

NISEI AGING PROJECT

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Seattle, Washington 98195
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September 10, 1982

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Masako Tomita
Meiji-Kai

Hide Yada
Nisei Veterans Womens Auxiliary

Joseph T. Okimoto, M.D.
Principal Investigator

Dear J.A.C.L. Members,

The workshop on Aging and Retirement at the National Convention focussed mainly on Isseis and services available by various agencies at all levels of government and the private sectors. Personally, I felt there should have been more emphasis on the Niseis.

The Seattle Nisei Aging Project will provide rich sources of information on all facets of stress specific to Niseis in terms of effects of the forced incarceration, family relations, living conditions, our goals and aspirations. Understanding our deepest feelings and behavior will help prepare us for a more satisfying aging and retirement.

I have enclosed flyers that would be of interest to you and your members. I hope you will be supportive of this project. You will find this report of tremendous value to all Nikkei.

Sincerely,

Hana Masuda

Hana Masuda

Honorary Chair

Advisory and Resource Committee
Nisei Aging Project

Alternate Delegate

JACL Biennium Convention
Seattle Chapter, JACL

Encl.

THE NISEI AGING PROJECT IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF MINORU MASUDA, PH.D.

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Dear Friends,

The Nisei Aging Project, begun in 1980 by the late Dr. Minoru Masuda at the University of Washington and funded by the federal government, is now nearing completion. This research project on the problems and issues of aging and retirement among the Nisei will provide valuable information to the Nikkei community both locally and nationally. In addition, international interest in the study has come from The Institute of Public Health, Section of Social Security in Japan where aging and retirement are current issues of concern.

The study covers living arrangements, intergenerational relationships, social and leisure activities, health problems, and the long-range effects of the wartime internment. The data, obtained from a true cross-section of Nisei residents in Seattle-King County, are among the richest ever collected on any project in aging and retirement research. Furthermore, the needs as well as the culture, history, status, and resources of the Nisei are unique and differ from the majority population on which most aging research has been conducted. Consequently, the information will be all the more valuable as members of all generations try to understand and respond to problems in useful and appropriate ways.

The Nikkei Community Advisory and Resource Committee (see margin) has been a tremendous help in planning and carrying out the study. Close ties with the community allow direct access to findings by organizations involved in program planning. For example, Nikkei Concerns has incorporated information from the study in their expansion plans for the Seattle Keiro Nursing Home.

The last phase of the study which involves analysis of the data is now under way. Unfortunately, the government has cut our budget for this final phase by a devastating amount of over \$30,000. The effect of this cut will be a reduction in our staff at the most critical stage of the study, that is, during the compilation, analysis, and reporting of our findings. In order to make up the deficit and accomplish a complete job worthy of the fine data collected, we are seeking your support. We have already received the generous help of the Kawabe Memorial Trust (a gift of \$15,000) and from others including the participants themselves. With small donations from a large number of other contributors we can raise the remaining amount.

Our special concern is to see that the research results achieve wide distribution. With your help we will be able to prepare a special report on our findings for the Nikkei community. With your donation, we will know of your interest in the project, and we will send you a free copy of this report. When ready, it will be sent to all participants and other interested parties. If you are able to help, please fill out the section below and mail it with your check in the enclosed postage pre-paid envelope.

You have our very grateful thanks for your support. Your contribution will represent an investment for present and future generations in resources for understanding the problems of aging and retirement in the Nikkei community.

Joseph T. Okimoto, M.D.
Principal Investigator

Donna L. Leonetti, Ph.D.
Project Director

MINORU MASUDA, PH.D.
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

JOSEPH T. OKIMOTO, M.D.
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Hide Yada
Nisei Veterans Womens Auxiliary

Dennis Yamashita
Seattle-King County
Division on Aging

Please send me a free copy of the Nisei Aging Project report.

MAILING LABEL (Please print.)

NAME

STREET

CITY STATE ZIP

DONATION: \$10 (Senior/Student) _____ \$15 _____
\$25 _____ \$50 _____ Other _____

Your contribution is tax deductible.
Your cancelled check will be your receipt. Please
make checks payable to the Nisei Aging Project,
University of Washington and mail in the enclosed
pre-paid envelope.