

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

HEALTH PLAN OF SAN JOAQUIN  
(HPSJ) CEO TESTIFIES ON HEALTH  
COSTS UPSURGE

HPSJ CEO *Amy Shin* testified in February before the California Senate Health Committee hearing on "Making Health Care Affordable: What's Driving Costs?" HPSJ serves nearly 300,000 Medi-Cal recipients in Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties. "It's been increasingly difficult to control costs because the health plan has no control over two major costs -- inpatient services and pharmaceuticals," she said. "Drug prices are going up, stretching already thin budgets for many local health plans covering low-income families. With a 27 percent increase in generic drug prices these last two years, Medi-Cal plans like ours are hit hard by high-priced specialty drugs." The only public health plan CEO invited to appear, Shin attributed her invitation "to the perseverance and achievements of the entire HPSJ team as they work to keep costs low while maintaining superior health care for our growing membership."