



Cultural Brokers in Maryland

Doreen Shing and the Chinese Culture and Community Service Center

Location: Central Maryland

Funding: \$45,000 | \$15,000 match

GOAL

Provide people with developmental disabilities and their families in Burmese, Chinese, and other Asian American communities across Maryland support to increase advocacy, community engagement, and community service opportunities.

SUMMARY

Doreen Shing, in partnership with the Chinese Culture and Community Service Center (CCACC), will develop and lead a community-based support system for people with developmental disabilities involved with the CCACC. The program will expand to the Burmese immigrant community in Maryland. This support system will be led by multiple cultural brokers who will provide support to people with developmental disabilities and their families in Chinese, Burmese, and other Asian languages.

Cultural brokers are members of the community they work with. They understand and share the values, beliefs, and practices of the community. Cultural brokers help build trust and connections between community members and the services and supports that they need.

ACTIVITIES

- Recruit and train cultural brokers within the Chinese and Burmese communities.
- Develop monthly engagement for the community by creating the Core Community Focus Circles.
- Support at least 20 people with developmental disabilities and their families in the Chinese and Burmese communities.



OUTCOMES

- People with developmental disabilities and their families in the Chinese and Burmese communities are better able to advocate for their needs because they worked with the cultural brokers.
- Family members of people with developmental disabilities are better able to empower their family members to advocate for themselves and others.