



Asian Pacific Community Fund 2023 Impact Report

What is Asian Pacific Community Fund?

Founded in 1990, the Asian Pacific Community Fund (APCF) is the only community-based fund of its kind, created to increase philanthropic giving toward Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) nonprofit organizations. Our mission is to cultivate philanthropists to invest in organizations that empower underserved AAPIs to prosper. APCF is focused on transforming lives and meeting the diverse needs of AAPIs by 1) building healthier communities 2) developing leaders 3) creating a stronger voice and 4) providing the foundation for a brighter tomorrow. Together with our 81 Network Agencies, we serve over 1.25 million people annually, primarily low-income, immigrant AAPIs, with programs and services in 43 AAPI languages, as well as English and Spanish.

Granting Making

Since its inception in 1990, APCF has been awarded over \$11.3M in grants to support nonprofit organizations to provide programs and services to communities in need. Through continuous grantmaking efforts, APCF has been able to distribute generously to our network agencies even in lean and uncertain times. To learn more about our grant making, please visit our website [here](#).

Operating Grant

APCF continued our popular annual Operating Grant Program with a focus on AAPI nonprofits with budgets of less than \$1 million. Our Operating Grant is supplemented through our Workplace Giving Program. At the end of 2022, Workplace Giving dropped by 60% which drastically decreased the initial amount available for the Operating Grant for 2023. APCF commenced our own fundraising efforts to augment the shortfall and distributed \$105k in unrestricted funds to 15 AAPI nonprofits in Spring 2023.

These grantees were extremely diverse in their range of programs and services, including mental health, staff retention, education initiatives, small business support and programming capacity expansion. In addition, these community-based organizations also served ethnically diverse and underrepresented groups. Of the 15 grantees, there were 5 organizations that were new grantees of APCF. APCF also provided supplemental support by having a representative from numerous grantees' boards participate in our Board Leadership Program. Through the board members' involvement, APCF was able to offer training and leadership skills development to help sustain and grow the nonprofits beyond our traditional grantmaking. Because of our successful record, we plan on continuing our Operating Grant and strengthening the API nonprofit sector through long-term, unrestricted funding.

Giving Circles

In 2023, APCF offered grant opportunities via the Giving Circles. With anonymous matching, APCF was able to offer \$17,000 in grants distributed to three organizations serving the AAPI community through Organization Sustainability and Resilience. Since 2008, our Giving Circles have collectively distributed more than \$427,000 through 132 grants to local nonprofits from 462 donors. We hope to expand the members of our Giving Circles to strengthen philanthropy within the AAPI community by increasing direct funding to the AAPI nonprofits.



132 grants
\$427,000+ distributed



In December 2023, APCF was able to expand its geographical reach by gathering the first AANHPI focused Giving Circle in San Diego County. 15 donors came together to distribute one \$5,000 grant in early 2024. San Diego Giving Circle members hope to continue building their San Diego Giving Circle and investing in the AANHPI community.

Asian Women Leadership in Philanthropy Fund

Asian Women Leadership in Philanthropy Fund (AWLPF) was a new pilot program established in 2021 and founded by Julia Gouw, Carol Choi and APCF Executive Director Chun-Yen Chen. The vision of AWLPF is to empower, cultivate, and recognize Asian American women as philanthropic leaders to invest in community-based organizations focusing on advocating and empowering underserved Asian American women and girls. Each member contributes \$10,000 annually to the fund. Since the Fund’s inception in 2021, AWLPF has contributed \$400,000 to 5 projects focusing in AANHPI women and girls. AWLPF’s ultimate goals are to enhance philanthropy of Asian American women leaders by reinforcing bonds and social networking, providing a philanthropic platform for the next generation of Asian American women leaders, and adopting collaborative approaches to support the next generation of Asian American women to make a difference in all fields. AWLPF hopes to continue to provide long-term funding for programming and to expand the number of members who are a part of the Fund.

To learn more about AWLPF, please visit our website [here](#).

Scholarship Program



10,500+ applications;
580+ low-income
students awarded
over **\$2.15M**.

In 2023, APCF expanded its scholarships to 13 programs, which received 1,013 applicants from 37 states. The scholarship program was able to invest \$494,500 in 134 low-income students locally and nationwide. By maintaining a 3,300+ contact database of schools, clubs, counselors, administrators, and teachers, spanning nationally across all 50 states, APCF maximized outreach to ensure that students have the opportunity to apply for APCF scholarship programs. Since 2011, APCF has awarded a total of \$2.15 million dollars in scholarships to support over 580 low-income students nationally with college tuition assistance.

To learn more about the scholarship program, please visit our website [here](#).

Capacity Building Program

APCF’s unique position as an AAPI-focused community fund allows us to be responsive to the needs of our network of AAPI nonprofits through capacity building workshops with topics such as fundraising, program evaluation, marketing, human resources/risk management, financial management, and more. Offered at no cost to attendees on the condition that they serve the AAPI community, our workshops have the AAPI cultural relevance that may be lacking in other nonprofit workshop curricula. All workshops have transitioned to a virtual platform, which has allowed APCF to expand the reach of the workshops across the nation and be recorded for later use.

Workshops

In the past 10 years, APCF has provided 58 workshops to 1,651 API staff and volunteers, from 435 different nonprofits. In 2023, 177 unduplicated staff, board members, and volunteers from 117 different nonprofit organizations attended 6 virtual webinars that reviewed topics such as grant consulting, cryptocurrency, social media fundraising and the grant lifecycle.



58 workshops
1,651 attendees
435 nonprofits attended

For example, in April 2023, we partnered with the California State Library that presented on the California Grants Portal. APCF learned that many smaller nonprofits did not know where to look for funding opportunities, especially from the State. To sustain and grant the API nonprofit sector, APCF believes in providing ample resources on where to apply for funding.

Based on workshop evaluations and conversations with our Network Agencies, there is a tremendous need for financial education, grant writing and alternatives for fundraising. In order to meet this demand, 2024 workshops will focus on financial literacy, different types of grant writing, strengthening grant proposals and fundraising.

To learn more about Capacity Building Workshops, please visit our website [here](#).

Board Leadership Program

Collaborating with the Asian American Professional Association, APCF co-implemented the Board Leadership Program (BLP) for the eighth consecutive year in 2023 to train and develop AAPI leaders to serve on AAPI nonprofit boards with an added internship for those selected. In response to the pandemic, the program was offered hybrid for 25 participants in 2023. Since its inception in 2015, the program has trained over 245 professionals from 73 companies, as well as successfully matched and placed 50% of the corporate interns onto nonprofit boards. Currently, 93 participants still serve on an AAPI nonprofit board. Continuing to develop leaders to effectively serve on AAPI nonprofit boards will be a crucial component to sustaining and growing these organizations.



In 2023, APCF transitioned from co-implementation of the program to focus on the internship component of the program. We facilitated the process of matching the BLP participants with the AAPI serving nonprofits to create more meaningful internships for all parties. We mentored the nonprofit organizations on how to host an intern and coached the interns on how they could utilize what they were learning in real time. APCF lead 1-on-1 follow ups with the interns and the nonprofit host organizations. With this change in dynamic and education, 9 out of the 25 participants were selected to become board interns on AAPI nonprofits for 6 months, and approximately 80% of those interns matched with their board to continue as a board member. This has been the highest percentage of board member retention to date.

To learn more about the Board Leadership Program, please visit our website [here](#).

Meet the Funders



16 events
192+ nonprofits
27 funders
\$1.67M+ funding to API communities

Since 2016, APCF has partnered with Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy-LA (AAPIP-LA) to host 16 Meet the Funders events featuring 27 different funders and 358 1-on-1 meetings between funders and nonprofits, which has resulted in \$1,669,708 in new/additional funding to the AAPI community. Meet the Funders is designed with the added component of 1-on-1 meetings with the funders following the general panel discussion, allowing nonprofits to meet the funder and ask very specific questions about potential grant proposals.



In 2023, APCF hosted two virtual “Meet the Funders” events to increase access to funding opportunities. 96 people from 66 nonprofits serving AAPI communities attended the events, which featured the Ahmanson Foundation, the California Wellness Foundation, the Roy and Patricia Disney Family Foundation, the S. Mark Taper Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, and the Liberty Hill Foundation. Based on evaluations and testimonials, Meet the Funders will continue as a virtual program to meet the needs of our network agencies.

To learn more about the Meet the Funders program, please visit our website [here](#).

In Conclusion

Asian Pacific Community Fund continues to bolster our mission of cultivating philanthropists to invest in organizations that empower underserved AAPIs to prosper. As a connector and gateway, we are proud to support our API community throughout our grant making process and capacity building program. APCF plans on expanding our efforts throughout Southern California and we anticipate that we can support API serving nonprofit organizations in all 10 counties. If you are a funder or want to volunteer to support the API community, please reference our [Network Agency Matrix](#) to learn more about API serving nonprofits and their direct services.