

Consul General Theresa Dizon-de Vega (center) during the Outstanding Asian Women for 2017 event.

The Asian Health Services Program of the Holy Name Medical Center in Teaneck (Bergen County), N.J. recognized Philippine Consul General Theresa Dizon-de Vega as one of the Outstanding Asian Women for 2017.

The recognition was conferred on the occasion of the institution's "Celebrating Asian Women:

Achieving Health, Wellness and Excellence" event on April 1, 2017.

The other two honorees are Margaret Lam, CEO of Prosperity Resource International Inc. and founder of the New Jersey Chinese Festival; and Karen Lee, reporter and Fill-in Anchor for News 12 New Jersey.

In her welcome remarks, Kyung Hee Choi, Holy Name Medical Center Vice President for Asian Health Services, stated that the honorees were chosen for their achievements in their respective professions and their commitment to serving the public and their communities.

She also spoke of the Asian Health program catering to various groups in the Asian-American community and which is a recognized National Model for healthcare.

In accepting the recognition witnessed by nearly 200 guests, de Vega congratulated the Asian Health Services Team and all the volunteers of the program for raising awareness of health issues endemic to Asian-American communities.

She noted that "the innovations introduced by the program such as more culturally-sensitive care engenders an atmosphere of inclusion for many Asian-Americans who may be reluctant to seek health treatment or advice."

The consul general affirmed the commitment of the Consulate General to help promote awareness of the program and encourage other institutions to follow this model.

She acknowledged the valuable inputs of Filipino medical practitioners, nurses, health workers and researchers in the program.

The event included free medical screenings for the public undertaken by volunteer doctors and nurses, including Filipino doctors and members of the Philippine Nurses Association-New Jersey Chapter.

The St. Mary's Parish Filipino Line Dance Ministry was also on hand to lead line dancing routines for participants in the day-long health fair.

Other guests included Bergenfield Council President Filipino-American Arvin Amatorio, council members from other townships in New Jersey, Chinese-American community members, Korean-American community members, other Asian-American communities, the Asian American Federation, and the Filipino Seniors Club of Jersey City.

Thursday,	06	April	2017	15:06
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Filipino Medical Program Director Veronica Lavarro was likewise on hand at the event.

