

2012

ANNUAL REPORT

ASIAN AMERICAN
JUSTICE
CENTER



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ADVANCING EQUALITY
AND JUSTICE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2012 was an exciting year for AAJC! After nearly 18 years under the same leadership, I was given the incredible opportunity to take over as AAJC's president and executive director. For more than two decades, AAJC has stood at the forefront of civil rights to advance justice and equality for Asian Americans and promote a more fair and equitable society for all, and I am honored to be leading this great organization into its next phase. AAJC and Senator Al Franken gave me a warm welcome at our briefing on Capitol Hill in March. We were joined by Congressman Mike Honda and Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, among other distinguished guests and leaders, and I had the valuable opportunity to connect with AAJC's partners and community allies.

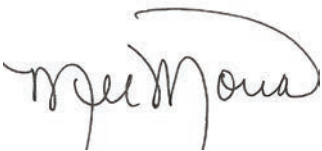
Since joining AAJC, I have been so moved and impressed by our incredible accomplishments. In this important election year, AAJC launched a national campaign to ensure that the Asian American voice was heard on Election Day. We established the first-ever Asian Language Voter hotline and distributed multilingual, state-specific "Know Your Rights" palm cards to more than 125,000 individuals in nine states to assist limited English proficient voters at the polls and combat voter suppression efforts. These efforts helped voters fully participate in the democratic process, and the Asian American voice was a powerful force on Election Day.

In addition to our voter and election protection work, AAJC worked tirelessly to promote equal opportunity in higher education, facilitate broadband adoption and ensure the Asian American presence in national discourse about immigration and immigrant rights. AAJC stood tall with the civil rights community in landmark cases such as *Valle del Sol v. Whiting, et. al.*, which challenges Arizona's anti-immigrant law, SB 1070. We also continued to make strides in anti-Asian violence prevention.

In addition to these achievements, AAJC also took time to celebrate our community's leaders. To mark the departure of my distinguished colleague, Karen K. Narasaki, AAJC hosted a Farewell Roast in April to celebrate her legacy and service. Prominent civil rights leaders, community advocates and policymakers gathered to reflect on Karen's inspirational leadership and her unwavering commitment to justice and equality. In October, AAJC honored Jim Shee, Curtis Chin and the National Education Association for their tremendous dedication to advancing civil and human rights at our 16th annual *American Courage Awards*. It was a memorable evening that brought together over 300 supporters to recognize the achievements of this year's incredible awardees. With your partnership, we will continue to honor our community's leaders for years to come.

As we enter the third year of our **Partners Advancing Justice Capital Campaign**, we are truly grateful for the generosity of our many friends and supporters. Through this unprecedented match opportunity, funds raised from new donors or funds raised in excess of their annual amount from existing donors will be matched on a one-to-one basis. With your support, AAJC will meet this fundraising challenge, allowing us to build capacity and strengthen programs in the years to come.

The annual report that follows highlights the accomplishments of AAJC, our affiliates and our partners across a diverse array of programs and issue areas. Our work is not possible without the commitment of our partners, friends and donors like you. We are truly grateful for your support, and we look forward to your continued partnership as AAJC continues to advance justice and equality on behalf of the growing Asian American community.



Mee Moua
President and Executive Director

ABOUT US



ASIAN AMERICAN JUSTICE CENTER

Founded in 1991, the Asian American Justice Center (AAJC) (www.advancingequality.org) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization working to advance civil and human rights for Asian Americans and to build and promote a fair and equitable society for all.

AAJC is one of the nation's leading experts on issues of importance to the Asian American community including: voting rights; anti-Asian violence;

immigration and immigrant rights; affirmative action; broadband and telecommunications; health care; census and community partnerships.

AAJC has deepened its alliance with the Asian Law Caucus, the Asian American Institute and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center by coming together as the **Asian American Center for Advancing Justice** (Advancing Justice). Under the common name, we work on a sweeping range of critical national and local issues

in order to enrich, enhance and serve our communities across the country. Together as Advancing Justice, we are building a more powerful and unified voice for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (APIs) who are deeply committed to the cause of civil and human rights.

OUR AFFILIATES



ASIAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE

For 21 years in Chicago, AAI (www.aai.advancingjustice.org) has been empowering the Asian American community through advocacy, research, education and coalition building.

AAI reached several critical landmarks in 2012. Chief among them was the creation of the first-ever Asian American Legislative Caucus in Illinois in May 2012. The Caucus is composed of legislators who represent some of the densest Asian American districts in Illinois. They meet regularly with AAI and other community leaders to tackle the most pressing issues facing the community. Beyond the caucus, AAI continued its legislative advocacy with two trips to Springfield in 2012, bringing

over 300 activists to educate policymakers on issues such as employment, language access and health care.

AAI also expanded its leadership program. The 2012 Impact Fellows Program had 15 students who participated in two weeks of intensive workshops and a four-week internship. During the workshops, the students travelled to Detroit to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Vincent Chin's death. While there, the students participated in voter registration drives and heard from activists about the galvanizing impact of Vincent Chin's case on the Asian American civil rights movement.

AAI also hosted the *Advancing Justice Conference* for the first time in Chicago in September 2012. The event drew over 500 attendees from across the nation and featured keynote speakers Illinois Senator Richard Durbin and noted labor activist Ai-jen Poo.

Finally, AAI wrapped up the year with an extensive Get out the Vote campaign that registered over 3,000 voters, engaged 32 poll monitors and completed over 750 exit surveys.



Founded in 1972, San Francisco-based ALC (www.asianlawcaucus.org) is the nation's first legal and civil rights organization serving low-income AAPI communities.

In 2012, ALC ensured a strong AAPI voice for immigrants' rights by co-sponsoring California's TRUST Act, one of the most promising alternatives to the virulent anti-immigrant legislation in states like Arizona, Alabama and Georgia.

ALC also worked to ensure that policymakers understand the reality of the hundreds of thousands of immigrant families who are caught in contradictory

immigration policies and who are hoping for a real path to citizenship. ALC's ASPIRE program is the first undocumented Asian American immigrant youth group in the country. With ASPIRE at the forefront of immigrant youth activism, ALC provided the legal assistance for DREAMers, assisting over 100 youth with deferred action applications following the Obama administration's announcement in June 2012.

By spearheading the campaign to pass the Safe San Francisco Civil Rights Ordinance, ALC protected the rights of innocent people targeted by the FBI based solely on their ethnicity or religion.

ALC's mobilization of community members and over 80 endorsing organizations helped to successfully garner the support of the Mayor and eight Supervisor co-sponsors for the Ordinance.

Since the relaunch of its employment and labor rights program in April 2011, ALC has won over \$1.1 million for low-wage workers in back pay and settlements and helped over 300 Bay Area AAPI families retain access to affordable housing last year.

For the 2012 general elections, ALC mobilized over 250 volunteers to protect language access for AAPI voters at 400 polling sites throughout the Bay Area.



Founded in 1983 and based in Los Angeles, APALC (www.apalc.advancingjustice.org) is the nation's largest legal civil rights organization focused on serving the AAPI communities.

In 2012, APALC significantly increased its naturalization and immigration assistance work. APALC expanded its naturalization workshops from California to other states – including Michigan, New York, North Carolina and Texas – and launched hotlines in Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese. Together, these services helped nearly 3,200 individuals submit their citizenship applications and aided another 1,800 individuals in assessing their eligibility for naturalization. In August, shortly after the President

announced the new Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, APALC launched free legal clinics and workshops that helped nearly 750 undocumented youth apply for DACA.

In September 2012, APALC and the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) reached a nearly one million dollar settlement on behalf of approximately 70 Filipino American nurses in an employment discrimination case against a Central Valley hospital. The settlement is the largest for a workplace language discrimination case in the healthcare industry and the largest language rights settlement ever secured by APALC.

In November 2012, APALC worked with more than a dozen community groups and hundreds of volunteers in its expanded civic engagement program for the 2012 general election. APALC monitored more than 160 Southern California polling sites for compliance with Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act and made more than 46,000 calls in 13 languages to AAPI voters in Los Angeles County. APALC also surveyed more than 5,000 Asian American voters statewide to produce the nation's most comprehensive analysis of Asian American voters and voting trends.

OUR WORK



Executive Director Mee Moua speaking on the importance of equal opportunity in college admissions.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: VOTING RIGHTS

AAJC works to eliminate barriers inhibiting Asian Americans' participation in our nation's political process. We fight discrimination, monitor enforcement of the Voting Rights Act and provide technical assistance and training to community members on many voting-related issues, including federally mandated language assistance.

VOTER SURVEYS

In anticipation of the 2012 general election, AAJC, AAI and Asian Pacific Islander American Vote (APIAVote) worked with the Lake Research Partners to conduct a survey of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) political views to gain a deeper insight into the community as well as to encourage candidates, political parties and organizations working on civic engagement to reach out to community members. The poll was the first in 2012 to examine AAPI voting trends and included more than 1,100 AAPI voters across the country. We found that nearly five out of six Asian Americans surveyed planned to vote

and that half of them were more enthusiastic than ever to vote in the Presidential election.

Building on the pre-election survey, AAJC worked with APIAVote and Karthick Ramakrishnan, director of the National Asian American Survey, to conduct a post-election AAPI voter survey. In December, we released a preliminary report on our findings, "Behind the Numbers: Post-Election Survey of Asian American Voters in 2012." The report found an increase in voter enthusiasm and high levels of support for key issues such as healthcare, education and the economy. Not only did Asian American voters support President Obama at a high rate (71 percent), they also showed that they have the strength in numbers and political conviction to make a marginal difference in elections. All of these findings suggest that Asian American voters should not be ignored by any candidates, political parties or organizations working to ensure equal access to the political process for all voters. We will release our full report in 2013.

Asian American voters showed that they have the strength in numbers and political conviction to make a marginal difference in elections.

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Community members meeting during the pre-election voter survey.



IN-LANGUAGE VOTING MATERIALS

AAJC launched a national effort to ensure the proper implementation of Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act during the 2012 general election. Section 203 provides for in-language assistance and translated voting materials to language minority communities that make up over 10,000 or 5 percent of a locality's voting-age citizens. AAJC reached out to community leaders in jurisdictions newly covered by Section 203 as well as in previously-covered jurisdictions with new language assistance coverage. AAJC and the other affiliates of Advancing Justice provided training and resources for these leaders to work with local election officials to ensure Section 203 compliance.

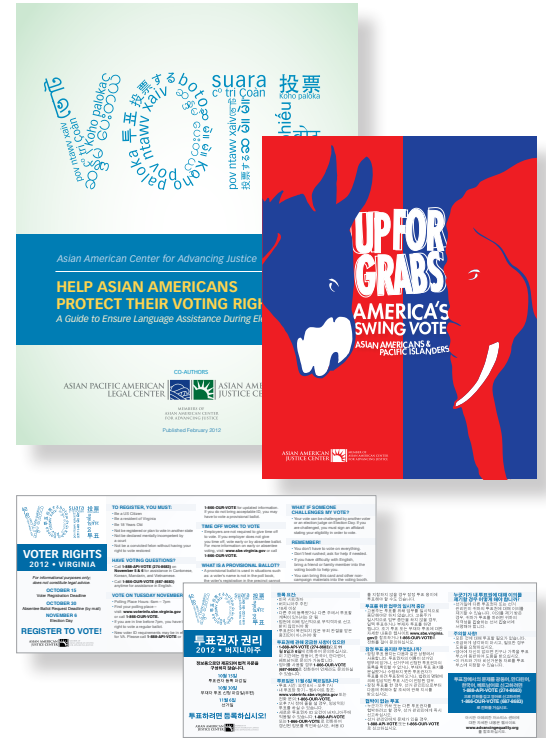
With support from both Four Freedoms Fund and the Ford Foundation, AAJC and APALC published a Section 203 manual, *Help Asian Americans Protect Their Voting Rights: A Guide to Ensure Language Assistance during Elections*. Geared toward local community leaders and advocates, the handbook provided information on what assistance community members should expect under Section 203, what key implementation issues should be addressed with local elections officials and ways to assist LEP voters in communities not presently covered by Section 203. On Election Day, AAJC, our Advancing Justice affiliates and local partners sent close to 500 poll monitors to nearly 900 election precincts across eight states. Our poll monitors found that many polling sites provided adequate language access to limited-English proficient voters and that election officials made an effort to address voter needs. However, a number of polling sites had serious problems that indicated a need for further education and training on language access and cultural sensitivity.

ELECTION PROTECTION

Over the past year, voter suppression efforts ranged from the introduction of voter ID and other restrictive bills at the state-level across the country to the use of voter challenge schemes by outside parties to intimidate voters from participating in the political process.

AAJC joined our Advancing Justice affiliates, APIAVote, Southeast Asian Resource Action Center and the National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development to launch a national AAPI voter protection and education effort. To ensure that voters were aware of their rights at the polls, AAJC produced in-language, state-specific "Know Your Rights" palm cards for nine states, with English and three Asian language versions per state. We distributed over 125,000 palm cards to our local partners.

With support from the Service Employees International Union and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law (Lawyers' Committee), AAJC and APIAVote launched a multilingual Asian language Election Protection hotline —1-888-API-VOTE. The hotline was the first of its kind and was part of the Lawyers' Committee's national Election Protection hotline. On Election Day and the day before, the hotline provided in-language answers to callers' questions on how and where to vote. Callers could also report any instances of voter intimidation or unfounded voter challenges. AAJC received a report from a volunteer in Virginia that poll workers were segregating Korean American seniors into voting lines separate from native-English speakers. In Minnesota, elderly Hmong voters were incorrectly asked to provide ID, even though a white voter standing in line behind them was not. AAJC and APIAVote plan to expand upon the hotline in election cycles to come in order to fully serve Asian American voters across the nation.



AAJC produced tools and resources to support the Asian American electorate and ensure that voters understood their rights on Election Day.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE

AAJC is a nationally recognized expert on anti-Asian violence and race relations. By working to address and prevent anti-Asian violence and rhetoric, AAJC is forging a stronger and safer nation.

ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE IN THE MILITARY

Following the deaths of U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Harry Lew and U.S. Army Private Danny Chen, AAJC joined with OCA to launch community advocacy

efforts seeking military reforms to prevent and ensure punishment for racial taunting, harassment and physical and mental abuse. We have been closely monitoring anti-hazing legislation. Along with a diverse civil rights coalition, we are also working with leadership in the service branches to institute administrative reforms and have started a grassroots petition to the U.S. Department of Defense to address these reforms.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: IMMIGRATION AND IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

AAJC is the nation's premier authority on immigration policy as it affects the Asian American community. We have long maintained our leadership on issues affecting the civil rights of all immigrants, including those who are undocumented. As nearly 40 percent of all immigrants to the United States come from Asia and nearly two-thirds of all Asian Americans are foreign-born, the national immigration debate remains a particularly salient issue for the Asian American community.

STATE WORK

Despite the constitutional legal challenges successfully raised against Arizona's anti-immigrant law, SB 1070, many states have subsequently tried to enact similar legislation. In 2011, five states – Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, South Carolina and Utah – passed SB 1070 copycat legislation. As a result of successful organizing by immigrant communities and advocates, no additional states passed copycat laws in 2012.

AAJC has continued to engage in state-level litigation against these harmful laws. At the end of 2011, AAJC re-joined a

coalition of civil rights groups – including the American Civil Liberties Union, National Immigration Law Center, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and National Day Labor Organizing Network – as co-counsel in a lawsuit against SB 1070, *Valle del Sol v. Whiting, et. al.* In June 2012, the U.S. Supreme Court passed down its decision on *Arizona v. United States*, striking down three of the four provisions before the court and left open the possibility of future challenges to SB 1070's racial profiling provision. In the wake of the decision, the coalition has been moving swiftly and aggressively to prevent the provision from being implemented.

In August, the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued a largely favorable decision in the legal challenges to Alabama's copycat law, HB 56. HB 56 is considered the most harmful and far-reaching of the recently-enacted bills. Among other objectionable provisions, the law would require parents to provide documents verifying their children's immigration status prior to enrolling them in public school. AAJC, along with ALC, is part of a coalition of civil rights groups challenging HB 56. Following the decision in *Arizona*,

the 11th Circuit upheld an injunction blocking most provisions in HB 56 but did not enjoin the racial profiling provision AAJC and our partners will continue litigating this matter to prevent any further implementation of the law.



AAJC staff at the *Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin* Rally in Washington, DC.

DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS

On June 15, 2012, President Obama and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced the launch of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), a historic initiative to defer the deportation of youth who came to the United States under the age of 16 and do not have current legal immigration status. After the announcement of DACA, AAJC quickly came together with members of

Advancing Justice to work together on this unprecedented opportunity to assist DREAMers, especially AAPI youth. AAPIs make up nearly one in ten of the approximately 1.76 million DREAMers potentially eligible for deferred action.

Since DACA began, AAJC has advocated to ensure that the program is accessible to all DREAMers regardless of their socioeconomic status, language ability or geographic location. We have

coordinated with our Advancing Justice affiliates and other national groups to begin building a collaborative that would expand our current outreach efforts as well as our capacity to provide legal assistance and resources for young people seeking to apply for relief. Our DACA-related work provides a unique opportunity to mobilize community support for a permanent path to citizenship for DREAMers and broader immigration reform.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

AAJC works to break down discriminatory barriers by supporting programs and policies that ensure equal opportunity and diversity in education, employment and government contracting. AAJC's attorneys have filed Supreme Court briefs on cases relating to federal contracting, law school admissions and affirmative action itself.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

In October, the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in *Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin* to determine the constitutionality of the University of Texas-Austin's use of race as one of many factors in its consideration of a portion of its total admissions pool. The decision in this case will continue

the discussion on equal access that started over 50 years ago in *Brown v. Board of Education* and will ultimately decide whether American universities will continue to prepare all students for life in an increasingly diverse society and global marketplace.

Advancing Justice filed an amicus brief to support race-conscious admissions in higher education. We were joined by 74 organizations representing diverse sectors of the AAPI community. Our brief places the experience of Asian Americans and race-conscious admissions programs in context, describing how such programs have opened up higher education for AAPIs and other minorities.

FEDERAL CONTRACTING

AAJC established the Asian American Contractor Empowerment Program (AAJCEP) to defend and promote minority contractors. We concluded the program in 2011 and in early 2012, we produced a collection of testimonials from AAPI business owners about the barriers they face in public contracting. AAPIs continue to be excluded from government contracting programs in part because of a lack of statistics on the community. These testimonials illustrate the quantitative findings, identify sources of discrimination and counter race-neutral explanations for disparities in minority contracting programs.

We were joined by 74 organizations representing diverse sectors of the AAPI community.

Deputy Director Jacinta Ma speaking at the *Fisher* Rally outside the U.S. Supreme Court.



JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

AAJC continues to work publicly and behind the scenes to ensure that AAPIs are represented on the federal judiciary. Although our community has seen recent successes, AAPIs still only account for less than two percent of the federal judiciary and much more work remains. AAJC worked with the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association to support a public education initiative regarding AAPIs in the federal judiciary. In 2012, we witnessed the confirmations of Miranda Du, U.S. District Court (Dist. NV), John Z. Lee, U.S. District Court (ND Ill.), Jacqueline Nguyen, U.S.

Court of Appeals (9th Circuit) and Lorna Schofield, U.S. District Court (SDNY). We also saw the nominations of Sri Srinivasan, U.S. Court of Appeals (D.C. Circuit), Pamela Chen (EDNY) and Derrick Watson (Dist. Hawaii). Miranda Du is the first AAPI to serve as an Article III judge in Nevada. Jacqueline Nguyen is the first-ever Asian Pacific American female to serve as a federal appellate court judge anywhere in the nation. Lorna Schofield is the first Filipino Article III judge. If confirmed, Sri Srinivasan would be the first South Asian to serve as an appellate court judge and the first AAPI to serve on the D.C. Circuit.



AAJC developed PSAs for radio and television in 9 Asian languages.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: BROADBAND AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS

AAJC is a member of the Broadband Opportunity Coalition (BBOC), a historic alliance of national civil rights organizations formed to increase broadband adoption in unserved and underserved communities nationwide. Our BBOC partners include the National Urban League, the League of United Latin American Citizens, National Council of La Raza and the NAACP. BBOC continues to promote its national awareness campaign to educate communities about the benefits of broadband Internet. After the cost of Internet service, one of the main reasons individuals cite for not connecting to the Internet is the lack of its relevance to their lives. AAJC produced TV and radio public service announcements (PSAs) and informational materials in nine Asian languages to spread broadband awareness and to assist our partners in educating their local communities about the benefits of broadband Internet. Overall, BBOC PSAs have reached over 55 million Americans, worth an estimated \$2.7M of equivalent airtime.

In partnership with One Economy, AAJC also administers Digital Connectors programs, which educate and train youth to serve as technology trainers and ambassadors in underserved

communities with the goal of increasing broadband adoption and internet usage. The curriculum for this year's programs included focused modules on issues such as voting rights, media diversity and highlighting Asian American heroes. The programs' youth have collectively trained over 2,000 community members.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY

AAJC continues to serve as a member of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age. AAJC and its coalitional partners educated FCC members on the importance of ensuring that underserved members of our community benefited from recent expansions of the Universal Service Fund, which provides telecommunications services to rural areas and low cost telecommunications services to low income households. AAJC and our partners were successful in advocating against a budgetary cap that would have prevented some low income households from receiving this benefit.

AAJC also advised the FCC on ways to help close the digital divide. AAJC has partnered with the FCC to ensure that minority communities are aware of and benefit from the Connect-to-Compete

AAJC works to eliminate barriers to affordable health care and to ensure that culturally and linguistically appropriate health services are available to Asian Americans.

Community members show their support for the Affordable Care Act outside the U.S. Supreme Court.



public/private initiative, which is designed to connect low income families to the Internet by providing low cost broadband service and computer equipment.

Led by the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, AAJC has joined a first-of-its-kind coalition of national civil rights groups and media reform groups to advocate on telecommunications issues.

The coalition made significant progress in pushing the FCC to regulate abusive prison phone rates and improving the FCC's monitoring of the wireless industry's implementation of usage alerts to prevent bill shock.

AAJC and other coalitional members have also advocated against the FCC relaxing the media ownership rules which

would further exacerbate the low level of minority ownership of radio and television stations. Recently released FCC data show people of color own about 5 percent of full power TV stations and 5.7 percent of FM radio stations despite making up 35 percent of the U.S. population.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: HEALTH CARE

AAJC works to eliminate barriers to affordable health care and to ensure that culturally and linguistically appropriate health services are available to Asian Americans. As of mid-September, AAJC has welcomed a full-time staff member devoted to health care issues.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

For the first time in federal legislation, Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act provides broad non-discrimination protections for health programs receiving federal funding, including language access guarantees for limited English proficient individuals. AAJC is monitoring the implementation

of Section 1557. In 2013, we will be partnering with APALC to provide comments on regulations regarding Essential Health Benefits and how to prevent discrimination in the provision of employee wellness programs.

HEALTH CARE AND IMMIGRATION

Only non-citizens who are "lawfully present" qualify for many of the Affordable Care Act's new health programs, including insurance premium tax credits and the upcoming insurance exchanges. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) initially included individuals granted deferred action in its the definition of "lawfully present". However in August 2012,

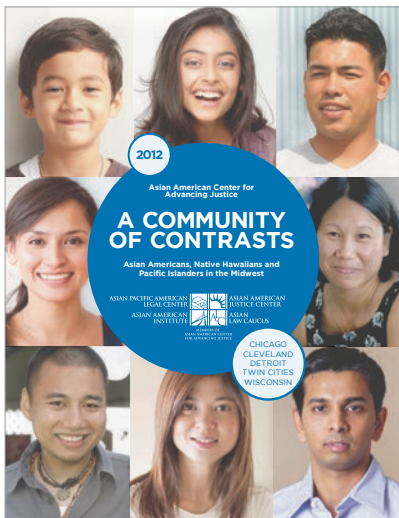
shortly after the DACA announcement, HHS issued a new rule that excluded these individuals from Affordable Care Act benefits.

AAJC has worked with its coalition partners to advocate for the reversal of HHS's decision. Immigrants are more likely to be uninsured than native citizens and are more likely to work in low-wage jobs that do not provide health insurance. In upcoming discussions of comprehensive immigration reform, AAJC will continue to advocate for equitable access to quality health care for immigrants.

Student leaders convene regularly to discuss issues of concern to their peers and share ideas on how to address these concerns.



AAJC Youth Advisory
Council Member



Midwest Demographic Report

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: CENSUS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

To ensure accurate data collection on our communities, AAJC works to address barriers that have historically resulted in the undercounting and underreporting of AAPIs in federal data collection and analysis efforts. As census data determines everything from federal funding for communities to congressional representation, it is vital that community members participate in these efforts.

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

The American Community Survey (ACS) is the only comprehensive effort to collect and present information on issues such as educational attainment, poverty, language ability and family size. It is critical that as many members of the Asian American community as possible complete the ACS to ensure that each community receives its fair share of government services.

AAJC has continued to educate community members about the importance of the ACS. In 2012, we partnered with AT&T to hold an ACS PSA contest. The winning video, which can be viewed on AAJC's website,

will be used to encourage community members to fill out the survey in order to ensure that their community receives the services and resources they need.

MIDWEST DEMOGRAPHIC REPORT

Advancing Justice released *A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in the Midwest*. The report compiles the latest data on growing communities in the Midwest region, highlighting Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Minneapolis-Saint Paul and Wisconsin to provide a fuller and richer portrait of the challenges that our communities face. Notably, the report provides disaggregated data on AAPI ethnic groups, which we hope will help support community leaders by providing them with the specific data they need to advocate for their community's needs.

We produced the report with the help of a number of local partners: American Citizens for Justice (Michigan); Asian Services in Action, Inc. (Ohio); Hmong American Partnership (Minnesota); the Wisconsin United Coalition of Mutual

Assistance Associations, Inc.; and the South Asian American Policy and Research Institute and AAI in Illinois. In addition to our national launch at the *Advancing Justice Conference* in Chicago, we worked with these partners to hold local launch events in each state.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

In 1995, AAJC founded its Community Partners Network in order to work more collaboratively with community-based organizations across the country. There are now more than 120 partners in 29 states and the District of Columbia. Our partners give us insight into the issues facing our very diverse community. With this insight, AAJC is able to develop materials and resources to help local groups respond to urgent issues and better assist underserved populations. The network is key in our public policy work and community education outreach on issues of importance for Asian Americans.

In 2012, our Community Partners were instrumental in supporting our voting rights and immigration programs. Using materials developed by AAJC with input from our partners on the ground, members of the network helped ensure that their local community members knew their rights at the polls on Election Day. AAJC also educated community leaders about the potential impact of state-level efforts to change immigration law. We have looked to our Community Partners to help provide information to the community about DACA and resources for the application process. In 2013, we look forward to expanding and strengthening our partnerships in many states, including intensive engagement with our Community Partners to advocate for reform of our immigration laws.

YOUTH NETWORK

With support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, AAJC established its Youth Network in 2010 to provide opportunities for young leaders to make a difference in their local communities. To lead the

network, we created the Youth Advisory Council (YAC). These student leaders convene regularly to discuss issues of concern to their peers, share ideas on how to address these concerns and develop resources to better support student organizing.

The YAC organized and helped to promote several events to raise awareness about racism and hate crimes among students. In recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Los Angeles Riots, the YAC organized a national online town hall, "Responding to Racism: 20 Years after Saigu." "Sa-I-Gu" is Korean for "4-2-9," the date that civil unrest first broke out. In June, they organized viewing parties for a national online event that featured civil rights leaders – including our own Mee Moua – who spoke about the fight for justice for Vincent Chin and organizing in the Asian American community. Speakers also discussed how these experiences relate to present day issues of bullying, recent hate crimes and our ongoing work for civil rights and social justice.

For the 2012 general election, the YAC launched an online campaign entitled "Why Youth Vote" to show youth commitment to the political process and to encourage others to vote. Students were invited to post photos with their own "I Vote Because" messages on the AAJC Youth Network Facebook page and encourage their family members and friends to vote as well. Over 100 students joined the campaign, reaching over 6,000 individuals at its height.



AAJC Youth Advisory Council



Youth Advisory Council members discuss student mobilization strategies at their annual retreat.

AMERICAN COURAGE AWARDS



Curtis Chin, Becky Pringle and Jim Shee at the *American Courage Awards*.

A SPECIAL EVENING TO CELEBRATE LEADERS IN OUR COMMUNITY

October 18 was a memorable night for AAJC as we recognized three well-deserving honorees in front of a crowd of more than 300 at our 16th annual *American Courage Awards* in Washington, DC.

MSNBC anchor Richard Lui presided over the festivities as the Master of Ceremonies, and Paul W. Lee, chair of AAJC's Board of Directors, delivered the evening's opening remarks. We honored Jim Shee, a plaintiff in *Valle del Sol v. Whiting, et. al.*, with the evening's title award, the *American Courage Award*, for his leadership in the Asian American community and activism in fighting discriminatory policies. The *Distinguished Service Award* was presented to Curtis Chin in commendation of his

work in producing "Vincent Who?", a film that has been integral to educating others about anti-Asian violence and the importance of pan-ethnic coalition building. Becky Pringle accepted the *Bridge Builder Award* on behalf of the National Education Association for its leadership in addressing the needs of the English Language Learner community and empowering students of all backgrounds to fulfill their academic potentials.

The program also featured remarks from Stewart Kwoh, founding president and executive director of APALC; Frank H. Wu, chair of AAJC's National Advisory Council and chancellor and dean of UC Hastings College of Law; and Gregory Cendana, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO.

AAJC would like to thank all of our generous sponsors who made this special event possible:

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Starbucks Coffee Company

And many more!

We appreciate the commitment of our supporters to ensuring the continuance, growth and reach of our work. We look forward to continuing our partnerships as we advance the rights of the Asian American community.

ADVANCING JUSTICE CONFERENCE

13

MIDWEST DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE IS RELEASED TO MORE THAN 500 CONFERENCE ATTENDEES.

The members of Advancing Justice hosted the 4th annual *Advancing Justice Conference* from September 27-28 in Chicago, IL. The conference brought over 500 participants from across the country to Chicago to discuss current issues, challenges and opportunities facing the growing Asian American community.

Labor organizer and activist Ai-jen Poo delivered the conference's keynote address, kicking off two full days of programming, which included workshops, caucus sessions, plenary sessions as well as film screenings. On the second morning of the conference, Senator Richard Durbin joined community leaders and shared his hopes for immigration reform at the "DREAM Act and Comprehensive Immigration Reform" plenary. The conference also served as the forum for the launch of Advancing Justice's Midwest demographic profile, *A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in the Midwest*.

Members of Advancing Justice would like to recognize the following sponsors for making the conference possible:

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Conference participants
gather for dinner in Chicago's
historic Chinatown.

We hope you will join us November 14-16,
2013, for the 5th annual *Advancing Justice
Conference* in Los Angeles, CA!

Executive Director Mee Moua
speaking at the conference.



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THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS NETWORK CONSISTS OF MORE THAN 120 ORGANIZATIONS IN 29 STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2012 WITH SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR 2011

	2012			2011	
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Total
REVENUE					
Contributions	\$ 94,625	\$ 2,416,110	\$ -	\$ 2,510,735	\$3,979,348
Investment income (Note 2)	771	-	-	771	2,463
Special event	359,969	-	-	359,969	477,810
Rental income (Note 5)	30,121	-	-	30,121	29,520
Other income	14,730	-	-	14,730	16,127
Net assets released from donor restrictions (Note 4)	3,961,834	(3,961,834)	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	4,462,050	(1,545,724)	-	2,916,326	4,505,268
EXPENSES					
Program Services:					
Affirmative Action	10,331	-	-	10,331	351,271
Anti Asian Violence and Race Relations	14,373	-	-	14,373	4,715
Census	168,549	-	-	168,549	226,642
Community Partners	1,229,919	-	-	1,229,919	815,410
Immigration and Immigrant Rights	380,705	-	-	380,705	561,709
Lobbying	13,157	-	-	13,157	72,829
Strategic Planning	261,702	-	-	261,702	290,791
Television Diversity	7,791	-	-	7,791	33,941
Voting Rights	1,356,591	-	-	1,356,591	489,769
Litigation	105,239	-	-	105,239	100,564
Broadband	272,495	-	-	272,495	522,851
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	3,820,852	-	-	3,820,852	3,470,492
Supporting Services:					
Management and General	89,735	-	-	89,735	131,455
Fundraising	521,626	-	-	521,626	532,799
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	611,361	-	-	611,361	664,254
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,432,213	-	-	4,432,213	4,134,746
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	29,837	(1,545,724)	-	(1,515,887)	370,522
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	710,447	5,928,089	32,315	6,670,851	6,300,329
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 740,284	\$ 4,382,365	\$ 32,315	\$ 5,154,964	\$6,670,851

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