



MAYOR'S OFFICE ON ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER AFFAIRS FY2020 ANNUAL REPORT



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Washingtonians,

The District of Columbia is a place that welcomes all regardless of the color of your skin, the languages you speak, where you came from, or how long you've been here. As Mayor of this great and diverse city, I am committed to providing every individual who calls Washington DC home a fair shot at a good life. This unprecedented moment we are in makes this commitment all the more important and I reaffirm it with you now.

The Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community is one of the fastest-growing and most linguistically diverse DC populations. This year, we not only continue to recognize and honor the AAPI community's contributions through cultural celebrations, AAPI Heritage Month, and Immigrant Heritage Month, but we want to recognize the incredible resilience our AAPI community has inspired during this COVID-19 pandemic. The AAPI community has not only had to weather the ravages of coronavirus and the resulting economic impact that every other resident has faced, but also an unprecedented onslaught of harassment and bigotry because of ignorant backlash to the pandemic. The District stands firm in its opposition to this discrimination and we condemn the violence our residents have had to suffer as a result.

Director Ben de Guzman and his team at the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs have become a critical component in informing our residents of our District's COVID-19 response during this Public Health Emergency. And even during this unprecedented time, MOAPIA has led the charge in ensuring every DC resident gets counted for the 2020 Census. I am proud of this agency for rising above the many challenges and being an example that our commitment to our DC values is stronger than ever. As your Mayor, I promise that we will continue to address the needs in the community and pursue worthwhile initiatives that enrich our District's AAPI community. Thank you for your support in making the District a great place to live, work, and play.

Sincerely,

MURIEL BOWSER
Mayor, District of Columbia



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Residents,

It is difficult to understate the unprecedented nature of the moment we're in as this report is presented. The Public Health Emergency of COVID-19, the economic downturn that has resulted from the pandemic, and the reckoning our country is going through on issues related to racial justice and police accountability would each be massive in their own right, but now we find ourselves addressing the implications of these overlapping crises on a number of fronts. As Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, we recognize the unique ways in which our communities have been affected by this onslaught, including the wave of harassment and bigotry we face because of kneejerk reactions to coronavirus. At the same time, we stand in solidarity in opposition to the violence perpetrated against Black communities, including trans women of color as we commit to the simple proposition that Black Lives Matter.

All of this is happening in a year that was already momentous in its own right. Last year at this time, we were launching our outreach work for the 2020 Census, including oversight of the citywide Census grant making program that has allowed us to have a larger impact beyond the AAPI community to include all our residents, especially those in our hard to count populations. The 2020 Presidential election this year is of particular importance to our AAPI community as we recognize the historic campaign of a South Asian and Black American alumna of Howard University, even as we promote non-partisan voter registration and outreach for all our District voters. All of this is happening as legislation to make the District the 51st state has experienced historic movement in the Congress.

In the final analysis, our communities are resilient and we know that it is in moments like this when our affirmation of our DC values is most important. Our residents deserve nothing less.

Still in partnership,

BEN DE GUZMAN

Executive Director of the Mayor's Office on Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I am inordinately proud of how our agency has leveled up in response to this historic moment. Adjusting our strategies and shifting our tactics, we made important realignments to how we did our work to make sure we were addressing the immediate needs of the community and that we were doing so virtually in compliance with the best data and recommendations from the public health experts. Our multilingual team translated key documents related to COVID-19 to make sure that our limited English proficient residents were not left behind. While many of our large scale gatherings were not able to take place, we did hold our annual AAPI Heritage Month event online. We were also proud to be the first city agency to hold an online discussion regarding mental health and COVID-19 in collaboration with our Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Community Development. In lieu of in person outreach sessions, we implemented a mix of phone banking, e-mail outreach and mailings to put out the best information on COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts. Some of our key achievements included:

- Administering the Census Outreach Grant for the Mayor's Census Complete Count Committee. Involving not just the AAPI community, but engaging hard to count populations of all backgrounds in all eight wards, we partnered with sixteen organizations to engage 883,000 people.
- Integrating virtual outreach strategies to engage AAPI business owners in light of the public health emergency and limitations of remote telework. Our outreach team conducted door to door outreach to 289 AAPI businesses before the Mayor's declaration of the Public Health Emergency, and then reached out to another 669 virtually.
- Providing assistance to residence in accessing COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Resources. Staff translated 430 COVID-19 related documents and provided them to residents via mail, e-mail, and text. MOAPIA handled 1,600 cases in FY2020, 184% larger than the total for FY2019.



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ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DIWALI CELEBRATION

October 2019

The District's 5th Annual Diwali Reception was hosted in partnership with National Museum of Asian Art on Monday, October 28, 2019. As an important festival for South Asian cultures, celebrated by over a billion Jains, Sikhs, and Hindus, the reception included cultural performances, a lamp lighting ceremony, delicious South Asian food, and community networking. Director of the Mayor's Office of Religious Affairs, Reverend Thomas L. Bowen, and Director Ben de Guzman joined Priest Kumanduri Sri Venkatacharyulu for the lamp lighting ceremony and a proclamation from Mayor Bowser was presented to recognize Diwali. 360 participants gathered for an evening that celebrated the spirit of light, love, and goodness.

PARASITE MOVIE SCREENING

October 2019

MOAPIA partnered with NEON to offer 32 free tickets for the screening of the Oscar winning Korean film, "PARASITE," at the AMC Georgetown theatre. This event provided an opportunity to share and promote the rich cultural heritage of AAPIs with District residents through film.

TOY DRIVE AND END OF YEAR HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

December 2019

MOAPIA hosted the annual Toy Drive and End-of-the-Year Holiday Celebration to celebrate the winter holiday season, and provided toys, food and activities to 165 children. It was the highest number ever with the help of 15 supporters. Also, agency representatives from DC Health Benefit Exchange Authority and DC Public Library were on site to distribute information about DC government programs and services to parents and families and answer questions about open enrollment for health insurance through DC Health Link.



FY 2020 DISTRICT WIDE GRANTEE ROUNDTABLE

December 2019

On behalf of Mayor Bowser, MOAPIA hosted the FY 2020 Grantee Roundtable. This was a first-of-its-kind meeting that brought together over 120 representatives and leaders from CBOs that receive funding to serve District residents from a variety of city agencies that provide grant funds. Participants received a 2020 Census outreach training, important grant information and resources, and had the opportunity to work with fellow grantees of the Immigrant Justice Legal Services (IJLS) Grant, DC Census Outreach Grant, Serve DC's AmeriCorps State Grant, and the Mayor's African American, African, Asian and Pacific Islander, Latino, and LGBTQ Community Grant programs.



LUNAR NEW YEAR PARADE

January 2020

Mayor Bowser celebrated the Year of the Rat at the 2020 Lunar New Year Parade, an event that featured live performances, bright floats, and attracted over 10,000 spectators. The parade through the streets of Chinatown is organized annually by the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) and supported by MOAPIA. During the Parade, MOAPIA also promoted the 2020 Census outside the Wah Luck House.



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2020 CENSUS AAPI PARTNERS ACTION FORUM

February 2020

MOAPIA hosted the 2020 Census AAPI Partners Action Forum to foster census outreach with community partners and help achieve a complete count of AAPIs for the 2020 Census. Close to 100 attendees joined the Forum, including leaders representing AAPI community based organizations as well as Mayor's Census Outreach grantees. Forum speakers and attendees discussed issues, identified actionable tools and participated in a scenario-based training to strengthen Census outreach to AAPIs in DC.



KAGRO SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET

February 2020

Mayor Bowser and MOAPIA joined the Korean American Grocers Association of Greater Washington DC (KAGRO-DC)'s 31st Annual Scholarship Award Banquet. This year, KAGRO-DC awarded much-needed scholarships of \$1,000 to 15 college-bound students. Mayor Bowser's attendance at this event year after year demonstrates her appreciation for KAGRO-DC in investing in the District's next generation. The event also provided an opportunity for MOAPIA to foster relationships with the Korean American business community.

CAPIA AND DC HEALTH MENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR

April 2020

The Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Community Development and MOAPIA are proud to be the first agency to have started the conversation of our resident's mental health during the District's Public Health Emergency. Alongside the DC Department of Behavioral Health, MOAPIA hosted a joint Webinar event to stress the importance of taking care of one's mental health.



ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

May 2020

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the District's Public Health Emergency Posture, MOAPIA celebrated 2020 AAPI Heritage Month virtually and participated in a variety of online panels celebrating the District's Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

- Director Ben de Guzman provided welcoming remarks for The Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP) annual "Art as a Voice" virtual showcase.
- Director Ben de Guzman provided a presentation for AAPI Heritage Month at the National Transportation Safety Board's AAPIHM Event.
- Director Ben de Guzman provided the official Proclamation from Mayor's Office to recognize the AAPI Day Against Bullying and Hate on Monday, May 18.
- Director Ben de Guzman spoke with staff at The Bipartisan Policy Center about the AAPI community in the District and across the country and how federal and local policies affect the community's daily life as part of their AAPI Heritage Month event.
- MOAPIA hosted Mayor Bowser's AAPI Heritage Month Celebration by highlighting our AAPI community's resilience and contributions to the District, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Bowser directly addressed the audience on the significance of AAPIs' resilience and contributions to the District. Attendees also had an opportunity to ask questions to high level city officials about the City's response to the pandemic. Local and national Census experts were also on hand to answer attendees' questions and to remind attendees of the importance of participating in the 2020 Census. One hundred and thirty six attendees participated and celebrated AAPI Heritage Month together.
- Director Ben de Guzman participated in DC Public Library's AAPI Heritage Month Virtual Watch Party that screened the film "The Farewell."



2020 MOAPIA COMMUNITY LEADERS MEETING

September 2020

As part of MOAPIA's efforts to highlight Mayor Bowser's priorities and gather community stakeholders' feedback through a new channel of regular public engagements, MOAPIA virtually hosted its 2020 Community Leaders Meeting between trusted representatives of our District's AAPI community leaders and District Government agencies. The meeting provided an interactive forum where information, resources, and updates, especially related to our District's COVID-19 relief and recovery, were shared. Panelists and attendees were also able to discuss how DC government agencies could better serve its AAPI Community. Fifty two leaders from our District's AAPI community attended the meeting.

DC CENSUS 2020 COMMUNITY GRANT

The District faced a number of headwinds going into the 2020 Census. Comprehensive plans to count residents were upended by the pandemic, leaving city officials and advocates alike concerned that the 2020 Census would result in an undercount of vulnerable populations hit hardest by the dual health and economic crises. Amongst the challenges were that 2020 marks the first Census primarily conducted online for communities with members that have limited access to the internet, the failed efforts to include a citizenship question by the Trump administration that created intimidation and confusion among immigrant communities about participating, and a global pandemic hampering in-person outreach and engagement. Mayor Bowser had entrusted MOAPIA, in partnership with the Office of Planning, to administer over **\$900,000 in grants to sixteen local organizations** to support community engagement and outreach for the 2020 Census. The grant program supported organizations to identify trusted community partners to engage hard-to-count communities in Wards 1, 5, 7 and 8, low income residents, African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asians/Pacific Islanders, Africans, other immigrant communities, seniors, and families with young children. MOAPIA launched the grant program in record time, which became a model for local jurisdictions in other parts of the country.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, MOAPIA worked with all community partners to pivot to virtual and socially distanced outreach to keep the community safe while being counted. As the US Census Bureau extended the self-response period, MOAPIA obtained commitments from the partner organizations to extend their work plans until mid-August to maximize outreach. Despite the challenges, the sixteen community partners collectively achieved **over 883,000 engagements** through their respective campaigns to organize, inform, and motivate residents to be counted in the 2020 Census.

SAFETY-RELATED PROJECTS WITH METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT (MPD)

In partnership with MPD, MOAPIA tackled projects to improve community safety for residents and business owners including:

- Conducting joint outreach opportunities with MPD's Special Liaison Unit to connect AAPI business owners with corresponding area officers and connect business owners to MPD officers in their respective Wards. In FY20, **MOAPIA conducted 6 joint MPD-MOAPIA outreaches to 43 AAPI-owned businesses.**
- Sharing announcements and updates regarding Mayor Bowser's efforts to improve public safety; and
- Promoting Private Security Camera Incentive Program

The program provides reimbursements for the purchase and installation of outdoor security cameras that are registered with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). MOAPIA distributed translated information on the program to **over 669 business owners and residents.**



SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SYEP)

In support of Mayor Bowser's "Pathways to the Middle Class" initiative, MOAPIA promoted SYEP and encouraged DC's AAPI students to participate in the program. MOAPIA shared SYEP flyers translated into Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese, with local high schools with higher numbers of AAPI students, 68 local AAPI student groups and associations, as well as promoted SYEP through our social media and newsletter.

FREE/LOW COST JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS

To address the unique educational and job training challenges among AAPIs, MOAPIA updated a list of available job prep and readiness programs and continued to promote the resources widely throughout the DC AAPI community, reaching 94 residents at immigrant community/education fairs, resident outreaches, and cultural events.

RESIDENT/HOUSING OUTREACH

MOAPIA regularly visited apartment buildings/community centers with a higher AAPI concentration around Chinatown to check in with residents. In FY2020, MOAPIA conducted 6 resident/housing outreaches, reaching a **total of 182 residents**. In line with the Mayor's COVID-19 stay at home order and social distancing, MOAPIA pivoted to phone banking sessions to stay connected with our AAPI residents, addressing their concerns, offering assistance, providing the latest government programs, and maintaining MOAPIA's visibility. This included educating residents of their tenants' rights and share information for available matching funds and other opportunities for ownership, and other affordable rental opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

ARTS AND CULTURE

In order to raise awareness about the AAPI arts as well as to create AAPI cultural events that are beyond just celebrations, MOAPIA made various efforts including:

- Supported Bangladeshi American artist Monica Jahan Bose on her public art project Storytelling with Saris: Warming Waters Climate Change Public Art Project to celebrate #EarthDay50 on April 2020 and Storytelling with Saris: Warming Waters Climate Change Public Art Installation on the C&O Canal in Georgetown with projections by Film maker and artist Robin Bell on July 2020.
- Promoted Asian Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project's (DVRP) annual "Art as a Voice" showcase through MOAPIA's social media platform and through our District's AAPI Community leaders.
- In FY20, MOAPIA continued to provided to support through its grant program the annual APA Film Festival, as well as workshops hosted by APA Film throughout the year. The mission of APA Film is to bring attention to the creative output from AAPI communities and encourage the artistic development of AAPI talent, arts, and films in Washington, DC. A total of 561 people were served via this program.

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ENGAGEMENT WITH YOUNG AAPI PROFESSIONALS

MOAPIA presented at the Census 101 Training hosted by Asian Pacific American Bar Association of DC (APABA-DC) and Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC). Through the training, **MOAPIA reached out to 35+ AAPI young professionals.** In addition, MOAPIA engaged with more than **15 young professionals from the National Alliance for Filipino Concerns (NAFCON DMV)** to discuss the importance of census outreach and share DC Government relief programs and resources as well as further its partnership.



STEPPING UP ENGAGEMENT WITH NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER CONSTITUENTS

As part of MOAPIA's efforts to reach out to and strengthen its partnership with the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities in the District, MOAPIA collaborated with NHPI stakeholders and advocates through its Census outreach work. MOAPIA worked closely with the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA) to develop targeted outreach plans and effectively reach out to the NHPI communities. Their outreach provided new contacts in the NHPI community, including businesses and organizations, which could be integrated into MOAPIA's outreach efforts to a broader and more inclusive AAPI community.

MOAPIA attended the 2020 Census Webinar hosted by a number of NHPI leaders and advocates to share important Census information and encourage them to be ambassadors of the 2020 Census. In addition, MOAPIA produced and published an infographic that included the most up-to-date census data, released in 2018, on the NHPI populations in DC. MOAPIA also worked with the Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Community Development to identify issues concerning the NHPI communities in DC and to draw the connections between political representation issues in the District of Columbia and the Pacific Island territories. MOAPIA has been diligent about sharing COVID-19 related resources and grant opportunities with its NHPI partners and will continue its efforts to strengthen its ties with the NHPI communities through advocacy and outreach.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Due to the rise of anti-Asian bias and harassment surrounding COVID-19, MOAPIA acknowledged the heightened importance of addressing anti-Asian racism and xenophobic discrimination. MOAPIA proactively collected data regarding hate and bias incidents and joined forces with its various national and local partners such as the Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAJC), Act to Change, National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF), and Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF), to address the issue and participated in discussions on how to better assist and share resources with the District's constituents who experienced discrimination. MOAPIA also supported the District's 2020 Primary Election by staffing at voting centers across 8 Wards and encouraged AAPI residents to exercise their rights to vote.

In addition, MOAPIA collaborated with the DC Board of Election to host a Get Out the Vote event to share important information on voter registration and the significance of voting as a civic duty at Wah Luck House on September 25. More than twenty senior residents from the building, who are often identified as one of the groups that face challenges to vote due to language barriers and lack of opportunities to get resources on how to register/vote, attended this informational meeting and were able to register to vote. As MOAPIA is committed to advance equity and civil engagement, MOAPIA will continue working closely with other DC agencies and community-based partners to share information and drive public awareness on topics that matter to all residents.



TAKING A STEP CLOSER TO OUR COMMUNITY

AAPI TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (SBTA) PROJECT

The 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. During the Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19, MOAPIA promoted DC Micro Grant and DHCD's East of the River Grant Programs to small businesses and helped business owners throughout the application process. Moreover, MOAPIA consistently shared the most updated non-DC Government financial support programs with AAPI business owners. In FY20, **MOAPIA provided a total of 1227 SBTA assistances, including 558 assistances in DC Micro Grant**, Great Streets Retail Grant and other financial assistance programs in FY20.

SMALL BUSINESS OUTREACH

MOAPIA reached 289 businesses through its in-person regular outreach sessions and other in-person outreach events in FY2020. Since March 2019, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MOAPIA shifted its outreach efforts virtually, via phone, text messages, email, mail, social media, and newsletter. Through virtual outreach, **MOAPIA reached 669 businesses** informing owners of new policies/initiatives/programs being implemented by the Mayor's Office and District government to help small businesses. These outreach sessions offered opportunities to connect directly and personally with business owners on any issues or concerns posed by COVID-19.

WAGE THEFT PREVENTION

The District of Columbia's Wage Theft Prevention Amendment Act (WTPAA) of 2014 took effect on February 26, 2015. On July 1, 2020, the minimum wage in D.C. increased from **\$14.00 to \$15.00**. 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. In FY20, MOAPIA staff shared this information and materials with **277 AAPI businesses and 80 residents**.

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

DHCD's Façade Improvement Program funds storefront façade improvement projects in low/moderate income retail/commercial areas in the District of Columbia. MOAPIA informed 305 businesses about these funding opportunities and screened and **supported AAPI 24 businesses**. New Neighborhood Market, a Korean owned small business located at Rhode Island Avenue (Ward 5), participated in this program and replaced its signage to an LED sign lighting system.

CASE ASSISTANCE

MOAPIA provides case assistance to residents and small business owners. The data shown below was collected during FY2020.

- **Total number of cases: 1600**
- **Case assistance by subject area:**
 - ▶ Human services: **881 (51%)**
 - ▶ Small Business/Economic Opportunity: **619 (38.7%)**
 - ▶ Health: **12 (0.8%)**
 - ▶ Housing: **41 (2.6%)**
 - ▶ Public Safety: **44 (2.8%)**
 - ▶ Others: **66 (4.1%)**
- **Case assistance by language:**
 - ▶ Vietnamese: **702 (43.9%)**
 - ▶ Korean: **311 (19.4%)**
 - ▶ Chinese: **485 (30.3%)**
 - ▶ English: **102 (6.4%)**
- **Number of outreach efforts**
 - Number of calls to businesses/residents: **3,986**
 - Number of outreach efforts geared towards residents: **25,221**
 - Virtual business outreach: **669**
 - Door-to-door business outreach: **289**

COMMUNITY GRANTS (LY)

In FY2020, MOAPIA awarded a total of \$247,756 in grants to community-based organizations that support the District's AAPIs. Grantees served a total of 5,349 District residents.

ORGANIZATION NAME	AMOUNT	AREA OF FOCUS
Asian American LEAD	\$50,000.00	Education, Youth Leadership
Asian Pacific American Film	\$5,000.00	Art
Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center	\$20,000.00	Legal Services
Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project	\$33,000.00	Social Services
Chinatown Service Center	\$45,000.00	Social Services
Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, DC Inc.	\$38,000.00	Health Services
Housing Counseling Services	\$35,000.00	Social Services
The Metro DC Community Center	\$5,000.00	Health and Wellness Services
Little Lights	\$10,000.00	Jobs and Economic Development
Uptown Community Initiatives	\$ 6,756.00	Jobs and Economic Development

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: HOUSING COUNSELING SERVICES, INC. (HCS)

The mission of Housing Counseling Services is to provide comprehensive housing counseling, training, advocacy, technical assistance, and housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income home buyers, homeowners, and tenants; to help them achieve successful living in healthy, safe, and affordable homes. HCS places emphasis on preventing discrimination in housing and ensuring access to housing programs, services and opportunities by underserved communities including limited English proficient (LEP), immigrant, and culturally isolated residents. In 2020, **MOAPIA awarded \$35,000 in grant funding to support the Asian American and Pacific Islander Housing Access Program (AAPIHAP)** which provides comprehensive housing services to AAPI communities of the District.



As the District went under lockdown to help stop the spread of COVID-19, Housing Counseling Services stepped up to help connect tenants of Wah Luck House and Museum Square Apartments to local COVID-19 relief efforts, including a free meal delivery service from the Power of 10 Initiative. Power of 10 meal delivery took place 3-times a week from April 27 until July 6, when the District started to reopen. HCS assisted in organizing volunteers for the meal pick-up and door-to-door delivery so seniors did not have to leave their homes. HCS also distributed masks and cleaning supply donated by the DC Mutual Aid Network to AAPI residents.

LANGUAGE ACCESS AND CULTURAL COMPETENCE

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. Especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, MOAPIA advocated for all critical public facing pieces of information to be translated into Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese.

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

Provided guidance and feedback to 39 District agencies' Biannual Language Access Plans to ensure that the AAPI communities' needs are considered and addressed.

As part of Language Access Navigator Program, collected data related to language assistance discrepancies and AAPI constituents' experience with DC services. MOAPIA shared the data with certain District agencies to discuss ways to improve their Language Access compliance and community engagement

Promoted and translated 430 critical DC government information, programs, and resources to AAPI business owners and community members, including COVID-19 related information

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.

"This internship at the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs has been a fulfilling experience. Through this internship, I had the chance to directly help Chinese-speaking constituents solve some of their problems amid the COVID-19 crisis. Also, through researching on language access regulations and cultural competence, I got to have a much better understanding of not only the language policies but also many government agencies and immigrant communities in general. The past two months has allowed me to learn, to grow, and to help. I would like to thank to everyone at the MOAPIA for the valuable work and service to the AAPI community in Washington DC."

Phoenix Hou, George Washington University

THE PATH FORWARD FROM HERE

CENSUS 2020

The Census data is the primary source of data on AAPIs, and as such, it is the most critical tool to represent the visibility of AAPI communities. Today, roughly one in five Asian Americans and one-third of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders live in hard-to-count census tracts. When AAPI communities are undercounted, they may be given less than their fair share of government resources, including schools, hospitals, education, and infrastructure. Alongside MOAPIA's achievement of serving as a successful administer and facilitator of the Mayor's 2020 Census Outreach Grants, MOAPIA has continued its outreach to encourage every resident to partake in the census and highlight the importance of AAPIs' participation.

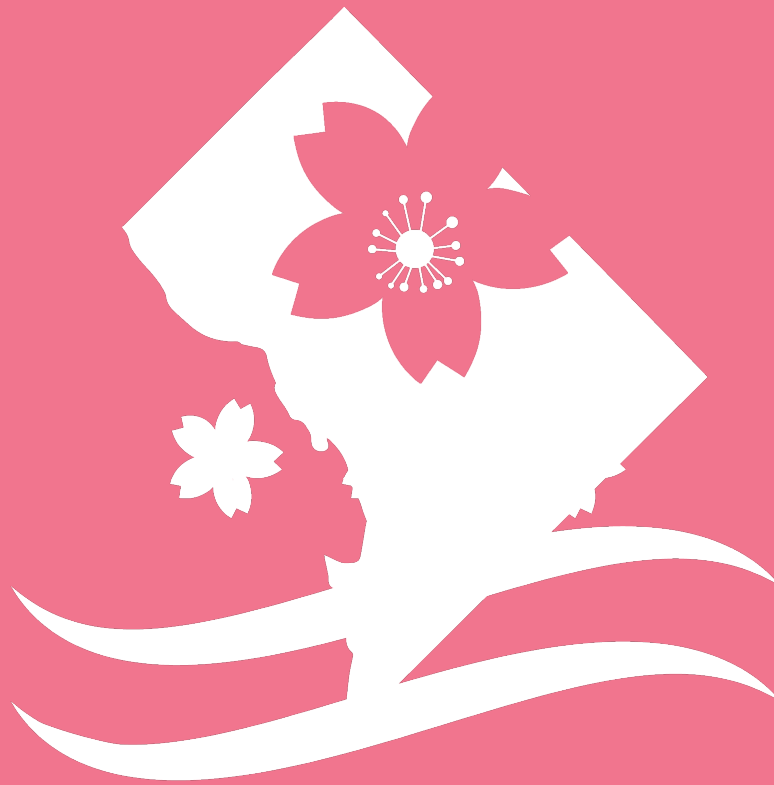
MOAPIA hosted the 2020 Census AAPI Partners Action Forum inviting numerous community partners and leaders to reaffirm commitment to proactively reach out to the AAPIs in DC and drive stronger outreach efforts to encourage everyone's participation in the 2020 Census. Additionally, MOAPIA expanded its reach to different AAPI audience groups by hosting and participating in census training sessions at DC Public Schools and external events.

MOAPIA also continued sharing census resources and outreach materials through its regular commu-

nity outreach and phone banking to 1900+ small business owners and residents and distributed census information at large-scale events such as the Chinese Lunar New Year Parade, MOAPIA's Annual Toy Drive, and its co-partnered Multilingual Education Fair of DC.

Additionally, MOAPIA continued its efforts to raise awareness of the 2020 Census and conduct census outreach in the middle of the pandemic. MOAPIA hosted community events, such as a Census Caravan which reached about 60 residents and Census Information Sessions that engaged more than 40 residents from 401 K Apartments and Gibson Plaza in September. During these two outreach events, MOAPIA assisted numerous constituents with limited English proficiency to complete the 2020 Census and helped them understand the importance of their participation. As AAPI communities were identified as part of hard-to-count populations, MOAPIA encouraged its constituents to actively participate in the census and emphasized the impact census data had on our community.

As the data collected by the 2020 Census is incorporated into the redrawing of political boundaries through redistricting and is used by federal and local agencies for allocation of resources, MOAPIA will continue to monitor the impact on AAPI constituencies.



MOAPIA

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