

Donor Corner: Meet APCF's Long-Standing Philanthropist, William Tseng



As one of the Asian Pacific Community Fund's (APCF) long-standing supporters, **William Tseng** is a retired public sector employee who was inspired to invest in people through donor services offered at APCF. William's legacy of philanthropy is a testament to how every person can give back to the community - all it takes is commitment.

Born in Hong Kong, William came to the U.S. as a student at the Illinois Institute of Technology. After working at private firms, William began his career as a City of LA employee in 1985, working on the design and construction of buildings such as recreation centers, schools, and childcare centers as an architect.

One of those projects inspired William. The unique model at Rita Walters Learning Complex – a public school offering vocational training and job placements to students who dropped out of other schools – piqued his interest. He imagined that there should be similar, culturally appropriate programs for Asian and Pacific Islander (API) youth who may not be college-bound.

William was introduced to APCF through LA City's annual ["Give to LA"](#) employee giving campaign. Encouraged by APCF's unique mission, he has since partnered with APCF to focus his giving on providing opportunities for API youth outside of traditional education toward vocational skills training and employment. Thanks to William's generosity, he has donated over \$55,000 through APCF to programs that focus on economic development for low-income API youth and young adults.

"We can either give people fish to eat which only lasts for so long, or a fishing rod to teach them how to fish for themselves," William shared as he accepted the "Philanthropy Leadership Award" at APCF's annual "Giving for All Seasons" gala on June 15, 2017. "For me, it's important that we equip young people with the tools they need for a successful future and a goal in life."

In addition to his philanthropy with APCF, William supports Christian organizations that work with youth worldwide. He hopes to one day develop senior housing that fosters inter-generational interactions via communal spaces for its residents and their families.

(This article was featured in APCF's September 2017 Newsletter – [click here](#) for the full issue.)