



# Asian American LEAD

Youth Leadership, Empowerment, and Development

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Asian American LEAD Welcomes Two New Staff**

*Mylynh Nguyen and Neel Saxena join Asian American LEAD's management team.*

**(Washington, DC)** – Asian American LEAD (AALEAD) is excited to welcome two staff to newly created positions: Mylynh Nguyen will serve as Program Director and Neel Saxena will serve as Development & Communications Director. The new positions represent the growth of AALEAD and solidify an executive team that will build upon the previous accomplishments and expand the work of AALEAD to support low-income and underserved Asian Pacific American youth.

The Program Director is responsible for the successful implementation of all AALEAD programs. The Development & Communications Director oversees all of AALEAD's fundraising and communications activities. "We are excited to add these two new positions because they provide the necessary support and infrastructure needed to bring our high quality programs to youth to the next level" said Board Chair Ban Tran.

Ms. Nguyen is a Vietnamese American from Hagerstown, MD. She brings her passion about social justice and dedication to youth development to AALEAD. She comes to AALEAD from the Center for Multicultural Equity & Access at Georgetown University where she served as the Assistant Director. She also served as a faculty member, adviser, and director of the region's first TRIO Upward Bound program.

Ms. Nguyen holds a Bachelor's degree in physiology and neurobiology from the University of Maryland, College Park and a Masters degree in biomedical sciences from Hood College in Frederick, MD. "Mylynh is passionate about helping underrepresented youth gain access to opportunities," said Director Surjeet Ahluwalia. "I welcome her to this new position and look forward to see our programs grow and continue to meet the needs of our youth".

Mr. Saxena is an Indian American from Montgomery County, MD. He brings his 15 years of experience in nonprofit and grant making to oversee all of AALEAD's fundraising and communications activities. He comes to AALEAD from the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs where he served as the Grant Manager. Mr. Saxena worked with AALEAD previously as a Development Associate and before that with the Gates Millennium Scholars.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Maryland, College Park and Master of Public Policy degree from American University in Washington, DC. Director Ahluwalia said, "We are thrilled to have Neel come back to AALEAD and take our development and communications to the next level."

For more about Ms. Nguyen and Mr. Saxena, please visit AALEAD's blog at [www.aalead.org](http://www.aalead.org).

*AALEAD supports low-income and underserved Asian Pacific American youth with educational empowerment, identity development, and leadership opportunities through after school, summer, and mentoring programs.*

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