

010232

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY
F615.O6 C68
Council on Asia - Biennial report.



STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNCIL ON ASIAN-PACIFIC MINNESOTANS

1999 — 2000 BIENNIAL REPORT

F615
.O6
C68
1999/
2000

Submitted to the Governor and the Minnesota State Legislature
in compliance with Minnesota Statute 3.9226, subd. 7.



COUNCIL ON ASIAN-PACIFIC MINNESOTANS

525 PARK STREET, SUITE 105
SAINT PAUL, MN 55103

tel: 651.296.0538

fax: 651.297.8735

www.state.mn.us/ebranch/capm/

Released November 2000

Upon request, this report will be made available in an alternate format, such as Braille, large print, or audiotape. For TTY, contact Minnesota Relay Service at (800) 627-3529 and ask for the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans.

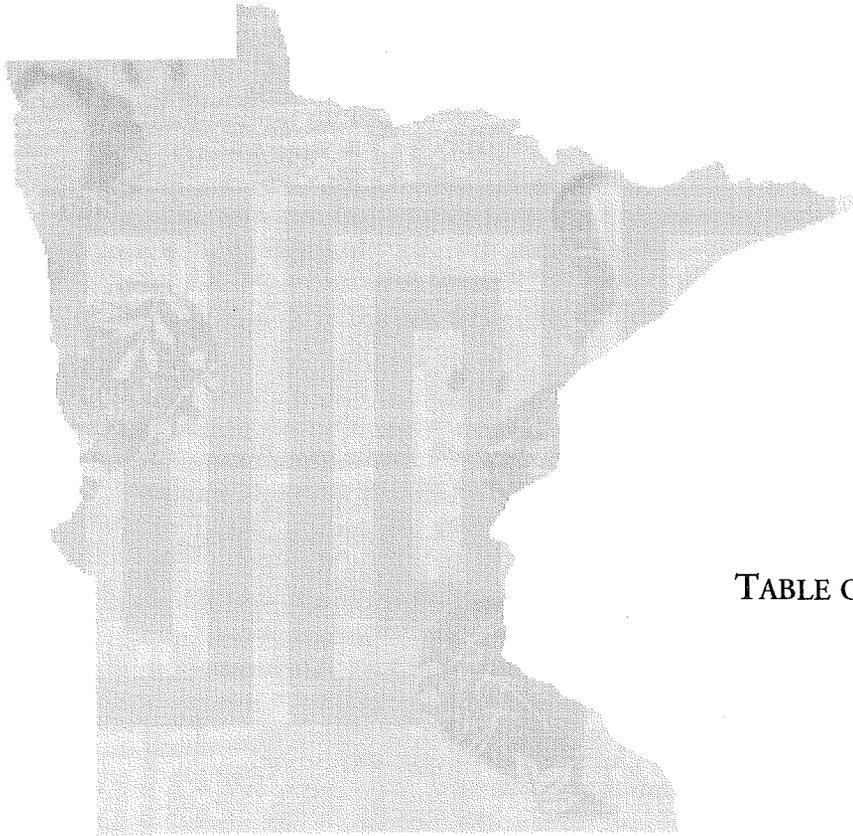


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	3
Section I: The Council	5
Section II: Performance Summary	13
Section III: Issues Confronting the Community	43
Section IV: Responding to the Needs Identified	53
Section V: List Receipts & Expenditures	57
Appendix	61

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summary of Activities Since the Last Report

The Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans was created by the legislature to work for the Asian Pacific community in the following ways: assist in their incorporation into the governmental and policy making process; help them gain better access to state government services; ensure that their talents and resources are used and promoted; and act as a bridge between them and non-Asian Pacific peoples. Additionally, the Council was created to advise the governor and legislature on issues of importance to the Asian Pacific community. In the past two years, staff created, implemented, and participated in programs that focused on the following objectives:

*P*olicy Development – Increased Asian Pacific participation at all levels of public policy making

*C*ommunity Empowerment - Fortified opportunities for new and more cohesive community relationships and foster a Pan Asian Model to tackle common issues, as well as those issues unique to specific ethnic groups

*O*rganizational Strength – Worked with staff and Council members to create a viable organization that is responsive to the needs of the community and its constituency, as well as one that is capitalizing on the strength of the community and its existing foundation

Issues Confronting the Community

The issues that continue to challenge the community revolve around economic, social, and political justice and what the community can do to overcome and eradicate barriers to their full participation and enjoyment in the prosperity Minnesota has to offer.

Systemic Issues:

Institutional Racism, perception as foreigners, model minority myth, hate crimes, racial profiling, employment discrimination, lack of Asian Pacific leaders in the public arena

Specific & Personalized Issues:

Helping communities flourish and grow in rural Minnesota; violence prevention; K-12 education (bilingual & literacy programs, adult basic education & citizenship classes); lack of affordable housing and home ownership; and the need for culturally competent health care

Objectives for the Next Biennium

The Council, in partnership with the community, will create a framework for community development and empowerment that will produce real systematic and institutional changes. The Council will seek both means and methods to enable and sustain a strong, visible, and viable Asian Pacific community in Minnesota that is integral to the economic, social, cultural, and political well-being of the state.

SECTION I: THE COUNCIL

Unity of Purpose and Voice

On behalf of the State Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans board and staff, we are very pleased to present this Biennial Report for fiscal years 1999 & 2000. This report provides a summary of the Council's programs, activities, and objectives over the past two years; identifies major issues presently confronting the community; and outlines key objectives that will guide the Council's work, together with other stakeholders, to set in motion a flow of ideas and activity producing tangible results.

In the last biennium, the Council assumed the daunting task of assessing the community's needs and determining how to build capacity within the community so that it could be at the forefront of efforts to meet the needs identified. The community has demonstrated resiliency and innovation in how it organizes to meet the needs of an ever changing community. To be sure, though, the true measure of this maturation or coming into our own depends on whether we can nourish this growth and activity such that it can be sustained. Thus, in this new biennium, the Council will shift its priorities to addressing issues of sustainability.

Within the last five years, Asian Pacific American entrepreneurs have infused millions of dollars into revitalizing run-down and economically depressed neighborhoods along University Avenue in St. Paul and Nicollet Avenue in Minneapolis. They have generated millions of dollars in revenue and created a impressive number of employment opportunities. Yet, for the most part, these businesses are small, sole proprietorships that rely on family members or minimal staff to remain operational. For these businesses to function under a stable foundation - with a good potential for growth - entrepreneurs need training in financial management, budgeting, accounting and record keeping. Vital, too, is instruction that hones skills in the areas of human resources/relations and a support structure that helps businesses remain in compliance with federal, state, and local regulations.

We believe the Council, in partnership with Asian Pacific Minnesotans, is poised to create a framework for community development and empowerment that will produce real systematic and institutional changes. The community is buzzing with activity—driven more than ever to unleash the creative juices and energy within. Never in the history of Minnesota has this level of community participation and active citizenship been displayed in such number or force by its residents of Asian Pacific descent. The Council will seize this opportunity to solidify a unity of purpose and with it, give sustenance to a forceful and well reasoned voice that cannot be ignored.

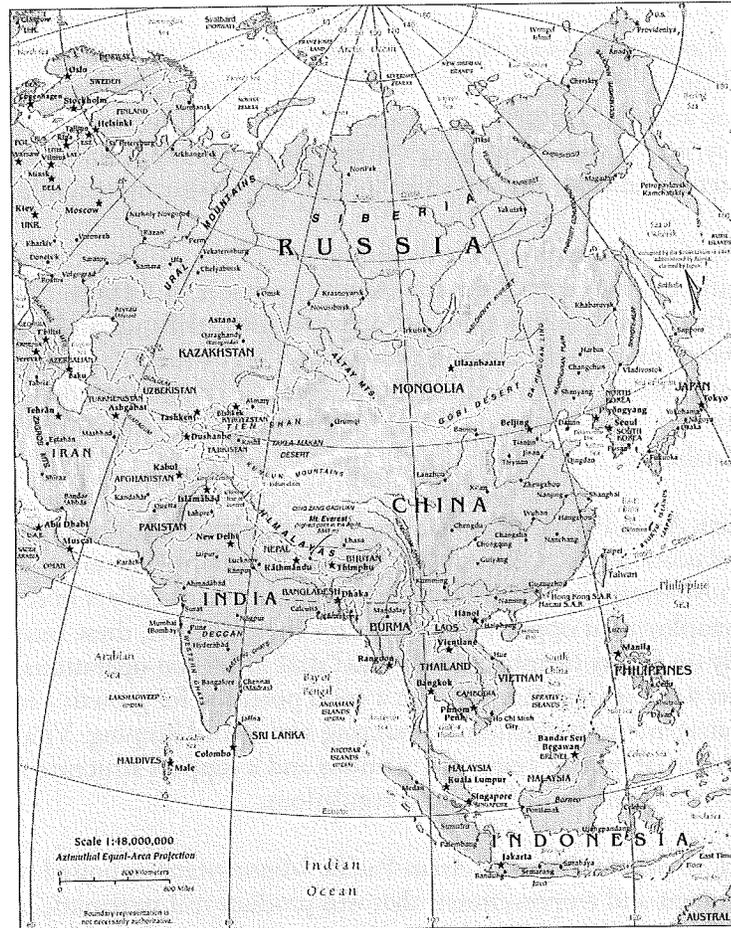
Best Wishes,

Adeel Lari
Chairman of the Board

Kao Ly Ilean Her
Executive Director

Serving Individuals and Communities from the following Countries

Please note that this list may not be exhaustive. It is difficult to capture all that falls within the realm of "Asian & Pacific Islanders" but we made great effort to be fair and inclusive. We apologize for any oversights and welcome your feedback.



Afghanistan. Australia. Bangladesh. Bhutan. Brunei. Burma (Myanmar). Cambodia. China. Cook Islands. Federated States of Micronesia. Federated States of Midway Islands. Fiji. French Polynesia. Guam. Hawaii's. Hong Kong. India. Indonesia. Iran. Japan. Kazakhstan. Kiribati. Kyrgyzstan. Laos (Hmong and Lao). Macau. Malaysia. Maldives. Marshall Islands. Mongolia. Nauru. Nepal. New Caledonia. New Zealand. North Korea. Northern Marianas Islands. Pakistan. Palau. Papua New Guinea. Philippines. Pitcairn Islands. Samoa. Singapore. Solomon Islands. South Korea. Sri Lanka. Tahiti. Taiwan. Tajikistan. Thailand. Tibet. Tonga. Turkmenistan. Tuvalu. Uzbekistan. Vanuatu. Vietnam.

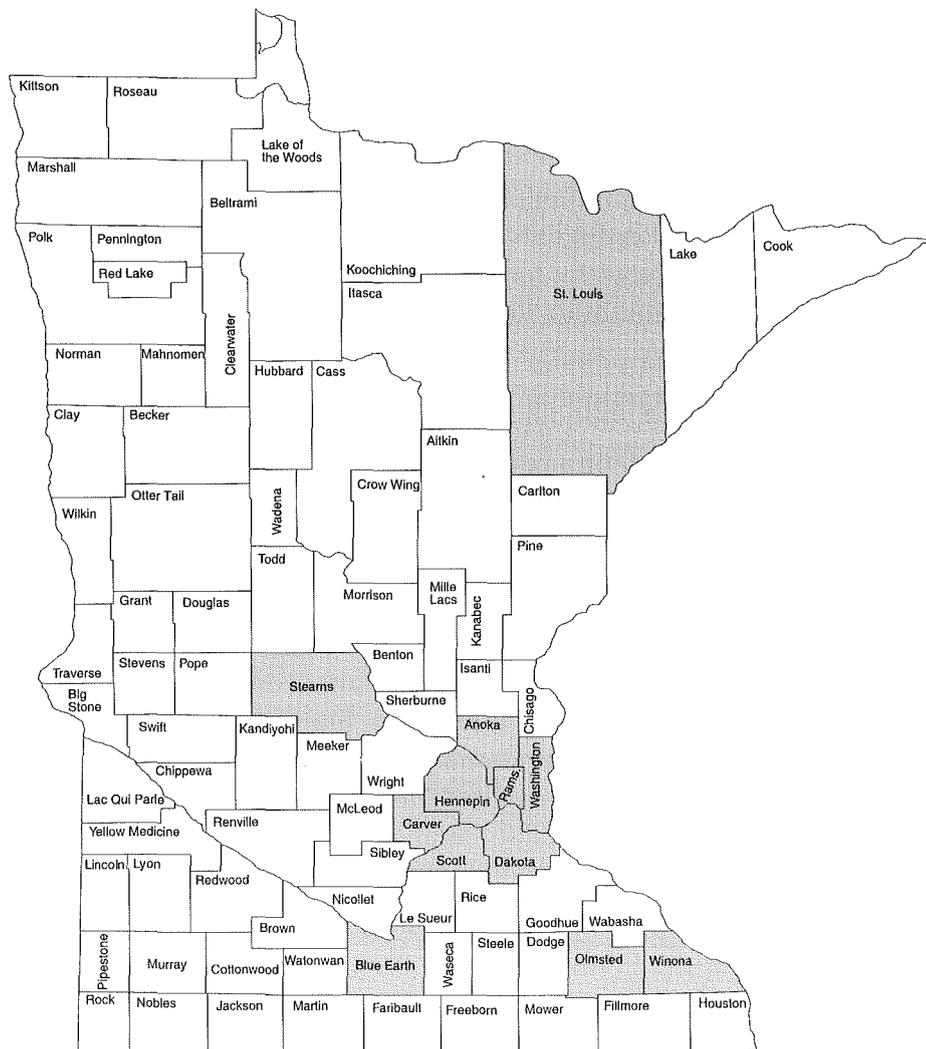
County	Estimated API Population 7 - 1 - 1999	Population Estimates Base 4 - 1 - 1990	Numeric Change 1990 - 1999	Percent Change 1990 - 1999
Hennepin	48,325	29,832	18,493	62.0
Ramsey	37,680	25,034	12,646	50.5
Dakota	9,706	4,685	5,021	107.2
Anoka	5,906	2,952	2,954	100.1
Olmsted	5,874	3,254	2,620	80.5
Washington	3,776	1,655	2,121	128.2
St. Louis	1,690	1,080	610	56.5
Stearns	1,452	846	606	71.6
Scott	1,276	539	737	136.7
Blue Earth	1,231	813	418	51.4
Carver	1,009	446	563	126.2
Winona	814	528	286	54.2

Counties Ranked by Asian and Pacific Islander Population, July 1, 1999

Source: Population Estimates Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233

Contact: Statistical Information Staff, U.S. Census Bureau (301-457-2422)

Internet Release Date: August 30, 2000 [http://www.census.gov/population/estimates/county/rank/api-a.txt]



AGENCY DESCRIPTION

Roles and Responsibilities

The Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans (Council) was created by the Minnesota State Legislature in 1985 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 3.9226, subdivision 1, to fulfill three primary objectives: to advise the governor and members of the legislature on issues pertaining to Asian Pacific Minnesotans; to advocate on issues of importance to the Asian Pacific community; and to act as a broker between the Asian Pacific community and mainstream society.

14 Legislative Goals

The council shall:

1. advise the governor and the legislature on issues confronting Asian-Pacific people in this state, including the unique problems of non-English-speaking immigrants and refugees;
2. advise the governor and the legislature of administrative and legislative changes necessary to ensure that Asian-Pacific people have access to benefits and services provided to people in this state;
3. recommend to the governor and the legislature any revisions in the state's affirmative action program and other steps that are necessary to eliminate underutilization of Asian-Pacific people in the state's work force;
4. recommend to the governor and the legislature legislation to improve the economic and social condition of Asian-Pacific people in this state;
5. serve as a conduit to state government for organizations of Asian-Pacific people in the state;
6. serve as a referral agency to assist Asian-Pacific people to secure access to state agencies and programs;
7. serve as a liaison with the federal government, local government units, and private organizations on matters relating to the Asian-Pacific people of this state;
8. perform or contract for the performance of studies designed to suggest solutions to the problems of Asian-Pacific people in the areas of education, employment, human rights, health, housing, social welfare, and other related areas;
9. implement programs designed to solve the problems of Asian-Pacific people when authorized by other law;
10. publicize the accomplishments of Asian-Pacific people and their contributions to this state;
11. work with other state and federal agencies and organizations to develop small business opportunities and promote economic development for Asian-Pacific Minnesotans;
12. supervise development of an Asian-Pacific trade primer, outlining Asian and Pacific customs, cultural traditions, and business practices, including language usage, for use by Minnesota's export community;
13. cooperate with other state and federal agencies and organizations to develop improved state trade relations with Asian and Pacific countries; and
14. assist recent immigrants in adaptation into the culture and promote the study of English as a second language.

The Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesota consists of 23 members. The Governor appoints nineteen of them, who together make up a broad representation of the Asian-Pacific community in Minnesota. In addition, two members of the House of Representatives and two members of the State Senate are appointed under the rules of their respective bodies. These legislators serve as non-voting members of the board.

Governor Appointees

Adeel Z. Lari (Chair), Pakistani	John Doan, Vietnamese
Dodge Flores, (Vice Chair) Filipino	Jennie Hsiao, Chinese
Wangyal T. Ritzekura, Tibetan	Sai Lee, Hmong
Boon Yong Vorasane, Lao	Dr. A. Ghafar Lakanwal, Afghani
Ching-Meng Chew, Malaysian	Pastor Cherian C. Puthiyottil, Asian Indian
Vinodh Kutty, Singaporean	
Evelyn Lee, Indonesian	Legislative Appointees
Ananda Srilal Liyanapathirana, Sri Lankan	Senator John J. Marty
Ba Thein Win, Burmese	Senator Pat Pariseau
Dr. Masami Suga, Japanese	Representative Jim Rhodes
Sotheary Duong, Cambodian	Representative Tim Mahoney

SECTION II: PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

T hree Areas of Focus

P *olicy Development* – Increased Asian Pacific participation at all levels of public policy making.

- Mental Health – Increased the awareness of mental health (its causes & treatment) within the Asian Pacific community, while also educating service providers and mainstream institutions
- Violence Prevention – Created a comprehensive and cohesive framework to address the issue of violence prevention and intervention in the community
- Self-sufficiency – Worked in establishing resources crucial for many individuals to become economically self-sufficient
- Education – Provided input on education policy and worked with community members, particularly parents, to get them more involved in the educational process

C *ommunity Empowerment* - Fortified opportunities for new and more cohesive community relationships and foster a Pan Asian Model to tackle common issues, as well as those issues unique to specific ethnic groups.

- Pan-Asian Model of Empowerment – Called together and organized community groups and organizations to facilitate cooperative, strategic relationships and actions
- Asian Pacific American Heritage Month – Led and coordinated activities to commemorate the contributions of Asian Pacific Minnesotans that have enriched our lives
- Asian American Festival – Helped to organize a community building and strengthening event that focuses on the arts, cultural performances, and information sharing

O *rganizational Strength* – Worked with staff and Council members to create a viable organization that is responsive to the needs of the community and its constituency, as well as one that is capitalizing on the strength of the community and its existing foundation.

- Referral Services
- Communication
- Strategic Planning

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

In order for government and democracy to work, people must take an active role in the deliberation of public problems and issues. They must work together with respect and a willingness to understand the values, perspectives, and interests of others. And individuals must be open minded and flexible to re-framing their mindset in the search for common interests and desired outcomes.

In the fall of 1998, the Council set forth the challenge of bringing the community together to set policy recommendations. It did so by convening the Asian Pacific Policy Taskforce. The Taskforce consisted of over 30 diverse community leaders and/or interested persons who worked with the community.

During this time, the community was grasping to understand and recover from a series of shocks: a young Hmong mother murdered her six children; another Hmong mother was missing and presumed murdered by her deceased spouse; a 13 year old Hmong girl was raped and brutally murdered in Brooklyn Park; and the broadcast of racist remarks by radio station KQRS about a young Hmong mother's murder of her newborn baby.

The community wanted to know why these tragic incidents were happening and what could be done to prevent them. The community soon understood the importance of being pro-active, and realized it was not too late to do something to prevent similar types of things from occurring in the future. They also realized that talk was not enough—they needed to be active and become part of the solution.

They identified five issues to work on: mental health; violence prevention; self-sufficiency; education; and community development. The Taskforce divided into five subcommittees and set about the task of clearly identifying the issues and working toward solutions. This body met over the course of three months. Upon completion of their work, they had produced the *Family and Community Strengthening Initiative*, which laid out the priorities and recommendations in the five areas identified.

Over the next five months, from January 1999 to May 2000, the Taskforce worked on implementing the recommendations with the legislature. For many, this was their first time working on legislation. We held meetings and briefings at the State Capitol. A few of the members expressed surprise that we could really meet in the State Capitol. We targeted legislators who were passionate and knowledgeable about these areas and enlisted their assistance.

Two trainings were held for members of the Taskforce and the community on how to work with the legislature and participate in the legislative process. And later, during the session, Taskforce members testified for us on bills we were supporting. Legislators commented that they had never seen so many Asian Pacific people at the capitol speaking for themselves on issues that truly mattered to them.

Some of our bills that legislative session passed, while many did not. But overall, the community claimed victory for going through the process and becoming more familiar with policy development and the legislative system. For the first time, the Council worked in concert with a group of community leaders on issues that were important to them and provided them an opportunity to see democracy working first-hand.

Five Key Issues: Awareness Promotion & Recommendations

1. Mental Health (Causes, Treatment, and Service Providers)

- Increasing the community's capacity to deliver services through the creation of and advocacy for a scholarship program to assist Asian Pacific mental health workers obtain degrees enabling them to be licensed mental health case professionals
- Expand and secure funding for existing and new Mental Health Programs and Services to support the on-going work of clinics in the community

2. Violence Prevention & Intervention

- Focus a public awareness campaign on domestic & sexual abuse as well as on aggressive, violent behavior amongst youth
- Conduct a research project to assess the extent, root causes, and cost of violence, with the goal of also improving upon data collection/distribution practices of mainstream systems and institutions
- Collaborations between community and police to work meaningfully on violence prevention, including training for personnel in law enforcement, the judicial system, social service agencies, and mental health providers
- Assess the quality and availability of Intervention & Prevention programs
- Assist in increasing the number of community based *and* mainstream institutions providing sexual assault and domestic violence prevention/intervention services to the Asian Pacific community, with a major focus on raising the quality of care
- Funding to complete the House of Peace shelter for battered women & children

3. Self-Sufficiency

- The state must keep its end of the bargain to MFIP participants by ensuring there are enough case workers to help those truly interested in securing employment
- The state must commit to providing residents with livable-wage jobs
- Design & implement a comprehensive training program for hard-to-place MFIP participants

4. Education

- Work toward enhancing literacy programs where outcomes are measurable, especially when looking at student achievement & preparation for life after high school
- Incorporate Asian Pacific parents and community members—with sincerity; patience; and determination to create a welcoming environment, with meaningful learning experiences—so they develop skills and confidence to work with school

districts in designing programs & influencing policies that benefit their children

- Address the barriers facing qualified Asian-Pacific individuals in earning their teacher licensures
- Research, develop, and prepare teachers to implement pedagogy already proven, or that at least thoughtfully attempts, to spur student interest and success in learning

5. Community Mobilization by Kindling Pride, Purpose, and Validation of Efforts

- Establish Asian Pacific Leaders in the Public Arena Intuitive, drawing attention to their lack of representation in public life and the need for a remedy
- Secure funding and partners to support activities for the commemoration of Asian Pacific and other related education materials
- Establish and support a Pan-Asian community/cultural center

Brief Overview: Legislation in Five Key Areas

Mental Health

Capacity Building & Scholarships

\$200,000 for the biennium to fund a scholarship program to train mental health case workers for licensure.

Status: Included in Omnibus bill, but not funded.

Crisis Intervention Hotline

\$200,000 for the biennium to establish a crisis intervention hotline.

Status: Included in Omnibus bill, but not funded.

Violence Prevention

Comprehensive Violence Prevention Initiative

2.3 million for the biennium for a comprehensive violence prevention initiative for the Asian Pacific community to be administered by Crime Victim Services. To target four areas: *violence prevention educational campaign; training and research; youth/crime prevention; and sexual assault and domestic violence prevention and intervention.*

Status: \$50,000 to Metro State University to produce report on domestic abuse

Asian American Juvenile Crime Prevention – Department of Health & Human Services

\$1,000,000 for the biennium providing grants to nonprofit agencies for family based services and activities for Asian-American youth to prevent their participation in crime and to intervene when criminal and delinquent behavior surfaces.

Status: Full restoration of funding.

State Office to Prevent Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

Establishes a new state office to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault. The office will work on advocating victim's rights, increase education and awareness, support litigation, initiate policy changes, and build partnerships with the law enforcement and court systems.

Status: Enacted into law

Pilot Project Domestic Unit in Ramsey County

Domestic abuse victims will have six years now instead of only two years time to consider filing charges against their perpetrator. A victim could sue for assault, battery, false imprisonment, or personal injury. The law will also allow Ramsey County to establish a pilot project domestic abuse unit. The unit will prosecute cases, recognize interests of children, and reduce the exposure of domestic abuse for victims.

Status: Enacted into law

Expansion of Penalties for People who Lure Teens into Prostitution

A new law will expand penalties for people who lure teens into prostitution. It will now be a felony for a person to solicit a juvenile under age 18 into prostitution.

Status: Enacted into law

Self-Sufficiency

Ramsey County Work First Transitional Employment Project

\$500,000 appropriated to the Southeast Asian MFIP collaborative to create a transitional employment training program

Status: Enacted into law

Selected Narratives:

Furthering Community Involvement in Policy Development

A. Building Peaceful Communities

In the summer of 1996, we completed a field study for Minnesota Planning on community perceptions of crime. This led to policy recommendations that called for strengthening the links between families and schools; addressing cultural identity issues among juveniles; finding ways to effectively track truancy and drop outs; and securing more funding for after school programs and parent education classes.

A recent report on best practices to reduce school violence concluded that "interventions that include a combination of violence prevention strategies are likely to be the most effective." It is precisely these types of interventions that are instituted by community based organizations. They address gang prevention/reduction, career exploration, crime prevention and law-related education, family support, and par-

enting skills training. These comprehensive services include working with entire families, school administrators, teachers, probation officers, and social workers.

The following is a brief summary and narrative of some of the programs and curricula in place that target the Asian Pacific community.

Association for the Advancement of Hmong Women in Minnesota (AAHWM)

AAHWM has programs at three elementary schools in Minneapolis – Windom, Seward, and Field. The programs provide group meetings and fieldtrips for experiential learning. Additionally, academic tutoring is available in community centers such as Whittier Park, Powderhorn, and Phillips. Funds permitting, they would like to conduct follow-up with students moving on to middle school who are no longer in their program. For further information contact Ly Vang at (612) 724-3026.

Hmong American Partnership (HAP)

The crime prevention program at HAP serves over 200 4th - 6th grade Hmong students at six public schools and two community centers in the Twin Cities. Five caseworkers operate after school programs that include instruction on substance abuse prevention and cultural issues. Academic tutoring is also offered. For further information contact Laura Schlick Lablanc or Tzianeng Vang at (651) 642-9601.

The Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association of Southeastern Minnesota (IMAA)

Located in Rochester, IMAA serves a diverse immigrant population. Their prevention program serves over 80 youth and their families from the Lao, Hmong, Vietnamese and Cambodian communities. For further information contact Ron Buzard at (507) 289-5960.

Lao Family Community of Minnesota

The Lao Family works with forty Hmong youth, ages 12-16, in the area of crime prevention and intervention. For more information contact Kim Dettmer at (651) 221-0069.

Lao Parent Teachers Association (Lao PTA)

Lao PTA serves over 250 Lao youth and their families in North Minneapolis. They operate a cultural dance group, a computer lab, mentoring services, and many after school activities. For more information contact Khao Insixiengmay or Ladda Chanthraphone at (612) 374-2447.

United Cambodian Association of Minnesota (UCAM)

UCAM is located in St. Paul and serves over 60 youth, ages 12 – 21. For more information on UCAM programs and services contact Darina Siv at (651) 222-3299.

Vietnamese Social Services (VSS)

The VSS program serves more than 100 youth throughout five schools in St. Paul and Minneapolis. Bich Chu, the Youth Program Manager, directs a team of two youth counselors and one parent educator. For more information on VSS programs contact Mr. Bich Chu at (651) 641-8907.

Hmong Peace - Hmoob Thaj Yeeb

Over the past couple of years, Hmong Peace has been working on a comprehensive plan of action to address issues of violence in the Hmong community. They are currently working with Hmong youth and women to implement their plan. For more information on their activities call (651) 266-2509.

'Safe in America' Program

The Women's Association of Hmong and Lao (WAHL) has an innovative program funded through

Ramsey County and the City of St. Paul that instructs refugee families in home safety procedures. The program is based around home visits in which the coordinator helps the family take an inventory of their home, suggesting such material improvements as motion detector lights, deadbolt door locks, or window fasteners. The program also includes developing an emergency plan to help families deal with intruders. Basic skills are taught for making 911 calls and speaking with dispatchers.

Hmong Women's Peace Program

WAHL also has a pilot program addressing sexual assault for Hmong women age 12 to 25. This year they conducted outreach to 150 people. In addition to prevention education, they provide advocacy. WAHL works in partnership with Asian Women United to meet the needs of women who are victims of domestic abuse. WAHL is currently engaged in the development of curriculum to train youth workers in sexual assault counseling so they know where to go for resources.

Asian Women United (AWU)

Asian Women United provides domestic violence and prevention services to Asian Pacific women. Started approximately six years ago, AWU hopes to open a domestic abuse shelter specific to serving the needs of the Asian Pacific population.

B. Workforce Development

A workforce development committee resulted from the Council's efforts to organize the Asian Policy Taskforce. Members were drawn from the directors and staff of Southeast Asian agencies working on welfare reform. This committee became our primary vehicle for monitoring Welfare Reform. It was very clear from these discussions that an effective model for moving SE Asians from welfare to work needed to involve partners from three domains – employers with hard to fill job vacancies, a training institute willing to work with students with low formal education skills, and Southeast Asian service providers with a strong program of job coaching for TANF-eligible clients. The Council was influenced by a collaboration between employers led by Lake Regions in Chaska, the Carver-Scott Technical College and the Center for Asian Pacific Islanders (CAPI). The study group established a goal to replicate this model for the East Metro Region and evolved into a working group referred to as the East Metro Training Initiative EMTI.

The group, under the Council's leadership, was successful in getting a bill authored in the 1998-1999 session that would have appropriated \$750,000 for the project. Planners and consultants from Ramsey County joined the members of the EMTI in working on the legislation. Members from EMTI testified numerous times before legislative committees, but no money was appropriated in FY 1999.

In the 1999-2000 session we reintroduced a bill. We were aware that the state had \$179 million in TANF reserves. Our actions and advocacy to brief legislators and reintroduce a modified bill resulted in \$500,000 being appropriated in fiscal year 2001. The language of the grant from the TANF reserves was as follows:

\$500,000 in fiscal year 2001 is for a grant to the Southeast Asian MFIP services collaboration to replicate in a second location (Ramsey County) an existing model of an intensive transitional employment training project which serves TANF eligible recipients and which moves refugee and immigrant welfare recipients into unsubsidized employment and leads to economic self-sufficiency.

Our experiences working on issues of self sufficiency have led us to reframe issues of self-sufficiency and workforce development beyond the current crisis imposed by the federal welfare to work reforms, to consider the needs of the new generations of young SE Asians soon to graduate from the school system. They are in need of career education. The EMTI has the potential of being a pilot for a training center

for St Paul's eastside. We spoke to both the Department of Employee Relations and Department of Economic Security regarding the potential benefits of expanding their student ambassador program at five St. Paul schools to include community based organizations.

C. *Parental Involvement: Walking Through the Process Together*

During the 1998 legislative session, the Department of Children Families and Learning (CFL), in collaboration with various community partners, successfully obtained an appropriation from the legislature to establish a clearinghouse of best educational practices and shared-decision making for improving the performance of students of color. CFL contracted with the state's four Councils of color to help implement the legislative mandate. After careful consideration and approval from CFL, the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans selected *increasing parent/primary caregiver support of student learning* as its primary area of focus.

In July 1998, the Council hosted a forum entitled *The Invisible Crisis: The Educational Need of Asian American Students*. What emerged from the forum was that while Asian Pacific students were doing well statistically, many were failing or slipping through the cracks, most notably Southeast Asian students. It was also identified at the forum that parental involvement, a critical factor in student achievement, was severely lacking from this same community.

In implementing the grant, the Council proposed to work with parents, teachers, school administrators and policy makers to examine what was hindering parent involvement and to then determine some resolutions.

Parental Involvement – Rochester

The general purpose of the forum in Rochester was to discuss ways parents could be more involved in their children's schools and overall learning experience. Workshops, speakers, surveys and learning instruments were designed with this goal in mind. However, during the planning process parents requested a workshop on higher education. Therefore, the Council incorporated this into the forum agenda.

The event was well attended and received. Nearly two hundred people were in attendance during the 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. event held at the Northrop Community Services Center. Participants included parents, students, teachers, school administrators, and community leaders. Vang Lee, Minority Parent/Student Advocate for the Rochester Public Schools, was a primary coordinator of the forum.

The forum was powerful and the data collected was not surprising. The results underscored the fact that Hmong parents are often not involved in their children's education in the traditional sense, but not due to a lack of concern or interest. Rather, parents may be unfamiliar with or unaccustomed to such involvement; have a disbelief that such practices are useful; feel they cannot be of any assistance because they are uneducated, speak little or no English, and do not understand American ways; or not see their role in their children's education as "active" in the way the American educational system defines it.

Of the 33 Hmong families in Rochester, 31 families attended the forum. This suggests that the parents care about the well-being and educational success of their children. The challenge is for parents, educators and policy makers to take what we and others have learned, learn more, and then develop a creative and culturally thoughtful/intelligent process to support and foster meaningful parent involvement. We need to meet parents where they are, rather than deride them for not being where we want them to be.

Sample of Parent Survey Results

- When parents were asked if they felt they could help their children with homework, 80% felt they could not be of assistance or could help only on occasion. Over half this number stated that they knew where their children could receive help, though nothing specific was identified.
- 8 of 10 respondents said they attended parent/teacher conferences, suggesting that even though parents do not feel they have the capacity to help their children with homework, they are still very interested in their academic success.
- When asked what would help them be more involved in their children's schools, responses varied. Four said they needed assistance communicating with school staff. Two did not know, while two others said they couldn't because they worked during the day.
- 100% of the parents responding said they encourage their children to speak their native language in the home (not English).

Sample of Student Survey Results

- When students were asked if they felt their parents could help them with their homework 45% said no, 21% said sometimes, and 33% felt their parents could in fact offer assistance. Most of the students who stated that their parents could not help them with homework identified alternative places to go for help. Forty-five percent said they could get help from teachers, 18% chose friends, 42% would ask siblings or other relatives, while 24% were unsure. Some students listed programs such as Upward Bound and the Help line as resources they have used for homework.
- When asked if their parents attended parent-teacher conferences, 66% of the students said yes, 24% said sometimes, and 12% reported that their parents did not attend conferences. It is important to note that all of the students who said their parents did not attend conferences also had identified their parents as not being able to help them with their homework. Most students felt it was important for their parents to attend parent-teacher conferences so that parents would know how their children are doing in school and so they could better understand the grades their children were receiving.
- When asked if students felt their parents could help them with their education, 66% said yes, 18% said maybe, and 15% replied that their parents could not help them. When asked to identify how parents could help them, six percent said parents could help with homework, 12% said parents could teach them how to act, 27% said parents could offer support and encouragement, while nine percent said parents could help them by paying for college or schooling. Six percent reported that a lack of English skills hindered their parents from helping them with their education.
- Forty-five percent of the students spoke primarily Hmong at home, while 21% spoke primarily English, and 33% spoke a combination of the two.

D. Asian Pacific Youth Leadership Retreat

On December 10-13, 1998, 28 youth drawn from over seven Asian Pacific communities in Minnesota gathered at the Wilder Forest on Marina St. Croix for the first ever Asian Pacific Youth Leadership Retreat. The theme of the retreat was *Finding Your Voice*.

The Council perceived a need within the Asian Pacific youth community for a gathering in which youth could meet, come to know one another, and explore issues of identity, culture, mental health, and education. The retreat provided a haven where Asian Pacific youth gathered strength, celebrated successes, and created solutions to the problems they faced in their lives. The Retreat was planned on the belief that youth have important things to say about the issues they are facing and that they have solutions.

Youth were kept busy with stimulating activities, including group initiatives and an exercise where they assumed the role of policy maker and offered testimony in support or opposition to proposed legislation during a mock legislative hearing. They also participated in workshops on juvenile crime, youth gangs, and HIV/AIDS.

Performance artist Tou Ger Xiong was a hit Friday night as he presented a theme packed multi-media presentation, using humor to raise complex issues of living in two worlds. Sunny Kase, an actor from Theatre Mu, gave a moving drama story about her experience as one of the over 10,000 babies brought to Minnesota as adopted Koreans. She skillfully wove a story of adolescent rebellion and confusion, and of her struggles coming to terms with living in two cultures as a Korean American. The teenagers also were involved in a lecture demonstration given by three performers from the Theatre Mu on the ancient yet changing art of Taiko drumming from Japan.

E. Survey Identifies Major Health Care Issues & Needs of Asian Pacific Elders

In the fall of 1999, the Council in partnership with other organizations, convened a forum to focus on the needs of the elderly Asian Pacific population. A survey was circulated to community leaders and health care professionals and posed two questions: what are the major health care issues facing elders and what are some possible solutions?

The intent of the survey was to learn how the physical and mental health care needs of Asian Pacific elders differ from those in the mainstream elderly population. This information is useful when examining the quantity of services available; whether or not those services address the unique cultural experiences of the clients; and if service providers are qualified or are being trained to deal specifically with the problems facing the Asian Pacific elderly population.

Accessing Healthcare

- Lack of treatment, educational, and counseling services
- Stigma associated with seeking certain types of treatment
- Fear of doctors, Western treatment, and medication
- Lack of interpreters and translated materials for basic services
- Unfamiliarity with American administrative processes
- Tradition of self-reliance and faith in cultural healing practices
- Insufficient public transportation services for those who do not drive
- Lack of culturally appropriate facilities (i.e. food menu, bi-cultural workers, etc.)

Medical Coverage

- Lack of affordable health insurance, for both short and long term care
- Traditional medicine not covered (e.g. acupuncture and herbal remedies)

Cultural and Intergenerational Conflicts

- The breakdown of the extended family system
- Cultural expectation that younger generation will care for older generation

Isolation and Loneliness

- AP elders tend to have few neighborhood friends
- Lack of activities and social support for Asian elders
- Language barriers
- Social isolation at home or inside a facility (leading to depression)
- Limited access to the news media & current events
- Longing and concern for the home country

Socioeconomic Factors

- Lack of jobs for elders to be self-sufficient
- Minimal funds saved for retirement and aging expenses
- High poverty rates, particularly for Southeast Asians

Recommendations Generated From Survey

1. **Establish an Asian Pacific Community Center** that would provide a place for social interaction, cultural events, structured exercise classes, and a small clinic offering basic health care services.
2. **Deal with transportation issues** by showing elders how to use public transit systems and by helping agencies secure funding for vans to transport elders to classes, social events, doctor appointments, etc.
3. **Produce videos and other translated materials**, increase the quantity and quality of ESL classes and translation services, and provide health care education programs to help elders become more familiar and comfortable with the health care system.
4. **Provide better access to and information about** affordable housing, assisted living, adult day care, and the full range of home care alternatives and options.
5. **Design residential solutions** to overcome isolation and loneliness.

Though the health care needs of Asian Pacific elders often resemble those in the mainstream, there are clearly unique differences. Because policy decisions are narrowly based on the needs of an aging Caucasian baby boomer generation, there are consequences for elderly Asian Pacific Minnesotans. We hope the preliminary findings outlined above lead to a process whereby policy makers and service providers remain well informed of the needs of Asian Pacific elders and their families, and that they give thoughtful, just consideration to this information when devising health care policy for an increasingly diverse population.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Asian Pacific Americans do not conform to one particular group or identity. Rather they are a convergence of many ethnic and affinity groups working together to accomplish shared goals and objectives. The Council, since its creation, has worked with the community on important issues with the goal of improving the lives of individuals and families. The Council does not try to create a single Asian Pacific "voice". Instead, we strive to fortify a unity of purpose. By collectively raising our voices, we can play a vital role in shaping the social, political, and economic environments in Minnesota.

The community is young, vibrant, and emerging. Within the last thirty years the Asian Pacific community in Minnesota has grown dramatically from roughly 7,000 to 135,000. The community is vastly diverse, though the largest concentration consists of relatively new immigrants from Southeast Asia. Minneapolis/St. Paul has the largest urban concentration of Hmong and the second largest Tibetan community in the United States. Minnesota also has a very established Asian Pacific community in the Chinese, Japanese, and Filipino communities who have been in the Minnesota since the turn of the 20th century.

Each group is so different from the other along social, cultural, and economical lines. Over the years, each group has built its own organizations to work with and for the community. These organizations are strong and provide much needed services. However, for the most part, each one works on behalf of their respective ethnic community and thus remain largely separate from one another.

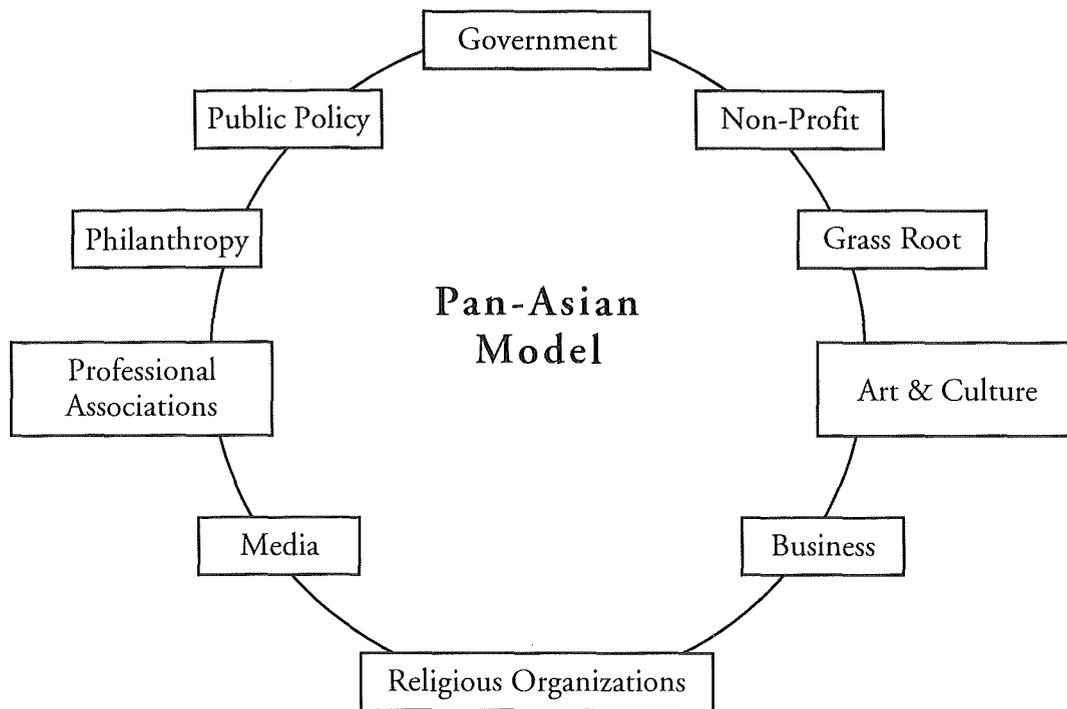
With the Council playing the role of broker, these organizations have started to connect more and garner an understanding that while there is strength in working within their individual communities, there can be greater strength by supporting each ones efforts and collaborating in areas of mutual concern. The community has been extremely receptive to working together and is now beginning to communicate more freely and openly. This movement needs to be supported so that crossing cultural lines can be seen as an asset rather than a barrier to effective collaboration.

While it is true that there are many areas that the community has not yet touched and where we can improve upon, there exist in Minnesota a tremendous opportunity to establish a Pan-Asian American voice that is unique from any another other place in the nation.

A. Creating a Strong Pan-Asian Presence

In Minnesota, a model of Pan Asian empowerment is emerging: That is to say, an infrastructure is being pieced together to build capacity, as well as power within institutions. The sectors forming the foundation of this model of empowerment are: business; politics; community; culture; health; the arts; social services; and philanthropy. The idea driving the Pan Asian Model of empowerment is to develop cooperative, strategic relationships and actions amongst all human resources doing, or with the potential to do, quality community work.

The diagram on the following page is a panoramic presentation of many key Asian Pacific components throughout Minnesota.



Government

The *State Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans* is a state agency that advises the Governor and legislature on issues pertaining to Asian Americans in Minnesota. It has spearheaded a number of legislative and policy initiatives. (i.e.) juvenile crime prevention; community and workforce development; citizenship awareness programs; adult basic education; K-12 educational funding; and health care.

The Council has been the central point for information on the Asian Pacific American community in Minnesota. It is also a persistent advocate, taking every opportunity to promote the talent and resources within the community to mainstream Minnesota.

Asian American public officials in Minnesota include a member in the State Legislature as well as a member on the Metropolitan Council, Saint Paul School board, State Arts Board, and Urban Initiative Funds. Governor Ventura recently appointed an Asian American to chair the Working Group on Minority Business Development and another to serve on the very important Redistricting Commission.

Non-Profit (partial list)

We have strong non-profit organizations that are competitive and deliver services to the community. Over 20 non-profits exist to serve the needs of the community in all areas of human endeavors. These community organizations are at the forefront of critical issues facing the community today, responding with innovative programs and commitment to advocacy. Among many other things, significant work has been done to strengthen families in terms of cultural adjustment; generational conflicts; youth gang involvement; crime prevention/intervention; tutoring programs and other after-school activities; care for

the elderly; chemical dependency & mental health issues; reducing welfare rolls through economic self sufficiency programs and Adult Basic Education courses; and providing community members with the skills and confidence to redefine themselves as active and engaged citizens.

Asian Media Access
Asian Women United
Association for the Advancement of Hmong Woman
Center for Asians and Pacific Islanders
Center for Cross Cultural Health
Hmong American Partnership
Hmong Minnesota Pacific Association Inc.
Hmong Mutual Assistance Association
Hmong National Organization
Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association of Southeast
Korean Service Center
Lao Family Community of Minnesota, Inc.
Lao Parent-Teachers Association
Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota
Southeast Asian Community Council
Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota
United Cambodian Association of Minnesota
Vietnamese Minnesotans Association
Vietnamese Social Services
Women's Association of Hmong & Lao

Grass-Root Organization (partial list)

The over fifty grass-roots organizations exemplify the strength of the Pan-Asian American community. Nearly every ethnic community has an organization that helps it maintain contact with its members and that facilitates dialogue and coordinates programming. These are strong, respected and valued organizations with a loyal membership and from within which often stem the forging of community leaders.

<i>Asian Indian Women Association</i>	<i>Korean Association of Minnesota</i>
<i>Association of Cambodian Refugees</i>	<i>Malaysian Association of Minnesota</i>
<i>Chinese American Association of Minnesota</i>	<i>Minnesota Asian Advocacy Coalition</i>
<i>Community Action Against Racism (CAAR)</i>	<i>Minnesota Indonesia Society</i>
<i>Cultural Society of Filipino Americans</i>	<i>National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum</i>
<i>Fil-Minnesotan Association</i>	<i>Pan Asian American Voice for Education (PAAVE)</i>
<i>Filipino American Women's Network</i>	<i>Organization of Chinese of Americans – MN Chapter</i>
<i>Free Burma Coalition</i>	<i>Sri Lanka Foundation of Minnesota</i>
<i>Gamelan Society of Minnesota</i>	<i>Thai Association of Minnesota</i>
<i>India Association of Minnesota</i>	<i>Vietnamese Community of Minnesota</i>
<i>Japanese American Citizens League-MN Chapter</i>	

Art & Culture (partial list)

The vibrant arts community in Minnesota has begun making efforts to showcase and develop Pan Asian Artists, performance, and culture. In addition to an already well established Asian artistic community, there is the emerging young crop of talented, independent artists and performers shaping/re-defining public understanding and perceptions through their stimulating, provocative, and innovative work. The *Asian American Renaissance*, *Ragamala Music & Dance Theater*, *Theater Mu*, *CAAM Chinese Dance Theater*, and poets/essayists *Bao Phi* and *Mai Neng Moua* are a handful whose work is most recognized in the field—an excellent, though by no means complete representation of the quality and depth of material produced by the community.

Asian American Renaissance (AAR)

Thien-Bao Phi

Center for Hmong Arts and Talent (CHAT)

Chinese American Association of Minnesota Dance Theater

Chinese American Dance Theatre

Mai Neng Moua

Minnesota Minghua Chinese School

Mikaharu-Kai Dancers

Nirmala Rajasekar

Paj Ntaub Voice

Ragamala Music & Dance Theatre

Theatre Mu

Sansei Yonsei Kai Children and Adult Japanese Dance Group

Public Policy

The *Policy Roundtable* is a Pan-Asian alliance whose purpose is to be active and vocal with regard to policy issues. Within this context, the *Policy Roundtable* has worked to alter common misperceptions of Asian Americans by presenting a new image of Asian Americans as strong, dynamic, articulate, and successful players in the community. Policy forums, cable television productions, and conscious outreach have produced tremendous strides in broadening the profile of Asian Americans. *The Policy Roundtable* has aggressively debated numerous issues and sought influence in serious decisions, decisions which impact Asian people in Minnesota, but typically had little or no input from them. Some areas of focus include public appointments and judicial selection; needs of Asian American elders; barriers to civic participation; international trade and business development.

At the request of the *Policy Roundtable*, Governor Ventura made a special trip to Washington, D.C. to garner support for the Hmong Veteran's Act co-authored by Congressman Bruce Vento and Senator Paul Wellstone. The Governor has also made many statements in major policy speeches celebrating the contributions of the Asian American community in Minnesota and the role it plays in all fabrics of Minnesota life. This support from the Governor's office is the result of ongoing dialogue and relationship building between the Executive Branch and the Asian American community in Minnesota.

Business (partial list)

The Asian American market power in Minnesota is close to two billion dollars. The *Asian Minnesotan Business Summit*—hosted by the *Policy Roundtable* with Governor Ventura as the guest of honor—preceded a soon to follow Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Small Business Administration regarding loan outreach to Asian American entrepreneurs.

The momentum continued with the establishment of the *Alliance for Asian Minnesotan Business Development*, a collaboration consisting of bankers; technical assistance agencies; state, federal and city officials; and entrepreneurs & business-minded individuals in the Asian American community. *The Policy Roundtable* has also played an important advisory role in the Governor's trade mission to Japan.

The Asian Business Resource Partnership is an alliance in Saint Paul of organizations and institutions interested in facilitating business development in the Asian Minnesotan community. The Partnership is currently producing a directory of business resources.

The Asian Development Corporation, established with initial funding by the legislature, has a unique focus of Asian Minnesotan business and community development. So too, does the *Asian American Chamber of Commerce and Hmong Chamber of Commerce*.

Media (partial list)

There is a growing Asian Americans presence in the media as newspaper and TV journalists and TV news anchors. Asian Americans in Minnesota are taking ownership of their stories as publishers and owners of newspapers and radio shows. They are capitalizing on the Asian American consumer base. Many top firms and advertisers now market their products and recruitment efforts in the Asian media. Asian media outlets include:

Asian American Press

Asian Pages

Hmong Tribune

Hmong Times

Korean Quarterly

Korean Times

Kev Koom Siab (locally produced cable access show)

KFAI – Ethnic Radio Shows (Asian Indian, Filipino, Hmong, Cambodian, . . .)

The Policy Roundtable Meet our Policy Makers Series

Philanthropy (partial list)

A growing number of Asian Americans are program officers, staff members, and board members of mainstream charitable foundations in Minnesota. As such they are educating and influencing the foundation community of the needs and priorities of charitable organization within the community.

The *Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Development (APECD)* is both a source of pride and sign of community dedication. This is a unique fund managed by Asian Americans, with a focus on community specific endowment building and grant making. APECD, part of the 5 million dollar Diversity En-

dowment Funds of the Saint Paul Foundation, has awarded over \$150,000 in community grants to Asian Pacific organizations. The Minnesota chapter of Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP) is also actively mobilizing funders around community needs.

Professional Associations (partial list)

As the community grows and more people enter the workforce, networks are developing among professionals. Established groups include:

Asian American Journalist Association
Chinese American Academic & Professional Association in Minnesota (CAAPAM)
Hmong Mental Health Service Providers Network
Minnesota Asian American Health Coalition
National Asian Pacific American Bar Association – Minnesota Chapter
Philippine-MN Medical Association Inc.

Religious Organizations (partial list)

Religious organizations frequently assume a strong presence in dealing with important social and economic struggles that have a profound impact on the overall health and vitality of a community.

<i>Cambodian Buddhist Society</i>	<i>Hmong-American Nat'l Catholic Church</i>
<i>Phat-an Buddhist Temple (Vietnamese)</i>	<i>St. Paul Hmong Alliance Church</i>
<i>Korean United Methodist Church</i>	<i>Lao Buddhist Association</i>
<i>Great Love Mission Church (Korean)</i>	<i>Lao Community Lutheran Church</i>
<i>Korean Evangel. United Methodist Church</i>	<i>FIL-AM Christian Fellowship</i>
<i>Korean Presbyterian Church of Minnesota</i>	<i>Filipino Catholic Community</i>
<i>Hmong American Alliance Church</i>	<i>Hindu Society of Minnesota (Asian Indian)</i>

B. Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Importance of the Event

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month has been an outlet for the many ethnic communities to draw strength and make connections with one another. It is important for the community and all Minnesotans to know about the contributions that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made to this state and country.

Impact

The impact of the activities were extensive, reaching out not only to members of the Asian Pacific community, but diverse individuals throughout the state. We circulated over 10,000 posters to thousands of individuals and businesses. Asian Pages and the Asian American Press, with a local and regional readership, covered many of the month's activities.

May 2000: Weaving A Common Future

Annual Dinner

May 20, 2000

Science Museum of Minnesota

Over three hundred people attended the annual dinner and dance. Norman Mineta, former United States Congressman, delivered the keynote address.

Naturalization Ceremony

May 20, 2000

House Chambers, State Capitol

The Council, in cooperation with Congressman Bruce Vento's Office and the Immigration and Naturalization Service, hosted a Naturalization Ceremony in the House Chambers. Over 20 individuals were sworn in as American citizens.

May 1999: Heart, Mind & Soul

Annual Dinner

May 19, 1999

Minnesota History Center

Four hundred guests and friends of the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans were in attendance. The Honorable Yvonne Lee, a Commission to the Federal Commission on Human Rights delivered the keynote address.

CAPM's Annual Asian Pacific Leadership Awards

2000 Recipients

Bruce Corrie, Ph.D., Community Service/Professional Leadership

Bruce Corrie received his Ph.D. in Economic Development from the University of Notre Dame and is currently professor of Economics at Concordia University in St. Paul. As Chair of the Policy Roundtable - a pan-Asian alliance focusing on public policy issues - Dr. Corrie has brought issues of importance in the Asian Pacific community to the attention of key policy makers through the Meet Our Policy Makers Series and other forums. His efforts have inspired Asian Pacific Minnesotans to be more vo-

cal and engaged in the democratic political process. Dr. Corrie has devoted his energies and passion to community affairs as well - he is a founding board member and former President of the Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Development, a unique fund established for Asian Americans in collaboration with the Saint Paul Foundation. Dr. Corrie also writes a monthly column in the Saint Paul Pioneer Press.

Esther Torii Suzuki, *Excellence in the Arts/Community Service*

The late Esther Torii Suzuki was born in Portland, Oregon in 1926. Because of their Japanese descent, her family was uprooted in 1942 by the U.S. government and interned at a concentration camp in Minidoka, Idaho. Her acceptance to Macalester College allowed her to leave the confines of the camp and attend school in Minnesota. Esther worked for over 25 years as a social worker for Ramsey County Community Human Services. Throughout her life she was also a dedicated volunteer, spending many hours at churches, schools, study groups, women's clubs, businesses, and community organizations educating others about the WWII internment experience. Upon retirement, Esther found a second career as a storyteller and playwright with Asian American Renaissance and Theatre Mu. In 1997, Theatre Mu presented *Interment Voices*, a play she co-wrote with David Mura, about the relationship of two sisters and their nephew and how each handled their experiences in the internment camp.

Indira Y. Junghare, Ph.D., *Professional Leadership*

Indira Junghare is Professor and Chair of the Department of South Asian & Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures at the University of Minnesota. Born and raised in India, she did her graduate studies at the University of Texas, Austin, where she received a doctorate in Linguistics. Prof. Junghare's leadership, passion, and vision were the driving force behind the establishment of the Asian Languages and Literature Department at the University of Minnesota, where she has established a record of outstanding academic accomplishments among her peers and a reputation for being an excellent teacher and mentor to her students. She's received many awards, including the Outstanding Faculty Award, the Gordon L. Starr Award, and the College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Teacher Award. Prof. Junghare volunteers speaking at schools, churches, and community organizations and co-founded the School of Indian Languages and Cultures.

Josée N. Cung, *Community Service*

Josée Cung is a strong voice and advocate for the Vietnamese community in Minnesota. For twenty years she's been chair of Special Projects for the Vietnamese Cultural Association of Minnesota, a group that promotes Vietnamese culture and helps refugees adjust to life in Minnesota. Her efforts in the capital campaign were instrumental in establishing the Vietnam Center, dedicated this past April. Josée is a founding member of the Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Development, whose mission is to build capacity in the community through raising funds, providing grants, and assisting other communities in building endowments. Josée has served as a board member for a number of community organizations including COMPAS, YWCA of St. Paul, The Schubert Club, and the Minnesota Women's Fund. She has received many awards and was recognized in 1998 by Minneapolis/St. Paul Magazine as Volunteer of the Year.

Chinese American Association of Minnesota (CAAM), *Community Service*

CAAM is a non-profit community based organization created in 1968. Its cultural, educational, and social programs preserve Chinese heritage; enhance the quality of life of Chinese Americans; and increase Minnesotans' understanding and appreciation of Chinese culture and the contributions people of Chinese descent have made to this community. CAAM hosts both a language school and dance theater. Nearly 200 students at all skill levels are enrolled in language classes. The CAAM Chinese Dance Theater offers students fourteen different classes, ranging from parent-child movements to martial arts. Their performances consistently draw large, diverse audiences and have received critical acclaim from area dance critics. They have entertained crowds at the Festival of Nations, Minneapolis Aquatennial, St. Paul Winter Carnival, Asian American Festival, and State Fair.

1999 Recipients

Sophia Dong, *Beating the Odds/Community Service*

Born and raised in Cambodia, Sophia and her family were forced to leave their home of 25 years when the Khmer Rouge took control of the country. In 1986 Sophia joined the Wilder Foundation's Social Adjustment Program for Southeast Asians where she has worked ever since providing counseling for depression, post traumatic stress, isolation, and family problems.

The Schubert Club, *Excellence in the Arts*

The Schubert Club, with a century-old reputation as a presenter of recital music, is also an active promoter of classical music from other cultures. Prominent and internationally known Asian artists such as cellist Yo-Yo Ma and violinist Midori have come to the Twin Cities as guests of the Schubert Club. In addition, the Schubert Club has collaborated and sponsored several musical performances by local Asian artist organizations. They are well known for their Indonesian gamelan music program, acquisition of traditional musical instruments, and overall commitment to the development of Asian artists in the community

Keshini Ratnayake, *Youth Leadership*

Keshini Ratnayake is a sophomore at the University of Minnesota, Duluth Campus. Starting at a very young age Keshini became involved with the Girl Scouts where she achieved the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest recognition in the Girl Scouts. At UMD, she is President of Habitat for Humanity and serves as a volunteer tour guide for the Admissions Office. Keshini is active in her community, church, and school. She was awarded the President's Youth Service Award for her community service

Joyce Yamamoto, *Community Service*

Joyce is the Director of Social Justice Programs at the YWCA of Minneapolis. In addition to her work at the YWCA, Joyce has, among many other things: mentored many young people in the Asian Pacific community; authored a leadership handbook for women and girls; played an active role in the Japanese American Citizens League; and been a member of Kogen Taiko, a Japanese-American drum and performing arts group based in the Twin-Cities

Theater Mu, *Excellence in the Arts*

Theater Mu is an Asian American theater company that is committed to giving voice and opportunity for expression to Asian Americans. Using a pool of over forty theater artists and performers, Theater Mu enriches the community with its performances addressing cultural diversity and Asian American issues. In addition to their wonderful theatrical productions, they have wowed audiences with Mu Daiko, an exhilarating style of Japanese drumming. Theater Mu is also widely recognized for its youth outreach programs whereby youth are encouraged to express themselves and explore their cultural identity through theater

C. *Asian American Festival*

The Asian American Festival is a community strengthening and building event that focuses on the arts, cultural performances, and information sharing.

Importance of the Event

The Asian American Festival is about strengthening neighborhoods and encouraging the civic engagement of the Asian Pacific community. It is about building a presence in the community in which we live. It is about inviting others to know who we are. It is about pride in our history and ancestry. It is about celebrating our identity as Asian Pacific Americans.

The Asian American Festival was created by the community approximately five years ago. At that time, community members lamented that there was not an occasion for the community to gather and celebrate the joy & pride of being Asian American. Their driving force was the hope of creating such an event that would become an annual tradition for all Minnesotans to learn, interact, explore, and enjoy themselves in a family oriented environment.

A Proven Track Record

The Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans and the Asian American Renaissance have taken responsibility for gathering the community to plan and implement the Festival. With each passing year, the Festival has grown in size and quality. More communities are involved and a wider array of people are participating in the festivities.

The initial Festival was held on University Avenue in the Frogtown neighborhood of St. Paul. This location was chosen to highlight the large role Southeast Asian businesses and residents played in the economic revitalization of the area. Over 40 organizations and groups participated in the parade and resource areas, with more than 2,000 people attending the event throughout the course of the day.

The 2nd Annual Festival took place along the Mississippi River on Harriet Island. The highlight of the Festival was the unveiling of the "Dragon Boat" which was built by approximately 15 youth in the traditional Chinese design. At the conclusion of the parade, the youth took to the river for a demonstration of not only the beauty, but functionality of their boat.

The 3rd & 4th Annual Festivals moved to what we hope is its permanent location – the Mall of the State Capitol. Again, the Festival included a parade, display booths, artistic performances, a children's activity area, intergenerational activities, educational resources, diverse ethnic food, and vendors selling all types of neat items. Over 3,000 people were in attendance both years.

The fourth Festival took place again on the Mall of the State Capitol. We built upon the things that have worked in the past and explored new opportunities and ideas. We have heard from the community that they want the Festival to be more "festive" and less of a "resource" fair. Thus, we expanded the family area with more activities, demonstrations & a children's theatre/story telling area. The arts and cultural performances has always been a good way to draw in and engage the audience.

Impact

The Festival fosters a sense of neighborhood, belonging, and unity. Together come the old and new, children and adults, the east and the west, the past and the future. The Festival captures the spirit of the Asian Pacific community and we are pleased to have it as an avenue to showcase this.

The Festival has been filmed and broadcast on both the St. Paul Neighborhood Network (SPNN) and Kev Koom Siab, a locally produced show widely viewed by the Hmong community on Channel 17. SPNN broadcasted the parade on its cable channel for community events.

Not only does the Festival celebrate the gifts within the Asian Pacific community, it also keeps Minnesotans conscious of the state's rich cultural diversity and heritage. It is also a reminder to the multi-ethnic crowds present that as they discover the new and unfamiliar, there remains much they all have in common.

1. Coordinated a planning committee of community members to perform the following tasks:
 - Create and maintain timeline
 - Promotion & Advertising
 - Logistics & Security
 - Fundraising
 - Volunteers
 - Public Relations, Promotion, and Communication
 - Evaluation and Follow-up

2. Activities
 - Culturally Specific Arts & Crafts activities for the family (i.e. origami, kite making, traditional Chinese ink printing)
 - Story Telling/Demonstration Area - story telling by professionals and elders, top spinning, jump roping, dancing
 - Community Displays – community based organizations and cultural/ethnic groups shared resources and taught others about their services or culture
 - Martial Arts Demonstration – day long demonstration of various forms of martial arts (i.e. Karate, Tae Kwon-do, Tai Che)
 - Performance Stage – professional and emerging artists displayed their talent

ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH

- *Served as a resource people could look to for leadership and vision on issues confronting people of Asian Pacific descent*

Referral Services

The Council provides referral services, ranging from telephone numbers to a direct service provider or legal agency, to providing materials or information on a particular issue or specific ethnic group. Some callers are looking for assistance in connecting with the community to work on an emergent issue, while others have emergency situations and seek direction or advice. We deal with requests within our capacity, but often refer callers to organizations or individuals that have the requisite expertise or licensure. People find our name in the phone directory, through recommendation, or on the internet. Sources of contact include the Canadian Embassy, the Netherlands, Georgia, and California.

Communication

During the past two years, the Council has used it's newsletter to disseminate information to the community. Articles in these publications have included: *How a Bill Becomes a Law*; *Citizenship: the Naturalization Process*; and *What Every Non-Citizen Must Know About Deportation*. We have also revamped our website and will continue our pursuit of making it more functional and useful for the public.

Strategic Planning

The board and staff participated in strategic planning to develop a work plan for the Council that identified the needs of our stake-holders, prioritized our efforts, and laid groundwork for an approach to the work ahead.

LIST OF CAPM MEETINGS AND EVENTS

July 1998 – June 2000

DATE/TIME	MEETINGS/EVENTS	LOCATION	OTHER SPONSOR(S)
7/2/98 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	An Evening with The Honorable Wendy Chamberlin, U.S. Ambassador to Laos.	Concordia University/ Gangelhoff Center—St. Paul	Concordia University and others
7/16/98 7:30 am – 10:30 am	Community Forum “An Invisible Crisis: Educating Asian Pacific Youth”	Concordia University Student Center—St. Paul	Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Development & National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum – MN Chapter
9/30/98 10:00 am – 12:00 Noon	Community Leaders Meeting (to address series of violent crimes within the Hmong community)	State Capitol	
10/10/98 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Third Annual Lao Youth Celebration	U of M / Coffman Memorial Union	Lao PTA
10/27/98 4:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Undoing Racism Workshop (Lee Mun Wah)	Hamline University/ Sundin Music Hall, St. Paul	Hamline University’s Asian Student Association
11/14/98 8:30 am – 12:30 pm	Legislative Workshop – Asian Pacific Leaders in the Public Arena	State Office Building	Urban Coalition, Wilder Foundation/Bicultural Training Program, Family & Children’s Service
11/17/98 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Roundtable Discussion with Deborah Huskins, DHS Assistant Commissioner regarding MFIP	Hmong American Partnership, St. Paul	Hmong American Partnership, Department of Human Services
12/10-12/98	Asian-Pacific Youth Conference	Wilder Forest	MN Department of Human Services/ Children’s Mental Health Division
1/8/99 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Public Hearing— Family and Community Strengthening Initiative	Lao Family Community of Minnesota, St. Paul	CAPM/Asian Pacific Policy Task Force
1/9/99 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Public Hearing— Family and Community Strengthening Initiative	Lao PTA, Minneapolis	CAPM/Asian Pacific Policy Task Force
1/12/99 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	1999 Asian American Festival – Community Information Session	Ronald M. Hubbs Center, St. Paul	Asian American Renaissance & Others
1/14/99 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	1999 Asian American Festival – Community Information Session	Calvary Baptist Church/ Pathway, Mpls.	Asian American Renaissance

LIST OF CAPM MEETINGS AND EVENTS continued

July 1998 – June 2000

DATE/TIME	MEETINGS/EVENTS	LOCATION	OTHER SPONSOR(S)
1/22/99 8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Statewide Superintendent Forum	MN Judicial Center St. Paul	
1/22/99 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Undoing Racism Workshop	St. Paul Technical College/ Auditorium, St. Paul	Minnesota Cultural Diver- sity Center
1/23/99 9:30 am – Noon	Census 2000 Community Briefing	Concordia University— St. Paul	National Asian Pacific American Legal Consor- tium, Asian American Cen- sus Awareness Committee
1/29/99 8:00 am – 4:30 pm	Children and Immigration Law Conference	Hamline University Conference Center, St. Paul	Children Law Center
2/16/99 10:00 am – 3:00 m	Legislative Training II	State Office Bldg., St. Paul	Urban Coalition, Wilder Foundation
3/9/99 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	Legislative Training II	State Office Bldg., St. Paul	Urban Coalition, Wilder Foundation
4/99	Asian-Pacific Heritage Month Cele- bration in the Schools	Mountain Lake, MN	Mountain Lake School District
5/3/99 12:00 N – 1:00 pm	1999 Asian-Pacific Heritage Month Celebration – Kick-Off	State Capitol Rotunda	
5/21/99 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Asian-Pacific Heritage Month An- nual Dinner	MN History Center	Government agencies, cor- porations and foundations
5/22/99 11:00 am	Annual Award Ceremony	State Capitol Stage	
5/22/99 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Third Annual Asian American Festival	State Capitol Lawn	Asian American Renaissance & others
6/5/99 8:30 am – 2:00 pm	Parents & Education Forum	Northrop Community Service Center Rochester, MN	
6/10/99	Asian Business Summit	Concordia University	Policy Roundtable
7/20/99 6:00 – 8:00 pm	Asian Pacific Community Center Community Meeting	Metropolitan State University, St. Paul	APCC, Metro State Univ., CAAM & Theater Mu
7/21/99 1:00 – 2:00 pm	Asian Pacific Policy Task Force Mental Health Sub-Committee	Wilder Forest	CUHCC, Lao Family Community
8/10/99 11:00 am – 12:30 pm	S.E. Asian Service Providers Network Theme: Y2K – preparing the com- munity for Y2K	Mt. Airy Community Center, St. Paul	Neighbor to Neighbor
8/11/99 9:00 – 11:00 am	Community Dialogue – Asian Youth Violence/ Gangs	State Capitol	
8/18/99 9:00 – 11:00 am	Sheila Wellstone: Violence Against Asian Women and Girls	Hmong American Partnership, St. Paul	Sheila Wellstone, Hmong Peace, HAP

LIST OF CAPM MEETINGS AND EVENTS continued

July 1998 – June 2000

DATE/TIME	MEETINGS/EVENTS	LOCATION	OTHER SPONSOR(S)
8/20/99 8:30 am – 3:00 pm	Conference – Caring for Asian Elders: Are we prepared?	Concordia University—St. Paul	Metro Area Agency on Ag- ing, Wilder Foundation, UCARE of MN, Policy Roundtable, Concordia Univ., APECD, Korean Service Center, WAHL, UCAM, VSS, and Inst. for Education and Advocacy
8/27/99 10:00 – 11:00 am	Demonstration of a Federal post- retention work program	Work Force Center, St. Paul	St. Paul Technical College St. Paul Work Force Center
8/30/99 all day	“Protect Day” of The Five Days of Promise: Youth and Adults Build- ing Minnesota’s Future	State Fair, St. Paul	MN Alliance with Youth, United Way, General Mills, Center for 4-H Youth
8/30/99 9:00 – 11:00 am	Community Dialogue – Asian Youth Violence/ Gangs	State Capitol	
8/27 - 30/99	Census 2000 Booth	State Fair, St. Paul	MN Planning, US Census Bureau
9/1/99 4:00 – 6:00 pm	Panel Presenter on Democracy, by the American Experiment for group of 30 international guests	Indian Center, Minneapolis	Minnesota International Center
9/8/99 9:00 – 11:00 am	Training – Diversity & Hate Crime	Maple Grove Police Department	League of MN Human Rights Commission
9/21/99 11:30 am – Noon	“A Look at the Future” – Technical Support Annual Employee Meeting (spoke on Asian Culture)	Maplewood Community Center	MN Department of Trans- portation/ Technical Sup- port Services
9/21/99 11:00 am – 1:00 pm	Presentation on Council to Asian Employee Network	St. Paul Companies	
9/27/99 9:00 – 11:00 am	Youth Violence Work Group Session	State Capitol	
9/28/99 5:30 – 7:30 pm	Orientation meeting for Council’s volunteers	Veterans Service Building, St. Paul	
10/7/99 4:30 – 6:30 pm	Healthy, Vital Communities: Asian-Pacific Parents dialogue with Lt. Governor Mae Schunk	The Asian Community Health Center, St. Paul	
10/11/99 5:00 – 6:30 pm	Rev. Dr. Cherian Puthiyottil met with four Asian teachers to get their input on how to better help the Asian students in schools	Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans, St. Paul	

LIST OF CAPM MEETINGS AND EVENTS continued

July 1998 – June 2000

DATE/TIME	MEETINGS/EVENTS	LOCATION	OTHER SPONSOR(S)
10/16/99 9:00 am – 5:00 pm 8:30 am – 1:30 pm	Asian Pacific Parental Involvement Forum	Central Senior High School St. Paul	
10/20/99 2:00 – 2:30 pm	Press Conference – Councils of Color Respond to The Big Plan	State Office Bldg., St. Paul	Council on Black Minnesotans and Chicano Latino Affairs Council
10/30 – 11/2/99	Hmong National Conference – From the Mekong to the Millennium: Hmong in the 21 st Century	Hyatt Regency Hotel, Minneapolis	Hmong National Development and Ucare Minnesota
11/1/99 9:00 – 11:00 am	Youth Violence Work Group Session	State Capitol, Room 107	
11/10/99 1:30 – 3:00 pm	The Hidden Workforce	Minneapolis Convention Center	MJSP, T/C Labor & Management Conference
11/15/99	Census - Meetings with Worthington Mayor and Senator Vickerman	Worthington & Tracy, MN	US Census Bureau
11/16/99 6:00 – 7:30 pm	Music and lecture focused on Women, GLBT, Asian, and Diversity/Multiculturalism issues	Bridgeman Hall, Hamline University	Hamline University
11/19/99 3:00 – 4:00 pm	Medical Insurance for Asian Entrepreneurs	Hmong American Partnership (HAP), St. Paul	Dept. of Human Services
12/2/99 3:00 – 4:00 pm	Hennepin County Community Initiative	Hmong American Partnership – Minneapolis Branch	Hennepin County, HCMC
12/10/99 1:00 – 3:00 pm	Speaker—Hmong New Year School Assembly	Minneapolis Roosevelt Senior High School	
1/7/00 9:00 – 11:00 am	East Metro Training Initiative	HAP – St. Paul	TCLMC, HAP, RR
1/20/00 9:00 – 10:00 am	Mental Health Providers Network	Wilder Foundation, St. Paul	CUHCC, Wilder, Lao Family
1/26/00 11:30 am – 1:00 pm	AP Heritage Month Planning Meeting	American Express, IDS Center, Minneapolis	American Express
1/31/00 2:00 – 4:00 pm	Health East Presentation on Philippine Culture	Bethesda Hospital, St. Paul	
2/5/00 8:30 am – 2:00 pm	Crime Prevention/ Intervention Summit	William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul	MN Gang Strike Task Force, Lao Family, HAP, YWCA of Minneapolis
2/8/00 4:30 – 7:00 pm	Presenter at Immigrant Forum	Humphrey Institute, Minneapolis	Humphrey Institute on Public Policy

LIST OF CAPM MEETINGS AND EVENTS continued

July 1998 – June 2000

DATE/TIME	MEETINGS/EVENTS	LOCATION	OTHER SPONSOR(S)
2/11/00 12:00 – 1:30 pm	Candidate Forum (Tim Penny)	Mai Village, St. Paul	Policy Roundtable
2/17/00 2:00 – 4:00 pm	Senator Wellstone: Children's Mental Health	Wilder Foundation, St. Paul	Hmong Mental Health Pro- viders Network, DHS
2/18/00 12:00 – 1:30 pm	Candidate Forum (Steve Kelly)	Mai Village Restaurant, St. Paul	Policy Roundtable
2/19/00 12:00 – 4:00 pm	Day of Remembrance	History Center, St. Paul	Japanese American Citizens' League - TC Chapter
2/21/00 10:00 – 11:30 am	Voter Registration Education Campaign Kick-Off	State Capitol/Great Hall	Council on Black Minneso- tans, Chicano Latino Affairs Council
2/24/00 9:30 – 11:00 am	Census 2000 – Asian-Pacific Com- munity Leaders Forum	Minnesota Planning, St. Paul	State Demographer's Of- fice, Census Bureau
2/29/00 6:00 – 8:00 pm	Housing Forum/Rally	Capitol Rotunda	MN Housing Coalition, Family Housing Fund
3/4/00	Census 2000 – Kick-Off	Concordia College, St. Paul	State Demographer 's Of- fice, Census Bureau, AA Count Committee
3/4/00 9:00 am – 3:00 pm	International Women's Day	U of M Student Union— St. Paul Campus	Minnesota Advocate for Human Rights
3/7/00 9:00 – 11:00 am	Mental Health and Public Policy – How a bill becomes law	MN Department of Health	Metro Refugee Health Task Force, CCCH, MDH
3/9/00 9:00 – 11:00 am	Workforce Development East Metro Training Initiative	Hood Industries, Roseville	Dept. of Economic Secu- rity, MnSCU, Labor Un- ions, TCLMC, HAP
3/10/00 10:00 – 11:00 am	Low Power Radio Collective	SeAM Radio, St. Paul	Asian Media access, KFAI, SeAM, CBO's
3/10/00 4:00 – 6:00 pm	Census 2000 – Kick-Off Keynote: Lt. Gov. Mae Schunk	Metro State University, St. Paul	Hmong National Organiza- tion, Asian Census 2000 Awareness Committee
3/17/00 1:00 – 3:00 pm	Roundtable discussion: INS Deportation and Detention of Southeast Asians	Wilder Foundation, St. Paul	INS, Asian Juvenile Crime Prevention Network
3/18/00 10:00 – 11:00 am	First Meeting of the SeAM low power radio collective	SeAM Radio	Asian Media Access, MAAs, Hubbs Center, KFAI
3/18/00 9:00 am – Noon	Transforming Race Relations	Augsburg College	Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics
3/24/00 12:00 – 1:30 pm	Candidate Forum (David Lillihaug)	Mai Village Restaurant	Policy Roundtable

LIST OF CAPM MEETINGS AND EVENTS continued

July 1998 – June 2000

DATE/TIME	MEETINGS/EVENTS	LOCATION	OTHER SPONSOR(S)
3/26/00 Noon – 6:00 pm	Filipino Day	Landmark Center, St. Paul	Cultural Society of Filipino Americans
3/29/00 8:00 p.m.	Helen Zia Book Tour	Ruminator Books, St. Paul	
3/31/00 12:00 – 1:30 pm	Candidate Forum (Michael Ciresi)	Mai Village Restaurant, St. Paul	Policy Roundtable
4/6-9/00	Midwest Asian American Student Union 2000 Conference (MAASU) Y2A: Asian Americans in the New Millennium.	U of M - Twin Cities Campus	Asian American Student Cultural Center, Asian Pa- cific American Learning Resource Center/U of MN
4/24/00	Ethnic Studies Symposium – “Multiculturalism: Connections through Collaboration”	Minnesota State University Mankato, MN	Minnesota State University
4/26/00 1:00 – 2:30 pm	Community Roundtable: Kevin Thurm, Deputy Secretary, US Dept. of Health & Human Services	Ronald M. Hubbs Center for Lifelong Learning, St. Paul	
4/26/00 5:00 – 7:30 pm	Community Reception with Shamina Singh, Executive Director, White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders	Vietnam Center, St. Paul	
5/1/00 12:00 – 1:30 pm	Asian-Pacific Heritage Month – Kick-Off	State Capitol	
5/20/00 9:00 – 12:00 Noon 9:00 am – 3:00 pm 6:00 pm – Midnight	Leadership Awards & Naturalization Ceremony Asian American Festival Annual Asian Pacific Heritage Month Dinner	State Capitol Capitol Front Lawns Science Museum, St. Paul	Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Develop- ment, BlueCross/Blue Shield of MN, General Mills, Medtronic, MnSCU, The St. Paul Co., Med- tronic Asian American Ren- aissance, etc.
5/31/00 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Community Forum with Minneapolis Superintendent of Schools, Carol Johnson	Southeast Asian Community Center, Mpls.	
6/2/00	Speaker: Asian Club Graduation Dinner	North High School, Mpls.	
6/6/00	Presented Human Rights Award to Rep. Bruce Vento	U of M—Twin Cities	Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights
6/15/00	Site Based Improvement Meeting with Hmong Parents	Arlington High School	St. Paul Schools
6/23/00 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Community Dialogue with Sheryl Ramstad Hvass, Commissioner of MN Department of Corrections	Wilder S.E. Asian Social Adjustment Pro- gram—St. Paul	MN Department of Correc- tions, Wilder Foundation

SECTION III: ISSUES CONFRONTING THE COMMUNITY

A. SYSTEMIC ISSUES

Perception as Foreigners

People of Asian Pacific descent have been in the United States of America since its inception, but they still cannot escape from being perceived as foreigners. "No matter what their citizenship, how long they may have resided in the United States or how assimilated they are, the 'common understanding' that Asians are an alien presence in American is still the prevailing assumption in American culture." *The State of Asian Pacific America: Transforming Race Relations.*

Model Minority Myth

This myth emphasizes the success of the APA community, especially as compared to other people of color. APA's are seen by others as the minority that has succeeded through education and hard work and whose income and wealth match or exceed that of white Americans. This myth is misleading and wrong and does not take into account the historical backdrop from which it was created. For instance, from the 1960's until now immigration laws favor highly-educated Asian professionals.

Since the public assumes the APA community is uniformly doing well, they do not hear the APA request for help. For example, in major health studies, APA's are almost always left out of the research and dialogue which leads to lack of information and strategies for treatment and prevention.

Hate Crime

Nationally, there is an increase of hate crimes against Asian Pacific Americans. According to the U. S. Civil Rights Commission, in certain cities, such as Boston and Philadelphia, APA's suffer the highest per capita rate of all racial minorities. The National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium reported that in 1999 there were 454 incidents of violence against APA's. This number represented an increase over the 1998 figure. In 1999, a Korean church in Minneapolis was the target of a hate crime.

Racial Profiling

Indications show that a substantial portion of Minnesota's population believes that profiling exists. This mirrors the national perception. In a recent Gallop Poll found that 56% of whites and 77% of blacks believe that racial profiling is a widespread practice in the United States. Racial profiling is a civil rights issue in violation of the equal protection clause of the Constitution. It is wrong for it causes large numbers of innocent people to be subjected to the hassle and humiliation of police questioning, and it results in a lopsided number of minorities being arrested for crimes that would not come to the attention of the police but for the racially motivated stop.

Human Rights Watch reported in a study entitled *Shielded from Justice* that Minneapolis's police force has a history of using excessive force. The report states:

The issue is essentially that the black African-American citizens continues to be deprived of the same civil liberties as those offered to the white Anglo suburbanite. The black citizen is caught in an unenviable dilemma. They must depend on the police to provide basic services, yet do not trust the police to provide the service fairly and equitably. There is a basic distrust for the police and the black African-American feels that any time the police will turn on them and they will be the one incarcerated. If we are to make any progress, this basic distrust must be overcome.

Likewise, in our work with the Asian Pacific American community we have heard of many instances in which community members believed they were stopped and harassed by police solely due to their race. There is a layer of distrust between the community and the police particularly as it relates to youth and crime.

Employment Discrimination

Many Asian Pacific Americans face glass ceilings and are underrepresented in many professional fields. APA faculty suffer one of the lowest tenure rates (41%), which is significantly lower than the overall rate (52%). *Beyond Self-Interest: Asian Pacific Americans toward a Community of Justice*. Stereotypes that APA's aren't good communicators or that they don't make good managers and are only good at technical job persists in the workforce. In its first successful lawsuit against accent discrimination, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) sued a company for firing an Asian Indian manager because his accent was not good for the company's image, even though he had a successful job performance record.

The EEOC found that although there are Asians in engineering, science, and technical professions, they are significantly underrepresented in higher administrative, sales and managerial positions—as well as in law, education, social services and the media. APA males earn from 10–17 percent less than their white counterparts; APA women earn as much as 40 percent less than white males with the same credentials.

Lack of Asian Pacific Leaders in the Public Arena

There is a need to ensure that all members of the Asian Pacific community receive the kind of instruction in civic and government that will enable them to participate competently and responsibly in the governance of this nation. It is also crucial that they get opportunities to exercise these skills.

Asian Pacific people's involvement in the political realm has been limited to say the least. It was not until the mid-1950's when Asian Pacific people were allowed to become citizens that they were granted the right to vote. In the 1996 presidential election, the U.S. Census did not even track the Asian Pacific American count and national voter turnout rates have only been available since 1992. (U.S. Census). However, in August of this year, the Census reported that the numbers of Asian Pacific voting in congressional elections increased by 366,000 between 1994 and 1998 to 1.4 million voters. During this time, the number of Asian and Pacific Islander citizens of voting age increased from 2.6 million in 1994 to 4.3 million in 1998.

These increases do not mean that a greater number took part. Between 1990 and 1999, the nation's Asian Pacific population grew 43% to 10.8 million. And yet the steep increase in the popula-

tion has not resulted in a corresponding increase in the level of political involvement. Numbers show that from 1993 to 1998, the turnout rate among Asian Pacific's dropped from 39% to 32%. U.S. Census. According to the Census, among citizens Hispanics and Asian Pacific's vote at lower levels (44 % and 45%, respectively) than whites (61%) and African Americans (53%). U.S. Census 1996 Presidential Election

In this year's election, we witnessed the greatest amount of political participation by the community with three candidates running for state office. In St. Paul for the past four years, an Asian Pacific candidate has been on the ballot whether it be for City Council, the School Board or state office. However, this has not translated to greater involvement at the party level. In discussions with major party officials, Asian Pacific Americans need to be involved and active within the political parties.

Public Policy

Within the last two years, the Asian Pacific Policy Roundtable has emerged to work on public policy. They co-sponsored with the Council the *Asian Business Summit, Caring for the Elderly: Are We Ready;* and *Census 2000*. The organization also does advocacy work on their position with state and local governments and elected officials.

Elected Officials

Senator Satveer Chaudhary is the first and only Asian American elected to the Minnesota State legislature. This fall he made history again by becoming the first Asian American and the youngest State Senator to be ever elected. Neal Thao continues to serve on the St. Paul School Board. He is the first Hmong man to be elected to public office in Minnesota.

Asian Pacific American Suffrage Movement

Suffrage is the right or exercise of the right to vote in public affairs

- 1789 Constitution of the United States of America ratified. Gives Congress the power to enact uniform naturalization laws. Permits states to determine voter qualifications. States generally enacted laws that restricted voting by stringent property qualifications, class, race and gender.
- 1790 Naturalization Act of 1790. Grants the right of U.S. citizenship to all "free white persons"
- 1868 Fourteenth Amendment ratified. Grants citizenship to Americans of African ancestry
- 1870 Fifteenth Amendment ratified. Guarantees African Americans the right to vote. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.
- 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act. Bans Chinese laborers from emigrating to the U.S. and prohibits them from becoming naturalized citizens
- 1907 The Gentleman's Agreement. Limits Japanese immigration to the U.S.
- 1917 The Immigration Act of 1917 also called the Barred Zone Act. Bars immigration from a large geographical zone of mostly Asian countries except for Japan and the Philippines
- 1920 Immigration Act of 1924 also called the National Origins Act. Bars entry to any "alien ineligible to citizenship." Since Asian immigrants weren't eligible for citizenship, this law effectively ended Asian immigration until after WWII.
- 1924 Nineteenth Amendment passed. Grants women the right to vote. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex.
- 1943 Immigration Act of 1943 also known as the Magnuson Exclusion Act. Repeals the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, allowing Chinese immigrants to become naturalized citizens
- 1946 Luce-Celler Bill of 1946 also called the Filipino Naturalization Act. Allows people to immigrate from the Philippines and India and allows them to become naturalized citizens.
- 1952 McCarran-Walter Act of 1952. Removes all racial criteria for naturalization.
- 1965 Voting Rights Act of 1965. Grants all citizens of the United States the right to vote.
- 1971 Enactment of the Twenty-sixth Amendment. Extends the right to vote to 18-year-olds.

B. SPECIFIC & PERSONALIZED ISSUES

Helping Communities Flourish & Grow in Rural Minnesota

The Asian Pacific population in Minnesota is growing and the growth is not only in the Twin Cities Metropolitan area, but throughout the state of Minnesota. Asian Pacific communities have emerged in places like Mankato, Rochester, Mountain Lake, Worthington, Winona, Austin, Moorhead, Pelican Rapids, Warroad, Duluth.

These communities are growing and adding value to the communities they live in. However, they are facing many barriers that keep them from participating fully in the life of the community. Many of these communities are made of refugees who moved to the area due to the readily available jobs at the meat or produce packaging plants. They have a limited command of the English language or culture. They tend to be young and have small children. They live within a certain city, but for the most part remain separate from the city.

For example, the Council visited Worthington about three years ago. This was one of our first trips to visit the community. (We have visited three more times since this then). During the Community Forum, the Council assessed that only two out of thirty-five individuals that night, were citizens and that only five felt they could speak English adequately, even though they have lived there for ten or more years. Many of the community members told us that they did not participate in voting or that no one has done serious citizenship campaign to their community. The Council was left to wonder how the mainstream institutions could allow this to happen.

Asian Pacific communities in rural Minnesota want to participate in the public life of their cities. They want to add to the social and cultural well being of the cities. They want to have better relations with the education and health system and with law enforcement. Sometimes their actions are unwelcome, but most often their actions are misunderstood.

Violence Prevention

Domestic Violence

Within the last two years, domestic violence within the Hmong community has led to four suicides, claimed the lives of 15 people, and left approximately 35 children orphans. These cases have brought the need for thwarting off domestic violence into the lime light. Community groups are organizing around this issue and calling for action.

The community is convinced that these cases did not arise out of violence, but rather as a result of stress and mental health issue, i.e., social adjustment, post traumatic stress syndrome. The community believes that actions can be taken to prevent these tragedies from occurring in the future. Community groups, law enforcement, government and the funding community can come together to resolve these issues.

Youth/Gang Violence

Annually, the numbers of Asian youth involved in violent crimes rises. Homeless and runaway youth are at record numbers. In 1997, 3,470 Asian Pacific juveniles were apprehended representing 4.4% of all juvenile apprehensions made in Minnesota. (MN Department of Public Safety).

The Minnesota Gang Strikeforce states that they see a rise in the number of youth involved in criminal activities for the benefit of a gang. In the past two years there were over 17 drive by shootings involving Asian youth. These shooting has lead to the death of 3 innocent by-standers.

Parents and family members do not know how to deal and work with troubled teens. Mainstream service delivery agencies are likewise at a loss. According to the area agencies that work with homeless youth, they rarely see Asian youths and when they do, they feel the can not offer adequate help and assistance due to language and cultural barriers. They would like to see more Asian Pacific professionals doing street outreach and peer education.

Education

Among Asian Pacific people, 73.3 percent speak a language other than English, compared with 13.8 percent of the total U.S. population. Asian Pacific students overall are high achievers and score consistently higher on test scores than students from other minority groups. However this success underscores a segment of Asian Pacific students that are not doing well and slipping through the cracks and who are failing within the system. Refugee students from Southeast Asia, Tibet and Burma are at a serious risk for failure.

Schools lack the commitment, teachers, materials, or understanding of second language acquisition to make the promise of educational access real for non-English-speaking students. Although most students are conversant in English, it often takes three to five years for students to comprehend the language and use it as a medium of academic learning. Most Asian Pacific students are receiving only a limited amount of bilingual education. Students are pulled out of regular class for an hour or two at a time for bilingual education, taking them away from their class and the learning that is occurring there. Bilingual education needs to be fully implemented in a concentrated effort.

Schools do not know how to work with parents who are new comers to this country and whose language is other than English. Schools must become knowledgeable about the strengths of the diverse Asian Pacific cultures and how a child's home culture contributes to learning and development.

Likewise, parents do not know how to work with the schools to help their children achieve academically. Parents may relate to the school system as they did in their former countries with respect and deference and so do not actively participate in decision making in the schools. Some parents do not have educational backgrounds and may not know how to interact with school officials or help their children in the school process. Parents and youth also need to be educated about the nature and choices within the educational system (public and private colleges, junior colleges, technical colleges, and professional degrees) as well as the intricacies of financial aid and assistance for private school and higher education.

Parents trust and work with community based organizations. Often times they go to the organizations for translation of materials they receive from the schools as well as interpretation, understanding, and validation of what they have been told by school officials. Partnership between the schools and community based organizations would save parents time and stress if they could work together on a communication/education plan for parents to be involved in their children's education.

Although minority students make up 13.5% of the total student population for Minnesota, only 2.5% of public school teachers are from the minority community. In the St. Paul Public District 57.3 percent of the students are from minority communities yet only 13.2 percent of teachers are

from minority communities. To teach and provide needed support services to Asian Pacific immigrant youth schools need professionals who speak the language of the students and who understand their culture and the challenges they face in adjusting to the new land. Without well-trained, culturally competent, bilingual Asian Pacific American teachers, administrators, counselors, and other professionals strong language programs cannot be delivered, students in need of mental health or health services to support their involvement in school are neither identified nor served, and Asian immigrants become increasingly at risk for educational difficulties.

Top 10 School Districts with the Largest Number of Asian Pacific Students

District	1990	2000
Saint Paul	6,516	13,985
Minneapolis	4,028	7,134
Osseo	598	1,705
Rochester	889	1,337
Rosemount	561	1,315
Anoka-Hennepin	613	1,196
Bloomington	626	911
Robbinsdale	546	841
Burnsville	452	802
Moundsview	524	683
<i>Source: Department of Children, Families, and Learning</i>		

Affordable Housing/Home Ownership

Large families and poverty affects the Asian Pacific community from gaining access to affordable housing and leads to overcrowding. The average number of persons per household in Asian Pacific families in Minnesota is 4.3 as compared to 2.2 for Non-Hispanic white families. (The Urban Institute) Similarly, 49% of Asian Pacific households had more than one person per room while only 3% was true for white households.

The lack of affordable housing may be more acute for some portions of the Asian Pacific American population than for other households leading them to bear a significant blunt of poor education, higher crime rates, depressed economic rates, and social isolation.

	White Households	APA Households	White - Very Poor	APA - Very Poor
Boston	12.7	29.6	18.4	51.0
Chicago	34.0	49.5	53.7	78.2
Minneapolis	26.5	55.2	46.6	87.6
Oakland	10.4	20.9	16.8	41.7
<i>Source: The Urban Institute</i>				

Culturally Competent Health Care

Linguistically and culturally appropriate services for Asian Pacific Americans is a significant health disparity issue for the community. The Association of the Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) found:

Despite a multitude of health programs, many Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders lack access to comprehensive health care because of financial, linguistic and cultural barriers. Financial barriers affect a significant portion of the population resulting in minimal or no health coverage. In 1990 the poverty rate among AA & PI's exceeded that of whites by 43. The rate of AA & PI's under the age of 65 without insurance exceeded that of whites by 61 percent in 1989.

The many diverse Asian Pacific groups are "glossed" together through demographic and epidemiological data collection as one group. This has resulted in a scarcity of national data related to health status and information leading to the false impression that these populations have few health problems, underestimated infant mortality, underestimated general death rate.

AAPCHO concludes that this dearth of data has severely impaired the community from accessing federal services through grant programs in health research, service provision and training and the development of culturally appropriate health interventions, services research and training at regional, state and community levels.

Barriers to Health Care

1. Cultural and Linguistic Differences – translation and interpretation services must be standardized and uniform. The patient's right to clear and accurate information must be paramount.
2. Disparities in Data Collection – the collection of medical data of the Asian Pacific community is sorely lacking.
3. Lack of Community Health Organizations – Community health organizations need to be created and funded at a level where they can serve the needs of the community.
4. Welfare Reform – five year limit will compromise the delivery of health care services to the community.
5. Insufficient understanding and value of Alternative Health Care medical practices.

SECTION IV: RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS IDENTIFIED

It is the Council's goal that the Asian Pacific community in Minnesota be strong, visible, and viable. In the next two years the Council will continue to work towards this goal by using proven as well as new and innovative methods; strengthening our work and collaborations with existing and new partners; and holding ourselves accountable for the public trust.

In the fall of this year, the Council staff held a retreat to strategically plan for the future. The retreat began with the creation of the Council's history. This was followed by a discussion about the group's vision for the Council in the next five years and the initial activities the staff will do to transform this vision into something concrete and assessable.

A) A Strong, Visible & Viable Community

1. Statewide Community Empowerment

- Increase in the number of thriving businesses and enterprising entrepreneurs
- Establish Council satellite offices in different counties and cities – with volunteers and board members
- Increase capacity of Asian Pacific community in education, health care, mental health, and advocacy
- Wealth creation and giving back to the community through charitable contributions and increased volunteerism
- Increase both number of Asian Pacific Minnesotans in the public arena and community voting power
- Provide leadership training for new and emerging Asian Pacific leaders

2. Unity of Purpose & Action

- Define and conceptualize "Asian Pacific American" (how do people feel about and perceive the term and how might a thorough analysis change our approach in working with any single ethnic group; in collaborative endeavors amongst two or more ethnic communities; or with regard to partnerships between Asian Pacific and other minority communities)
- Create a Pan-Asian model for working effectively with one another and build consensus and community
- Identify two or three projects on which community can work on together
- Provide opportunities for community members to meet, dialogue, and build relationships with one another
- Establish working relations with other Asian Pacific groups around Minnesota and identify projects ripe for collaboration

3. Fortify Community Organizations

- Community based organizations are stable, specialized, and self-sustaining
- Construction of Asian Pacific Community Center
- Asian American Festival and other cultural celebrations are thriving

- Asian Pacific people are active in the legislative & policy making process and in civic/community building
 - Grass-roots organizations thrive and find their niche in Minnesota
 - Foundations are briefed and know about community issues
4. Commemorate Heritage Month & Promote Community
- Increase number of ethnic groups and individuals that participate in Heritage Month activities
 - Statewide commemoration of Heritage Month in Rochester, Duluth, Moorhead, Mankato, and other cities where Asian Pacific people reside
 - Contributions of Asian Pacific people are recognized

B) Empowered Council

1. Maximize our Position & Role
- Strengthen role as convener, policy maker, and voice of advocacy
 - Strengthen our ties with executive branch, legislators, and other state agencies
 - Work to create laws that will benefit the community and serve its interest
 - Facilitate and broker straight forward dialogue especially on sensitive issues and help to find common ground for the benefit of everyone
2. Effective Communication
- Good and credible resource for information on the Asian Pacific community
 - Provide increased resources and reports on issues confronting the community
 - Get better at communicating who and what we are to others
3. Effective Ties with Stakeholders
- Continue collaborations with other Councils
 - Network with professional organizations
 - Build stronger ties to businesses, foundations, and educational institutions
 - Connect more with Mid-west states to commemorate Heritage Month and discuss issues in common
4. Measured Outcomes
- Develop evaluation plan for programs & projects
 - Create system for work plans & implementation
 - Produce record of accomplishments

SECTION V: LIST OF EXPENDITURES

Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans

FINANCIAL REPORT FY 1999-2000

REVENUES		
General Fund	Operations	572,538
	Youth Conference - DHS	10,000
	Best Pract Clearinghouse/Student Performance -	10,000
Mics. Sp. Rev.	Asian Pacific Leaders Initiative	25,000
Federal Fund	HIV/AIDS Prevention - MDH	59,340
Gift Fund	CAPM Gift	17,782
	HIV/AIDS	41,343
	Chemical Dependency - DHS	4,595
	Neighborhood Development Center	2,479
	Asian-Pacific Heritage Month	41,249
TOTAL		784,336
EXPENDITURES		
	Salaries & Benefits	447,277
	Space Rental, Maint., Utilities	34,525
	Repairs	605
	Printing & Advertising	38,856
	Prof./Tech. Services Outside V.	26,314
	Computer & Systems Service	6,596
	Communications	20,773
	Travel In-State	6,887
	Travel Out-State	3,150
	Supplies	23,833
	Equipment	34,935
	Employee Development	8,282
	Other Operating Costs	67,034
	Agency Provided Prof./Tech. S.	500
	Statewide Indirect Costs	4,265
TOTAL		723,832

The above information is based on the reports provided by MN Department of Administration/Financial Management and Reporting Division.

EXPLANATION OF EXPENDITURE TERMS

Salaries & Benefits: 4 FTE & fringe benefits

Space Rental, Maintenance, Utilities: Lease with University National Bank/Attorney General Office including Maintenance & Utilities

Repairs: Repair & Maintenance Contracts for the office equipment

Printing & Advertising: Printing newsletters, reports; copier rental; ads recruiting personnel, calling for nominations, event promotional materials, etc.

Professional/Technical Services:

Contracts with coordinators for special projects; with cultural presenters, artists, speakers, etc.

Computer & Systems Services: Computer classes

Communications: Telephone, fax, e-mail, voice-mail, data recurring, postage

Travel In-State: Hosting community meetings/celebrations in Duluth, Rochester, Moorhead, Faribault, Mountain Lake, Worthington.

Travel Out-State: Attending National Conferences/Workshops

Supplies: Office supplies

Equipment: Computers, printers.

Employee Development: Workshops, seminars, courses for employee development

Other Operating Costs: Banquet facilities including meals, etc.; meals & refreshments for Council sponsored meetings, workshops, conferences, etc.

APPENDIX

Enabling Statute

Subdivision 1. Membership.

The state council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans consists of 23 members. Nineteen members are appointed by the governor and must be broadly representative of the Asian-Pacific community of the state. Each Asian-Pacific ethnic community from the area described in subdivision 2 may be represented by no more than one council member. In making appointments, the governor shall consider an appointee's proven dedication and commitment to the Asian-Pacific community and any special skills possessed by the appointee that might be beneficial to the council, including at a minimum experience in public policy, legal affairs, social work, business, management, or economics. Terms, compensation, and filling of vacancies for appointed members are as provided in section 15.0575 . Because the council performs functions that are not purely advisory, the council is not subject to the expiration date in section 15.059 . Two members of the house of representatives appointed under the rules of the house of representatives and two members of the senate appointed under the rules of the senate shall serve as nonvoting members of the council. In making legislative appointments, the speaker of the house of representatives and the subcommittee on committees of the committee on rules and administration of the senate shall consult with the council in an effort to select appointees knowledgeable and interested in the affairs of the Asian-Pacific community. The council shall annually elect from its membership a chair and other officers it deems necessary. The council shall encourage Asian-Pacific ethnic communities and organizations to designate persons to serve as liaisons with the council. Liaisons may participate in council meetings, but may not vote, and may serve on council committees.

The council shall adopt rules to implement designation of Asian-Pacific ethnic communities to be represented with seats on the council.

Subd. 2. Definition.

For purposes here, the term Asian Pacific refers to one whose ethnic heritage is rooted in the countries of Asia (east of, but including Afghanistan) and the Pacific Islands.

Subd. 3. Duties.

The council shall:

1. advise the governor and the legislature on issues confronting Asian-Pacific people in this state, including the unique problems of non-English-speaking immigrants and refugees;
2. advise the governor and the legislature of administrative and legislative changes necessary to ensure that Asian-Pacific people have access to benefits and services provided to people in this state;
3. recommend to the governor and the legislature any revisions in the state's affirmative action program and other steps that are necessary to eliminate underutilization of Asian-Pacific people in the state's work force;
4. recommend to the governor and the legislature legislation to improve the economic and social condition of Asian-Pacific people in this state;
5. serve as a conduit to state government for organizations of Asian-Pacific people in the state;
6. serve as a referral agency to assist Asian-Pacific people to secure access to state agencies and programs;
7. serve as a liaison with the federal government, local government units, and private organizations on matters relating to the Asian-Pacific people of this state;
8. perform or contract for the performance of studies designed to suggest solutions to the problems of Asian-Pacific people in the areas of education, employment, human rights, health, housing, social welfare, and other related areas;
9. implement programs designed to solve the problems of Asian-Pacific people when authorized by other law;

10. publicize the accomplishments of Asian-Pacific people and their contributions to this state;
11. work with other state and federal agencies and organizations to develop small business opportunities and promote economic development for Asian-Pacific Minnesotans;
12. supervise development of an Asian-Pacific trade primer, outlining Asian and Pacific customs, cultural traditions, and business practices, including language usage, for use by Minnesota's export community;
13. cooperate with other state and federal agencies and organizations to develop improved state trade relations with Asian and Pacific countries; and
14. assist recent immigrants in adaptation into the culture and promote the study of English as a second language.

Subd. 4. Review of grant applications and budget requests.

State departments and agencies shall consult with the council concerning any application for federal money that will have its primary effect on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans before development of the application. The council shall advise the governor and the commissioner of finance concerning any state agency request that will have its primary effect on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans.

Subd. 5. Powers.

(a) The council may contract in its own name but may not accept or receive a loan or incur indebtedness except as otherwise provided by law. Contracts must be approved by a majority of the members of the council and executed by the chair and the executive director. The council may apply for, receive, and expend in its own name grants and gifts of money consistent with the powers and duties specified in this section.

(b) The council shall appoint an executive director who is experienced in administrative activities and familiar with the problems and needs of Asian-Pacific people. The council may delegate to the executive director powers and duties under this section that do not require council approval. The executive director serves in the unclassified service and may be removed at any time by the council. The executive director shall appoint the appropriate staff necessary to carry out the duties of the council. All staff members serve in the unclassified service. The commissioner of administration shall provide the council with necessary administrative services.

Subd. 6. State agency assistance.

At its request, state agencies shall supply the council with advisory staff services on matters relating to its jurisdiction. The council shall cooperate and coordinate its activities with other state agencies to the highest possible degree.

Subd. 7. Report.

The council shall prepare and distribute a report to the governor and legislature by November 15 of each even-numbered year. The report shall summarize the activities of the council since its last report, list receipts and expenditures, identify the major problems and issues confronting Asian-Pacific people, and list the specific objectives that the council seeks to attain during the next biennium.

Subd. 8. Repealed, 1987 c 404 s 191

HIST: 1Sp1985 c 13 s 68; 1986 c 444; 1988 c 469 art 1 s 1; 1988 c 629 s 5; 1988 c 686 art 1 s 35; 1988 c 689 art 2 s 4; 1989 c 343 s 1; 1991 c 292 art 3 s 5; 1992 c 408 s 2; 1996 c 420 s 5-8

Copyright 1998 by the Office of Revisor of Statutes, State of Minnesota