

# APANO

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN NETWORK OF OREGON



# 2018

# Annual Report



We build power for AAPI communities through community organizing, civic engagement, community development, & cultural work.

[www.apano.org](http://www.apano.org)

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

# Reflecting with Gratitude



**A**t APANO, we're often recognized for being an organization that builds power for AAPI communities through community organizing, civic engagement, community development, and cultural work. We sit at many convening tables and work toward equity and justice. As I reflect on the past 9 months and on what APANO has meant for me personally, I find that what matters is often not the pragmatic and brass-tacks of what we do, but

the memories of the impact that we've made. When I look back years from now, I won't remember the number of phone calls that we made or how many doors we knocked on, I'll remember the pride and joy I felt as I stood next to my APANO family when we received the results for the campaigns won and the results our work produced. Just as Maya Angelou said: "I've learned that people will forget

what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

One of my earliest memories was moving back to Portland in 2004. I had just spent time in Norway and schooling in Corvallis, and coming back to the city where I grew up seemed foreign 5 years later. APANO offered a soft place to land and reconnect with my community. I was a newly minted Education Equity Associate at APANO and my internship started with a learning trip to visit our neighbors in Seattle. June Schumann was serving on the APANO board and had volunteered to drive the carpool I was lucky enough to join. The conversations we shared during the trip stayed with me. So much wisdom was imparted from leaders who paved the way for the young immigrants, like me, who followed. The conversation (and lots of laughter) flowed and made the 3-hour drive seem like a blink of an eye.

Upon arrival, we toured the Wing Luke Museum, the first of its kind, celebrating Washington State’s first AAPI official elected into office. Afterward, we went on a walking tour where we learned from an elder who took pride in sharing how they turned a largely defunct piece of hillside land into a tiered community garden for folks living in the surrounding affordable housing. He made sure we did not miss seeing Bruce Lee’s favorite restaurant. Then we shared a meal together before embarking on our trip home. I reflect back on this trip because it offered me a feeling of belonging. APANO often serves as a home for many, and for me, it was also a beginning to a journey back to myself. What I learned from this memory, was that for much of my early career in the private sector, I let my work speak for me. From APANO, I learned that I should also make space for my identity. I should be proud of who I am, where I came from, and not leave behind those whose shoulders I stand on and carry on the work that they’ve started.

Fast forward 10 years, I had the opportunity to attend APANO’s 2015 Legislative Day of Action in

Salem as the keynote speaker in my role as an elected official, serving King City on City Council, a title I never expected to hold in my life. That same year, APANO had won 5 out of 5 key legislative agenda items, including the ethnic studies bill I am fortunate enough to follow through to the implementation of today.

This year, my involvement with this community grew even more after I accepted the role of Interim Executive Director this past June. During my time over the past 9 months I’ve been able to fight alongside staff against family separation, ethnically targeted hate crimes, and a humanitarian crisis in our own backyard. Joining arms with our coalition partners, we built the most comprehensive and coordinated campaign to protect Oregon as a beacon of hope for all.

We are all drawn to APANO for different reasons as life ebbs and flows. I am most proud that APANO remains a space for all. It’s a place of intersectionality. Youth can engage with the stories of elders. Conversations can meld movement-building with electoral work. Cultural work can broach subjects like mental health, and make it easy and accessible for us to interact with.

In the coming year, we are building the momentum to open our community center in the Summer of 2019. I hope we all had a chance to rest up and renew our energy with friends and family over the holidays. Your APANO family is ready for adventures to come in 2019!



Chi Nguyen  
Executive Director

# A Year With APANO



## 01 JANUARY

**JAMS is demolished** and construction officially begins on Orchards of 82nd - the home of APANO's new offices and 48 units of affordable housing for the community!

**ALLY and ONYCS youth** host the first annual Dance Fitness Fundraiser, over 100 folks attend to dance and support Youth Organizing!

## 02 FEBRUARY

**APANO and 35 of our members** brave snow and ice to head to Salem for a Day of Action! We advocated for Paid Family and Medical Leave (HB 4160) and against the dangerous threat of anti-immigrant ballot initiative IP22 - which later becomes Measure 105.

## 03 MARCH

**APANO graduates its first cohort** of Climate Health and Housing Institute fellows, a new program focused on developing climate justice leaders using a Just Transition framework!

## 05 MAY

**APANO hosts our annual gala**, Voices of Change, to fundraise for our work and to be in community with our supporters and members.

**APANO knocks on 20,000 doors** and outreaches to voters in 8 languages for the May Primary Elections. 6 out of 7 of APANO's candidate endorsements win, many making history in the process!

## 06 JUNE

**123 immigrants seeking asylum** are detained by ICE at Sheridan FCI. APANO begins a rapid response to work towards the release of the asylum seekers, many of whom are South Asian.

**APANO organizes a camping trip** for our Chinese community members, 28 youth attend, for many of the youth, this is their first time camping!

## 07 JULY

**ALLY Youth** visit Chicago for **Beyond our Boundaries**, a national Asian youth organizer summit. The summit

brings together Asian American youth throughout the country to learn, build, and grow their organizing skills.

## 08 AUGUST

**Jade District Night Market** brings together nearly 100 local vendors and 20,000 visitors to celebrate the diversity and culture of the Jade District neighborhood.

## 09 SEPTEMBER

**MicCheck!** A summer cultural event series, brings community and cultural workers together to build awareness of mental health issues with workshops, panels, and more.

## 10 OCTOBER

In collaboration with PCC, AMP brings back the 2nd Annual **East Portland Arts and Literary Festival (EPALF)** featuring all artists of color! Over 400 people attend the 2 day event!

## 11 NOVEMBER

**APANO fights and wins against Measure 105 and 106**, protecting Oregon's sanctuary law status and ensuring that reproductive healthcare remains accessible. PCEI (the Portland Clean Energy Initiative), an initiative that APANO helped draft and campaign for, wins in a landslide!

**APANO and our network of volunteers** spend nearly 6 months organizing, fundraising, and pressuring ICE for the release of the asylum seekers detained at Sheridan FCI. On November 28th, the last detained person at Sheridan FCI is finally released.

## 12 DECEMBER

**Applications officially open** for Orchards of 82nd! APANO hosts multiple in-language assistance workshops to make sure our communities have the best shot at affordable homes. Over 150 families come to APANO for help with their applications in the first week.

**Division Street Bridge Reclamation Project** is unveiled! Placemaking Artist Rodolfo Redstone Serna works with his mentees to beautify two pedestrian bridges to help slow down traffic in our neighborhood.

## ROOTS TO RISE UPDATE



# Orchards of 82nd Ready to Serve Our Communities

BY DUNCAN HWANG, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

After years of planning, development, and construction, the Orchards of 82nd will be officially opening in 2019! We're currently working with our partners at ROSE CDC to lease up the 48 units of affordable housing with new residents moving in by February! We have had overwhelming interest in these apartments and the Jade District team has been hard at work supporting applicants with in-language workshops and application assistance to ensure that our communities have the best chance at securing a home. Concurrently, we will be finishing construction on the ground floor community space and new permanent offices for APANO. In early summer 2019, we will

be celebrating the grand opening for the community space, which will also have a community kitchen, mobile computer lab, public plaza, and audio-visual system.

This project advances our goals of preventing involuntary displacement and fulfills a major community priority from the Jade District Vision. It takes a community to serve a community. In addition to our hundreds of individual donors and funders, we would also like to thank all our partners at ROSE CDC, Housing Development Center, and O'Neil Walsh Community Builders for making this vision a reality.

ELECTION IMPACT REPORT

# Vote Network Statistics



**16,668**  
VOTERS  
REGISTERED



THE BUS PROJECT

CHINESE AMERICAN  
CITIZENS ALLIANCE  
(CACA)



**202,662**  
ATTEMPTED  
VOTER  
CONTACTS

FILIPINO-AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION  
(FIL-AM)

KOREAN AMERICAN  
COALITION (KAC)

MICRONESIAN  
ISLANDER  
COMMUNITY (MIC)

**875**  
VOLUNTEER  
SHIFTS  
COMPLETED



OREGON STUDENT  
ALLIANCE (OSA)

PINEROS Y CAMPESINOS  
UNIDOS DEL NOROESTE  
(PCUN)



**2,800**  
VOTER EVENT  
PARTICIPANTS

**61**  
EVENTS  
HOSTED



**8**  
API LANGUAGES  
USED IN VOTER  
MATERIALS

1. MANDARIN
2. SHANGHAISE
3. TAISHANESE
4. TAGALOG
5. KOREAN
6. POHNPEIAN
7. CHUUKESE
8. MARSHALLESE

Continued on next page.

## APANO STATISTICS



**300+**  
SHIFTS FILLED



**3,000**  
DOORS  
KNOCKED



**\$250,000**  
IN INVESTMENTS



**35,000**  
PHONE DIALS



**8**  
PHONE BANKS



**14**  
CANVASSING  
EVENTS

## IMPORTANT DATES

**JAN 22**

LEGISLATIVE  
SESSION  
BEGINS

**APRIL 8**

APANO DAY  
OF ACTION

**MAY 21**

MAY SPECIAL  
ELECTION

**MAY**

VOICES OF  
CHANGE

**JUL 1**

LEGISLATIVE  
SESSION  
ENDS

**AUG**

JADE NIGHT  
MARKET

**SEPT**

MICCHECK!

**OCT**

ROLLING TIDES  
EPALF

# Youth Organizing



*Last November youth from ALLY and ONYCS worked together on a video against Measure 105!*

**Phúc Nguyen, ALLY Youth Organizer**

I got to work with ALLY members and staff to create an impact on the community. This project gave me a whole new experience personally, a great one. I kept asking myself what things I could do to help and what would happen if the result didn't come out as we expected, but 105 didn't pass and I couldn't be happier. We did it!



**Joyce Lee, ALLY Youth Organizer**

Growing up as a minority, I always felt I had to keep quiet about the struggles and oppression I experienced on a day to day basis because of fear. My mom was reluctant about me telling our story because she feared we would be attacked. Joining ALLY and helping produce this video, I realized we shouldn't be afraid to speak up and ask for equality. We are also people and we deserve peace and deserve to be heard just like everyone else. Hearing everyone else's struggles helped open my eyes and strengthened my passion for social justice.



## BEHIND THE SCENES



## SHERIDAN UPDATE

# Sheridan Rapid Response: A Collective Effort

BY JAI SINGH, FIELD ORGANIZER

*Since the middle of June 2018, APANO has been working on rapid response organizing to address ongoing and systemic attacks on immigrant individuals and families, largely by the federal government. 123 men were detained at the Sheridan Federal Detention Center, located in an isolated part of Oregon an hour and a half south west of Portland. The majority of the migrants were asylees from South Asian countries.*

Our community is absolutely exhausted of ICE kidnapping people, putting them in detention and then ransoming them for release. This process is tiresome, unjust, and immoral, but it has been the reality for over 5 months. As this unprecedented disaster was taking place in Oregon, APANO was able to mobilize over 200 individuals to contact their public officials, primarily in Oregon, to let them know about what was happening at Sheridan FCI and to advocate for the asylees' release from prison. Over 140 volunteers reached out to APANO to assist with the post detention respite network and we helped raise and collect over \$15,000 from donors to assist with the post detention work as well as the commissary funds ([apano.org/sheridan](http://apano.org/sheridan)). \$100 was placed in the commissary accounts of the majority of the 79 asylees that Innovation Law Lab represented (over \$9000 worth).

One of the more unique aspects of the legal response, where APANO assisted, was the formation of a post detention respite network for the asylees. As a Field Organizer for APANO, I helped create a toolkit and connected 3 locations, specifically gurdwaras, for our post detention respite network. Volunteers from these locations were able to host, shelter, and feed those who had been released from Sheridan. When we asked of our community and volunteers for goods and resources, including toiletries, care products and clothes for the Sheridan asylum seekers, the response from the



community was astounding, and we received donations from across the country, as well as international media attention.

As of November 28th, all 124 of the migrants and individuals Innovation Law Lab represented have been released, transferred or deported and they have started a Law Lab Bond+ Fund to envision abolition, and to help move to a new system to replace the flawed and oppressive power dynamic of the current bond process.

This work could not have been completed without our partner organizations including Innovation Law Lab, ACLU of Oregon, IMIrj (Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice), Rural Organizing Project, Unidos Bridging Communities, the Sikh Center of Oregon, Dashmesh Darbar Sikh Temple, the First Unitarian Church in Portland and so many others. I want to especially thank APANO's South Asian Sheridan Support Committee Members as well as Gurpreet Singh at the Sikh Center of Oregon and Navneet Kaur at Dashmesh Darbar for their assistance and time attending and organizing vigils, interpretation skills, and kindly hosting and helping the asylees once they were released. To continue our momentum and envision a world in which mass detention ceases to exist, please consider investing in the Law Lab Bond+ Fund ([mightycause.com/story/bondplus](http://mightycause.com/story/bondplus)).

CULTURAL WORK 101

# A Q&A with Cultural Work Manager Candace Kita

*You may have heard about APANO's Cultural Work program. But what's it really all about? Cultural Work Manager Candace Kita answers some key questions about this arm of APANO.*



## ***What is cultural work?***

APANO defines cultural work as the process of “centering the voices and experiences of marginalized Asian and Pacific Islanders to shift harmful narratives, envision alternatives, and foster movement building.” For me, what that comes down to is creating opportunities for artists of color to share their creative expressions (through visual art, poetry, writing, film, theatre, dance, cooking, storytelling, and more) to disrupt the dominant stories in mainstream media, which have long been focused on the identities and concerns of white, heterosexual, cisgender men.

## ***Why is cultural work important?***

Cultural work is literally about working on culture – the complex set of beliefs and values that we have about ourselves, our communities, and issues around us – to change it in a way that empowers us. It’s the critical and unnoticed precursor to building the political will that leads to policy change. If we can’t express the future that we want (whether that’s a future in which Asians and Pacific Islanders are not stereotyped as perpetual immigrants, or a future in which everyone deserves paid family leave), it is impossible to advocate for it. Artists are key allies that help us critique our current values and express new ones.

## ***What is your vision for cultural work at APANO?***

Fundamentally, I want all of our cultural work to create and share stories that empower communities of color. We use multiple strategies to do this, all of which we will continue in 2019. We organize Asian and Pacific Islander artists to host MicCheck!, our annual event series that provides a platform to discuss identity, representation, and politics; commission artists to create original artwork around specific issue areas; and lead creative projects (such as murals and performances) in the Jade District that directly address place-based challenges, such as pedestrian safety and air quality.

## ***If you weren't a cultural worker, what would you be?***

That’s so hard! In addition to being a cultural worker, I’m also a practicing astrologer, which I see as a form of storytelling. Besides that, I’d probably be a writer or an architect. I adore the nuances of language and frequently and secretly nerd out about urban planning.

Want to learn more? Contact Candace Kita at [candace@apano.org](mailto:candace@apano.org).

# Victory Marks a New Progressive Majority

BY KHANH PHAM, MANAGER OF IMMIGRANT ORGANIZING



In November 2018, the Portland Clean Energy Fund coalition, of which APANO played a leadership role, won a historic ballot measure that will raise at least \$30 million a year to support new solar power and other renewable energy, energy efficiency housing upgrades, and other climate resiliency efforts. The Portland Clean Energy Fund includes living-wage job training for low-income Portlanders and people of color. These projects will be funded by a 1% business license surcharge that only applies to mega-retailers with more than \$1 Billion a year in nationwide gross revenue.

Three years ago, when APANO first sat down in a church basement to talk about the idea of the Portland Clean Energy Fund with other members of the Coalition of Communities of Color, none of us had any experience with environmental initiatives, and frankly limited experience with any kind of ballot measure initiatives, and we knew that our opposition would be some of the largest billion-dollar retailers in the world. All we knew was that our communities had been left out of the economic growth sweeping Portland, and that the Portland Clean Energy Fund initiative offered a way to address growing inequality in our city as well as climate change.

To the surprise of many, this community of color-led initiative actually won in November 2018! Significantly, the Portland Clean Energy Fund coalition victory represents the growing power of a new progressive majority in Portland, uniting racial justice groups like APANO, environmental groups like Sierra Club and 350PDX, faith groups, labor, and local small businesses around a shared vision for jobs and a clean energy future. APANO members contributed to this win in so many ways—from gathering some of the 61,000 signatures we needed to qualify for the ballot, to sharing our stories and art, to door knocking and phone banking in 7 different languages in communities that are frequently overlooked.

APANO members, staff, board, VOTE Fellows, and Climate, Health, and Housing Institute (CHHI) Fellows talked to thousands of Portlanders about our vision for a clean energy future that creates jobs for our community members and protects our planet. The skills and relationships that APANO developed over this campaign have built our campaign muscle. We know now what we are capable of, and I'm excited to see what this unprecedented coalition is able to achieve moving forward.



# APANO là gì?

Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) là một tổ chức bất vụ lợi của Oregon nhằm giúp đỡ và tranh đấu cho những vấn đề tiêu cực mà cộng đồng Châu Á đang gặp phải, như là bảo hiểm sức khỏe, môi trường nơi sinh sống, việc làm, nhà cửa, sự kì thị, và những vấn đề khác mà tổ chức chúng tôi có thể can thiệp. Chúng tôi lắng nghe vấn đề từ cá nhân đến tập thể để thay đổi tận gốc những khó khăn và cả hệ thống về nhiều lĩnh vực mà cộng đồng đang đối diện. Một ví dụ thành công về tổ chức cộng đồng người Việt mà mọi người đều biết đó là tại Texas. Khi cơn bão Katrina đi qua tiểu bang Texas đã gây thiệt hại rất lớn về mặt vật chất, tinh thần, nhà cửa và môi trường sống cho cộng đồng Châu Á nơi đó nhưng tiểu bang đã không hết sức quan tâm đến sức khỏe và sự mất mát tài sản của người dân. Vì vậy cộng đồng người Việt đã tập hợp đứng lên thay đổi những tiêu cực ấy. Tiếng nói người Việt đã được chính phủ nghe và thấu hiểu. Đó là cũng là mục tiêu của tổ chức chúng tôi mang đến cộng đồng Châu Á Thái Bình Dương nói chung và cộng đồng người Việt tại Oregon nói riêng.

APANO tập trung hướng đến 5 mục tiêu quan trọng, bao gồm:

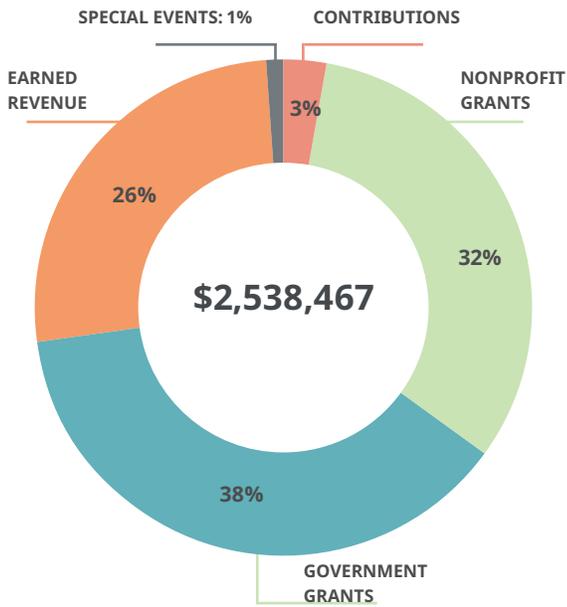
- Tổ chức cộng đồng
- Phát triển tài năng lãnh đạo
- Tiếng nói cộng đồng Châu Á được đặt làm trọng tâm
- Hoạch định của APANO hướng dẫn và vạch ra những nhu cầu thiết yếu của cộng đồng cần được giải quyết thông qua những chiến dịch hoặc bầu cử trong cộng đồng Châu Á Thái Bình Dương.
- Hoạt động hữu hiệu, tổ chức APANO cộng tác với những tổ chức khác để không ngừng phát triển và luôn trao đổi kiến thức cho thành phần lãnh đạo, nhân viên và thành viên APANO

Tổ chức APANO huy động thiện nguyện viên và cung cấp những chương trình cùng cơ hội để họ trở nên tự tin trong việc đứng lên giúp đỡ cộng đồng một cách hữu hiệu. Những hoạch định sẽ được đặt ra nhằm giúp những người trong cộng đồng gặp khó khăn bằng nhiều cách khác nhau, ví dụ như liên lạc với các vị hoạch định bên phía chính phủ hoặc cơ quan cho họ biết sự việc bất bình và yêu cầu họ xem xét hoặc giải quyết. Chúng tôi cùng quý vị tích cực ngăn chặn những hành động hoặc hành vi tiêu cực xảy ra trong cộng đồng.

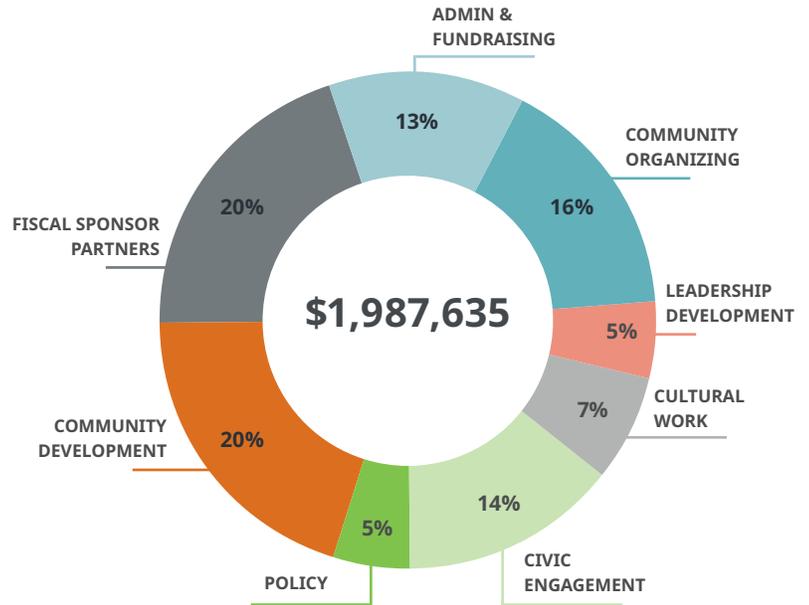


# Financial Information

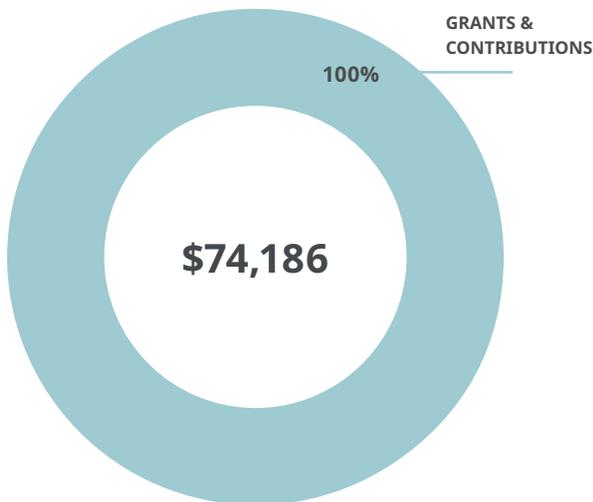
## 501C3 REVENUES



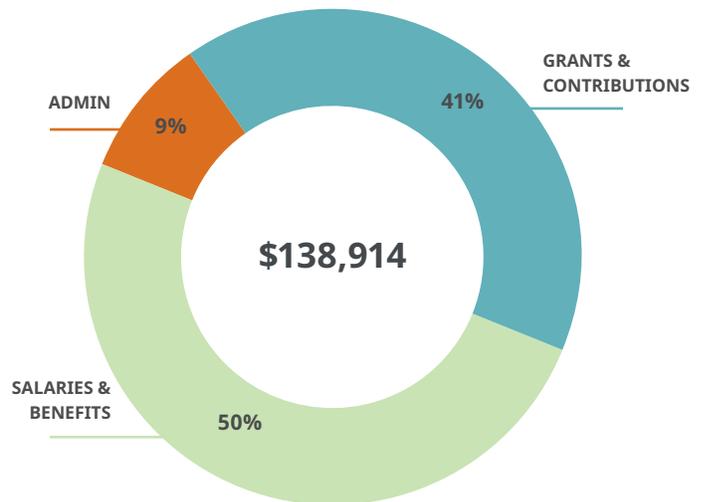
## 501C3 EXPENSES



## 501C4 REVENUES



## 501C4 EXPENSES



**\*\*Please note that this year included capital campaign contributions which is reflected as net income but will be spent during the tenant improvement process at the Orchards of 82nd APANO office and community space.**

TEAM

# Board

APANO COMMUNITIES UNITED FUND 501C3	APANO 501C4
Toni Tabora-Roberts, Chair	Huy Ong, Chair
Jessie Domingo Salu, Vice-Chair	Wei-Wei Lou, Vice-Chair
Mary Li, Treasurer	Shweta Moorthy
Jennifer Chang	Van Truong
Yaejoon Kwon	
Albert Lee	
Huy Ong	
Bandana Shrestha	
Van Truong	

# Staff

Chi Nguyen, Executive Director	Candace Kita, Cultural Work Manager	Justin Sipoloo, Youth Organizer
Duncan Hwang, Associate Director	Carol Lee, Jade District Business Navigator	Ryan Sotomayor, Facilities Custodian
Colin K. Crader II, Development Manager	Wanna Lei, Community Organizer (Chinese)	Todd Struble, Jade District Manager
Brandon Cruz, Field Organizer	Jeanette Li, Communications Coordinator	Nha Truong Vo, Community Organizer (Vietnamese)
Sue Day, Director of Finance	Ivy Major-McDowall, Legislative Coordinator	Robin Ye, Political Director
Linh Doan, Jade District Community Coordinator	Kathy Niguidula, Bookkeeper/ Office Manager	Maiyee Yuan, Jade District Coordinator
Simeon Jacob, Operations and Program Coordinator	Khanh Pham, Manager of Immigrant Organizing	
Ava Kamb, Field Organizer	Jai Singh, Field Organizer	

**Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon**

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## GET INVOLVED

# Your support is vital to our work

Your gift to APANO helps enhance our capacity to mobilize for issues that impact our diverse Asian and Pacific Islander communities.



SUPPORT OUR NETWORK  
[apano.org/donate](https://apano.org/donate)