



AsianAmericanLEAD

Leadership, Empowerment, and
Development for Youth and Families



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Dear Friends:

This past year was a true testament to what a community of supporters and hard work can accomplish. The year was full of events and activities that contributed to the growth and progress Asian American LEAD (AALEAD) has made. Despite the economic challenges that continue to impact the nonprofit community, AALEAD successfully provided quality after school and mentoring programs to 300 low-income and underserved youth in the District of Columbia and Montgomery County, Maryland.

The past several years were dedicated to ensuring the sustainability of AALEAD financially and programmatically. In 2012, AALEAD produced a zero-deficit budget for the next fiscal year and cut expenses where possible. With a smooth leadership transition, AALEAD combined leadership roles and cut down on office space to save on costs.

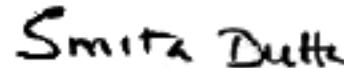
Programmatically, our dedicated staff offered creative and enriching events and activities to our youth. We focused on cross-collaborative efforts within AALEAD and in our community at-large to build a stronger foundation of community for our youth. Highlights from the past year include: AALEAD's first Annual Asian Pacific American (APA) Youth Summit. Our DC and MD High School Program Youth Councils made organizational history this summer with AALEAD's and the region's first event of this kind—a community-wide conference planned, organized and hosted by youth for youth; Summer ME 2012, which gave our MD high school youth the opportunity to take leadership roles for their middle school counterparts; and Fiesta Asia DC, a street festival in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, where all our program youth gathered for a flash mob led by youth.

We would not have achieved our goals and accomplishments this year without your support. We are grateful

for the family of supporters we continue to have every year. Together, we are confident that our combined efforts will promote better communities and create the foundation for our young people to grow, develop and thrive. With your continued support, we hope our youth will empower and inspire each other to become active, confident and engaged future leaders in the community.



Surjeet Ahluwalia
Executive Director



Smita Dutta
Board Chair



Mission

Asian American LEAD works to promote the well-being of underserved and low-income Asian American youth and families through education, leadership development and community building.



the community need

Socioeconomic status and hindering stereotypes pose as threats to the development of positive self-identities and mental health among our target youth, who often lack culturally sensitive resources and support.

According to the 2009 U.S. Census Bureau, Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) represent nearly five percent of the U.S. population as one of the fastest growing and most diverse minority groups. In DC, AAPIs make up

three percent of the total population; 13 percent live below the poverty line. In Montgomery County, Md., AAPIs make up 14 percent of the total population. More than 6,000 Asians in the county live below the poverty line. According to the 2010-2011 MCPS School profiles, over 3,600 Asian youth qualify for free and/or reduced meals (FARMS). Within the schools that we currently serve in Montgomery County alone, over 300 Asian youth qualify for FARMS.

Unlike the “model minority” stereotype of the successful Asian immigrant, many low-income immigrant families face barriers to becoming self-reliant. Adults often received only minimal education in their home countries. Limited English language proficiency and few marketable job skills relegate them to working long hours at low-paying jobs. Youth often lack positive and engaged role models. Many parents are unable to offer much academic support, or are unable to interpret their report cards, help with homework, or communicate with teachers. Youth are at high risk of dropping out of school and exhibiting other delinquent and self-destructive

behaviors. AALEAD’s after school and mentoring programs provide a safe space for youth after school, opportunities to develop leadership and life skills they may not receive elsewhere, and support.

In addition, according to a 2009 study conducted by the U.S. Departments of Justice and Education, 54 percent of Asian American youth were bullied in school, a sharp contrast when compared to what was reported for white (31.3%), black (38.4%) and Hispanic (34.3%) students. They were also three times more likely to experience cyber bullying than youth from other ethnic groups. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) reported in 2011 that Asian American females, ages 15-24, have the highest rates of suicidal ideation of all ethnic groups. They also found that an alarming 30 percent of Asian American girls, grades 5-12, displayed signs of depression; their white and African American counterparts measured out to 22.5 and 27 percent respectively.

our history

2004

AALEAD is selected by the Annie E. Casey Foundation as a FAMILIES COUNT — National Honors Program Honoree.

For excellence in youth development, AALEAD is selected for support from a limited pool of multi-service youth agencies in the nation by the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation.

2002

Venture Philanthropy Partners (VPP) selects AALEAD to be an investment Partner for their first portfolio. AALEAD was able to build capacity through strategic planning, recruitment of executive talent, and professional organization development.

AALEAD purchases the property at 1323 Girard Street in Columbia Heights to turn into a community center for youth.

1998

Sandy Dang establishes AALEAD to serve the needs of Chinese, Amerasian and Vietnamese immigrants in the DC area.

2006

AALEAD opens its doors to its new Wheaton, MD office to address the growing immigrant and low-income Asian population in Montgomery County.

AALEAD's Secondary School Program is featured in the Community Foundation's Spirit of Giving Guide for its success in improving the academic achievement and social development of middle school youth in the DC region.

2008

AALEAD is listed in *Washingtonian* magazine as one of the top nonprofits in the DC area.

2010

AALEAD is named a finalist for the Washington Post Award for Excellence in Nonprofit Management.





Programs

Our diverse and committed staff and team of volunteers deliver after school programs, one-on-one mentoring, academic support resources, and life-skills development for our youth. We also support parents by providing them with important information and resources relevant to their youth. Our programs have helped hundreds of low-income and underserved Asian American children and their families stabilize their lives, succeed academically, and gain a voice in their communities.

after school programs

Our **Elementary After School Programs** foster academic growth and life skills development through enrichment opportunities that encourage social, emotional, intellectual and physical growth in our students. Our program staff and volunteers provide homework support and tutoring, activities focusing on reading, writing, math, arts and crafts, and service learning opportunities. These programs intervene



at an early stage to critically impact our youths' academic and social development.

Our **Secondary School Programs** provide a safe after school environment for middle and high school students. Through academic counseling and support, life skills and enrichment activities, field trips, community service opportunities, college preparatory classes, and student youth councils, students are encouraged to explore their cultural identity, develop leadership skills, pursue academic achievement, and give back to their community.

In the District of Columbia, AALEAD serves students from: Bancroft Elementary School, Columbia Heights Educational Center, EL Haynes Charter School, Jefferson Middle School, Thomson Elementary School and Wilson Senior High School



In Montgomery County, Maryland, AALEAD programs operate onsite at: Loiederman Middle School, Argyle Middle School, Eastern Middle School, Parkland Middle School, Newport Mill Middle School, Blair High School and Einstein High School

“I learned a lot about jobs and the opportunities you have when you are successful in school and take your education to another level.”

AALEAD Youth,
DC Secondary School Program

mentoring program

AALEAD's Mentoring Program matches Asian American youth between the ages of 10 and 18 with caring adults who support them in developing the academic and life skills necessary to succeed. Mentors meet one-on-one with their mentees, engaging in activities in their local community. Our pairs choose activities based on their own interests. Outings have included museum visits, community service events, homework time, trying new food, playing video games, and just spending time together.

AALEAD provides training for each mentor and supports each mentor-mentee pair through regular field trips and community service activities that bring pairs together for fun and encouragement.

The mentoring relationship provides youth with a safe avenue to express their feelings and frustrations, improves youths' self-esteem, fosters positive self-identity, gives students opportunities to

explore new interests, and motivates students to pursue higher education.

In April 2008, our Mentoring Program won the award for "Excellence in Community Based Mentoring" through the Maryland Mentoring Partnership.



key success factors

AALEAD has identified four key success factors as critical to a youth's success and development. Our programming is designed with the goal of encouraging youth to develop and demonstrate these characteristics. These factors are used to monitor the efficacy of our programs. We are proud to share results from this year:

ACADEMIC ATTAINMENT

To understand the importance of education, successfully graduate from high school, and move on to post-secondary education.

FY12 Results: 99% of students passed on to the next grade level/graduated. Two out of seven graduated students went to a 4-year college. The remaining five enrolled in a community college.

POSITIVE SELF-IDENTITY

To increase students' self-esteem, expose them to new opportunities that expand their horizons, and provide a safe space that allows students to be proud of their culture and unique abilities.

FY12 Results: 80-89% of students surveyed showed improvement or maintained on "self-concept" scores from the pre/post surveys.

RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR

To have the ability and knowledge to make informed, responsible decisions and healthy life choices.

FY12 Results: 95% of AALEAD students attended school at least 90% of the time.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

To understand and become more aware of issues in the community, and to learn how to develop, plan, and execute projects that benefit society.

FY12 Results: AALEAD provided 225.5 hours of service learning opportunities. 99% of our students participated in at least 1 service learning activity.

financials

Statement of Financial Position as of September 30, 2012

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 43,165
Grants and Contributions receivable	42,914
Prepaid expenses and deposits	9,506
Investments	1,082,733
Property and equipment, net	4,186
Total Assets	\$ 1,182,504
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 31,755
Refundable advance	18,323
Note payable	-
Total Liabilities	50,078
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	1,132,426
Total net assets	1,132,426
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 1,182,504

Statement of Activities as of September 30, 2012

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Revenue and Support			
Government Grants	\$ 472,266	-	472,266
Grants and contributions	318,071	-	318,071
Investment income	153,700	-	153,700
Miscellaneous income	27,153	-	27,153
In-kind donations	129,066	-	129,066
Total revenue and support	1,100,256	-	1,100,256
Expenses			
Program services:			
Elementary school programs	317,772	-	317,772
High school programs	196,823	-	196,823
Middle school programs	152,078	-	152,078
Mentoring	88,109	-	88,109
Parent Outreach	11,079	-	11,079
Total program services	765,861	-	765,861
Supporting services:			
Management and general	129,156	-	129,156
Fundraising	184,999	-	184,999
Total Supporting services	314,155	-	314,155
Total expenses	1,080,016	-	1,080,016
Change in Net Assets	20,240	-	20,240
Net Assets, beginning of the year	1,112,186	-	1,112,186
Net Assets, end of the year	\$ 1,132,426	-	1,132,426



Get involved!

The work we do is possible because of the dedicated efforts of each and every member of our team. Whether it is interns leading workshops, volunteers taking time to tutor, or donors contributing their financial resources, we are all committed to being advocates for our youth and to seeing them succeed. We always welcome new team members who share these values.



participate

If you are a student or you know a student at one of the schools we serve who would benefit from AALEAD programs, please contact:

Francine Gorres
MD High School Program Manager
(301) 592-8800
mdhighschool@aalead.org

volunteer

Our highly dedicated volunteers contribute their time, talent, and skills to support and enhance our programs. Here are some ways you can make a difference in our community:

Tutors help students excel academically by working with elementary, middle or high school students at one of our after school programs.

Mentors build a relationship with a young person in need of a positive role model and pass along the academic and life skills they have learned. This requires a commitment of six hours a month for at least one year.

Other volunteers teach workshops, host youth for a job shadowing day, assist at after school programs, and help at events, among others. These one-time and short-term opportunities can be tailored to fit a busy schedule. For more information about



volunteering, contact:
Tina Ngo
Mentoring & Volunteer Coordinator
202.884.0322 extension 105
mentoring@aalead.org

donate

Your donation ensures that our youth will continue to receive opportunities that will pave the way to brighter futures. Opportunities such as mentoring, tutoring, and life-skills development help our youth discover their potential and motivate them to reach their goals. Join our family of supporters as we guide our youth to become the leaders of tomorrow.

Asian American LEAD is a registered 501(c)3 organization and your donation is fully tax-deductable. Please visit www.aalead.org to make a secure online donation or make checks payable to Asian American LEAD and send to:

Asian American LEAD
2100 New Hampshire Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20009

We are also a member of the Combined Federal Campaign for the National Capital Area (CFCNCA) and the United Way Campaign for the National Capital Area (UWCNCA). If you would like to donate to us through these campaigns, our CFCNCA campaign number is **88412** and our United Way Campaign number is **9613**.

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Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless
Montgomery County Humane Society
Montgomery County Public Schools
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum
National Association of Asian American Professionals
Filipino Cultural Association – University of Maryland
Sulu DC
Wheaton Community Center

board

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