission to enhance the quality of senior life in Our Community, Keiro helps to develop students and young adults who show promise in furthering our mission through their professional and personal lives. Since 2002, Keiro has supported over 30 interns by providing a meaningful work experience and a deeper understanding of the Japanese American community.

Supporting OCO and Tanaka Farms HARVESTING HOPE 2016

On March 11, 2011, people around the world watched in despair as a 9.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the country of Japan. Often referred to as the 'Great East Japan earthquake' or the 'Tohoku Earthquake', it quickly claimed the lives of almost 16,000 people, injured more than 6,000, left 2,500 missing and displaced more than 340,000 individuals.

More than 5,000 miles away in Orange County, Farmer Glen Tanaka witnessed the destruction and aftermath of the earthquake and pursuing tsunami. Seeing images of farmland being torn apart, he, alongside the Orange Coast Optimist Club, sponsored the first annual 'Walk the Farm' fundraiser. For the past 5 years, the 'Walk the Farm' fundraiser has helped send financial and emotional support to Japanese farmers who have suffered from the effects of the Tohoku Earthquake.

Keiro is pleased to continue our support of this wonderful event. This year Keiro staff and interns volunteered at the Walk engaging participants by distributing carrots and sharing information about Keiro's current programs and future direction. Also joining Keiro at the Walk and sharing a booth to distribute information, was the Arthritis Foundation, one of our partners.

Keiro appreciates and celebrates the many organizations and groups that support and build community. We value collaboration and welcome partnership opportunities to support the wellbeing of Our Community.

Visit www.keiro.org/partner/collaborating-organizations/ to see a list of Collaborating Organizations and learn more about how you can get involved.

Read more articles like these on our new *Genki Living Blog* at www.genkiliving.org.



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Keiro in the Community

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JACCC's 36th Anniversary Celebration & Awards, June 11, 2016



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Genki Connections

A publication of Keiro

To subscribe to *Genki Connections*, to correct or delete your contact information, or to send comments or questions, please contact Resource Development through any of the following ways:

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Keiro is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of senior life in Our Community. Our organization provides resources, tools, and culturally sensitive programs to help older adults age on their own terms and live with dignity, vitality and confidence. We also support caregivers with problem-solving approaches to manage some of their toughest challenges.