



Quarterly Newsletter

April 2020

APAPA's New Organization Structure

National Governing Board



Victoria Li, Nelson Huang, Yen Marshall, C.C. Yin, Hsing Kung, Albert Wang, Kenneth Fong, Joel Wong, Sandy Chau, Regina Yin

National Executive Committee

- Victoria Li (Chair)
- Yen Marshall (Vice-Chair)
- Vincent Wang (Vice-Chair)
- HP Wang (Vice-Chair)
- Andy Li (New Chapter Development)
- Michelle Wang (Internship)
- Henry Yin (Existing Chapter Development)
- Ron Cho (Member Engagement)
- Lily Qian (Asian Media)
- Joel Wong (Bylaws)

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National Executive Director's Corner



As we enter May, which is the Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month – a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States - I can't help but think about all that is going on with the deadly COVID-19 pandemic.

It's a challenging time for us right now; in addition to fighting coronavirus and the economic downturn, we are also facing an increase in anti-Asian sentiment and hostility across the U.S., xenophobia, resulting in verbal and physical harm to innocent Asian Americans. I'm thankful for the collective efforts of strong support and solidarity from leaders not just from our congressional Asian American, Black, and Hispanic Caucuses but also from other groups across the globe, such as leaders of over 170 Jewish communities.

I am also grateful for all the frontline workers, from grocery store clerks to medical professionals risking their lives daily to make it possible for us to be safe staying home, shelter-in-place, either working remotely, homeschooling kids, or taking care of elderly parents.

In the meantime, throughout the nation, APAPA chapters have been working hard, helping with COVID-19 relief efforts, volunteering, raising money, providing PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and related items to our frontline workers and the most vulnerable population during the pandemic, the elderly. Although we can't capture it all in a short 4-minute video, you can see the passion and the APAPA's heart for the community through some of these efforts: <https://tinyurl.com/APAPA-COVID19>. Thank you for taking the time to document some of our success stories.

Other efforts on important initiatives such as the 2020 Census have not been forgotten either. Various events are going on at local chapter levels, and even headquarters altered our front office layout to set up a Kiosk, which wasn't put into use as we had hoped due to office closure during this time.

We are also making progress in developing a new website. Our Request For Proposal went out, and we are currently reviewing vendors and prototypes, with the plan to start development this summer.

As a result of Social Distancing, we have had to cancel several of our events, but I'm glad to see that the internship program will be able to continue through some creative online programming. Thank you for being creative and being flexible so we can continue to inspire, develop, and empower the next young generation.

We are planning a mid-year Townhall video conference call (Zoom) with all our members. I hope you will be able to join us to hear updates from our leaders as well as to celebrate the success of our chapters. Until then, please continue to stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Yen Marshall

National Executive Director

COVID-19

Austin Texas Chapter

Austin Texas Chapter (ATC) has made great contributions to help combat COVID-19 in its community.

I. PPE donations to medical professionals, first responders, essential workers and at-risk populations:

1. A total of 60,000+ face masks up-to-date in the Austin area, valued over \$150K.

Almost all of the items were donated, including 32,000 donated by personal friends in China, 5,000 by ATC board member Kathleen Chen.

2. Hundreds of surgical gowns, coveralls, caps and goggles, both to Austin and New York City, valued over \$100K.

3. 1,000 face shields 3D printed by 15 high school students. This is growing every day since ATC is producing 100 a day now.

4. 500 self-made (hand-made or sewing machine produced) cloth face masks (by 50 ladies in the community), donated to small clinics, at-risk populations, post offices, grocery stores.

ATC covered 50 organizations/groups, including 25 hospitals/clinics, and another 25 other organizations such as police, CapMetro, ISDs, nursing homes, etc.

And the list is growing as ATC are still taking donations, producing face shields and a shipment of 15,000 face masks is still on the way.

Provide food to at-risk populations and first responders.

A total of 4,000 meals are provided, 800+ per week. Most of them went to shelters with 300-500 people.

85% of the meals provided are home-cooked by volunteers in the community at very low cost, delivered them while still hot.

ATC is also supporting two youth centers (with 20 youth in each center), an RV park with 100 families, and 98 kids.

ATC also receives donations of meals from Asian restaurants and XiangYuan Temple. ATC pays for some of the restaurant meals, often at discounted prices.

This effort is continuing, and ATC has meals go out 4 days a week.

ATC efforts are very well-acknowledged & supported in Austin, both by elected officials, other nonprofits, and the general public, including news media.

The youth, other than 3D printing face shields, are also running and planning online concerts to raise money for our COVID-19 efforts.



During the past weeks, the New York Chapter (NYC) donated 5,000 surgical masks, 500 KN95 masks, and 2,000 gloves, to the hands of doctors, nurses, police officers, and other essential workers. More N95 and surgical masks are going to be delivered in the upcoming days.

Frontline workers here have stepped up to the plate. Although they are carrying us on their backs through this crisis, they are so appreciative of our support. NYC wants to share one story with you: one of the nurses, Jackelyn, whom they gave the masks to, and works at Harlem Hospital, has chosen to work at COVID ER room, overseeing an entire nursing staff that cares for 50 COVID patients, after recovering from battling COVID herself for 17 days; she was hospitalized for fever, unbearable body pain, coughing, and shortness of breath — she stated she was encouraged by the outpour of support she received. What an inspiring story! We, as a society, as Americans, can lift each other under any circumstances. Brave women and men like Jackelyn who runs toward the risk for others. We at APAPA are trying to make sure they have the PPE they need to do their job.

It seems that our social status and representation that so many of us have been advocating for have gone backward during this crisis. There will no doubt be more challenges for us to face in the near future. But most important is the fact that we are all in this together.



Peninsula Chapter



The Peninsula Chapter in California has done a great job in helping to combat the spread of COVID-19. They held a fundraiser where they raised a total of \$3,000 to purchase 1,500 masks (1,000 surgical and 500 N95) for local medical doctors, nurses, cleaners, neighbors and other essential workers.

Dr. Li Zhang serves as the Vice President for APAPA Albany Chapter (ALC) and President for the Chinese Community Center of the Capital Region New York. On March 18, Dr. Li Zhang established COVID-19 Task Force and within a day, several groups were formed, including the General Decision Group, Procurement Group, Hospitals Group, Community Service Group, Transportation Group, and Public Relations Group. Within a week, more than 100 people joined the task force. So far, we have donated 42,619 N95 and surgical masks to local hospitals, clinics, EMS,



police departments, and other local organizations. Another 34,000 surgical masks were purchased and shipped from China to the U.S. Until today, ALC has raised \$59,185 from individuals, restaurant owners, hospitals, organizations matching funds, and other organizations, such as Price Chopper and The Chinese Martial Arts Academy. ALC is proud of being Asian Americans and we are all in this together fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Davis Chapter



The global coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is affecting all aspects of our daily lives. In response to the unique challenges caused by the pandemic, Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs (APAPA) Davis has been proactive in organizing community efforts to ameliorate these new problems. Since the beginning of March when we started to see more cases of COVID-19 in California, APAPA Davis Chapter proactively took action to find better ways to support the community.

At the beginning of April, the APAPA Davis Chapter Chair and former Mayor of Davis, Ms. Ruth Asmundson reached out to Davis Emergency Operations Center for more guidance on the donation support. She received a letter from Darren Pytel, the Police Chief and Davis Emergency Operations Center Commander. As his email requested, the center would accept all different types of support. Alan Wei, The APAPA Davis Vice President for Programs, recently spearheaded a donation program in Davis using WeChat, a messaging platform, and email. This program is asking the community to donate three ways: by directly donating to the city, mailing a donation to the APAPA Davis Chapter, or donating money or food to the Yolo County Food Bank. Alan emphasized the need for our community to support each other stating: "We have to play as a team to beat the virus. We are doing our best to support the local team." As of April 20, APAPA Davis has donated many masks to the city and a sum of \$3,750 to the Yolo Food Bank with families continuing to make donations.

On April 3, APAPA Ohio President, Yumin Yin, worked with Greater Cleveland Chinese Community (GCC) to donate 2,000 medical masks to UH Rainbow; 2,000 to St. Vincent; 3,000 to Summa; 3,000 to Akron Children's; 4,000 to Lake Health; and 1,000 to UH Seidman Cancer Center. In the week before, GCCC already donated 2,400 masks to UH/St. Vincent/Summa. More medical masks are on the way to more local hospitals including Cleveland Clinic. The total masks donated by GCCC amount to 39,400 with love.

On April 8 and 9, APAPA leaders were among the leaders in Greater Cleveland Chinese Community (GCC) to continue the journey to donate medical face masks to local hospitals with 22,000 delivered. GCCC delivered 8,000 masks to Cleveland Clinic's main campus; 2,000 to CCF Fairview; 2,000 to UH Parma; 2,000 to UH Bedford/Richmond; 2,000 to UH Ahuja; 2,000 to Mercy at Canton; and 4,000 to MetroHealth on Tuesday and Wednesday. We will continue to help until we win this battle against COVID-19.

APAPA is continuing to work with GCCC to deliver 10,000 more medical masks and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the local community. In the meantime, the local Chinese Americans have handmade 1,800 masks in two weeks and are planning to donate them together with the medical masks.

Up to mid-April, APAPA and Great Cleveland Chinese Community donated 49,000 masks, including 2,400 N95 mask, and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to healthcare facilities, senior centers, police stations and other community centers in Cleveland area. They also raised about \$30,000 in cash, besides the directly donated PPE. Most of the cash donation was used to buy the PPE for donation, and the remaining fundraised (about \$3,000) is planned to be donated to local food banks.

APAPA also organized a group of volunteers to sew much-needed cloth masks for hospitals at night and over the weekends. In less than three weeks, the group made over 2,000 masks for seven local hospitals. Their effort represents Chinese American's participation in response to the call-to-action by the government and hospitals to make masks. APAPA members also coordinated the donation of PPEs from people in China directly to the Cleveland hospitals. Such donation was widely reported by local TV stations and newspapers.





Our frontline medical staff and workers are in dire need of PPEs (Personal Protective Equipment) while risking their lives fighting the COVID-19 battle for all of us. Without protecting them, we cannot win this COVID-19 battle!

Realizing this need, APAPA Ohio and multiple Chinese American organizations in Columbus stepped up and rallied together to help. Many APAPA Ohio leaders are also the leaders of those Chinese American organizations, including

Columbus Chinese Community (CCC), The Columbus Chinese Physicians Association (CCPA), Columbus Chinese Christian Church (CCCC), and Wuhan University Ohio Alumni Association (WUOAA). Together, they have collected donations of close to \$158,000, and have donated a total of 81,000 surgical masks, 6,800 N95 masks, 23,000 gloves, and 300 gowns to over two dozens of hospitals, county emergency Management Centers, nursing homes and police stations in Columbus.

In this difficult time, it is the diversity and strength of our community that makes central Ohio strong. The Chinese community comes together in times of crisis. Multiple organizations have been working closely together supporting our medical staff and the local community in the fight against COVID-19. In the face of adversity when it was wrongfully called a Chinese Virus, the Chinese community focuses on contributing to the community by going above and beyond instead of being intimidated and frustrated.



Ohio State Chapter - Cincinnati

In Cincinnati, APAPA Ohio State Chapter joined the Anti-pandemic Committee together with multiple Chinese American organizations, which include the Alliance of Chinese Culture and Arts, the Huaxia Chinese School, the Greater Chinese School, the Cincinnati Sichuan-Chongqing Friendship Association, and Midwest USA Chinese Chamber of Commerce, etc.

Many APAPA leaders in this city are also leaders or volunteers of the Huaxia Chinese School. This organization raised over \$6,500 to help fight the pandemic. Besides purchasing PPEs with the fund, the organization also collected PPEs directly donated from the residents in the community. Since the pandemic started, the organization has donated over 300 N95 masks, 6,000 surgical masks, and other protective equipment to several local healthcare facilities, including UC hospital, North Bethesda hospital, Mercy Fairfield hospital, Atrium Middletown hospital, and Dayton Miami Valley Hospital, etc.

The school volunteers also formed a group called "Sew Mask for Cincy", and those volunteers are composed of school teachers and parents of different professions: managers, scientists, engineers, professors, IT professionals, business owners, and stay-at-home moms! They hand made over 1,000 face masks and donated to local retirement centers, school districts, and grocery stores.



Friends and families of APAPA came together mobilizing financial contributions and medical supplies to help the front-line hospitals, first response agencies, clinics and long-term care facilities. The collaborative fundraising drive raised over 15,000 PPE units including surgical masks, protective suits, and handmade facial shields.

The generosity of APAPA's friends and families cannot be understated as they came together to reached our goal in less than three days. This event was also intended to engage youth to participate and serve. Wenxuan Li, a high school student from Beijing China sympathized as the pandemic rapidly corroding every corner of the world, he leads 50 other friends and supporters in China to help with

the relief for COVID-19 epidemic in America, all \$830 were donated to APAPA Mask Drive, sprinting our goal to the finish line. Youth volunteers also helped to make masks, drove donations to designated hospitals and frontline services. This event was much more than community service, it was a once in a lifetime experience of perseverance united by kindness, strength and courage.

Despite the general flattening of increasing cases, many places are still in urgent need of supplies both locally and beyond. Our chapter has committed to the following facilities: Swedish Medical First Hill, Air Force Reserve Medical Team in New York, Rolla Hospital in Missouri, Valley Medical Center in Renton, WA; Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Jersey, UW Medical Center; Kaiser Permanent in Bellevue, Overlake Hospital Child Birth Center, ICHS Seattle Medical Center, NeighborCare Seattle branches, and Children's Hospital Foundation. Additionally, Issaquah Nursing and Rehab Center and Aegis Living have also received supplies for their senior home caretakers.



APAPA in the Community

APAPA Davis Chapter: 2020 Lunar Celebration



The APAPA Davis Chapter hosted the celebration party to recognize API business leaders who have made significant contributions to the Davis community and have helped inspire a future generation of API entrepreneurs and business professionals. More than 60 business owners, professionals and entrepreneurs joined the celebration and a few successful business stories were shared at the party. It was a very good opportunity to celebrate the stories of API ingenuity, entrepreneurship, and resilience.

APAPA Albany Chapter: 2020 U.S. Census

On Feb. 22, 2020, APAPA Albany Chapter invited Zoe Bevelle of the U.S. Census Bureau to give a seminar on the 2020 U.S. Census. Over 30 chapter leaders including several new life members attended the event. Also in attendance were elected officials including Clifton Park Town Supervisor Phil Barrett, and Albany County Legislator Nathan L. Bruschi.

HP Wang acknowledged the 2020 internship sponsors, Li Zhang and Jane Chen, for their generous donations and presented a brief overview of chapter activities in 2019 including successful Civic Leadership Forum, Governor's State of the State addresses to the AAPI community, College Essay prep program, and the Internship Program.

Bevelle, Partnership Specialist, US Census Bureau gave a detailed presentation about the 2020 census, and its impact on communities, especially minorities. She was able to connect with various community leaders, like the president of the Bangladeshi association in the audience who invited her

to an event in his community where she will present to the Bangladeshi community. Two coming events were announced at the meeting: New York State of the State and 2020 Census. The presentations were followed by socializing as a diverse group of volunteers mingled over Teppanyaki and Ting Ting Wang's famous Rice Cakes.



APAPA Solano County Chapter: Solano County Voters' Forum

APAPA Solano County Chapter (SOC) co-sponsored the Solano County Voter's Forum on January 9, 2020. Interns assisted in timekeeping and helping to set up the live stream. SOC also promoted participating in the 2020 Census and provided voter registration materials.



APAPA New York Chapter: Public Speaking Workshop



On Feb. 27, 2020, the APAPA New York Chapter held a Public Speaking Workshop in partnership with Congresswoman Grace Meng, At the Table, The Boys' Club of New York and ALIGN. They received positive feedback – informative and useful - from students who attended the resume and interview skill workshops. Public speaking is one of the most important skills to have in life, regardless of a person's profession; it's also fundamental to self-confidence. Good public speaking skills will serve a person well in both personal and professional lives. APAPA-NYC was honored to be a part of this workshop again.

APAPA New York Chapter: Presentation on Governor Andrew M. Cuomo by Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul

On Jan. 30, Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul came to the community giving the outlines of Governor Andrew Cuomo's 2020 agenda and talked about the issues that concern our community. New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer, Assemblywoman Yuh-Line Niou, representatives from many elected officials' offices, and many community leaders joined the presentation. Lt. Governor gave informative details about the part that will impact the community and encouraged local government and organizations to use the resources offered by the state government.



APAPA North Texas: Activities



On Jan. 19, 2020, APAPA-North Texas Chapter (APAPA-NTC) Chair Francine Ly and Treasurer Sinmin Pak took part in the Annual Dallas Women's March.

On Feb. 23, APAPA-NTC hosted an event for their community "Understanding Conventions and How to Become a Delegate" with Judge Tina Yoo Clinton.



UNT Dallas Law Review was asked to do a new DALLAS County Jury Video and APAPA NTC members volunteered to serve as jurors in the new Dallas County Jury Duty Video on March 13. This demonstrative video will be played to potential jurors each morning at the George Allen Courthouse (civil) and the Frank Crowley Courthouse (criminal). Sinmin Pak, our Treasurer, serving as a witness, Francine Ly, Chapter Chair, Chun-Lung Lee, member and Krishna Akarapu, intern.

Upcoming Activities

16th Annual CA State Capitol Internship Awards & Fundraising Gala



Join us for APAPA's 16th Annual CA State Capitol Internship Awards and Fundraising Gala on Monday, July 20, 2020 from 5:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

Asian American Unity Coalition



Asian American Unity Coalition would like to invite you to join them on May 11 and 12 to celebrate the Asian American Heritage Month watch together PBS documentary series, "Asian Americans".

Please don't forget to [Register](#).

Asian American Unity Coalition (AAUC) is organizing a watch party for PBS Documentaries "Asian Americans" premier on May 11 and 12. Please register [here](#).

Everyone who watches the documentaries is invited to a nationwide AAUUnity Webinar on June 6th, 2020 with the producer/director of the documentary, Bruce Taima-Pela as the keynote speaker. We also invite you to submit a [reflection](#) (either an essay or a video clip - deadline 5/22/2020). Best reflections will be featured at the June 6th nationwide webinar.

For more information about the series, please see links below

- Link to preview the trailer: [http://asianamericans.pbs.org/trailer](#) (password: CAAM)
- Link to live stream the series on May 11 & 12 @ 8:00 PM EDT (5:00 PM PDT) [http://www.pbs.org/joinus/series/](#)

Rise: Asian Pacific American

"Rise: Asian Pacific America" is a series of online town halls throughout the month of May which is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The town halls will discuss where we are today, where we've been as a community, and where we need to go, to rise up to the challenges we face in the near and remote future.

Visit www.riseapa.org to RSVP or click the picture.



Challenges Facing the Asian American Community

The Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) is hosting the "Challenges Facing the Asian American Community!" on May 12, 2020, at 11 A.M. PST.



Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs (APAPA) empowers Asian and Pacific Islander Americans through education, leadership and active participation in civic and public affairs. UCA is dedicated to enriching and empowering Chinese American communities through civic engagement, political participation, heritage sharing, youth development and a greater understanding between US and China.

Featuring: Yen Marshall, National Executive Director, Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs (APAPA) & Haipei Shue, President, United Chinese Americans



[RSVP here.](#)



Empowering and Engaging Asian and Pacific Islander Americans

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Welcome to our New Members!

We would like to welcome and thank the following new members for joining and supporting APAPA.

Lifetime - Diamond

- Nicole Ramirez

Lifetime - Gold

- Liang Chao

Lifetime - Silver

- Louis Lou Webster
- Michael Woo

Annual - Diamond

- Richard Desmond
- Sachin Biliyar

Annual - Silver

- Kimberly Holmes
- Zhen Gao

Annual - Student

- Arushi Aeri
- Grant Willis

Headquarters' Staff

- Yen Marshall - National Executive Director
- Sokie Hul - Operations Director
- Marilyn Nielsen - National Deputy Executive Director
- Sharmila Gurrala - Bookkeeper/Data Analyst
- Johnny Chao - Comm. Graphic Design Specialist
- Cecilia Lew - National Treasurer
- Alma Stevens - Office Admin.

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