• Serve over 27,000 patients annually in twelve different Asian languages
• 69% experience linguistic isolation
• Provide medical, dental and behavioral health services, including specialty mental health
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The Collaborative’s mission is to improve the health, safety, and rights of the nail and beauty care workforce to achieve a healthier, more sustainable and just industry.

Collaborative has grown into a statewide coalition of over 25 organizations.

▶ Immigrant advocates
▶ Health workers
▶ Environmentalists
▶ Researchers
▶ Government Agencies
Why is this a problem?

- There are over 129,000 manicurists and 312,000 cosmetologists across the state.
  - We estimated that over 2/3 of manicurists are Vietnamese.
  - Most nail salon workers of low income, immigrant women or women of color.
  - Nail salon worker on average makes $22,500/year
- Many nail salon workers face health problems like asthma, skin rashes, reproductive health problems and cancer that they believe are connected to their work with the chemicals.
- We launched local Healthy Nail Salon Recognition Programs which recognize nail salons that take extra steps to improve the health conditions by offering less-toxic products and providing protective equipment.
Criteria to become a Healthy Nail Salon:

1. Use nail polishes without the toxic-trio: dibutyl phthalate (DBP), toluene, and formaldehyde.
2. Safer nail polish removers without ethyl or butyl acetate, such as acetone.
3. Avoid using nail polish thinners. Use those without toluene and methyl ethyl ketone.
4. All nail salon staff should wear nitrile gloves when using nail products.
5. Ventilate the salon. Designate a specific area for artificial nail services.
6. Install a mechanical ventilation unit within 1 year of entering the program.
7. Train all salon staff (payroll & on contract).
8. Commit to adopting safer nail products.
9. Do not allow customers to bring in products unless they meet program criteria.
AB 2775 - Fight for Ingredient Disclosure Labeling for Professional Cosmetics

- Currently professional cosmetics (used inside salons) don’t have ingredient labeling
- Second year bill
- We feel ingredient labelling of professional hair and nail salon products will help workers, owners and consumers make informed choices about the products they use.
- Authored by Assemblymember Kalra (San Jose)
We work to educate and empower nail salon workers
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