

**Guillen, Dora**

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**From:** Hieu Le <hieule789@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2026 1:20 AM  
**To:** COB\_Response  
**Subject:** Board of Supervisors Meeting September 15th Line Item #10\_Support for the Continuation of OCAPICA/KCS Project FOCUS

**Attention:** This email originated from outside the County of Orange. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Hello,

My name is Hieu Le and Project FOCUS has been supporting me for the past 4 years. This program is so incredibly important and vital for numerous families in the Asian and Pacific Islander community living in Orange County, especially with the topic of mental health being a serious taboo in Asian cultures. OCAPICA has the knowledge and nuanced understanding of this that other mental health providers do not have. They offer support in multiple languages, including Vietnamese, which has helped my mom develop a deeper understanding of mental health.

When I first entered Project FOCUS in 2022, my mental health was at its worst. I felt hopeless for the future and couldn't imagine myself living long enough to see it. My grades began to slip in 10th grade. I was passively suicidal and had seriously considered giving up once. Project FOCUS supported me so unconditionally and did everything they could to help me realize that my future is worth seeing. I finally started to feel okay again and motivated enough to graduate from high school. I attended Cypress College for two years and have transferred to Cal State Fullerton this fall to pursue psychology in hopes of supporting other people with their mental health. I know how to drive a car now and I'm learning what it means to be an adult, something I once believed I would never live long enough to see. I wholeheartedly believe that I would not be here writing this letter if it weren't for Project FOCUS and their genuine persistence in helping me.

If funding is cut for Project FOCUS, other young people like me and families like mine would be robbed of this outstanding service. They would not have the opportunity to improve their mental health and would lose the specialized knowledge Project FOCUS has in supporting AAPI communities. I'm so proud to be a part of this community and I hope future people in need of mental health support get to experience OCAPICA's services.

Sincerely,  
-Hieu Le