

The Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific
Islander Affairs (OAPIA)

Community Grant Report FY09

I. Introduction

The Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) is in its 3rd year of providing funding to Asian Pacific Islander-led community-based organizations (CBOs) through the API Community Grant which began in FY07.

The API Community Grant started when a number of Asian Pacific Islander-led community-based organizations (CBOs) and the Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (the Commission) requested that the Mayor to support earmarking funds as part of the Mayor's proposed FY07 Budget. These funds were to support CBOs who provide vital services to the District's API residents. As a result, the Mayor and the Council approved the allocation of \$250,000 for community grants targeting vital services to the District's API residents. OAPIA was given the responsibility of administering and managing these community grants. The funds were intended to enhance existing and startup programs focused on improving Asian and Pacific Islanders' need in health, education, legal services and employment. In FY09, the grant was increased to \$276,000.

II. Grant Process

In FY09, OAPIA conducted its grant process in-house. OAPIA used the District's current grant guidelines from the Office of Contracts and Procurement, as well as, Federal guidelines as a basis for the review process and developing the Request for Proposal (RFP).

A. Informing the Public of Funding Availability

OAPIA notified the public of its community grant through OAPIA's website, emails to its listservs, and the Office of Partnerships and Grants Development's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The notification targeted CBOs providing services to underserved API residents, particularly linguistically isolated, in four areas of need: health, education, employment, and legal services.

OAPIA held a Pre-Application Conference on August 10, 2008 at 441 4th Street NW, 11th Floor Conference Room. Sixteen people, representing 10 CBOs, attended the conference. We guided participants through the grant application and the review process. A questions and answers (Q&A) session followed the presentation. OAPIA posted the Q&A session on its website for potential applicants reference. In addition, OAPIA provided CBOs with individual meetings/conference calls if they had additional questions.

B. Application Review Process

OAPIA recruited five grant reviewers using different resources (e.g., Office of Grants and Partnership's newsletter, emails to the community leaders, and its network of professionals). The review panel was composed of "neutral, qualified individuals selected for their experiences in job training, education, training health care, social services, human services, and the fields of evaluation planning and implementation" as stated in the RFP. Reviewers were chosen because

of their experience/knowledge in different areas that included, but were not limited to education, public health, youth services, nonprofits, and evaluation. Three weeks prior to the grant review meetings, reviewers were mailed a slate of applications to review, score, and comment. Each application received at least two independent reviews.

Final scores for each application were developed based on the average of all the reviewers' scores. (Some OAPIA staff also reviewed all applications to provide context, but their assessment was not included in the reviewers' scores.) The review panel submitted the recommendation for funding to OAPIA. After reviewing the recommendations and any other information considered relevant, OAPIA allocated appropriate funding amount and notified successful applicants.

III. Grant Awardees

Seven out of the eight* community-based organizations received community grants through OAPIA grant process. Each grantee provides a vital service to the API community. Below are profiles of the seven CBOs that received grants from OAPIA:

- **Asian American Leadership Empowerment and Development (AALEAD)**
Funding Priority Area: Youth Services (\$30,000)

Asian American LEAD's overarching goal is to increase the opportunities and ability of low-income Asian American children to move out of poverty and become successful, self-sufficient adults. It firmly believes that education is the key to meeting this goal and seeks to promote the well-being of Asian American youth and families through education, leadership development, and community-building. AALEAD focuses on the Vietnamese, Amerasian, and Chinese immigrant and refugee communities in the Mt. Pleasant, Columbia Heights, and Shaw neighborhoods of Washington, DC.

- **Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center (APALRC)**
Funding Priority Area: Legal Services (\$58,000)

The Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center (APALRC) is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the legal and civil rights of Asian Americans in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan community through direct services, education, and advocacy. Through its innovative programs and strategic partnerships, the APALRC's main goals are two-fold: (1) to address the individual legal needs of low-income and limited-English proficient Asian Americans, particularly in the areas of workers' rights, domestic violence, and immigration, and (2) to advocate for broad-based systemic change on civil rights issues impacting Asian Americans.

- **Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP)**
Funding Priority Area: Health Services (\$38,000)

* For unfunded organizations, OAPIA provided feedback meetings/calls to review the strengths and weakness of their application. We provided this service to help unfunded organizations be more competitive in the next grant cycle.

Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP) is a local non-profit organization in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area that is committed to ending domestic violence in the Asian/Pacific Islander communities.

Through direct assistance, community engagement and training of service providers, DVRP strives to address and prevent domestic violence in a manner that supports survivors of domestic violence and promotes cultural competency to meet the diverse needs of our communities.

- **Chinatown Service Center (CSC)**
Funding Priority Area: Social Services (\$31,000)

The Chinatown Service Center (CSC) is a non-profit, community-based organization providing social services to low-income and underserved members of the Asian American community in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area. Located in the heart of D.C.'s Chinatown, CSC was founded in 1977 by the Chinese Community Church. CSC serves as a hub for the needs of low-income Asian American individuals, families, seniors and youth, many of whom have limited English language skills.

- **Emmaus – Asian Services Center (ASC)**
Funding Priority Area: Health Services (\$28,000)

Emmaus – Asian Services Center (ASC) serves the Asian and Pacific Islander seniors residing in Ward 2 of the District of Columbia. Its mission is to build trust with seniors, providing support, access, advocacy and services that help them remain active, respected, independent and vital members of their community.

- **Newcomers Community Service Center (NCSC)**
Funding Priority Area: Employment Services (\$43,000)

A non-profit, community-based organization, NCSC helps refugees and immigrants from all countries achieve self-sufficiency and participate in their new society by:

- Helping refugees and immigrants obtain financial stability through employment.
- Helping newcomers maintain or adjust their legal immigration status.
- Communicating newcomers' needs for education, health, employment and other services to public and private agencies.
- Promoting respect and support for cultural preservation.

- **Vietnamese American Community Service Center (VACSC)**
Funding Priority Area: Youth and Parental Services (\$43,000)

VACSC was created to assist the Vietnamese Americans in the District of Columbia in assimilating and in integrating into the American Society without sacrificing their cultural heritage and identity, and to promote friendship and understanding between the Vietnamese and the American communities at large. Its mission is:

- To provide cultural, educational, recreational, and other programs to promote the cultural heritage and enhance the quality of life of Vietnamese-Americans in the District of Columbia.

- To promote intercultural exchange between the Vietnamese and the American community at large.
 - To advocate for equal treatment and opportunities for all District immigrants and refugees.
 - To collaborate and work with organizations with similar purposes.
- **Hepatitis B Initiative – Washington DC (HBI-DC)**
Funding Priority Area: Health and Human Services (\$5,000)

HBI-DC is a non-profit organization founded in 2002 with a mission to mobilize communities to prevent hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and its consequences among at-risk groups, particularly Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) in Washington DC metropolitan area.

HBI-DC serves the community by

- Providing community education regarding HBV risks and prevention
- Providing HBV screening tests
- Providing HBV immunization
- Providing HBV treatment referrals
- Building partnerships and leading coalitions committed to HBV treatment referrals
- Building partnerships and leading coalitions committed to HBV prevention in targeted communities,
- Gathering relevant HBV epidemiologic data

IV. Grant Oversight and Capacity Building Technical Assistance Provider Grant

To ensure that services are reaching our API residents through the funded programs, OAPIA implemented an oversight process that includes written documentations (e.g., financial and program reports) and on-site consultations (e.g., site visits and meetings). Grantees send OAPIA written documentations on a quarterly basis; whereas, on-site consultations are done at the beginning of the grant year, the end of the second quarter, and on a “as needed” basis.

V. Grant Outcomes

Out of the eight grantees that were awarded funding, six grantees fully met their grant measurements. Two grantees had challenges in meeting their measurements which led to one or two measurements being partially met.

1. Newcomers Community Service Center (NCSC) had 19 clients instead of their 20 clients for job placements due to the current economic conditions.
2. In addition, Emmaus-Asian Services Center was not able to meet three of their target goals:

- Only 510 health screenings were completed for the API seniors instead of the targeted 2400. The organization missed its target by 1,890 health screenings due to lack of funding to hire a nurse for the health screenings.
- Only 61 LEP/NEP seniors were able to attend their appointments. The original goal was to escort up to 180 seniors for medical appointments. Although only 61 seniors were served, many of them utilized the service more than once. This total number also did not include the phone interpretation provided on a daily basis.
- Only 226 exercise classes for the seniors were provided. The original target was 240 classes. The grantee cited scheduling conflicts for exercise instructors and gathering exercise consent forms from seniors as the reason for not achieving this performance measure.

Overall, Emmaus reported that they had set the goals without insufficient knowledge of client population at the time they took over the Asian Services Center.

OAPIA extended the grant period up to March 2010 for Emmaus and NCSC to meet their original targets.

Below are charts of each grantee. The grantee charts give an overview of each funded organization's objectives, measures, outcomes, and challenges.

Name	Asian American LEAD	Funding Amount	\$30,000
Funding Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education services and/or programs that complement Kindergarten-12th grade curriculum and encourage youth (under 18 years of age) to stay in school and avoid drugs, gangs and violence. 		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote the well-being of low-income Asian American children and families through education, leadership development, and community building. To develop mentoring relationships that address key risk factors and increase the likelihood that each child becomes successful, self-sufficient adult. 		
Measurements		Outcomes	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18 new active mentor-mentee pairs 18 mentor program training relating to mentor-protégé roles, responsibilities and cultural competency 12 Mentor follow-up sessions per match 6 mentee and parent follow up sessions One 6-month mentoring benchmark assessment One 12-month mentoring benchmark assessment 3 special events 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18 mentor-mentee pairs 22 mentor training sessions (trained more than 22 volunteers) 85% of mentor-mentees pairs completed 12 mentee and parent follow up sessions 9 mentoring benchmark assessment 6 mentoring benchmark assessment 3 events: Trip to Newseum, National Aquarium in Baltimore MD, and mentor-mentee kick ball event in Wheaton Forest Park 	
Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lengthy process of making the mentor-mentee match Difficulty in coordinating schedules with volunteers 		

Name	Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center	Funding Amount	\$58,000
Funding Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal services to assist the target population, including those with limited English proficiency to access entitlement and/or socioeconomic programs and address civil rights, citizenship or residency status, or other legal service needs. 		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The South Asian Community Empowerment (SACE) seeks to provide baseline information about South Asians living or working in the District of Columbia. 		
Measurements		Outcomes	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 250 to 500 in-language surveys completed Focus groups with 50 South Asians Need Assessment Analysis and Publication of Report 2 Public Briefings 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 250 to 500 in-language surveys completed 4 Focus groups organized Need Assessment Analysis completed and published the “Washington <i>DeSi</i>: South Asians in the National Capital” report which detailed findings of the SACE Project. Completed 	
Challenges			

Name	Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project	Funding Amount	\$38,000
Funding Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health-related services that improve health status or enable and/or enhance access, such as screening or preventive services, education, and medical interpreter services. 		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To raise awareness about domestic violence and the services available to assist survivors in Asian and Pacific Islander communities. To ensure healthcare providers are screening for domestic violence and informed about resources for Asian and Pacific Islander survivors. 		
Measurements		Outcomes	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support 10 A/PI survivors of DV to utilize DVRP's survivor's advocacy and support services. Ensure information related to DV services is made available to at least 40 individuals who contact DVRP. Facilitate 1 multilingual survivors' group which will consist of 6 meetings with a maximum of 8 participants each meeting. Train at least 10 A/PI community members to provide support to A/PI survivors of DV through DVRP's bi-annual advocates training program. Distribute 1,000 pieces of educational and informational materials. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13 clients in DC were provided support. Each client was paired with an advocate who spoke her language. 54 referrals for social services and 47 information requests. 16 survivors participated in multilingual survivor's group. Facilitated an 8-session multilingual survivor's group. 25 community members were trained. 2368 pieces of materials were circulated. 	
Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruiting participants to conduct focus groups 		

Name	Chinatown Service Center	Funding Amount	\$31,000
Funding Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health-related services that improve health status or enable and/or enhance access, such as screening or preventive services, education, and medical interpreter services. 		
Objective(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide social services to the underserved low-income, newly arrived immigrants in the Chinatown and D.C. metropolitan area. 		
Measurements		Outcomes	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide case management and referral for social services for at least 150 Asian and Pacific Islander (API) clients. Distribute up to 400 translated public service brochures to API community members within Ward 2 about government and community social services. Conduct up to 10 workshops on health, housing, and other community related issues for 100 API clients Conduct up to 50 English as a Second Language (ESL) class for up to 75 API clients. Conduct up to 50 citizenship class for up to 75 API clients. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3,297 cases and referrals were handled for Asian and Pacific Islander clients. 460 translated public service brochures distributed (i.e. Chinatown Cultural Development Strategy, DC Language Access Coalition flyers, free breast and pelvic exam etc) 10 workshops were organized with 108 API participants. 144 ESL classes were organized for API clients. 75 citizenship classes were organized for API clients. 	
Challenges:	Level of client interest in attending offered workshops (i.e. Language Access training)		

Name	Emmaus – Asian Seniors Center	Funding Amount	\$28,000
Funding Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health-related services that improve health status or enable and/or enhance access, such as screening or preventive services, education, and medical interpreter services. 		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce the number of Asian and Pacific Islander participants experiencing hardships in communicating and understanding at medical appointments. 		
Measurements		Outcomes	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 100 senior assessments 2400 health screenings Up to 180 medical appointments/escorts 11,520 cultural meals 240 exercise classes 12 nutrition classes focused on seniors 12 cultural forums 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 123 seniors assessments completed 510 health screenings 61 LEP/NEP seniors were able to attend to their appointments and have an understanding of the current health condition 12,090 cultural meals provided to seniors 226 exercises classes completed 16 nutrition classes that are focused on seniors completed 13 cultural forums (i.e. Chinese New Year celebration, September 11th Day of Service and Remembrance) 	
Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs to have a pool of these interpreters to help seniors who can provide the language skills and have the time to go to these appointments. The seniors desperately need to learn basic English pertaining to their health so that they can become self-sufficient to make their own appointments, speak with health care or social service providers. 		

Name	Newcomers Community Service Center	Funding Amount	\$43,000
Funding Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education and/or job preparedness/training for adults and youth (18 years and older) that lead to increased/improved workforce development skills. 		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement a dynamic and comprehensive employment/job preparedness, computer training program to help clients improve their workforce development skills so that clients can obtain steady jobs in order to support themselves and their families. 		
Measurements		Outcomes	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employment preparedness and training service to 57 clients 2. 27 clients placed in jobs 3. Conduct 4 job clubs 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 59 clients were served 2. 19 clients were assisted to get employment 3. Completed 	
Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruiting API immigrants to employment services because many of them are not refugees. Therefore are not qualified to attend workshop for job search to get welfare and food stamp benefits. 		

Name	Vietnamese American Community Service Center	Funding Amount	\$43,000
Funding Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education services and/or programs that complement Kindergarten-12th grade curriculum and encourage youth (under 18 years of age) to stay in school and avoid drugs, gangs and violence. 		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To help all Vietnamese residents of the District of Columbia integrate fully into the community; and in particular to empower parents to help their children succeed in school 		
Measurements		Outcomes	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Design, recruit for and implement 3 workshops Up to 480 hours counseling, home visits Up to 96 hours – interpretation, translations at PTA meetings Up to 390 hours – academic tutoring Up to 48 hours – citizenship training session Organize 2 community events 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8 workshops completed (parenting skills/children success and parental involvement; health/nutrition; avoiding gang violence/illegal drug prevention; integration into American culture/crime prevention/DV and child abuse; Resume writing, Job interview, Housing and tenants rights; New immunization and health physical requirements by DCPS Fire Safety Prevention 650 hours of home visits 96 hours of interpretation and translations at PTA meetings 690 hours of academic tutoring 48 hours of citizenship training sessions completed 3 community events: Halloween Event, Annual Holiday Event, Lunar New Year Celebration Event 	
Challenges:	Parents’ continued inability to master English language. VACSC cannot keep up with the demand. Vietnamese immigrant struggle to fully assimilate with American culture.		

Name	Hepatitis B Initiative (HBI)-DC	Funding Amount	\$5,000
Funding Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health-related services that improve health status or enable and/or enhance access, such as screening or preventive services, education, and medical interpreter services. 		
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To research possible partnerships and other activities that may help HBI-DC in the next grant cycle 		
Measurements		Outcomes	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Update its HBI-DC educational materials. Obtain at least 7 memorandum of understanding (MOU) or letters of interest from community-based or faith-based organizations serving Asian and Pacific Islanders (API). Obtain at least three MOUs from medical doctors to volunteer for HBI events. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completed updating HBI educational materials. 7 MOUs were obtained (Chinatown Services Center, Chinese Community church, Vietnamese-American Community Service Center, Newcomers community Service Center, Emmaus Asian Senior Center, Asian American LEAD, Boat People SOS, OCA-Greater Washington Area, Giac Hoang Temple). 4 MOUs were signed (2 doctors and 2 institutions). 	
Challenges:	Inability to obtain adequate funding to provide free screenings and vaccinations to a significant number of individuals,		

VI. Financial Breakdown

The chart provides a breakdown of the \$276,000 used for OAPIA's community grant and technical assistance mini-grants.

Financial Breakdown	
Organization	Community Grant Funding
Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center (APALRC)	\$58,000
Asian American Leadership Empowerment and Development (AALEAD)	\$30,000
Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP)	\$38,000
Emmaus - Chinatown Service Center (CSC)	\$31,000
Asian Senior Center	\$28,000
Newcomers Community Service Center (NCSC)	\$43,000
Vietnamese American Community Service Center (VACSC)	\$43,000
Hepatitis B Initiative - DC	\$5,000
Subtotal:	\$276,000
Total:	\$276,000