Asian Pacific Community Fund 2022 Impact Report

What is Asian Pacific Community Fund?

Founded in 1990, the Asian Pacific Community Fund (APCF) is the only community-based fund of its kind, created to increase philanthropic giving toward Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) nonprofit organizations. Our mission is to cultivate philanthropists to invest in organizations that empower underserved AAPIs to prosper. APCF is focused on transforming lives and meeting the diverse needs of AAPIs by 1) building healthier communities 2) developing leaders 3) creating a stronger voice and 4) providing the foundation for a brighter tomorrow. Together with our 74 Network Agencies, we serve over 4.9 million people annually, primarily low-income, immigrant AAPIs, with programs and services in 47 AAPI languages, as well as English and Spanish.

AAPI Nonprofit Financial Leadership Project

In the Fall of 2021, the Long Family Foundation noticed the need for nonprofits organizations to understand their financial future in order to navigate the expenses of running an organization. As a result, they brought together APCF and the Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF) to launch a new initiative on the financial capacity of local AAPI nonprofits. Through donations from the Long Family Foundation and other granters, the goal of the program was to strengthen the nonprofits’ impact as it relates to service delivery in the face of uncertainty. With a focus on smaller nonprofit organizations with less than $1 million budgets, the executive directors of those organizations represented a new generation of AAPI leaders who were poised to strengthen their nonprofit’s financial health management capacity. During their time, the cohort convened four times where they learned about different types of expenses within an organization, the hierarchy of spending needs, operational and strategic budgeting, and budget process. All the nonprofit organizations were able to meet with their own consultant for guidance on how to execute what they had learned into real life.

*The APIA Financial Leadership project helped facilitate a complete paradigm shift in the way we think about and conduct our organizational budgeting. We have a better understanding of how we can use the strategic budgeting tools provided by NFF to effectively tell our financial story. The coaching helped to push the leadership team to break out of a constrained grant compliance mindset and expand to achieve our mission, vision, and programmatic outcome.*  
- Kyle Tsukahira and Heng Lam Foong, Co-Directors, Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement (APIFM)

This pilot program came to a close in the Fall of 2022 and APCF hopes to be able to make the AAPI Nonprofit Financial Leadership Project an ongoing program. To learn more about Los Angeles nonprofits and NFF’s work, please visit the [2022 Survey- A closer look at LA-area nonprofits](#).

Granting Making

Since its inception in 1990, APCF has been awarded over $11M in grants to support nonprofit organizations to provide programs and services to communities in need. In 2022, APCF was able to significantly increase our grant making by over $603,000 due to new grants cultivated through partners who are dedicated in increasing philanthropy in the API community. To learn more about our grant making, please visit our website [here](#).
Ongoing Funding

Operating Grant
APCF continued our popular annual Operating Grant Program with a focus on AAPI nonprofits with budgets less than $1 million. Our Operating Grant is supplemented through our Workplace Giving Program. In 2022, Workplace Giving dropped by 60% which drastically decreased the initial amount available for the Operating Grant. APCF saw the need of funding for AAPI nonprofits and, for the first time, chose to supplement and even increase funding of the Operating Grant from $5k to $10k per grantee. This resulted in $120k in unrestricted funds to 12 AAPI nonprofits, ranging in ethnic diversity of underrepresented groups and diversity in programs/services—including increased capacity of programing, mental health, staff retention, education initiatives, COVID vaccination and education, and small business support. Of the 12 grantees, there were 3 organizations that were new grantees of APCF. In addition, APCF also provided capacity support by having a representative from many grantees’ boards participate in our Board Leadership Program. By having the board members participate, APCF was able to offer training and leadership skills development to help sustain and grow the nonprofits beyond our traditional grantmaking.

We plan on continuing our Operating Grant and strengthening the API nonprofit sector through long term, unrestricted funding.

Giving Circles
In 2022, APCF offered grant opportunities via the Giving Circles it administers. With anonymous matching, APCF was able to offer $10,000 in grants distributed to two organizations serving the AAPI community through API COVID-19 Response & Recovery. Historically, APCF has only been able to distribute one grant per Giving Circle. To date, our Giving Circles have collectively distributed almost $410,000 in 125 grants to local nonprofits.

We hope to expand the members of our Giving Circles to strengthen philanthropy within the AAPI community increasing direct funding to the AAPI nonprofits.

New Annual Funding

Asian Women Leadership in Philanthropy Fund
Asian Women Leadership in Philanthropy Fund (AWLPF) was a new pilot program established in 2021 and founded by Julia Gouw, Carol Choi and APCF Executive Director Chun-Yen Chen. The vision of AWLPF is to empower, cultivate, and recognize Asian American women as philanthropic leaders to invest in community-based organizations focusing on advocating and empowering underserved Asian American women and girls. The fund began with 20 individual women leaders who donated $10,000. In 2022, AWLPF was able to give $200,000 in unrestricted funding to 4 AAPI projects. AWLPF’s ultimate goals are to enhance philanthropy of Asian American Women leaders by reinforcing bonds and social networking, providing a philanthropic platform for the next generation of Asian American women leaders, and adopting collaborative approaches to support the next generation of Asian American women to make a difference in all fields. AWLPF hopes to continue to provide long term funding for programming and to expand the number of members who are a part of the fund.

To learn more about AWLPF, please visit our website here.
New Funding in 2022

James Irvine API COVID-19 Recovery Fund
The API COVID-19 Recovery Fund was established to support efforts addressing the pandemic's devastating impact on the physical, mental, and economic health of the local API community. Thanks to generous support from the James Irvine Foundation, the fund was administered by APCF and is made possible through support from the Asian Pacific Fund. The Fund was able to distribute $285,000 in grant funding to 24 API serving nonprofit organizations.

Southern California Gas Company's API Racial Equity & Solidarity Fund
The Southern California Gas Company's API Racial Equity & Solidarity Fund was established to provide funding for small nonprofit organizations in addressing COVID-19 related needs of the local Asian & Pacific Islander (API) community, including basic needs such as food security, public safety, health and mental health, housing, financial stability, employment, and accessing public benefits, as well as services regarding anti-Asian hate. The Fund was able to distribute $8,000 in funding to 8 API nonprofit organizations with budgets of $250,000 or less in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and/or San Bernardino Counties.

Scholarship Program
In 2022, APCF expanded its scholarships from 10 to 12 programs, which invested $384,000 in 163 low-income students locally and nationwide. By maintaining a 2,250+ contact database of schools, clubs, counselors, administrators, and teachers, spanning nationally across all 50 states, APCF maximized outreach to ensure that students have the opportunity to apply for APCF scholarship programs. To date, APCF has awarded a total of $1,660,000 in scholarships to support over 450 low-income students nationally with college tuition assistance.

To learn more about the scholarship program, please visit our website here.

Capacity Building Program
APCF’s unique position as an AAPI-focused community fund allows us to be responsive to the needs of our network of AAPI nonprofits through capacity building workshops with topics such as fundraising, program evaluation, marketing, HR/risk management, financial management, and more. Offered at no cost to attendees as long as they serve the AAPI community, our workshops have the AAPI cultural relevance that may be lacking in other nonprofit workshop curricula. All workshops have transitioned to a virtual platform, which has allowed APCF to expand the reach of the workshops across the nation and be recorded for later use.

Workshops
In 2022, ACPF was able to return to the regular 6 workshops per year which allowed APCF to focus on topics relevant to nonprofit organizations. 220 unduplicated staff, board members, and volunteers from 136 different nonprofits attended virtual webinars that covered topics such as volunteer management, reimagining fundraising, social media trends, strategic budgeting and the new California State budget.

In one workshop, we partnered with Candid, another nonprofit organization which provided the featured speaker. APCF learned that many nonprofit organizations did not know about Candid or the coveted Seal of Transparency. In order to sustain and grow the API nonprofit sector, APCF believes that increasing knowledge in the API nonprofit sector is vital.
Based on workshop evaluations and conversations with our Network Agencies, there is a tremendous need for grant writing and alternatives for fundraising. In order to meet this demand, 2023 workshops will focus on grant writing consulting, different types of grant writing and fundraising.

To learn more about Capacity Building Workshops, please visit our website here.

Board Leadership Program
Collaborating with the Asian American Professional Association, APCF co-implemented the Board Leadership Program (BLP) for the seventh consecutive year in 2022 to train and develop AAPI leaders to serve on AAPI nonprofit boards. In response to the pandemic, the program was offered virtually for 26 participants in 2022. Since its inception in 2015, the program has trained over 220 professionals from 80 companies, as well as successfully matched and placed about half of participants with the AAPI nonprofits that they interned with. Continuing to develop leaders to effectively serve on AAPI nonprofit boards will be a crucial component to sustaining and growing these organizations.

APCF will transition from co-implementation of the program to focus on the board leadership internship. We will facilitate the internship matching with the BLP participants and API serving nonprofits to create more meaningful internships for both parties. We will be teaching the nonprofits on how to host an intern and will lead 1-on-1 follow ups with the interns, which was new for 2022. In 2022, 9 out of the 26 participants (35%) became board interns, 7 out of the 9 (78%) matched with their board and will continue as a board member.

To learn more about the Board Leadership Program, please visit our website here.

In partnership with Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy-LA (AAPIP-LA)

Meet the Funders
In 2022, APCF hosted two virtual “Meet the Funders” events to increase access to funding opportunities. These events were designed with the added component of 1-on-1 meetings with the funders following the general panel discussion, allowing nonprofits to meet the funder and ask very specific questions about potential grant proposals. This year, 73 people from 52 nonprofits serving AAPI communities attended the events, which featured the Archstone Foundation, ECMC Foundation, California Community Foundation, Durfee Foundation, L.A. Care Health Plan, and Sun Family Foundation. To date, APCF helped facilitate 310 of these 1-on-1 meetings between funders and nonprofits, which resulted in $1,518,709 in new/additional funding to the AAPI community. Due to evaluations and personal anecdotes, Meet the Funders will continue as a virtual program.

To learn more about the Meet the Funders program, please visit our website here.

Van Tours
APCF was able to bring Van Tours back in person after 2 years of virtual programming in 2022. While COVID protocols were still in place, a van was replaced by an outdoor program located in El Monte. Funders were able to hear from 6 nonprofit organizations through 2 panels and learn about community health, language access and community wellness of communities in the East San Gabriel Valley. The annual Van Tour outreaches to foundation staff and grows awareness of the API community and the nonprofit organizations serving this community. Since its inception, the Van Tour has showcased 40 different organizations and has covered over 120 miles across Los Angeles County. We hope to expand the Van Tour to other counties within Southern California and highlight locations within Los Angeles County.

To learn more about Van Tours, please visit our website here.
In Conclusion

Asian Pacific Community Fund continues to bolster our mission of cultivating philanthropists to invest in organizations that empower underserved AAPIs to prosper. As a connector and gateway, we are proud to support our API community throughout our grant making process and capacity building program. APCF plans on expanding our efforts to the entirety of Southern California and we anticipate that we can support API serving nonprofits in all 10 counties. If you are a funder or want to volunteer to support the API community, please reference our Network Agency Matrix to learn more about API serving nonprofits and their direct services.