

BUILDING A
diverse & inclusive city
2018 Annual Report



THE
MAYOR



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ABOUT MOAPIA

The mission of the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (MOAPIA) is to improve the quality of life for District Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders through advocacy and engagement.

MOAPIA acts as the liaison between the District government and the AAPI community by:

- **ADVISING** the Mayor, Council, and District agencies on the views, need, and concerns of the District's AAPI community
- **PROVIDING** recommendations on District programs and initiatives affecting the AAPI community
- **HELPING** coordinate programs and initiatives within District government that promote the overall welfare of the AAPI community

MOAPIA accomplishes its mission through the following main focus areas:

- Community Engagement
- Advocacy
- Intergovernmental Affairs
- Policy and Research

Community Engagement

MOAPIA engages with community members through outreach, so that AAPI members can stay educated and informed of policies and services that are available to them through the District government.

Advocacy

MOAPIA aims to increase the involvement of AAPI residents and merchants in the District's community and civic life. MOAPIA also identifies the needs of the community and advocates on their behalf to provide resources to community-based organizations.

Intergovernmental Affairs

MOAPIA provides assistance to District agencies required to provide translated documents and oral language services to limited English proficient (LEP) populations. The office works with over 35 District agencies on language access and provides regular updates on AAPI issues.

Policy & Research

MOAPIA seeks to increase data and information available on the District's AAPI population to ensure that policy makers make informed decisions when developing programs and policies that affect the community.



MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING DIRECTOR

Dear Community Members,

As the new Acting Director of the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, it is my honor to share with you the vibrant and dynamic story of AAPIs in the Washington, DC this past year. Your steadfast support made 2018 a banner year for our agency and community as we faced new challenges and achieved notable accomplishments. By staying true to our DC values and remaining committed to building a diverse and inclusive city for all, this past year, we:

- Organized 35 large-scale events that attracted 4,419 participants, a significant increase from previous years
- Hosted the AAPI Leadership Action Forum to hear from a diverse group of community leaders and gather recommendations for MOAPIA's action plan
- Allocated more funding to community-based organizations through our AAPI Grant Program, which served over 5,298 AAPIs in DC

- Provided case assistance to more than 700 constituents on matters that greatly impact their lives
- Continued to defend and support our immigrant communities through our work with the Immigrant Justice Legal Services grant program

I am proud of these achievements, and of our team of staff, Commissioners, and volunteers. Particular thanks go to former Director David Do for his leadership of the agency for the last four years. As you read the report, I hope you will gain insight into the breadth and depth of our activities and work.

In partnership,



Ben de Guzman
*Director of the Mayor's Office
 on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs*







OUR WALK AND achievements



ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER (AAPI) LEADERSHIP ACTION FORUM



On April 21, MOAPIA hosted the AAPI Leadership Action Forum. This Forum was a follow-up to a town hall convened in September 2015. At the Forum, 90 community leaders—including advocates, business owners, and residents—came together to discuss nine pressing issues for the AAPI community: Health, Public safety, K-12 education, Adult education and job training, Small business, Affordable housing, Civil liberties, Immigration, and AAPI arts and culture. Community leaders identified ways that they can collaborate with the District government to achieve greater outcomes and improve the lives of AAPI residents.

The input and recommendations gathered from the community

leaders helped MOAPIA develop a two-year action plan and efficiently address priority actions for the coming years. The AAPI Leadership Action Forum report was presented to Mayor Bowser and released to the public in February 2019.

“I encourage you to stay actively involved with MOAPIA. Not only that, I challenge you to champion those around you and get them involved too.”

HOLLY HAM

Executive Director, White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders



CHINATOWN PARK START FRESH! SERIES



For the fourth consecutive year, MOAPIA hosted events throughout the summer as part of the Chinatown Park Series. This successful series turned the once underutilized Chinatown Park into a social and family-friendly community space. Events within the Chinatown Park Series align with the Mayor's FitDC Initiative, provide opportunities for community members to connect with District government agencies and learn more about the programs and services offered, and celebrate the cultural diversity that exists within Washington, DC. The 2018 events included:

- Movie nights, at which community members enjoyed movies in the park including *Along with the Gods*, *The Scent of Green Papaya*, *Life of Pi*, and *Kung Fu Panda 3*

- Weekly morning Tai Chi and evening fitness sessions in support of Mayor Bowser's efforts to encourage residents to pursue a fit and healthy lifestyle
- Chinatown Community Festival, an event that included lively cultural performances, fitness demonstrations, health screenings, family-friendly activities—such as face-painting, henna and calligraphy,—and informational booths from community-based organizations and other District agencies

The Chinatown Park Series attracted 2,245 community members. MOAPIA partnered with over 26 District agencies and community organizations on these events.



ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

On May 7, Mayor Bowser celebrated Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month by hosting an evening celebration, which included cultural performances and an awards ceremony at the historic Lincoln Theatre in Ward 1. The Mayor's Community Service Award was presented to Ben Lin of B. Lin Catering and the Volunteer Service Award was given to Dr. Dwan "Diane" Tai. Nine hundred participants attended this event.

On May 22, MOAPIA hosted its third Foodelicious Night, which featured cooking demonstrations and tastings from three of DC's renowned AAPI chefs: Chef Tim Ma of Kyirisan, Chef K.N. Vinod of Indique, and Chef Katsuya Fukushima of Daikaya. Over 300 guests got the chance to indulge in this culinary event at the Freer Gallery of Art.





DIWALI CELEBRATION

The District's 4th Annual Diwali Reception was hosted by MOAPIA at the Freer Gallery of Art. Diwali is an important festival for South Asian cultures, celebrated by over a billion Jains, Sikhs, and Hindus worldwide. This year's celebration included cultural performances, ethnic food, networking, and a lamp lighting ceremony. Guests were also offered an after-hours tour of the galleries. More than 300 participants gathered for an evening that celebrated the spirit of love and goodness.

"I loved seeing the diverse people attending and the acknowledgment of other religions represented in DC. BRAVO, Mayor Bowser!"

2018 DIWALI ATTENDEE





Happy Holi

The District's Reception

MAYOR

INDIA APPIA

TOY DRIVE AND END OF YEAR HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

MOAPIA hosted the annual Toy Drive and End-of-the Year Holiday Celebration. Staff, Commissioners, and volunteers celebrated the winter holiday season, provided toys and raffle prizes to 142

District youth participants, and agency representatives distributed information to parents and families about DC government programs and services.





ARCADIA MOBILE MARKET (MOU)

MOAPIA relaunched its Mobile Market in 2018. Many AAPI residents have difficulty finding affordable and fresh Asian produce in the District. To address this need, MOAPIA partnered with Arcadia Mobile Market to launch a farm-stand-on-wheels in the heart of Chinatown. The mobile market, held every Wednesday from June to September made bok choy, Napa cabbage, and other Asian produce available to District residents. Vendors accepted federal and local food assistance benefits to help offset out-of-pocket expenses. This service has been delivered to over 200 residents weekly.



OFFICE HOURS IN THE COMMUNITY

Former Director David Do held nine office hours at different locations throughout the year in order to personally connect with AAPI residents and business owners and provide them with a more convenient access to government services. He met with community members to help address the issues and concerns that they were experiencing. Interpretation services were available for those with limited English proficiency.



SAFETY-RELATED PROJECT WITH MPD

In partnership with the Metropolitan Police Department, MOAPIA tackled projects to improve community safety for residents and business owners including:

- Creating flyers to explain the difference between the 911 services (emergency) and 311 services (city services) and distributed them to 562 businesses and residents across all eight wards, including Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese
- Sharing announcements and updates regarding Mayor Bowser's efforts to improve public safety





TAKING A STEP CLOSER TO
our community



AAPI SMALL BUSINESS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (SBTA) PROJECT

This SBTA Project was established to provide technical assistance and support to AAPI-owned small businesses in the District to help them take advantage of opportunities, overcome challenges, and thrive in a competitive marketplace.

Some examples of services and supports MOAPIA's Community Outreach team offers include:

- Small Business Outreach
- Dry Cleaners Outreach
- AAPI Restaurants Meeting

“MOAPIA served as the bridge between me and DC Façades. The team followed up with me throughout the process, responded promptly, and ensured that my ideas and concerns were being heard.”

JANE CHEN

Ward 5 resident, owner of Tsim Yung, and recipient of the Façade Program grant





SMALL BUSINESS OUTREACH



MOAPIA reached out to 461 businesses during its regular outreach sessions and other outreach events in 2018. Staff visited AAPI-owned businesses throughout the District to inform owners about new policies and initiatives that are being implemented by the District government. Many AAPI business owners spend long hours at work, so these outreach sessions are a way for staff to connect directly with them about issues or concerns. MOAPIA often invited representatives from other agencies such as the Metropolitan Police Department and the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services to join to address constituents' concerns. Materials in both English and their native Asian languages were distributed to each business owner. Some of the programs that MOAPIA shared include:

Private Security Camera Incentive Program

The Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants (OVSJG) provides reimbursements for the purchase and installation of outdoor security cameras that are registered with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). MOAPIA translated instructions on how to apply for the program and have distributed this information to over 825 business owners and residents.

Wage Theft Prevention

The District of Columbia's Wage Theft Prevention Amendment Act (WTPAA) of 2014 became effective February 26, 2015. Beginning on July 1, 2018, the minimum wage in D.C. increased from \$12.50 to \$13.25. Also, according to the Act, all employees must receive a written copy of Employer Notice upon employment. The Wage Theft Prevention Amendment Act also requires business owners to post

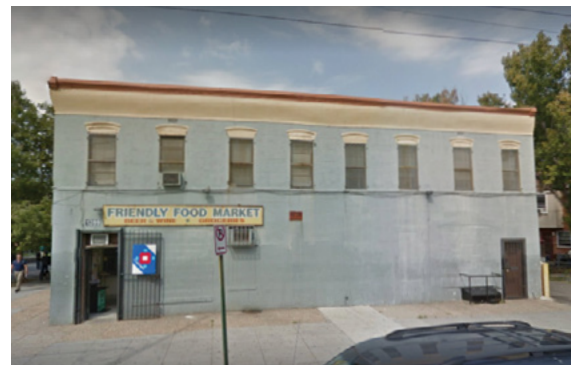
copies of the Accrued Sick and Safe Leave Act and the Minimum Wage Revision Act where employees can easily read. MOAPIA staff shared this information and materials with 415 AAPI businesses and 660 residents.

Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)

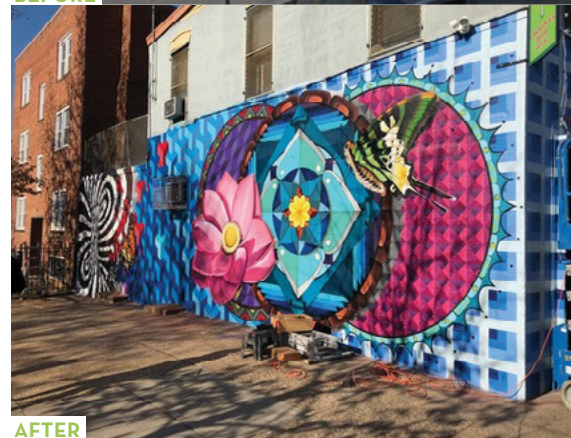
In support of the Mayor's "Pathways to the Middle Class," MOAPIA actively promoted the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) and encouraged DC's AAPI students to participate in the program. We shared the information about the SYEP with local ethnic media and promoted the program at high schools with the high AAPI student populations, community fairs, and AAPI-owned businesses as well. The number of AAPI youth registered in the SYEP was approximately 100, which was 25% higher than MOAPIA's initial goal.

Great Streets and Façade Programs

The Great Streets and Façade Programs are two grant programs that provide funding for improvement projects in low/moderate income retail/commercial areas in DC. Qualified business and/or property owners within the targeted area receive grant money that will pay for general repairs and maintenance of the business. MOAPIA informed 290 businesses about these funding opportunities and supported 38 AAPI businesses throughout the application process. Five businesses were able to receive the grant to complete their improvement projects in 2018. One of the grant recipients was Friendly Food Market; Mayor Bowser highlighted their transformation story on her social media as a success story. See before and after photos on the right. »



BEFORE



AFTER

AAPI RESTAURANTS MEETING

MOAPIA partnered with DCRA to host a business workshop on April 22. This workshop provided AAPI restaurant owners with information about how to operate in compliance with District laws and regulations. MOAPIA identified the target audience for the meeting and reached out to 288 AAPI restaurant

owners via door-to-door outreach, mailing, and phone banking. We promoted the workshop through local ethnic media outlets and the Chinese American Culinary Federation. Thirty-seven participants attended the workshop, and ethnic media lauded the value and success of this event.

DRY CLEANERS OUTREACH



MOAPIA worked with the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) to organize a Dry Cleaner Boiler Operator Compliance training in November. It was part of an educational program for all licensed dry cleaners in the District. The purpose of the training was to educate all dry cleaners on how to become

and remain compliant with District regulations and code requirements. MOAPIA provided dry cleaners with Limited English Proficiency with interpreters and ensured all of the participants receive the information without any language barriers. The training was a success with a total 25 businesses participating, 19 in person, and 6 via webinar.



CASE ASSISTANCE

MOAPIA provides case assistance to residents and small business owners. The data shown below was collected during FY2018.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES

726

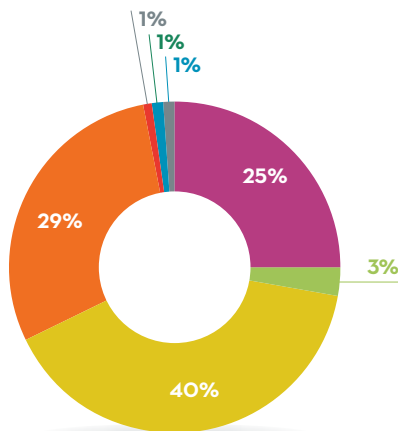
NUMBER OF OUTREACH EFFORTS

Number of outreach efforts geared towards **businesses**

4,749

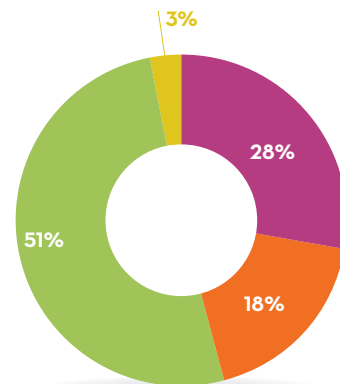
Number of outreach efforts geared towards **residents**

14,578



CASE ASSISTANCE BY SUBJECT AREA

- Human services
- Housing
- Health
- Small Business/Economic Opportunity
- Public Safety
- Education/Training
- Others



CASE ASSISTANCE BY LANGUAGE

- Vietnamese: 202
- Korean: 127
- Chinese: 372
- English: 25

COMMUNITY GRANTS

In FY2018, MOAPIA awarded a total of \$247,750 in grants to community based organizations that support the District's AAPIs. Grantees served a total of 5,298 District residents.

ORGANIZATION NAME	AMOUNT	AREA OF FOCUS
Chinatown Service Center	\$ 45,000.00	Social services
Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, D.C	\$ 52,500.00	Health services
Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project	\$ 32,500.00	Social services
Libraries without Borders	\$ 5,000.00	Education
Asian American Youth Leadership Empowerment and Development	\$ 48,000.00	Education, Youth leadership
Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center	\$ 20,000.00	Legal Services
Washington English Center	\$ 17,250.00	ESL and Workforce Programs
Housing Counseling Services	\$ 27,500.00	Housing Services

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT:

ASIAN AMERICAN YOUTH
LEADERSHIP EMPOWERMENT
AND DEVELOPMENT

Asian American Youth Leadership Empowerment and Development (AALEAD) provides middle and high school afterschool programs. In 2018, MOAPIA provided \$48,000 in grant funding to support AALEAD's programs including their six-week summer program, which impacted over 70 AAPI youths.

"One challenge that I had experienced was conveying my thoughts to others. The biggest reason why this was a dilemma for me is due to the fact that I was a shy person. Many would have used this characterization to describe me because I didn't like to talk. On top of that, the unfamiliar environment made me anxious and scared causing me to keep things to myself.

However, when I'm in AALEAD, I'm a totally different person.

The reason behind this is probably due to the fact that I felt like a part of the group rather than an outsider because I had friends that are in AALEAD and it makes me feel more comfortable."

Jason

"Before joining AALEAD, I was very timid and shy; I did not have many friends due to cultural differences and language barriers. I was bullied throughout elementary and middle school because I was different from everyone else. I didn't want to bring any Chinese traditional food that my mom made for me because I was scared that my classmates would tease me about it.

Through AALEAD, I learned to be proud of my culture, but more importantly, my heritage.

I've also learned that silence is not always a good response and that I have a voice that matters as well."

Ying



LANGUAGE ACCESS AND CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING



MOAPIA's Language Access Program provides greater access and participation in programs and services for all limited and non-English proficient AAPI residents in DC through technical assistance, policy guidance, and outreach.

This year, as part of its Language Access Program, MOAPIA:

- Produced a cultural competency training video for MPD that contains in-depth information about the AAPI community and recommendations for better community policing (The training video was presented to approximately 3,500 police officers and 500 MPD civilian staff)
- Partnered with DCPS Language Acquisition team to develop a cultural competency training webinar for public school teachers and staff
- Continued discussion of last year's language access compliance testing results with the Department of Health to explore ways to better serve the needs of AAPIs at the government-funded health care facilities
- Provided quality assurance to other DC agencies to ensure accurate and culturally appropriate translations
- Promoted and translated critical DC government program resources to AAPI merchants and community members and informed them about their rights







THE PATH THAT LIES
ahead of us



AAPI LEADERSHIP ACTION FORUM IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

In April 2018, MOAPIA convened over 90 community leaders at the AAPI Leadership Action Forum to discover and discern the key issues facing the District's AAPI community. This opportunity allowed for a highly interactive program, sharing MOAPIA's achievements and promoting dialogue between community members.

MOAPIA developed the AAPI Leadership Action Forum Implementation Plan, which will carry out many of the priorities constituents identified at the Forum. The plan outlines priorities that could be accomplished during Mayor Bowser's second term and sought to make commitments that are achievable within MOAPIA's core areas of

responsibilities. Priorities fall within nine topic areas including health, community safety, K-12 education, small businesses, adult education and job training challenges, affordable housing, civil liberties, immigration, and AAPI arts and culture.

In 2018, MOAPIA made great strides in fulfilling its mission to improve the quality of life for the District's AAPI community. However, as indicated by the robust discussions at the Forum, there is more work that needs to be done. In the years ahead, MOAPIA will continue to work with other DC government agencies and the community to find innovative solutions for our District AAPI residents.



AAPI ACTION FORUM

PRIORITIES FOR CONTINUED PROGRESS





MEET THE STAFF

BEN DE GUZMAN

Director

NGOC TRINH

Director of Operations

ROSIE SULLIVAN

Lead Community
Engagement Coordinator

ELLIE SUNG

Program Coordinator

HENRY DUONG

Public Information Officer

BEVERLY LI

Community Outreach Specialist

LANTING QIN

Community Outreach Specialist

MINCHI HYUN

Community Outreach Specialist



(Current as of January 31, 2019)

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

MOAPIA's internship program provides interns with an opportunity to gain valuable experience in the public service sector. Interns assist with a variety of different tasks including community outreach, graphic design, language access, event planning and more. The program allows interns to work directly with the District's AAPI community in order to gain a better understanding of this population's specific needs and concerns.

"In my experience with the Internship Program at the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, I have learned about various skills including interpersonal skills.

Not only learned about professionalism but also I was able to reach out to DC's AAPI communities.

As my role as Community Outreach and Language Access intern, I provided various translations and helped out the community members to have better access to the government programs and services.

Through this internship, I definitely was able to experience more in-depth aspects of MOAPIA's work and it helped me to think about my future with a stronger vision."

Brian Kim
George Washington University





MAYOR'S OFFICE ON ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER AFFAIRS

441 4th St NW, Suite 721N, Washington, DC 20001

(202) 727-3120 • oapia@dc.gov • apia.dc.gov



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

