2020 IMPACT

Building a vibrant, healthy, and empowered Korean American community in the Bay Area.

January 2021
2020 will be memorable for many reasons. While the world went into lockdown, our work and our community’s needs did not stop. Thanks to the generosity of our many donors, KACF-SF gave out over $500,000 in grants - more than ever before - to support nonprofit organizations doing important frontline work.

This year has underscored our community’s resilience, resourcefulness, and ability to adapt. This impact report provides a snapshot of some of the programmatic work we were able to do together, thanks to our donors and supporters, volunteers, and our dedicated community partners.

As we enter the new year with the virus still raging, KACF-SF is more committed than ever to empowering our community and community partners through our philanthropic and grantmaking efforts. We believe that the partnerships, tools, and learnings that have come out of this difficult period will ultimately contribute to a stronger and more cohesive Bay Area Korean American community for 2021 and beyond!

Lina Park, Executive Director
COVID-19 RESPONSE

Our lives changed drastically in 2020 with the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. KACF-SF was fortunate to receive a significant gift from the Chong-Moon Lee Foundation to support our highest risk community members: low-income and homebound seniors. This gift, along with the generosity of many individual donors, allowed us and our nonprofit partners to quickly pivot our priorities to ensure senior food security and safety through meal delivery programs and mobile/remote wellness services.

Our Covid-19 Rapid Response Grantee Partners:

- Korean American Community Services
- Korean Center, Inc.
- Korean Community Center of the East Bay
- Northern California Jabi Foundation

In total, the combined effort of these nonprofit organizations, their staff, and volunteers resulted in over 2,100 seniors across the Bay Area receiving regular meals, social services, and community connection during this incredibly difficult time.*

*While much of the Covid-19 response work is ongoing, the figures in this section reflect work conducted from April - November 2020, the official grant period.

Grantee partners and volunteers organizing and delivering meals to Korean seniors.
COVID-19 RESPONSE: BUILDING COMMUNITY

In April 2020, KACF-SF came together with seven other Korean American organizations and individual community leaders to establish the Bay Area K-Coalition (BAK-C).

We worked together during the crisis to share resources and best practices, brainstorm ideas, and problem-solve together, thereby magnifying our collective efforts to support underserved members of the Korean community.

Shared efforts included:
- Volunteer coordination
- Korean-language resource page
- Virtual workshops and legal clinics
- Fundraising

The partnerships formed during this time mean better coordination and teamwork for Covid-19 work and for future community efforts.

Bay Area K-Coalition: Bay Area K Group, Korean American Bar Association of Northern California, Korean American Community Foundation of San Francisco, Korean American Community Services, Korean Center, Inc., Korean Community Center of the East Bay, Korean Prosecutors Association (KPA), and Simple Steps
COVID-19 RESPONSE: BY THE NUMBERS

52,539
hot lunches delivered to seniors
Supporting Korean-owned restaurants at the same time!

2,175
individual seniors provided with hot meals and/or other food delivery services

132
volunteers recruited and deployed

Tasks include:
- Translation
- Meal delivery
- Wellness check-ins

750
senior care kits created and delivered

Care kits included non-perishable food items, face masks, sanitizer, and a special note

1,166
homebound seniors receiving ongoing wellness check-in calls and social service supports

82
important resources translated into Korean

“[Through this work, we built] inter-generational connections and established partnerships with other Korean organizations in the SF Bay Area.”
- Grantee Partner

Where to seek help for:
- Food assistance
- Mental health
- Small business
- Unemployment
- Legal services
COMMUNITY GRANTS

Community Grants enable KACF-SF to partner with and support community-based organizations that are on the frontlines and making a difference in the lives of under-resourced Korean American individuals and families.

In 2020, we supported seven nonprofits doing work in the areas of senior care, physical and mental health, domestic violence advocacy, and civic engagement:
- Asian Americans for Community Involvement
- Asian Women’s Shelter
- East Bay Korean American Senior Services Center
- Korean American Community Services
- Korean American Senior Citizens League
- Korean American Senior Services Inc

Despite a difficult pandemic year, our nonprofit partners stepped up to provide high levels of culturally and linguistically appropriate services in areas of need.

“[We supported] a Korean family [escaping domestic violence] with adult and children’s full case management, enrolled them in transitional housing, and found affordable housing for them in their desired part of the Bay Area!”
- Grantee Partner

“A first generation Korean family was in extreme distress due to a family emergency. We were able to provide individual therapy for the whole family and family therapy sessions to support them.”
- Grantee Partner

2,300+ people directly served by grant-funded programs, including (but not limited to):

1,500 community members educated around domestic violence advocacy and services

95 Korean immigrants assisted through the naturalization process to receive US citizenship

68 clients receiving Korean-language therapy and/or other mental health referral services

59 new Korean-speaking senior care providers trained
BAKI

Run by Korean Community Center of the East Bay and co-launched with KACF-SF in 2017, BAKI is a toll-free Bay Area Korean Infoline that provides information, referrals, and navigation to families and individuals dealing with crisis. It is an invaluable service for the sizeable population of Koreans with limited English proficiency.

Highlights of BAKI’s 2020 work:

- Over 9,300 callers helped by trained BAKI staff
- Information and navigation provided around Covid relief programs (e.g. eligibility and application assistance), healthcare access, immigration, social services, and more
- Census outreach and engagement

SPECIAL PROJECTS + CAPACITY BUILDING

KACF-SF works closely with community leaders to identify gaps and develop creative solutions for some of the most pressing issues in the community. Our special projects grant program provides seed funding to pilot new models and get programs off the ground. In 2020, we continued our investment of the BAKI infoline.

In addition to our grantmaking programs, KACF-SF also supports our nonprofit partners in building capacity through convenings and skill-building workshops. We believe that investing in building the capacity of organizations leads to increased impact. In this past year, we offered workshops in virtual fundraising, social media marketing, and mental health for nonprofit staff.

“[We] have greater access to professional development, staff wellness, and fundraising resources through KACF-SF’s network.”

- Grantee Partner

“[We] learned tips from KACF-SF ... and raised the largest amount of unrestricted funds that our fundraising gala has ever raised. By having a virtual event, [we built] new relationships with donors from different parts of the country and globe that we would not have been able to build.”

- Grantee Partner

Social media marketing workshop in November 2020
2020 CENSUS: WE COUNT!

Results of the 2020 Census will determine how billions of federal dollars will be distributed, including for local schools and education programs; for public health resources; and for community and senior services. Census data are also used to allocate seats for the U.S. House of Representatives and local and state legislatures.

Korean Americans (and other AAPI communities) have been historically undercounted for decades, diminishing our voices and disadvantaging our families, communities, and neighborhoods.

That’s why KACF-SF rallied the Bay Area Korean American community and offered grant funds to organizations conducting census outreach and education efforts.

A (pre-pandemic) Census convening drew over 120 attendees and included speakers from United Way, Santa Clara County, and the Census Bureau.

A few of the translated materials created for the Korean community.

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2020 CENSUS GRANTEES

- Asian Health Services
- Koreadailytimes.com
- Korean American Coalition
- Korean American Community Center of SF & Bay Area
- Korean American Community Services
- Korean American Cultural Foundation
- Korean American Professional Society
- Korean American Senior Citizens League
- Korean Community Center of the East Bay
- Sacramento Valley Korean-American Community
- Sacramento Region Community Foundation
- Korean Women’s International Network SF Chapter

We partnered with the Korean American Bar Association of Northern California to create a Census outreach video featuring Korean American comedians

18,000+
members of the Bay Area Korean American community reached through joint outreach and education efforts

150,000+
views of Park Chan Ho census video, produced in partnership with Korean American Coalition and aired on OnDemandKorea

Outreach activities included translation of resources, in-person and virtual gatherings, distribution of informational materials at events and via newsletters, speaking to church congregations, and phone calls.
KAREN HA SCHOLARSHIP

KACF-SF is committed to building the next generation of community-minded Korean American leaders. Through the Karen Ha Scholarship, we provide financial assistance and mentorship opportunities to talented students.

The award was established by the family of Karen Ha to honor her legacy as a founding member and inaugural Board co-chair of KACF-SF.

In 2020, we awarded the scholarship to two new recipients and renewed the award for our three inaugural scholars.

Our Karen Ha Scholarship recipients are:

- Victoria Doe (2019 cohort)
- Alice Lee (2019 cohort)
- Daniel Lee (2020 cohort)
- Stephanie Park (2020 cohort)
- Julie Son (2019 cohort)

We are excited to see what the future holds for these bright young students!

Silliness during the July 2020 Karen Ha Scholars get-together

“[The scholarship has meant finding a community of passion-driven individuals who have served as mentors and points of connection that I feel genuinely care for my well-being and for my future.”

- Scholarship Recipient

““The Karen Ha Scholarship not only provides financial aid, but also a wonderful and loving community that every college student should have!”

- Scholarship Recipient

“Our 2020 scholarship recipients, Stephanie Park and Daniel Lee

“This scholarship is more than a scholarship. KACF has believed in me and given me room to believe in myself.”

- Scholarship Recipient

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