

Opening Ceremony



Patch Wetzel is a graduate of The Ohio State University and the founder and president of PatchWorks Ministries in Johnstown, OH. Passionate and sympathetic to the plight of survivors of commercial human sex trafficking, she has partnered with Dr. Marlene Carson of Rahab's Hideaway and with The Switch, The National Anti-Trafficking Network which just launched as an NGO this month. Her ministry is responsible for bringing the 'More Than A Survivor, More Than A Story' which was housed at The Ohio State University Ohio Student Union in 2016.



Michael Byun has worked for nearly 20 years on health disparities, social justice, and immigrant and refugee issues. His efforts focus on AAPI and other underserved communities. Currently Byun is chief executive officer for Cleveland's Asian Services In Action, Inc. (ASIA) the largest AAPI health and social services agency in Ohio and an important advocacy voice for AAPIs in the state. In addition to his leadership role at ASIA, Byun serves on local, state and national boards and advisory committees. He is board co-chair for National Coalition of Asian Pacific American Community Development and founding member for the national AIM for Equity. He was also on the advisory council for the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Byun currently is chair of Ohio's AAPI Advisory Council appointed by Governor John Kasich. In May of 2015, he was appointed by President Barack Obama to the President's AAPI Advisory Council. Byun frequently presents and speaks locally and nationally. He is a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Fellow, a 2015 Marshall Memorial Fellow of the German Marshall Fund of the United States and received his master of public administration from the University of Washington in Seattle.



Manju Sankarappa has implemented community-based interventions in the AAPI community in Ohio for the past 15 years. As Executive Director of the OAAHC, she has managed programs for community engagement, medical education and training, and research since 2009. In her role, she focuses on improving health of all populations by diversifying the healthcare workforce and influencing health policy and research. She is also the Ohio Grassroots Representative for OralHealth2020, the chair of Asian Festival Organizing Committee, a board member of Greater Columbus Arts Council, and serves as a member of Great Lakes Health Equity Council, AIM for Equity, and NCAPIP.