

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2008-09



Asian Americans for
Community Involvement

Empowering individuals

Supporting families

Building community

AACI

Asian Americans for Community Involvement

*AACI is the largest
nonprofit organization
dedicated to
providing culturally
and linguistically
appropriate services
to Asians in
Santa Clara County*



Asians have been part of Santa Clara Valley history for 150 years and now more than 30% of our community's population is Asian – and the number is growing. Data released by the U.S. Census Bureau last year revealed that Santa Clara County added more new Asian residents than any other county in the nation.

Our Mission

Focusing on the diverse Asian community in Santa Clara County since 1973, AACI's mission is to improve the health, mental health, and well-being of individuals and their families by providing an array of human services. AACI empowers the Asian community by working collaboratively for equality and social justice.

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Our glass is full of the hopes and dreams of our clients

Dear Community:

If there were ever a time to look at a glass as half full, not half empty, it had to be fiscal year 2008-09 when everyone in the nation struggled with the effects of a deep recession and fears of a long-term economic catastrophe. AACI was not immune to budgetary issues, but one of the many good things about being a nonprofit organization is that we are constantly reminded of the significant impacts we have on people's lives.

Knowing that we are needed ... knowing that we are making a difference keeps us energized and focused on the positive as we, too, struggle with financial challenges.

Needed we certainly are. As jobs disappeared and foreclosures mounted, more vulnerable individuals and families turned to AACI for help that they could not find anywhere else. We don't turn people away because they don't have insurance or are unable to pay. We work very hard to extend our safety net to everyone who "falls through the cracks" of government agencies. It stretches our resources and causes us to look for new, innovative ways to expand services through collaborations and operational efficiencies. It was difficult, but we did it and **helped more than 9,000 clients this year** despite the dismal economic environment.

We find there is much to be excited about in the coming year – the potential of national health care reform, new opportunities for AACI to grow, additional engagement with the fast-growing Asian community of Silicon Valley. It won't be easy, and it will require support and partnerships with many in our community, but we are confident that AACI in 2009-2010 will be able to pursue its mission with zeal and tenacity.

We appreciate your ongoing commitment to our vision of empowering individuals, supporting families and building community. Together we will continue to do great things for those who count on us.

Linda Min
Board Chair



Michele Lew
President & CEO



*More than 200
community leaders
toured AACI last
year to learn more
about our programs
and services and the
people who rely on us*

An active and successful year for AACI programs and services

AACI's staff speak over two dozen languages, making clients feel welcome and comfortable

Afterschool Program

Making available a safe, fun place for at-risk youth

The Resilient Youth Striving for Excellence (RYSE) Afterschool Program in East San Jose serves youth ages 8 to 15. Youth can drop in anytime for homework assistance, recreational activities, arts, crafts, field trips and guest speakers. Most of all, participants receive mentoring and guidance from caring and trained adults.

- 162 youth participants
- 71% reported feeling more positive about their future from this AACI program



Life Skills for Youth

Encouraging young people to become responsible adults

Project PLUS (Peer Leadership Uniting Students) is offered to students at Sheppard Middle School and Independence High School who need help in reducing high risk behaviors and increasing healthy decision making. Each 14-week program includes information on substance abuse, conflict management, gangs and communication as well as basic life skills like learning to cook a meal and improve friendships.

- 50 youth completed specific self-improvement projects
- All participants reported benefiting from the program

South Bay First Thursdays

Engaging young professionals and building a sense of community

First Thursdays uses monthly events to bring together early to mid year professionals from the nonprofit, corporate and government sectors to learn more about issues in the Asian community, to network, and to learn how to get involved.

- 150% increase in attendance over last year



Domestic Violence Program and Shelter (Asian Women's Home)

Providing safety and support for victims of domestic violence

AACI's free and confidential services include a 24-hour crisis hotline, a 12-bed emergency shelter, peer counseling, legal advocacy, and comprehensive support for women, children, and men in abusive relationships.

- 183 clients served through both our shelter and community office, including a 31% increase in shelter residents from 2007-2008
- 1,780 crisis and information calls fielded over our 24-hour hotline, including a 26% increase in crisis calls from 2007-2008
- 4,598 nights of emergency shelter provided – a 23% increase from 2007-2008
- 98% of all families served are extremely or very low income, and 81% make less than \$9,000 a year



Photo by Mike Mu

Center for Survivors of Torture

Offering compassionate care to traumatized immigrants from 57 countries

It is estimated that more than 30,000 survivors of torture have made their way to Silicon Valley to heal and start a new life. The Center for Survivors of Torture provides a support system that includes psychological, medical, legal, housing, education and employment assistance.

- Provided 5,240 of hours of extensive case management to get recent refugee families settled



Primary Care Health Center

Providing comprehensive primary and preventive health care

The AACI Primary Care Health Center offers culturally competent medical care to adults and children regardless of their ability to pay. Most patients speak little or no English and rely on AACI's medical team for physical check-ups, chronic disease management, screenings, immunization, health education and counseling.

- 3,065 patients – 500 more than last year
- 11,350 visits, a 30% increase

HIV/AIDS Education & Prevention Program

Reducing the incidence rate of HIV infection

Testing, education and outreach activities are targeted at communities of color in Santa Clara County. The program also offers support for those diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.

- 376 individuals tested, twice as many as were tested last year
- Outreach to 805 clients

95% of AACI's senior clients are extremely low income (less than \$10,380 annual income for one person). AACI's programs and services help the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community, many of whom were hit the hardest by severe cutbacks in government programs this year.



Senior Wellness Program

Improving the quality of life of low income seniors

Seniors want to live independently for as long as possible, and the Senior Wellness Program helps them achieve this goal with nutritious lunches served four days a week and free physical activities (such as tai chi, line dancing, ballroom dancing and ping pong) as well as social activities to keep them connected and involved.

- 300 seniors served, ages 60-99
- 6,664 meals served
- More than 250 hours of physical activity offered

Mental Health Services

Helping Asian families, children and adults deal with social, cultural and emotional pressures

AACI's highly-trained counseling staff provide a full range of mental health services for children, teens, families, adults and seniors. The goal in each case is to promote the optimal functioning and quality of life for those struggling with mental illness.

- 827 clients served, a 45% increase over last year, resulting in 19,352 total visits to AACI

Substance Abuse Programs

Helping those who struggle with alcohol and drug problems

AACI operates outpatient treatment programs for adolescents and adults to help them overcome their addictions and move toward healthier living. A Drinking Driver Program for DUI offenders works to increase the likelihood that they will never again drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Parents struggling to make ends meet receive financial assistance and employment focused services through our CalWORKS program. We also provide Transitional Housing for women who are homeless or in need of a safe place to live while attending outpatient behavioral health services.

- 559 visits to the Adolescent Substance Abuse program, an 18% increase over last year
- 420 adult clients served through 3,308 visits



Additional Achievements in 2008-09

- 200 Vietnamese women increased their knowledge of breast cancer and the importance of clinical breast exams and mammograms
- 500 at risk individuals screened for Hepatitis B at low cost vaccination clinics
- Special programs for individuals who have been arrested for non-violent drug offenses and parolees also offered.

Awards and Honors

Many reasons to be proud of our people, our programs

- 2008 Adarsh S. Mahal, MD Access to Health Care and Disparities Award by the California Medical Association Foundation to AACI
- Asian American Women's Alliance Recognition Award to Annie Thu Nguyen
- Association of Fundraising Professionals Outstanding Volunteer Fundraising Professional to Linda Min
- California Mental Health Policy Forum: Champion for System Change to Vic Ojakian
- Community Health Partnership Community Health Center Award to Jennifer Tseng
- Community Health Prtnership Special Recognition to Mark Molina
- Santa Clara County Human Relations Award to Tamon Norimoto
- Santa Clara County Supervisor Liz Kniss Asian American Hero Awards to Siath Hen and Asian Pacific Islander Justice Coaliton
- Silicon Valley Wellness Community: Star Caregiver Award to Joma Briones

Thank you to our generous supporters

HOPE SOCIETY

The following individuals and organizations have pledged to donate a minimum of \$1,000 per year for five years. For more information about the Hope Society, please contact Tamon Norimoto at 408-975-2730, x102.

Supporting Families Level (\$50,000)

The Gordon N. and Anita T. Chan Foundation

Empowering Individuals Level (\$5,000 and Above)

Mr. Tom Cochran and Ms. Parris Correa
Ms. Lillian Gong-Guy
Dr. Jerrold Hiura and Ms. Lucia Cha
Ms. Michelle Hu
Mr. Jon Kessler and Ms. Michele Lew
Mr. Andrew Lee and Mrs. Linda Min
Dr. Jeffery Lee and Mrs. Susan Lew Lee
Dr. Henry Lew and Ms. Winifred Lew
Ms. Kana Norimoto
Mr. Tamon Norimoto
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Dr. Jorge Wong
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Asian Network Pacific Home Care & Hospice
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U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
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Yahoo! Employee Foundation
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\$50,000

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Dr. Jeffery Lee and Mrs. Susan Lew Lee
Ms. Kana Norimoto

\$5,000 to \$9,999

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*Your contributions helped seniors be healthy and active ...
 helped women and children build new lives without fear
 of abuse... helped prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS ... and
 helped individuals and families improve their quality of life
 in dozens of ways*

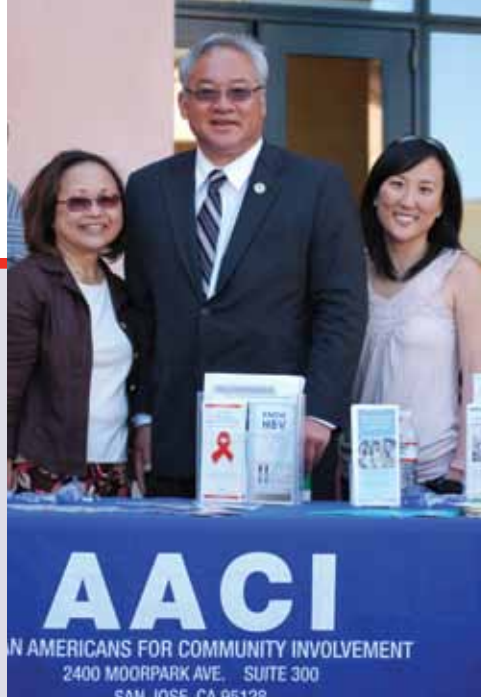
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In one month alone last year, 135 individuals requested care at our health clinic. Even with patients paying on a sliding scale, it costs AACI about \$100 for every visit to our clinic that is not reimbursed by insurance. Your donations make it possible for more individuals to get the medical care they need

Overview of Financial Position of AACI

A more detailed financial summary is available by request by calling (408) 975-2730. Federal tax forms 990 and 990T are posted on the website www.aaci.org.

	2008-09	2007-08
Total Assets	\$10,006,104	\$9,355,152
Revenues	\$11,802,538	\$10,394,837
Expenses	\$10,837,416	\$9,515,158



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