From the President & Executive Director

As COVID-19 continued to impact Chinatown, Pui Tak Center found new ways to serve those in need.

During FY2022, the second year of the pandemic, Pui Tak Center served more people and in more ways than ever before.

In fall 2021, our children and youth programs took cautious steps with in-person programming and were nearly back to normal by this past summer. Our adult programs were mostly hybrid as most classes remained online and phone calls and text messages often times replaced office visits.

While we were often constrained by space in the past, remote services freed up space for new services. During the year, we wound down our food distribution efforts with Chinese Christian Union Church and other community partners, ramped up one of the largest community-based vaccination efforts in Chicago, and partnered with the government to outreach to vulnerable community members who needed financial assistance services.

Pui Tak Center’s mission is to be a “Christian witness.” Our volunteers and staff are often the first Christians that new immigrants meet. Through their compassionate services, hearts become open to the Gospel. In partnership with CCUC and others, this witness of both action and words results in transformed lives.

Earlier this summer, the board finalized a strategic plan which prioritizes expanding our Immigrant Welcoming Center and exploring mental health and senior services. We’ll share details as our staff works out plans in the coming years.

We are grateful that with God’s help along with your prayers, time and financial support, we have been able to serve more people in our community in new ways. Thank you for your partnership.

John Wong                David Wu
President               Executive Director
Our Resources

Board of Directors

John Wong - President *(FY22 Treasurer)*
Cheuk Yung - Vice President
Vincent Tse - Secretary
Julia Cheng-Kuk - Treasurer
Judy Fan-Hsu *(FY22 Secretary)*
Nam Shiu *(FY22 Vice President)*

** Members ending 6/22: Ken Chow *(FY22 President)*, Matthew Chan & Kin On Lau

Staff

Our staff consists of 20 full-time and 40 part-time individuals. Including summer and other temporary staff, 93 individuals worked during FY2022. Their dedication enabled us to serve more people in more ways than every before.

Volunteers

Over 200 volunteers served in many capacities - income tax preparers, special event chaperones, after school tutors, remote and in-person tutors for ESL students, webinar speakers and panelists. We’re grateful that each of you found a way to use your time and talents to serve Chinatown with us.

Funding

Due to extra pandemic resources, Pui Tak Center had a strong year financially. We appreciate the 265 households who generously donated to support our work and enable us to respond quickly to new needs in the community.

Organizations that provided financial, program or in-kind support: After School Matters, Amazon (in-kind products), Center for Asian Health Equity/Asian Health Coalition, Center Point Church, Chicago Bar Foundation, Chinatown Parking Corporation, Chinese Christian Union Church (in-kind rent), City of Chicago, Dollar General Literacy Foundation, Facebook (Giving Tuesday match), Illinois Community College Board, Illinois Department of Human Services, Mariano's, Midwest Asian Health Association, Phoenix Bean, Prism Health Labs, Salesforce (in-kind products) & Willow Creek Community Church.
Our impact in numbers

In FY2022 (7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022) we served 3503 unduplicated persons - which does not include the 10,223 patients that received a COVID-19 vaccination shot at Pui Tak Center. This is the most people that we have ever served in a year.

ADULT EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Our ESL and citizenship classes served 785 adult students and our tutoring program served 106 students. 45% improved their English level which was higher than the state’s rate of 38%.
- Our Food Service Sanitation classes served 251 students with 97% (243) receiving their food manager’s license.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Our after school and summer programs served 185 children and 234 youth. 101 of these youth were immigrants who attended school year or summer ESL classes so that they can improve their English, keep up with their academics and prepare for college.

COMMUNITY PROGRAM

- Our Immigrant Welcoming Center served 1079 persons. Staff provided information, solved daily problems through case management, offered webinars and supported those in crisis.
- Our Disability Services supported 59 families affected by disabilities.
- Our Problem Gambling program educated community members about problem gambling and advocated against more gaming near Chinatown.

3503

45% improved

419 kids

1079 immigrants
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

10,223 COVID-19 vaccination shots were administered during 128 clinics events in FY2022 through a partnership with Prism Health Labs and the Illinois Department of Public Health. Including 5 months from FY2021, this partnership administered 16,859 shots during 160 events.

1205 food packages were distributed in FY2022 in a community partnership led by Chinese Christian Union Church and Pui Tak Center. The distributions ended in December 2021 after distributing 10,000 packages of food during 30 events.

Pui Tak Center assisted 799 households to apply for Chicago's cash assistance pilot. 32 applicants were selected and will collectively receive $192K.

Pui Tak Center assisted 83 households to prepare their income taxes. They collectively received tax refunds of $160,000.

Pui Tak Center assisted 109 households to apply for a state program that is providing financial support for households who did not receive federal stimulus checks due to their immigration status. They collectively will receive $252,000 by late 2022.

Pui Tak Center assisted 13 households facing housing instability. They collectively received $54,671 in rental and utility assistance.

$659K to community
Our Impact in stories

While statistics shows that we served more, each person was helped in a unique way.

I have four adult children but don't want to be a burden on them. This year has been hard as my husband died after battling cancer. I don't check text so missed finding out that I was picked for the Chicago cash pilot. A Pui Tak staff called me and helped me enroll. Now I'm getting $500 a month for the next year. I can buy better food, buy small gifts for my grandchildren and go out with friends. One of my neighbors in the senior apartment building was also picked. Every time we see each other, we'll high-five and share our happiness.

-Mrs. Hu

I started studying ESL at Pui Tak before the pandemic and have continued when the classes went online. Online classes made it easier for me to attend more. I have always needed a translator when I go to my son’s school. Recently, there wasn't a translators available when I went to meet with his teacher. I was happy that I could actually understand 80% of our conversation!

-Mr. Zhao

When I started coming to Pui Tak, I was in the lowest English level. I'm an intermediate student now and still need to learn more English. I have a tutor that is teaching me how to talk to my customers. I've learned phrases like: "What kind of nails would you like?", "Thank you for your patience", and "Be careful, the floor is slippery." Learning English at Pui Tak is very helpful for my work.

-Ms. Lu
I first came to Pui Tak Center five years ago. I was shy and mumbled so that people didn’t understand me. I felt isolated as I need a wheelchair and people didn’t accept me. I made Chinese friends at Pui Tak and the staff connected me with different agencies that work with people with disabilities. I recently got a part-time job doing tech support and diversity equity & inclusion training for one of those agencies. I also got a chance to speak to 250 people in-person and hundreds more online about the importance of voting at the “Speak Up, Speak Out” conference. Growing up, my parents didn’t have much hope that I would have a full life. Our family has found real hope in the Gospel and know that God has been with us through many hard and bitter times.

-Dawen

I immigrated to Chicago in Dec 2021 and people told our family to go to Pui Tak for help. When I went for the first time, I was apprehensive. But I found that they were friendly and helpful. I couldn’t start high school right away so I joined the youth ESL classes. The teachers and volunteers patiently taught me English, even word by word. Being new, my family didn’t know how to enroll me in school. As I am 18, I wasn't sure if any school would take me. Pui Tak has worked with many schools and they helped me find a high school to attend. I was placed into the junior class. I have two years to improve my English and be ready for college. I'm glad that Pui Tak is here for immigrants like me.

-Abigail

I came to Pui Tak Center very worried and fearful due to my wife’s illness as she already had been hospitalized for a month. After meeting with an Immigrant Welcoming Center staff, they found some financial assistance for us and helped us with the naturalization process. We are not proficient in English. The IWC staff arranged for us to take the exam in Chinese and coached us on the naturalization interview. We were unsuccessful in our first two tries on the exam and finally passed on our third try. Now, we are US citizens.

- Mr. Lin
Financials

Income
- Government: $2,193,129
- Program Fees: $339,429
- Contract for Services: $289,696
- Individuals/Churches: $210,631
- Foundations/Corporations: $93,367
- Miscellaneous: $16,734
- In-Kind Rent/Services: $308,160
Total Income: $3,451,146

Expenses
- Salaries: $1,673,630
- Benefits: $365,556
- Occupancy: $260,350
- Program: $177,430
- Equipment/Depreciation: $125,326
- Contractual: $106,916
- Professional fees: $29,727
- Other: $94,581
- In-kind Rent/Services: $308,160
Total Expenses: $3,141,676

Surplus: $309,470

Our FY2022 (7/1/2021 to 6/30/2022) financial statements were audited by Illinois NFP Audit & Tax and are available upon request. The Adult Education and Training department received $490,243 in federal funding, 31.4% of the total program cost.

Contact

Pui Tak Center
2216 S Wentworth Avenue
Chicago, IL 60616
(312)328-1188

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