

Diversity Digest Est. 2011

Insurance Diversity Initiative

Diversity & Inclusion Advance Forward Together

Visit our Website



Email us at Diversity@insurance.ca.gov about any events or updates you'd like to share with the Initiative and our stakeholders!

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month.



**National Veteran & Military Families
Month
and Thanksgiving Holiday**

What's New





Chandara K. Phanachone
Director of Insurance Diversity Initiative

"As the wife of a combat veteran who is also a [United States Army Ranger](#), I am incredibly proud and honored to dedicate this month in celebration of our brave men and women who have and are still courageously serving our Country. To our valiant service members and their families, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your service and sacrifices.

During this holiday season, I am thankful for my family, my health, and to work at a place that celebrates the values of diversity and its impact on society. I am also thankful for deep-fried turkey."



Rebecca Ball
Insurance Diversity Coordinator

"I am thankful for my parents. They have shown me that with love, dedication, and hard work, anything is possible; and worth it."



Benjamin A Phillips-Leseñana
Insurance Diversity Analyst

"I'm thankful for my loving husband of 24 years and the ability to contribute towards a more diverse economy reflective of who we are in California."



Nathan Fesler
Diversity Research Data Analyst

"I'm thankful for a supporting wife during grad school."
(Learn more about Nathan in the Welcome article below)



California Department of Insurance

Insurance Protection for All Californians

Insurance Diversity Initiative

Office of Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones

7th Annual Insurance Diversity Summit || October 1, 2018 || Los Angeles, CA

7TH ANNUAL INSURANCE DIVERSITY SUMMIT 2018 MIDS Results Presentation

Monday, October 1, 2018 - California Endowment - Los Angeles, CA

By popular demand, the latest [diversity presentation](#) on the [results](#) of the 2018 Multistate Insurance Diversity Survey (MIDS) is now [available online](#). The PowerPoint was originally presented during the Morning Plenary at the 7th Annual Insurance Diversity Summit by Chandara K Phanachone and Rebecca Ball. In the event you may have any questions, please feel free to contact our team at: diversity@insurance.ca.gov.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SUMMIT SURVEY WINNER! \$100.00 Facebook Ad Credit

Monday, October 1, 2018 - California Endowment - Los Angeles, CA

Mandi Saeteun
Excel Interpreting, LLC



Mandi Saeteun is the Director of Operations at [Excel Interpreting & Translating](#). Driven by her personal experiences of witnessing inadequate interpretation and its impact on the outcomes of insurance claims, Mandi and her team are committed to providing the highest levels of service as part of interpreter certification and overall client experience. Mandi's team at Excel learned of the California Department of Insurance's (CDI) Annual Insurance Diversity Summit through the Western Regional Minority Supplier Development Council (WRMSDC), and this year marks her first time at the Summit! They attended workshops and learned how to navigate the procurement process in order to increase her company's business development opportunities among insurance companies. The business matchmaking sessions were tremendously helpful in forming relationships with key decision makers. "Excel is incredibly grateful and want to thank the Insurance Diversity initiative team and Facebook for this opportunity," says Mandi.

ABOUT the COMPANY:

[Excel Interpreting & Translating](#) is staffed by caring professionals with exceptional integrity. The vision of Excel is to bridge the language gap, around the corner and around the world. They facilitate communication by providing linguistically competent, and culturally sensitive interpreters and translators to create successful outcomes. Excel supports 225 languages for in-person interpretation, document translation and telephonic interpretation. They have a thorough and flexible documentation, data-driven reporting process, and they are committed to giving back to the community. Meet the team at www.excelinterpreting.com.



7th Annual Insurance Diversity Summit | The California Endowment | Los Angeles, CA
(Pictured L-R) Mandi Saeteun, Director of Operations - Excel Interpreting, LLC; Chandara K. Phanachone, Director, Insurance Diversity Initiative - California Department of Insurance; Imelda Alejandrino, CEO - AP42 Integrated Marketing and Insurance Diversity Task Force Member; and Koy Saephan Jay, Founder/CEO - Excel Interpreting, LLC.



By MilitaryBenefits.info

[Originally published 2018](#)

Military Family Month was established in 1996 by the Armed Services YMCA, with the U.S. Government recognizing the occasion every year since. Each November, the President signs a proclamation declaring November Military Family Month, and with hundreds of thousands of service members deployed overseas, recognizing the daily sacrifices made by military families has never been more important.

Excerpt from the 2017 Presidential Proclamation:

"During National Veterans and Military Families Month, we honor the significant contributions made by American service members, their families, and their loved ones. We set aside this month surrounding Veterans Day to hold observances around the country to honor and thank those whose service and

Read the full [proclamation here](#).

Reach out to your local MWR or Family Services offices to discover events and services scheduled in your area.

There are many services provided nationwide and locally, to show appreciation during Military Family Month, here are just a few:

- Every year you should be able to download a ‘Military Family Month’ packet from the Armed Services YMCA at www.asymca.org. The packet typically contains: a Military Family Month Poster; a Message from President Obama; a letter from the National Executive Director of the ASYMCA; Military Family Month Program Suggestions; and Guidelines for the annual art and essay contests.
- [Sesame Street for Military Families Free App](#) – Addresses topics such as deployments, homecoming, self-expression and injuries.
- Military children can find comfort in a free custom made photo transfer quilt or pillow through this program for children of deployed service members – [Operation Kid Comfort](#).
- Many Military Families are eligible for a free YMCA or Private Fitness membership through the [YMCA- DoD Initiative with the Armed Services YMCA](#).
- Sears Heroes provides gift cards for military families at Home Registry Sign ups. Signups usually happen in Late Fall- [Sears Heroes](#).

The following are just a few ways to increase awareness, and provide support to the military community:

- Donate a Thanksgiving gift to junior-enlisted members and their families through the [USO- Metro’s Turkeys for Troops!](#)
- Create a Spouse or Service Member [Care Package](#) with items that would help either ease stress during a deployment.
- [Adopt-a-Soldier for the Holidays](#)
- Create a spouse care package for them to enjoy and help reduce stress during training, deployment, and [PCS moves](#) and relocations.
- Thank an Active-Duty Member, Veteran, Military Spouse, or Military Child for their service.
- Visit war memorials with your family to teach your children the value of service
- Fly the U.S. Flag.
- Adopt a military family for the holidays by sponsoring a Food Basket or Toys for junior enlisted military families through the ASYMCA’s Operation Holiday Joy.
- Offer a military neighbor a bit a respite with volunteer childcare to get errands accomplished or to even enjoy a few hours to recharge.
- See someone in uniform? Thank them for their service or surprise them with a free coffee, dessert or drink if they are in line behind you.
- Make a donation or volunteer with a military assistance organization like the [Armed Services YMCA](#).

As we acknowledge and appreciate our veterans of the past and present for their noble and brave service to our nation, we offer gratitude for their sacrifice and for the security and protection of our freedoms. In honor to their commitment to liberty and country, we celebrate America’s veterans on Veterans Day, November 11. We passionately support our veterans and invite the members of our community to donate their time and make contributions to local veteran service organizations like: Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American Veterans (AMVETS), American Legion, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and others. Visit <http://www.va.gov/vso/> for a list of veteran service organizations (VSO) in need of your support.



MilitaryBenefits.info

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Military Benefits provides targeted and up-to-date military benefits information to military active duty, veterans, spouses and family. Military Benefits covers education, military pay, health care, legal matters, veterans benefits, military discounts, great perks and much more.

We are always looking to provide more benefits information that serves our military audience. If you're a business and have a special discount or offer available to our military audience [contact us](#).

Read more: <https://militarybenefits.info/about-military-benefits/#ixzz5UDNQ4aeW>

WELCOME NATHAN FESLER Diversity Research Data Analyst, Insurance Diversity Initiative



Dear Insurance Diversity Initiative Stakeholders:

As the Research Data Analyst for the Insurance Diversity Initiative, it has been exciting to work with the team led by our Director Chandara Phanachone!

Prior to joining the Department, I had just finished publishing a report with [Dr. Robert Wassmer](#) on a cost-benefit analysis of potential fire barrier performance standards in upholstered furniture for the Bureau of Electronic and Appliance Repair, Home Furnishing and Thermal Insulation. In addition to my published research, I'm graduating with a Master's in Public Policy and Administration at Sacramento State University in December of 2018. My background also includes experience in survey research at the Institute of Social Research, and as a worker compensation specialist at Liberty Mutual Insurance.

I look forward to continuing this important work by linking data analysis with the critical projects that are being spearheaded by the Insurance Diversity Initiative.

Best Regards,
Nathan

Reminders



Do You Have an Insurance Supplier Diversity Success Story? We Want to Hear from You!

Do you have NEW or RENEWED Business Relationship/Networking opportunity that has created opportunities for your business within the Insurance Industry?

Do you have NEW or RENEWED Procurement or Contract Opportunity(ies) within the Insurance Industry?

If you said, "Yes," to any of these questions - We Want to Hear from You!

Take 1-2 minutes to share your success story with us. Each step you take towards securing any insurer business for your company is a measure of your success, and we would love to hear about it! Visit [Diversity Success Story Survey](#) or contact us directly at diversity@insurance.ca.gov.

Diversity Events Calendar: November and December 2018

November

National LGBT Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC)
- NGLCC Global LGBTI Business Week 2018
November 12-16, 2018
Washington, DC

December

Golden Gate Business Association (GGBA) -
Annual Holiday Make Contact
December 11, 2018
San Francisco, CA

Western Regional Minority Supplier Diversity
Council (WRMSDC) - Annual Meeting & Holiday
Legacy Event 2018 (AMHL18)
December 14, 2018
Santa Clara, CA

To submit a request for your Supplier Diversity or Governing Board Diversity-related event be added or to view upcoming events, please visit our [Diversity Events Calendar](#).



Holiday Make Contact

You are cordially invited to the Golden Gate Business Association's Annual Holiday Make Contact honoring the national insurance companies championing the inclusion of LGBT Business Enterprises as part of the California Insurance Commissioner's Diversity Initiative.

Tuesday, December 11th, 2018

6:00pm – 8:00pm

RSVP

The Historic Philippine Consulate Building
447 Sutter St, San Francisco, CA 94108

GGBA MEMBERS: COMPLIMENTARY
GUESTS: \$25.00

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED NEAR UNION SQUARE, ACCESSIBLE BY
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, WITH AMPLE PARKING NEARBY.

HOSTED BY



OUR PARTNERS



Gap Inc.



FOLLOWING OUR NORTH STAR **ANNUAL MEETING & HOLIDAY LEGACY (AMHL) EVENT**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2018 • 2:30 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

CALIFORNIA'S GREAT AMERICA
4701 GREAT AMERICA PKWY, BAY AREA ROOM
SANTA CLARA, CA 95054

2:30 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. ANNUAL MEETING (NO CHILDREN PLEASE)
5:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M. WINTERFEST AT GREAT AMERICA (CHILDREN ARE WELCOME)

THE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD INSIDE THE PARK AT 5:30 P.M.



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The Insurance Diversity Initiative was established by Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones in 2011 to address diversity issues within California's \$310 billion insurance industry. Specifically, these efforts are meant to increase procurement from California's diverse suppliers, as well as to increase diversity amongst insurer governing boards. To accomplish these goals, the Department conducts outreach, creates partnerships, hosts events, and most importantly, administers surveys to collect and publicly disseminate information about the state of diversity in the insurance industry.

INSURANCE DIVERSITY INITIATIVE
Office of Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones
California Department of Insurance
(916) 492 3623

diversity@insurance.ca.gov
www.insurance.ca.gov/Diversity

STAY CONNECTED

