

*Culture to Culture Foundation Chinese American Mental Health Scholarship 2007*

Speech by Charlotte Tang

My name is Charlotte Tang. I am a PhD Clinical Psychology student at the Alliant International University. I am a predoctoral intern at UCSF Infant-Parent Program at San Francisco General Hospital.

As a foreign student from Hong Kong, I am not eligible for many of the loans that Americans receive to fund their graduate education. Currently, I am working full time at an unpaid internship using my knowledge of Chinese both culturally and linguistically to serve Chinese families.

My internship provides an opportunity to help Chinese parents who have serious mental illnesses to better understand, and attune to, the emotional needs of their infants. I realize the importance of expanding awareness of infant mental health concerns within the Chinese community. I would like to immerse myself in training with this model and eventually carry this knowledge forward in service of my homeland in Hong Kong and China, where conceptualizations of parent-infant psychotherapy are still in its infancy.

The Chinese American Mental Health Scholarship will give me the resources I need to continue serving this community both throughout my internship and in publishing an article based on my dissertation in which I examined how economic hardship and acculturation stressors affect low-income Chinese mothers' tendency to raise their young children based on the principles of Confucius' philosophy in the America.

Although the scholarship would allow me to pursue this meaningful work, it also means much to me since I have learned about the work Culture to Culture Foundation are doing on behalf of the Chinese in America.

The scholarship therefore has great meaning to my personal and professional goals. As I grow in my clinical knowledge and skills, I will be able to do more for the Chinese community.