

POWER IN COMMUNITY

Impact Report | 2021-2023





Mission

AAPI Equity Alliance is dedicated to improving the lives of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders through civic engagement, capacity building, and policy advocacy.

Vision

AAPI Equity Alliance envisions an abundant world where AAPIs thrive in safe, healthy, and strong communities, where they are empowered to live authentically.

Values

Equity
Optimistic Transformation
Authenticity
Unity
Community Engagement



On the cover:

This design reflects AAPI Equity Alliance's values and commitment to equity, unity and diversity.

Dear Friends,

Asian American and Pacific Islander communities experienced unprecedented demands over the past three years as we responded to the COVID-19 pandemic and the alarming surge in hate towards AAPIs. The strength of our coalition of 49 member organizations was tested and AAPI Equity Alliance grew and transformed. The Community Impact Report captures this historic time and shares the stories of our communities and partners.

Member organizations served on the frontlines for communities in need and we co-founded **Stop AAPI Hate** with Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) and San Francisco State University, creating the largest national reporting center tracking Anti-Asian hate incidents. **Stop AAPI Hate** is committed to ending racism against AAPIs and advancing the multiracial movement for equity and justice.

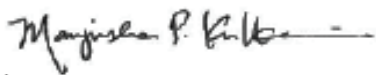
The profound resiliency and perseverance demonstrated by our member organizations during the pandemic compelled us to reassess our former Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON) identity and to envision our future as a powerful coalition. In 2021, we proudly embraced a bold new name: **AAPI Equity Alliance**, an identity that captures our mission and the strength and impact of our members.

With a new look and refined mission, we pay tribute to the legacy of our visionary leaders, the “Asian Lunch Bunch” founders, while reaffirming our priorities towards advocating for racial equity, health equity, and civic engagement for AAPI communities.

The milestones we share are made possible through the vision and dedication of our coalition. Together with our member organizations, partners, and local and state agencies, we continue our commitment to improving the lives of AAPI communities of Los Angeles.

Thank you for your support of AAPI Equity Alliance and welcome to our *Community Impact Report*.

Yours,



Manjusha P. Kulkarni
Executive Director



Rachelle Arizmendi
Board President



Manjusha P. Kulkarni



Rachelle Arizmendi



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50 Years: Building Community Power

By Ron Wakabayashi, Founding Board Member

We started as the “Asian Lunch Bunch” nearly 50 years ago and since then, AAPI Equity Alliance has evolved into a powerful advocacy coalition. But we had humble beginnings. In the 1960s, the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community was small in numbers, perceived as a monolithic model minority, and lacked visibility and a voice. In response, a small group of passionate AAPI activists banded together, united in the fight for community power and access to cultural and linguistic health and social services.

Whenever our dynamic group met over lunch, we discussed the challenges our communities were facing and shared our lessons, successes, networks and resources. We informally became known as the “Lunch Bunch.”

Genuine friendships and mutual respect for each other were the foundation for the “Lunch Bunch.” Community leaders, whom I’m honored to have the privilege of calling my friends and colleagues, became accidental “pioneers” for AAPI communities today and who were the leaders of grassroots efforts and organizations during the 1960s in Los Angeles—including Kerry Doi, Sumi Haru, Herb Hatanaka, Kay Kokubun, Al Mendoza, Jim Miyano, Roy Morales, Ella Quon, Dick Wong, Phoebe Yee and Helen Young, to name a few.

President Lyndon B. Johnson’s signing of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and implementation of the Great Society program gave us new momentum. For the first time, we witnessed federal support for minority communities to eliminate racial injustice and build equity. We seized this historic opportunity to change the lives of our communities experiencing poverty, injustice, and lack of access to culturally competent services.

We pushed for local grassroots organizations to address the uniquely specific needs of our growing and diverse AAPI communities with culturally competent services and care. We supported each other’s organizational growth and success, forming a strong network that contributed to our impact as an AAPI coalition back then and what continues today.

AAPI Equity Alliance continues the vision of its founders—building community power and leading initiatives that promote cross-community solidarity. I am grateful to witness AAPI Equity’s leading voice for our AAPI communities, staying true to the “Lunch Bunch’s” roots of advocacy, belonging, inclusivity, gratitude and respect.



Reimagining Our Future





ur powerful movement began in 1976 when the “Asian Lunch Bunch” convened to address urgent commitment to meet the needs of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) and became the Asian Pacific Planning Council.

Two decades later, we formalized our focus on critical policy advocacy work that was in our new name, the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON). Our sense of urgency grew and we experienced tremendous growth as more organizations joined, reflecting the diversity of AAPIs in Los Angeles.

In 2021, we became AAPI Equity Alliance, a name that boldly reflects our growth, mission and passion. Through the unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and rise of anti-AAPI hate violence, we experienced transformative change and a newfound role as a movement leader in the AAPI community, locally and nationally. Our focus centers on three key issue areas: racial equity, health equity and civic engagement.

AAPI Equity Alliance is dedicated to achieving equity for all AAPIs in Los Angeles County and beyond. Our work will not end until all our communities are safe from hate, violence and racism.



Fighting for Racial Equity



In February 2020, an Asian American middle school student in Los Angeles was horrifically punched 20 times in the head by a fellow student who taunted, “you’re a Coronavirus carrier, go back to China.” This was the nation’s first reported case of race-based hate related to the coronavirus disease and before any single confirmed case of COVID-19 in Southern California. AAPI Equity Alliance immediately brought local elected officials and community leaders together to alert the public that the surge of anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) hate acts would not be tolerated.



More than **11,400** stories of hate reported to **Stop AAPI Hate** in 3 years, revealing the **alarming rise of hate** against the AAPI community and driving advocacy towards **effective solutions.**

On March 19, 2020, AAPI Equity Alliance, Chinese for Affirmative Action and the Asian American Studies Department at San Francisco State University launched Stop AAPI Hate. Within the first two weeks, an alarming 1,000+ reports of hate and discrimination were reported and to date, Stop AAPI Hate has received reports of more than 11,400 hate acts through its online portal accessible in 15 AAPI languages. Before Stop AAPI Hate, these acts of hate were often not reported or under-reported. Stop AAPI Hate is advocating for community-centered, non-carceral solutions and increased investment to address hate and violence in our communities. Through data and story collection, AAPI stories are powering policy solutions for the pervasive racism and discrimination impacting AAPI communities.

“At CA vs. Hate, we recognized the importance of looking to and learning from community-based organizations that have earned the trust of the communities we want to serve. AAPI Equity provided critical insight and information throughout the process of developing and launching CA vs. Hate. AAPI Equity continues to make sure that the experience of AAPI communities and other communities targeted for hate are at the center of our work combating hate and meeting the needs of victims, survivors, and their families.”

— Becky Monroe, Deputy Director, California Civil Rights Department, lead agency for CA vs. Hate

With Stop AAPI Hate in 2022, AAPI Equity Alliance also co-led *No Place for Hate California*, a package of policy proposals, to secure historic legislation to make public transit and local businesses safer and more accessible for all. The pioneer campaign addressed racialized and sexualized verbal harassment experienced by AAPIs through a gender-based, public health and civil rights approach.



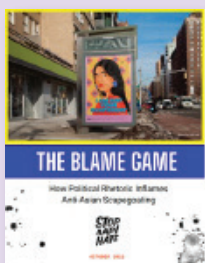
Healing From Hate and Racial Trauma

In 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law the Asian Pacific Islander (API) Equity Budget of \$166 million, a monumental initiative led by the California Asian & Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus to combat the rise of anti-Asian hate. Of those funds, \$110 million was dedicated to Stop the Hate, a program administered by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and in consultation with the Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs. In August 2023, CDSS awarded an additional \$91.4 million to 173 organizations. AAPI Equity Alliance supports 42 grantees as Regional Lead for LA County, including 20 AAPI Equity member organizations.

California's **Stop the Hate** program stands as a pillar, supporting **200 community organizations** to deliver services and support to survivors of hate and to **forge healthy, safe and resilient communities.**

“While we are just getting started, we have already seen the impact of these funds in communities throughout California due to the work of the many community-based organizations and nonprofits who are grantees of the API Equity Budget.”

— Assemblymember Phil Ting (AD-19), Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee



Perpetrators of hate incidents toward AAPIs repeat rhetoric they hear from public officials, blaming China for the public health crises, economic downturns, national security concerns.



LEARN MORE:

The Blame Game: How Political Rhetoric Inflames Anti-Asian Scapegoating



Stop AAPI Hate commissioned NORC at the University of Chicago to conduct a landmark national AAPI survey to document civil rights discrimination.



LEARN MORE:

Righting Wrongs: How Civil Rights Can Protect Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Against Racism

Elders in the community were disproportionately affected by hate incidents, ranging from verbal harassment to physical attacks. Cinthya Islas, a clinical social worker from Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles, helped an elderly woman who endured racist and xenophobic slurs from her neighbors. “We prepared Elder Abuse Restraining Order (EARO) forms and accompanied her to the courthouse to file them, and guided her throughout the process to serve her neighbors,” said Islas.

Our work also addresses the mental health impacts of racism. Through the Transformative Grant Initiative, we build capacity for organizations in anti-hate work and promote change in their communities. AAPI Equity Alliance partnered with member organizations **Asian Pacific Counseling and**



In response to the **fear, shame and cultural stigma** that AAPI communities endure racial trauma, **AAPI Equity Alliance** is developing a first-of-its-kind intervention tool, **Healing Our People through Engagement** (HOPE), to **address mental health impacts** of anti-Asian hate.



“The culturally sensitive support we offered at KAC-LA made possible by Stop the Hate, empowered her [a community member] to speak out about her experience and also inspired her to become an advocate for reporting hate incidents.”

— Eunice Song, Executive Director, Korean American Coalition – Los Angeles



Treatment Centers, Little Tokyo Service Center, Koreatown Youth and Community Center, Pacific Asian Counseling Services and Search to Involve Pilipino Americans to address the impact of racial trauma in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Cambodian and Filipino communities.

Responding to Tragedy

Tragically, AAPI communities across the country experienced mass shootings in Atlanta, Georgia; Indianapolis, Indiana; Monterey Park, California; Half Moon Bay, California; and Allen, Texas; leaving victims, families and survivors experiencing deep pain and loss. The tragedy in Monterey Park, which claimed eleven lives on the eve of Lunar New Year in 2023, hit close to home here in our local AAPI community.

Chinatown Service Center (CSC) and Asian Pacific Community Fund (APCF) were on the ground immediately providing support and services to the families of the victims and witnesses of the shooting. AAPI Equity Alliance partnered with **Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California** and **APCF, CSC, The Asian American Foundation** and Gold House, to establish a GoFundMe



"Since 2019, AAPI Equity's contribution has been exceptional, as we strive to protect communities of color and others targeted by bigotry and discrimination in Los Angeles County. I applaud their leadership in creating a nationwide reporting system for hate incidents through Stop AAPI Hate. "

— Robin Toma, Executive Director, LA County Commission on Human Relations, lead agency for LA vs. Hate



AAPI Equity Alliance developed a resource directory in **nine languages** and supported a GoFundMe campaign that raised **\$1.4 million for victims, survivors and families** impacted by the Monterey Park tragedy.

fundraiser for Monterey Park victims and their families. The fund distributed \$1.4 million to families of victims. AAPI Equity Alliance members collaborated to quickly respond and prepare a multilingual directory of resources, including mental health services, emergency food and legal aid.

"I commend AAPI Equity Alliance for their leadership and advocacy on behalf of our AANHPI community. Through Stop AAPI Hate, the AAPI Equity team has directed our nation's focus to fight the surge of hate against our community and stronger civil rights protections. Their work during the tragedy in Monterey Park was particularly impactful and I thank them for their relentless efforts on behalf of our communities."

— Rep. Judy Chu (CA-28), Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Chair



Congresswoman Judy Chu, Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and Secretary Xavier Becerra after the Monterey Park tragedy.

AAPJ Equity Alliance by the Numbers

\$25 million+

grants to AAPJ Equity and partners for California's Stop The Hate initiative.

50% of grantees are AAPJ Equity Alliance members.

1.4 million

AAPJs (15.8% of the population) in LA County were served.

"The impact of the AAPJ Equity Alliance's work is truly immeasurable to building a stronger democracy for us all. Their advocacy for policy reforms and resources that address hate crimes amplify the voices of the communities they serve. Their remarkable ability to mobilize and unite diverse groups is a testament to their exceptional leadership."

— Deborah Ching, former Executive Director, Chinatown Service Center

800,000+

LA County residents served through Community Health Worker Outreach Initiative.

13

new vote centers established in Chinatown and Koreatown through AAPJ Equity Alliance's Civic Engagement Task Force advocacy efforts.

"After nearly 30 years of involvement with AAPJ Equity Alliance as staff and board member, I am most proud of its accomplishments over the past three years. Under Manju's leadership, the organization emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing anti-Asian violence to bring national attention to the dual crises. It has helped countless individuals seek assistance and redress and has expanded its capacity to become one of the premiere advocates for the rights of the AAPJ Community."

— Dennis Arguelles, Southern California Director, National Parks Conservation Association



7

local elected officials' offices benefitted from AAPI Resume Bank.

400,000

LA County voters reached in 6 languages through text banking efforts.

"The AAPI Equity Alliance has faced the danger and opportunity presented by the COVID pandemic crisis and has grown as a resource and effective force for advocating for the APIA community. Kudos to Manju and the staff and volunteers who have pushed the AAPI Equity Alliance to a greater strength and effectiveness - you have taken what I knew as A3PCON and brought it to a higher level!"

— Bill Watanabe, founding Executive Director, Little Tokyo Service Center, former A3PCON Board President



7

AAPI languages are available in AAPI Equity Alliance's resource directory to support Monterey Park victims and community members.

"As board president for three terms when AAPI Equity Alliance was known as A3PCON, I am proud of their remarkable growth, advocating for AAPI and vulnerable populations in LA County for almost five decades. The trust and cooperation among the API agencies is a tribute to its members. The impact of the Stop the Hate and COVID funding demonstrated how it can stand against violence and systemic inequities."

— Mariko Kahn, Secretary, Board of Directors, Cambodia Town, Inc.; former Executive Director, Pacific Asian Counseling Services; former A3PCON Board President

Closing the Health Equity Gap



With the alarming rise of anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) hate and increasing misinformation and uncertainty around COVID-19, AAPI Equity Alliance activated their rapid response services, resources and information to protect our communities' well-being and safety.

Unsung Heroes of the Pandemic

Lack of resources and care exacerbated by the pandemic hit our most vulnerable communities the hardest. The Community Health Worker (CHW) Outreach Initiative, supported by the California Community Foundation and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, provided essential resources to member organizations who became the lifeline for AAPI communities during the pandemic.



Community Health Workers are essential lifelines for AAPI communities, providing **in-language and culturally appropriate health services** to keep communities **healthy and safe**.

"This vital infrastructure has effectively fought the pandemic and can be used to combat other public health emergencies. It must be sustained."

— Doreena Wong, Policy Director, Asian Resources, Inc.



The unpredictability of the pandemic required flexibility, nimbleness and ingenuity. CHWs reached more than 800,000 people across Los Angeles County's diverse communities, including Latinx, Black, LGBTQ+ and unhoused community members through nearly 13,000 outreach activities.

The Health Collaborative, a group of 100+ member-based CHWs led by **Asian Resources, Inc.** and **Pacific Asian Counseling Services**, deployed approximately 90 CHWs to provide culturally and linguistically competent outreach, health education, and vaccine distribution in Los Angeles County, dispensing more than 250,000 units of personal protective equipment (PPE), and connecting residents with rent and utility relief programs and healthcare navigation.

Addressing Domestic Violence

Quarantine orders and shutdown policies created higher risks of domestic violence (DV). In partnership with **Center for the Pacific Asian Family**, AAPI Equity Alliance established the Domestic Violence Prevention Project to address and prevent violence in Asian American communities where discussing DV is taboo. The Project identified gender equity and empathy as two factors necessary to break cycles of violence and create healthier relationships.



Stories of Impact from Community Health Workers

"Her kids had told her not to get vaccinated. I reminded her of the measles outbreak and the influenza pandemic, which she had lived through in Samoa. Finally, she was fully vaccinated and brought her husband as well. For the Pacific Islander community, it's crucial to meet them where they are, mentally and physically."

— Meilyn Thompson, Community Health Worker, Empowering Pacific Islander Communities

"We received calls for drop-off care packages filled with PPE, food, and necessities. I could see their fear as they slowly opened the door. No one was doing outreach to them."

— Sally Chau, Community Health Worker, Asian Pacific Counseling and Treatment Centers

"With two children, this family had no income after losing their family restaurant during the pandemic. We helped them access food, utility assistance, and internet service."

— Xuanyu Zhu, Community Health Worker, Asian Youth Center

During a time of deep isolation, the **Domestic Violence Prevention Project** identified **gender equity and empathy** as two key factors in **stopping violence across generations**.

Sithea San, Cambodian focus group facilitator and Board Chair for Community Health Education at **Pacific Asian Counseling Services**, created culturally tailored programs that included reconciling generational differences to build connections and rapport, and develop healthy habits to express love and care. An 80-year-old Cambodian immigrant seeking support to connect and communicate with his granddaughter shared, “I tried asking her what she was doing on her phone and she was suspicious. But after I kept trying, she opened up and even offered to help me while I was cooking.”

“Knowing what each community is experiencing and what they need is important as we work to break the cycle of violence.”

— Sarah Khan, Director of Programs, Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence (API-GBV)

Sopheha Chim, a 38-year-old mother of three children under ten years old, had difficulty reacting to situations without raising her voice. The program encouraged community members to reflect on their life experiences and origins to create healthier habits. “The bad memories were hard to relive, but because of everything I learned, I knew it would be beneficial to overcome,” described Chim on her upbringing. “To hear the stories and experiences from each family was valuable.” Today, she continues to practice mindfulness of her emotions and step away from situations before things become overwhelming.



AAPI Equity's Community Health Worker Outreach provided services, resources and information to protect our communities' well-being and safety.



LEARN MORE

All Hands on Deck: How LA's AAPI CBOs Addressed Health Inequities through Culturally Competent COVID-19 Outreach and Education Strategies



Learn more about the impact of AAPI Equity's Blue Shield of California: Domestic Violence Prevention Project



LEARN MORE

Relationship Violence in Five Los Angeles Asian American Communities: Intergenerational Risk and Strengthening Factors and Preventing Domestic Violence in Four Asian American Communities with a Gender Equity and Empathy

Building Community Power





ur coalition has a long history of building community power and advocating for laws, policies and budgets that are inclusive of diverse communities and advance the wellbeing of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) throughout Los Angeles County. During the pandemic, we mobilized community members and delivered an urgent call to action to end the rising hate against AAPIs through civic engagement and coalition building with member organizations, community leaders, allies and government agencies.



With the **Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Census Collaborative**, we mobilized AAPI communities to **complete the 2020 Census** to ensure our diverse communities were **accurately counted** and **represented**.

“AAPI Equity’s leadership to advancing equity and combating anti-AAPI hate has been pivotal in shaping public policies and programs to improve the lives of AAPIs. Their efforts continue to inspire me as we work towards a more inclusive future for our region.”

— Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Los Angeles County First District Supervisor

2020 Census

In partnership with the Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Census Collaborative, AAPI Equity Alliance organized 19 partner organizations to raise awareness and increase response rates in hard-to-reach AAPI communities for the 2020 Census. The 2020 Census was also the first time Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer+ (LGBTQ+) individuals would be counted if they were in marriages or partnerships. To ensure AAPI LGBTQ+ community members were represented, **Asian Pacific Islander Equality - Los Angeles (API Equality LA)** conducted tailored community outreach with funding from the California Community Foundation of Los Angeles. They implemented text-banking efforts to reach 20,000 residents and organized safe spaces to learn about the Census by hosting drag trivia nights.



Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC) and Visual Communications, produced two videos featuring Queer and Trans Asian Pacific Islander (QTAPI) voices to promote the significance of the 2020 Census. Jessica Baker, Lead Organizer at **API Equality LA**, recalls that “[the people] who worked on this initiative felt a strong sense of empowerment. It was a community-driven effort.”

With the AANHPI Census Collaborative, we focused on reaching AANHPI communities who have had historically lower self-response rates below the national average. Ninety cars adorned with in-language posters drove through the neighborhoods of Koreatown, Thai Town, Chinatown, and Cambodia Town to raise awareness about the 2020 Census.

Redistricting Reform

Redistricting in Los Angeles is a process to redraw the lines of political districts that occurs every 10 years. These district boundaries impact voting and community power. As a member of the People’s Bloc and the AAPI & Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) Redistricting Collaborative, we advocated for equitable representation to accurately capture our community’s diversity and develop equitable district maps.



Through **coalition building** and **community dialogue**, the **integrity** of historic AAPI communities, was preserved in **Koreatown, Historic Filipinotown, Thai Town, Little Tokyo** and **Chinatown**.

In 2011, the district map split Koreatown, a majority Korean and Latinx population, into four separate districts, weakening the districts’ voting and civic power and dividing communities of color. A decade later in 2021, **Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California, EPIC, Filipino Migrant Center, Korean American Coalition – Los**

Angeles (KAC-LA), Koreatown Youth & Community Center, Korean American Family Services, Little Tokyo Service Center and Thai Community Development Center engaged AAPI communities in redistricting reform efforts to ensure equitable representation.

In the South Bay, we worked with coalitions to ensure that redistricting was inclusive of the Tongan community and kept Inglewood, Lennox and Hawthorne together. We uplifted the diverse AAPI communities in the San Gabriel Valley, advocating for uniting its western communities while keeping its eastern communities together.

Aspiring toward a true multiracial democracy, we joined Organize Unite Reform (OUR) LA to convene Angelenos to transform Los Angeles' political systems for just representation. AAPI Equity Alliance's role was critical in representing the AAPI community in cross-racial conversations influencing the future of Los Angeles.

Prior to the 2022 primary election, public outcry erupted in Koreatown and Chinatown, when the LA County Registrar revealed that there were no vote centers in these neighborhoods. Godfrey Plata, AAPI Equity's Civic Engagement consultant and Koreatown resident, said "the absence of vote centers in these communities creates barriers for vulnerable populations who are not only deprived of the convenience to vote in-person but also feel unsafe due to the prevalence of anti-AAPI hate and COVID-19."

AAPI Equity Alliance with **KAC-LA** and **Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE)** championed efforts to identify and secure locations for vote centers in the two ethnic enclaves.



"AAPI Equity Alliance has remained steadfast in their commitment to serve AAPI communities and uplift all marginalized voices. At the 2023 Stop the Hate Convening, I witnessed their leadership towards a more just, equitable, and welcoming California."

— Assemblymember Mike Fong (AD-49), Vice Chair, California Asian & Pacific Islander (API) Legislative Caucus



Increasing AAPI Voter and Civic Engagement

In 2022, the newly established AAPI Equity Alliance Civic Engagement Task Force developed a voter guide and one-page flier offering analysis and recommendations for 13 local and state ballot measures. The guide was translated into Spanish and 13 Asian languages including Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Punjabi, Samoan, Tagalog, Thai, Tongan, Urdu and Vietnamese.

In Los Angeles County and key battleground states, AAPI voters continued to emerge as a political force with the power to sway elections. We hosted Asian media briefings to provide analysis and guidance on ballot measures' impact on the AAPI community, including expert commentary from AAPI Equity Alliance partners: **CAUSE**, APIAVote and the Check the Sheriff Coalition.



To eliminate systemic barriers to voting, **AAPI Equity Alliance's Civic Engagement Task Force** secured **three additional vote centers** for historic AAPI communities through **swift action, collaboration and advocacy**.



"It takes a lot of hard work but civic engagement pays off. It ultimately helps organizations advocate on the various issues that are important to the AAPI community."

— Christine Chen, Executive Director, Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote (APIAVote)



The **AAPI Equity Alliance Voter Guide** provided critical information in **15 languages** regarding **13 ballot measures** and became our most clicked link, with more than **1,300 site visits**, leading up to the **2022 General Election**.

The **AAPI Resume Bank** — a resource dedicated to **bridging the gap** between AAPIs and career opportunities at all levels of government — consists of more than **100 AAPIs** who seek to share their lived experiences in public service to create a more **just and inclusive society**.

Although accessing and navigating government systems can be challenging, AAPI representation in government is essential to ensure our communities' voices and perspectives are included. As of 2023, AAPIs make up 12% of Los Angeles City and 16% of Los Angeles County's total population, yet we are underrepresented in appointed and elected positions. To bridge this gap, we created the AAPI Resume Bank and Teach-In Series to increase access and participation in local government.

The AAPI Resume Bank was a pipeline and resource for 7 local government offices to identify experienced AAPI professionals for leadership and employment opportunities, such as appointments to commissions and boards. With LA vs. Hate funding, we created the Teach-In Series to activate community members and encourage participation in local government. More than 300 participated in the series, exploring how to effectively engage with officials and understand the Los Angeles County budget.



AAPI Equity Alliance **engages AAPIs in local government and politics** through our new initiative, the **Los Angeles County Teach-In Series**.



Leadership

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An Le, Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC)

MENTAL HEALTH

Trang Hoang, Special Service for Groups (SSG)

Mahtab Javed Siddiqui, South Asian Network (SAN)

HEALTH

Myron Dean Quon, Pacific Asians Counseling Services (PACS)

Doreena Wong, Asian Resources, Inc. (ARI)

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Chancee Martorell, Thai Community Development Center (Thai CDC)

Panida Rzonda, Thai Community Development Center (Thai CDC)

OLDER ADULTS

Amy Phillips, Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC)

Yvonne Sun, Special Service for Groups (SSG)

Member Organizations

Access to Prevention Advocacy Intervention & Treatment (APAIT)

API Forward Movement (APIFM)

The Asian American Drug Abuse Program: AADAP

Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Southern California (Advancing Justice-Socal)

Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center (APADRC)

Asian Pacific American Legislative Staff Network (APALS)

Asian Pacific Counseling and Treatment Centers (APCTC)

Asian Pacific Islander Reentry & Inclusion Through Support & Empowerment (API Rise)

Asian Pacific Islander Small Business Program

Asian Pacific Islanders for LGBTQ Equality - Los Angeles Chapter (API Equality – LA)

Asian Resources, Inc. (ARI)

Asian Youth Center (AYC)

California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative

Cambodia Town, Inc. (CT)

Cambodian Association of America (CAA)

Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE)

Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF)

Chinatown Service Center (CSC)

Chinese American Citizens Alliance Los Angeles (C.A.C.A)

Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST)

Dignity Health St. Mary Medical Center (Common Spirit, FIGH)

Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC)

Faith and Community Empowerment (FACE)

Filipino Migrant Center (FMC)

Khmer Girls in Action (KGA)

Korean American Coalition – Los Angeles Chapter (KAC-LA)

Korean American Family Services (KFAM)

Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance (KIWA)

Koreatown Youth & Community Center (KYCC)

KW Lee Center for Leadership

Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc. (LEAP)

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC)

National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse (NAPAFASA)

Organization of Chinese Americans - Greater Los Angeles (OCA-GLA)

Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE)

Pacific Asian Counseling Services (PACS)

Pacific Clinics - Asian Pacific Family Center (APFC)

Saahas for Cause

Search to Involve Pilipino Americans (SIPA)

SmartAir LA

South Asian Network (SAN)

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UCLA Asian American Studies Center (UCLA AASC)

United Cambodian Community, Inc. (UCC)

USC Asian Pacific American Student Services (USC APASS)



Appreciation

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