PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERSHIP AWARD

The Korean American Community Foundation’s mission is to transform and empower communities through philanthropy, volunteerism, and inter-community bridge building. KACF pursues these goals through grantmaking that promotes self-sufficiency for the under-resourced, through raising awareness of needs and issues, and by fostering a culture of giving.

Since 2002, KACF has awarded more than $10 million in grants to community-based organizations, like CMP, in an effort to increase the economic security of low-income Korean and Asian American individuals and families. Through grantmaking and capacity building support, KACF has funded job training programs, ESL and skills-building classes, public benefits, counseling, academic enhancement, and much more, in order to enable vulnerable populations to achieve self-sufficiency, improve quality of life, and build strong futures.

Equally important, KACF educates and organizes both emerging and established Korean and Asian American philanthropists on issues impacting low-income families so they may positively contribute to our shared goal of helping our most vulnerable neighbors.

The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately impacted a large number of Asian American small business owners who were crushed by the stay-at-home orders and the economic loss trickled down to their employees and families. The rise of anti-Asian hate further endangered them with physical violence and mental health issues. In response, KACF launched the COVID-19 Community Action Fund to provide immediate support to our nonprofit partners. Through this Fund, KACF distributed three rounds of grants, a record-breaking $1.8 million in 2021, to spearhead urgent relief efforts for individuals and families affected by COVID-19, including Korean language assistance for unemployment and small business relief, increased counseling on domestic violence, meal deliveries, mental health support, and emergency cash and shelter for homeless Korean and Asian Americans, in addition to our regular grantmaking.

This year, KACF will commemorate 20 years of service in collectively addressing the needs of the most vulnerable, and historically underserved and underrepresented, Korean and Asian Americans in our community.