

HHC Employee Participates in White House Youth Summit

Queens Hospital's Rachelle Ocampo Helps to Inform Young Uninsured Americans

Queens Hospital Center's Rachelle Peraz Ocampo was one of 160 youth leaders recently selected from across the country to attend a White House Youth Summit in Washington D.C.



Rachelle Peraz Ocampo
at the White House

At the Summit, President Obama delivered remarks on getting young people to participate in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and urged the youth leaders in attendance to raise awareness about the new healthcare law. Ocampo met with other youth leaders to discuss issues relevant to their respective communities and took part in a series of panels and breakout workshops with administration officials.

"The event was an opportunity to brainstorm ideas about how to engage and educate youth about the new law," says Ocampo, a Health Educator at Queens Cancer Center (QCC). "As an Asian-American, it was important for me to share my personal experiences with the ACA and make my voice heard at the White House."

Using the lessons she learned at the White House Summit, Ocampo encouraged youth to sign up for health insurance on February 15, National Youth Enrollment Day. Along with other young leaders, Ocampo participated in events and social media campaigns to inform the uninsured about their options under the new law.

In her position with QCC, Ocampo educates providers on tobacco control for Queens Quits Tobacco Cessation Center. In her community, she heads a nonprofit organization called Pilipino American Unity for Progress (UniPro). Ocampo also co-hosts *Makilala*, the first Filipino-American television talk show on Queens Public Television.

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