

APANO



ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN NETWORK OF OREGON

2012-2013 YEAR IN REVIEW



MESSAGE FROM HUY ONG

As I reflect on the past year with APANO, I am filled with a great sense of accomplishment and high hopes for the future. Our communities are at the center of our work together. We are invested in staff for the long-term, led by our first Executive Director Rev. Joseph Santos-Lyons. Together we have accomplished significant policy wins that will improve opportunity and well-being for all Oregonians. As an organization, we are deepening our program work, strengthening our systems, and growing our financial health.

For 2014, we will elevate APANO committees and volunteer leadership to take on the issues impacting our communities. We are strategically growing our leadership development programs and coalition advocacy campaigns that advance social, racial and economic justice for Oregon. Together, we stand on the shoulders of giants, those who have come before us. Together we will organize for deeper impact on issues such as Dual Language Immersion, Disaggregated Data Collection and the 2014 Mid-term Elections.

Most important to me is to ask you to join me in thanking and celebrating all the fabulous members, supporters and partners in Oregon and beyond. Please recognize the individuals and organizations who see and support the mission of APANO by offering their precious time and financial resources. On behalf of APANO, please hear us in your heart when I say thank you.

Thank you all,

Huy Ong
APANO Board Chair

MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

OUR MISSION

The Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon is a statewide grassroots organization, uniting Asians and Pacific Islanders to achieve social justice. We use our collective strengths to advance equity through empowering, organizing and advocating with our communities.

OUR VISION

We envision a just and equitable world where Asians and Pacific Islanders are fully engaged in the social, economic and political issues that affect us.

OUR VALUES

Our communities find strength in a powerful political voice shaped by passion, self-determination and our diverse cultural and ethnic heritages.

Strong relationships are the foundation of meaningful change. Our experiences as Asian and Pacific Islanders inspire our partnerships with each other and promote our coalition building in order to find solutions to shared concerns.

Our leadership must emerge from, be reflective of, and be accountable to, the diverse needs, interests and heritages within our Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

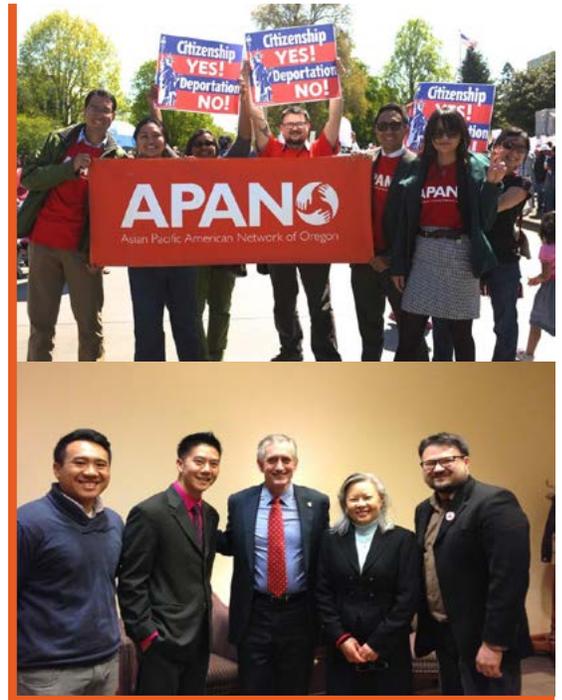
The root causes of inequities are connected and shape our social justice and human rights work. We stand in solidarity with other communities who experience oppression.

MODEL OF CHANGE

APANO's Model of Change is grounded in organizing the leadership and power of Pan-API communities experiencing inequities, fostering partnerships, and engaging in campaigns. We seek to empower Asian and Pacific Islanders, especially those who experience oppression, through analysis, skill building and relationship building which are central to our community organizing.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

In 2013, APANO hosted many events that brought community members together, including: bilingual volunteer training; civic engagement training through Advocacy Academy; Annual Statewide Convention; Dis/Orient/Ed Comedy; Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion Community meeting; APANO Asian Heritage Night Relief Reception; leadership workshops; Community Leaders Circle.



APANO ISSUE AREAS



Health Equity



Education Equity



Civic Engagement



Jade District



WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER



At APANO, one of our common sayings is that we are stronger together.

For generations, citizens of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Palau have supported the USA. The USA has conducted over 60 nuclear tests causing long-term health problems and rendered much of their lands uninhabitable. For decades the US Congress has approved a 5 year Compact of Free Association (COFA) providing support for the housing, health and security of “COFA Citizens”, including work and travel to the USA in return for continued US military and economic interests.

In responses to the stories from people directly affected, APANO supported community partners to identify the root cause of the problem, provide leadership development, and advocate together. The problem centered on a legislative decision narrowing access to driver licenses for immigrants, and the solution was passing a bill (HB 2517) to restore full access for COFA Citizens. Working alongside Cris Ogo of the Micronesian Islander Community and David Anitok of the Oregon Marshallese Association, we passed HB 2517. Starting January 1st, 2014, COFA Citizens in Oregon will again be able to receive regular 8 year licenses.

Oregon is stronger when our communities work together, and this story illustrates APANO’s vision of developing effective leadership and building capacity to advocate on issues that affect our families. As we look ahead to 2014, we hope you will support our organizing projects that increase our ability to win on the issues we care about.

With gratitude,

Rev. Joseph Santos-Lyons
Executive Director

PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN OREGON **FACTS**

- There are over 25,000 in population
- The fastest growing racial group in Oregon at 68%
- Face the highest poverty rates at over 40%
- COFA covers the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands
- 105 atmospheric nuclear tests conducted in COFA countries

APANO BY THE NUMBERS



COMMUNITIES OF CONTRASTS

API communities are doing well in some areas, and suffering disparities in others.



EDUCATION EQUITY

More than half (55%) of API students in Portland Public Schools are English Language Learners. Less than one-third (28%) of English Language Learners in PPS graduate on time (one of the lowest rates of any group). In Multnomah County API are 3x more likely to not have graduated high school.



HEALTH EQUITY

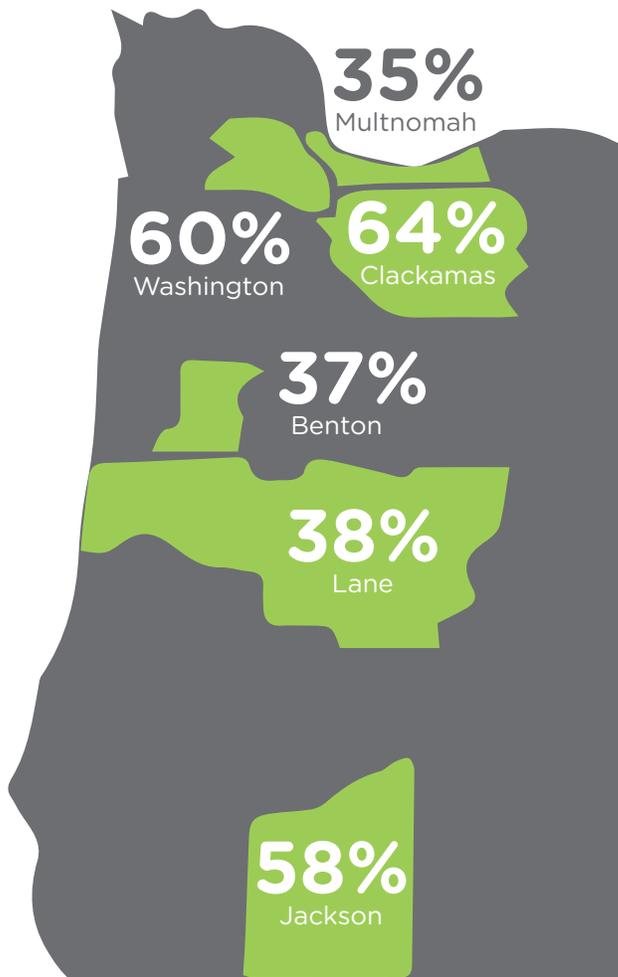
An Estimated 25,000 APIs are uninsured, and they are disproportionately in specific immigrant, refugee and low-income API communities. Mental health access remains an issue: API girls ages 15-24 have high suicide and depression rates.



JOBS

Despite being the most highly educated labor force by race, Asian Americans face the highest rate of long-term unemployment with 50% of workers unemployed for 6 months or more.

GROWTH IN TOP 6 OREGON COUNTIES



API FACTS



*Data based from United States Census Bureau



JADE DISTRICT

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

When the sun sets over Taipei, the market at Shilin is just heating up. Smells of stinky tofu and sizzling sausage mingle with plumes of smoke above stalls strung with white lights, while performers and musicians amuse the crowds. Shops are bustling and there are games to be played. At this night market and others around the world, people come together to browse, socialize, and unwind. Sure, there are daytime markets, but under the cover of darkness, night markets feel exhilarating, drawing locals relieved to be off from work. They're entertainment venues pulsating with life; there's plenty to see and do, and dinner's cooking. This is the vision the residents of the Jade District want to see become reality.

The Jade District, the area surrounding 82nd and Division in SE Portland, was designated by the Portland Development Commission (PDC) as a Neighborhood Prosperity Initiative (NPI) district in 2011. The NPI is a public/private partnership that aims to transform underserved commercial districts in east Portland into engines of economic growth without displacing the communities that reside there.

The Jade District is roughly 40% communities of color and is particularly identified for its rich blend of Asian influences. As part of the PDC's community outreach to diverse communities within the Jade, APANO was contracted in early 2013 to reach out to the community to determine how the NPI project could best serve the residents. Since then, APANO has put together a steering committee comprised of neighborhood association representatives, local business owners, school volunteers, and residents to lead the development initiatives.

The steering committee is tasked primarily with identifying key opportunities for physical improvements to provide a safer and more welcoming environment for commerce in the Jade. This fiscal year, for example, the committee voted to use its capital improvement budget to install banners on the lamp poles of the Jade District, increasing district visibility to passing traffic.

What makes APANO's involvement critical, however, is that these improvements for business are being made in a way that respects the local community, focusing not only on improved business, but also upon improved health and educational outcomes. By engaging the community in the Jade District through the development of the Jade Steering Committee and a series of local business surveys, we have identified strong support for a community garden and Asian night market, and have already begun work on these areas in collaboration with Harrison Park School.

Located in the center of the Jade District, Harrison Park is the largest and most diverse K-8 Portland Public School. Now, it will become host to a vibrant community garden that will serve as a center for community engagement. This garden will advance the school as a center for the local neighborhood and will allow the large number of immigrant and refugee families in the area access to fresh and culturally specific nutritious food.

Beyond the community garden, we have begun work on a night market for the Jade District. Night markets are often the center of social life and commerce and exist throughout Asia in locations such as Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, Singapore, Malaysia, China, Thailand, and the Philippines. They have been replicated to great success in Chinatowns around the world, and have been well-documented as an engine of development. By making the Jade District a destination within the city, we will create jobs, improve walkability, and drive down crime rates as people are walking about the district in the evenings.

APANO is committed not only to building economic capital, but also to building our community's social capital through these projects. Be on the lookout for exciting changes to the Jade District in the upcoming months.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN ADVOCACY

APANO works to identify and address the disparities that impact our communities, through community organizing, leadership development and grassroots advocacy. We believe that by building a strong constituency of our API communities, in concert with strong coalition building, we will be able to lead, address the inequities we face, and be successful in our mission of social justice.

Our current programs are:

EDUCATION EQUITY AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

- Driver licenses give our communities the opportunity to work, go to school and contribute to our economy. We worked successfully to restore driver licenses for Pacific Islanders who are COFA Residents* through HB 2517 and create a driver card for immigrants and refugees who lack citizenship documentation with SB 833.
- Access to in-state college tuition, regardless of immigration status leads to better education results, invests in our children who graduate from Oregon high schools, and leads to better lifetime opportunities and health outcomes. After ten years of hard work, we helped pass Tuition Equity HB 2787 increasing access to college for immigrant children.
- Refugee Services including job training help our economy and increase self-sufficiency. APANO worked with IRCO, Lutheran Community Services and other providers to continue full TANF social service funding that supports refugee resettlement programs in Oregon.
- This year we successfully worked with the Vietnamese Community of Oregon to win a commitment for the creation of a Vietnamese immersion program and the expansion of the Chinese immersion program within the Portland Public School District.

HEALTH EQUITY

- Culturally appropriate data collection ensures that disparities facing our API communities are visible and addressed. APANO organized a Data Equity Coalition that introduced and won our first bill (HB 2134) establishing uniform data standards for race, ethnicity, language and disability status in the Oregon Health Authority and Department of Human Services.
- Cultural competency is about interacting effectively with people of different backgrounds, and promoting the health of communities facing health inequities. APANO worked with the Urban League of Portland and other partners through the HOPE Coalition to pass HB 2611 that creates a new system for cultural competency continuing education for licensed health professionals in Oregon.
- Strong relationships are the foundation for meaningful change, and APANO is a proud member of the Oregon Health Equity Alliance that worked to pass a range of health equity policies, including prenatal care for all women and establishing a traditional health care commission to support the emerging community health worker professionals.





Dinner celebrating the creation of Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion program with Superintendent Carole Smith of Portland Public Schools, PPS and members of the VNCO.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Asian Pacific Islander Community Leadership Institute (API-CLI) was founded in 2011 with the vision of building the leadership capacity of community leaders and of building collaborative alliances and partnerships among API communities to address racial and ethnic disparities. The Institute is a partnership project between the IRCO/Asian Family Center and APANO.

These leadership programs are a response to the pervasive racial and ethnic inequities faced by communities of color here in Oregon. Within the context of culture, each leadership program empowers and makes visible communities of color, immigrants and refugees, expands the pathways for social inclusion, increases civic engagement and networking in communities of color, and builds culturally-specific social capital.

Our innovative leadership program uses the Popular Education model in its leadership skills curriculum to engage and empower community leaders. With staff support, Fellows have the option of working in teams based on their expertise to design and facilitate these workshops. Fellows will also work on community action projects with partner organizations to address issues and concerns that impact API communities.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Gene is an immigrant who has lived in the U.S. for 50 years and has never had the right to vote. "But now I'm able to," he says. "It's my right. Not every country has that right, but I'm glad now I do. I'm honored." Each week a team of volunteers from APANO, Causa and the Center for Intercultural Organization, in partnership with the US Citizen and Immigration Services and Oregon Voices, attend the Naturalization Ceremony at the USCIS Office in NW Portland. The ceremony, encompassing an inspirational message and a joyous final act of receiving official citizenship papers for about 35 immigrants and refugees, is capped off by a simple yet powerful act of registering to vote. This program has a 90% success rate registering voters, and research shows that new citizens who register to vote at their naturalization ceremony are more likely to vote than those who register to vote later, if at all.

Electoral civic engagement is a key strategy that supports APANO's capacity to advocate effectively on the issues that impact our Asian and Pacific Islander communities. Each election cycle for the past 2 years, we have run formal voter registration and GOTV campaigns. We seek to serve as a hub for API organizations across Oregon to support broad based, ethnic/language specific, voter engagement efforts.



HONORS

"Building Political Power" for Vote Project, Western States Center

"Safety Net Champion Award 2013" for Legislative work, Coalition of Community Health Clinics

AWARDS

Genius Award from Oregon Health Institute for the Oregon Health Equity Alliance

UPCOMING APANO EVENTS

2013

December 10th

Jade Office Opening and Membership Kick-Off

December 12th

Bangon Pilipinas PDX: APANO's Asian Heritage Night Typhoon Relief Reception and Raffle

2014

January 15th

Racial Equity Report Card released

March 21st & 22nd

Advocacy Academy: Interpreting for Social Justice

April 12th

Asian Pacific Islander Community Leadership Institute Graduation

***May 22nd**

Voices of Change Fundraiser

***September 20th**

Annual Convention

November 4th

Election Day



MEET OUR NEW BOARD AND STAFF MEMBER



“Organizing is about changing the world.”

- DR. DIANA PEI WU

Dr. Diana Pei Wu is the Director of Organizing at APANO. Dr. Pei Wu is Chinese-American, born in New York City. A former professor of Ethnic Studies and Environmental Studies, she developed a program regarding the issues of environmental justice and racism at Duke University called Project Wild.

Diana's knowledge and experience in academia is extensive, but her passion for organizing is truly inspirational and contagious. A catalyst, she views her position as a recruiting tool for racial justice movements, not just an educator of the movements concerning racial justice, prison abolition, economic justice, gender and reproductive justice and queer folks. “Academia isn't the main place where that analysis exists (for community organizing), it actually exists in community. When people are sitting around in the kitchen, cooking, and talking about what happened at work and how that relates to race or economics or the history of corporate control in the United States or incarceration, that's where that analysis lives. It lives in our lives and how we talk with each other and how we are with each other.”

In such a constant evolving and challenging field, she finds it crucial to define what is important in her life, to align to her work and how this intersects with the world. “You have to have a very strong theory of change. You have to have theories about how the world works, in order to understand where you decide to maximize action to change it. You also have to have a theory about what's wrong with the world. So when you're trying to improve the world, it is based on a theory of how the world can be. That's the deepest and most challenging work that exists in the world now.”



“Working together though, doesn't cause you to lose your values. By working together we can tackle problems that are shared. The best way to fight is to struggle together.”

- DR. TOEUTU
FAALEAVA

Dr. Dr. Toeutu Faaleava is our new APANO board member. Originally from the Bay area, Dr. Faaleava has been the Director of McNair Scholars program for ten years and has been at Portland State University since 2001. He specializes in community mobilization and capacity building; with research interests are reclaiming indigenous voices, spaces, scholarship and resistance.

Dr. Faaleava's understanding of collaborating and the shared struggles resonates with APANO's belief that we are stronger, together. “I believe in collaboration, shared issues, shared concerns, and that we can achieve a lot more working together. It's a common sense necessity. I believe in building coalitions. There are certain people that believe we should only focus on our own community's issues. But we need to recognize that we all struggle together and we can create better results for our communities if we work together. I also think that this sense of not wanting to collaborate comes from the experience of being colonized. There is this need to be independent, self-sufficient - that kind of ethic. It's an ethic that was born out of colonization.” APANO's collaborative work with partners lays the groundwork for the growth of future success. “What APANO is doing well is building coalitions from grassroots all the way up to legislature. We need to operate from respect and knowing our mutual and shared interests and goals. APANO has been very effective at reaching out but it's not going to happen right away. Whenever there this kind of relationship is built it is slow. If you look 10 years from now, and took a time machine and looked at what APANO did today, we can assume that this is what we need to do to build for lasting collaborations.”

We are excited and grateful for such talented and dedicated individuals to join our APANO family.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PARTNERS, FUNDERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

Huy Ong, Chair
Anita Yap, Treasurer

Gauri Rajbaidya, Vice-Chair
Carol Suzuki, Secretary

At-Large

Ronault LS Catalani
Mary Li
Thach Nguyen
June Schumann
Raahi Reddy

Toeutu Faaleava
Jason Mak
Patti Sakurai
Channbunmorl Sou
Emily S. Ryan

FUNDERS

Asian Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Asian Pacific Islander American Vote
City of Portland
Coalition of Communities of Color
McKenzie River Gathering Foundation
Metro
Meyer Memorial Trust
Multnomah County
Northwest Health Foundation
Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group
Oregon Voice
Portland Development Commission
State of Oregon
Western States Center

STAFF

Joseph Santos-Lyons, Executive Director
Diana Pei Wu, Organizing Director
Duncan Hwang, Development & Communications Director
Stanley Moy, Field Organizer, Jade District Manager
Paolo Esteban, Field Organizer
Cris Ogo, Pacific Islander Consultant
Diem Huynh, Membership Coordinator
Bridget Nickol, AmeriCorps VISTA for HOPE Coalition
Sharon Lincoln, Bookkeeper
Phamala Luangphasy, Graphic Designer
Evan Parcher, Graphic Designer
Jazmin Midori Roberts, Graphic Designer

PARTNERS

Coalition Tables and National Networks

AIM for Equity: National Asian Pacific Islander
Asian Pacific Islander American Vote
Health Justice Network
Healthy Oregon Partnership for Equity (HOPE) Coalition
Oregon Alliance for Education Equity
Oregon Health Authority Health Equity Policy Committee
Oregon Health Equity Alliance
Oregon Racial Equity Report Card Working Group

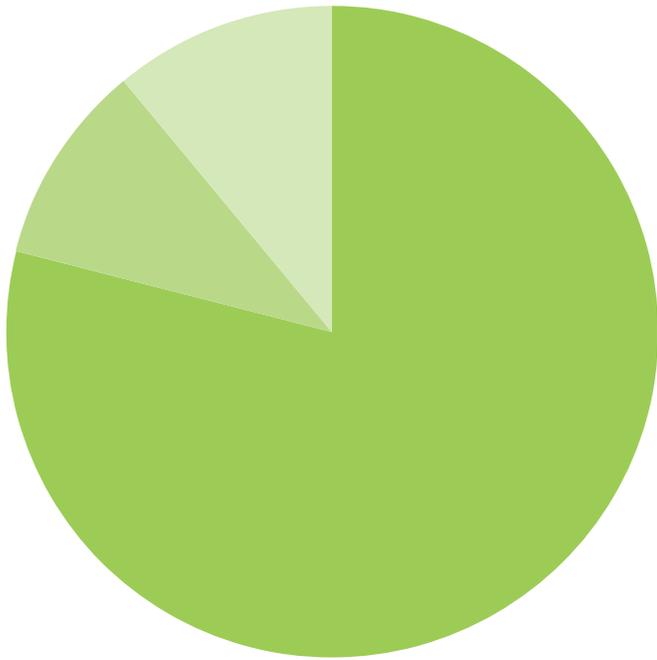
Asian and Pacific Islander Organizations

Asian American Youth Leadership
Asian Pacific American Student Union
Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce - Oregon
Cambodian American Community of Oregon
Chinese American Citizens League - Portland Lodge
Coalition of Filipino American Associations - Oregon
Hmong American Community of Oregon
Hmong Association of Oregon
Japanese American Citizen's League - Portland
Kaibigan Student Association - Portland State
Micronesian Islander Community of Salem
Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association
Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
Pacific Islander Student Association
Pan-Asian Community Alliance of Lane County
Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon
Portland Taiko
Samoan Pacific Development Commission
Vietnamese Community of Oregon

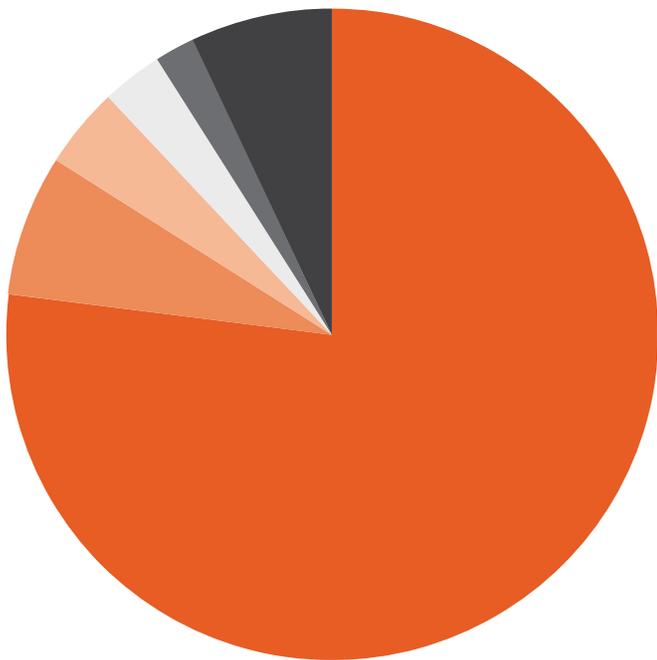
Local and State Organizations

Basic Rights Oregon
CAUSA Oregon
Center for Intercultural Organizing
Coalition of Communities of Color
Office of Neighborhood Involvement - East Portland Action Plan
Immigrant and Refugee Community Organizing
NARAL
Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group
Oregon Action
Oregon Center for Public Policy
Oregon Health Authority
Office of Equity and Inclusion
Oregon Latino Health Coalition
Oregon Voice
Upstream Public Health
Urban League of Portland
Tobacco Free Coalition of Oregon
Western States Center

FINANCIALS: FISCAL YEAR 2013



Income		
79%	Foundations	\$231,000
10%	Individual	\$29,000
11%	Government	\$31,000
	Total	\$291,000



Expenses		
77%	Organizing/Advocacy	\$219,000
7%	Events	\$20,000
4%	Administration	\$13,000
3%	Rent & Office	\$8,000
2%	Lobbying	\$5,000
7%	Fundraising	\$20,000
	Total	\$285,000



APANO ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN NETWORK OF OREGON

Like us on Facebook



facebook.com/APANONews

240 North Broadway, Suite 215
Portland, Oregon 97227

(971)340-4861

www.apano.org

Jade District Office
2738 SE 82nd Ave
Suite 202

Follow us on Twitter



#APANONews