



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP) selects Surjeet Ahluwalia as an AAPIP Leader in Action**

**(Washington, DC)** – Asian American LEAD (AALEAD) congratulates Executive Director Surjeet Ahluwalia on being selected as one of the 25 Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP) Leaders in Action. The award honors leaders who are taking important actions every day to lift up Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities around the nation. The 25 Leaders in Action honorees represent a diverse group spanning a wide range of organizations, years of experience, roles, and sectors throughout the country. They also reflect the important work that each of us can do to make a collective impact on philanthropic giving.

Surjeet creates and strengthens connections with philanthropic partners to increase awareness of and resources for diverse and underserved communities. Not only is she leading AALEAD in its expansion to provide high quality programming to more youth, she is advocating for increasing resources in the District of Columbia-Maryland-Virginia (DMV) region for diverse and underserved communities. She creates awareness around and gives voice to the needs of the AAPI community in the DMV through philanthropic partnerships with government and community leaders and funders. She is a leader committed to inspiring and activating others to be agents of change, particularly Board Members, staff, and youth. She exemplifies a leader in action not only improving her organization but seeking to ensure philanthropy is equitable and inclusive of diverse communities.

“We are thrilled Surjeet is being recognized for her leadership,” said Board Chair Ban Tran. “She relentlessly helps to ensure all communities are represented at the table, even those who are often overlooked due to stereotypes and lack of information.”

Please join the Asian American LEAD family in congratulating Surjeet on this deserving award. More information about the other awardees can be found on AAPIP’s website, [www.aapip.org](http://www.aapip.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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