OUR MISSION IS TO ADVANCE CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ASIAN AMERICANS AND TO BUILD AND PROMOTE A FAIR AND EQUITABLE SOCIETY FOR ALL
It was a year of determined advocacy for Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC. We continued to react to and defeat attacks on the immigrant community even as a significant shift began to take shape during the year. We moved swiftly to file a lawsuit after the U.S. Secretary of Commerce announced the proposed addition of a citizenship question for the 2020 Census. Advancing Justice | AAJC was aggressive in denouncing this decision even as we worked to help our Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities grapple with the ramifications of the question.

As we had seen in the last two years, there was no shortage of attacks on our immigrant community. We beat back a number of bad immigration-related legislative proposals through our advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill and grassroots engagement with our community partners. But we were not the only ones to push back in 2018. The year would end with renewed hope that we are on the verge of better days ahead as the mid-term elections gave us something to look forward to even as we work towards 2020.

Asian Americans, though still underrepresented at the ballot box, helped to send a wave of new political representatives to the 116th Congress. The new energy and diversity of those politicians have spurred the introduction of new voting rights legislation and discussion of finally restoring the protections for the Asian American community and other communities of color through the Voting Rights Act. Advancing Justice | AAJC is on the frontlines of those hearings and meetings on Capitol Hill—working in solidarity with our civil rights partners.

Partnerships have been a key element of the work we do. In 2018, Advancing Justice | AAJC has connected with both long-time and unique partners to advance our core goals. Through our rejuvenated technology, telecommunications, and media diversity portfolio, we are engaging with policymakers and companies across the spectrum to discuss challenges and opportunities that exist for the Asian American population as technology continues to expand at a rapid pace. This work is critical as new media and technology has had a dramatic impact on how communities connect and interact.

We called out the need for diversity at all levels within the media and celebrated the moments where Asian Americans shined on the big and small screens. During the American Courage Awards, we celebrated Asian Americans like Hari Kondabolu and Ai-jen Poo who brought our culture front and center to American consciousness and fought for the rights of our people.

Since our founding, Advancing Justice | AAJC has fought for the visibility of Asian Americans, educated our community on the policies and issues that impact their lives, and exhibited an unwavering resolve to redefine the way our culture and contributions are viewed in society.

For us it’s about determination. The determination to keep striving towards our goals, no matter what’s at stake. We harness that determination to set our sights on 2019, 2020, and beyond where we know the Asian American community will play a significant role in influencing the trajectory of a diverse America, the way America should be.

Sincerely,

John C. Yang
President and Executive Director

Parkin Lee
Chair, Board of Directors
Advancing Justice | AAJC works to address barriers that have historically resulted in the undercounting and underreporting of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in federal data collection and analysis efforts. An accurate count of our community in the census is essential for government services to be provided to our people, for decisionmakers to understand the community’s importance, and for the enforcement of AAPIs’ civil rights. As a member of the Census Bureau’s National Advisory Committee on Racial, Ethnic, and Other Populations, and as co-chair of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights’ Census Task Force, we emphasize the need for a fully-funded Census Bureau and for smart, effective, and well-tested policy decisions to interested stakeholders, administration officials, and legislators. Through this work, we advocate for inclusive federal data collection efforts to safeguard the Census—our most valuable source of nuanced community demographic data.

As a member of the Census Bureau’s National Advisory Committee on Racial, Ethnic, and Other Populations, and as co-chair of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights’ Census Task Force, we emphasize the need for a fully funded Census Bureau and for smart, effective, and well-tested policy decisions to interested stakeholders, administration officials, and legislators.

CITIZENSHIP QUESTION

In March 2018, the Department of Commerce announced its decision to add a citizenship question to the 2020 Census, and we have been fighting this decision on several fronts. The introduction of this untested question has created fear among all immigrants and results in an undercount of vulnerable populations. To address this issue, we have partnered with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund to file a lawsuit seeking to remove the citizenship question from the census. Of the multiple lawsuits filed on this issue, ours is the only one that focuses on the Asian, Latino, and Native American communities, with plaintiffs who come from these communities. We were also among the first of a core group of civil rights organizations to update and educate the community about the addition and its implications for our communities through press and community briefings. Finally, we led a public comments campaign in partnership with the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and others to oppose the proposed citizenship question on the 2020 Census. Our joint campaign resulted in a total of over 250,000 individuals and organizations commenting in opposition to the citizenship question.

Advancing Justice | AAJC and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund held trial at the U.S. District Court in Greenbelt, Md. against the proposed census citizenship question.
2020 CENSUS ADVOCACY

Advancing Justice | AAJC has worked all decade-long engaging and advising the Census Bureau on their planning for the 2020 Census. From advising on the Census Bureau’s exploration on modernizing their race and ethnicity questions to raising concerns about the insufficiencies of Census Bureau’s language support program, Advancing Justice | AAJC has had a seat at the table to advocate on behalf of AAPIs as policies were being designed and contemplated, with a focus on operational and implementation decisions that will help ensure a fair and accurate census. We continue to engage with the Census Bureau through submission of administrative comments (four comments from Advancing Justice | AAJC and another three submitted jointly with other census partners), educational meetings with congressional offices, and submission of testimony for four census-related hearings. Our congressional engagement has focused primarily on the importance of a fully-funded 2020 Census to a fair and accurate count of AAPIs, as well as providing advice and support to offices on operational and policy issues.

GET OUT THE COUNT (GOTC) PLANNING

As the national hub for the AAPI community for the Census 2020 campaign, Advancing Justice | AAJC has conducted extensive message testing to determine how best to reach the AAPI community to ensure that it is fairly and accurately counted in the 2020 Census. Working with Lake Research Partners on census messaging research in the Asian American community, our research, which includes both an online survey questionnaire as well as focus groups, has three objectives: to assess attitudes of and discover potential motivations for our communities to participate in the 2020 Census; to identify key behavioral opportunities to overcome barriers to participation; and to expose our communities to media messaging to discover what will motivate them to participate in the 2020 Census. Advancing Justice | AAJC has been presenting on the research findings to different audiences to help shed light on how to engage the AAPI community. Taking the findings from the research, Advancing Justice | AAJC is now turning to the development of materials for use by community-based organizations and trusted messengers. In consultation with other AAPI partners, Advancing Justice | AAJC has finalized its list of languages for material translations and has developed a draft plan for community education materials, which will be implemented and executed in 2019.

As the national hub for the AAPI community for the Census 2020 campaign, Advancing Justice | AAJC has conducted extensive message testing to determine how best to reach the AAPI community to ensure that it is fairly and accurately counted in the 2020 Census.
PROTECTING OUR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES

Advancing Justice | AAJC is a leading authority on immigration policy as it affects the Asian American community. We leverage our position as a leader in the Asian American and broader social justice community to promote fair and just immigration policies that protect family unity, provide access to immigration status and a pathway to citizenship, and promote civil rights protections and due process in enforcement. Our role was particularly crucial in the face of the administration’s anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim rhetoric and policies throughout 2018.

FAMILY IMMIGRATION

The family-based immigration system is the backbone of the Asian American community. Throughout 2018, this system continued to be attacked by both the administration and Congress. In response, Advancing Justice | AAJC helped establish the Value Our Families Campaign to mobilize against attacks on family-based immigration and keep families together. We led administrative and legislative advocacy to support positive legislation while continuing to educate lawmakers and the media about the merit and benefits of family immigration.

- **Continuing Support for the Reuniting Families Act**, a bill that would clear the family backlogs, update our family-based immigration laws, lift the family and employment-based visa country caps, and provide much needed enforcement relief to preserve family unity. Advancing Justice | AAJC led coordinated advocacy to endorse the legislation and help secure co-sponsors.

- **Opposing the Goodlatte Bill and Ryan-Trump Bill**, bills that would significantly reduce family-based immigration to the U.S.; end the diversity visa program; expand the detention and deportation system; fund a harmful border wall; and perpetuate a permanent underclass of immigrant youth. Advancing Justice | AAJC opposed these bills by educating Congressional offices, media, and the public about the harmful consequences of these proposals. Additionally, through the Value Our Families Campaign, we organized a fly-in for community and faith leaders from across the country to meet with their Members of Congress to oppose anti-family legislation.

- **Mobilizing Against the Proposed “Public Charge” Rule**, a rule that would drastically increase denials of family-based green card applicants by penalizing applicants for being low-income, elderly, disabled, or limited English proficient, among other factors. The Advancing Justice affiliation responded by educating AAPI communities about the effects of the proposed rule and coordinating submission of public comments in opposition to the rule.

- **Defunding Enforcement**. As this administration escalated its separation of families by detaining and deporting more Southeast Asian refugee community members, and by deporting more parents and spouses of U.S. citizens, Advancing Justice | AAJC continued to work within the Defund Hate coalition to push Congress to reduce funding for enforcement agents and detention beds, to rein in abusive enforcement practices, and to resist funding construction of a harmful and wasteful border wall.

President and Executive Director John C. Yang speaks at a press conference at the 2018 Advancing Justice Conference in support of immigration policies that help all families thrive.
Following the administration’s termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program in late 2017, Advancing Justice | AAJC continued to push for a clean DREAM Act—a permanent legislative solution that would place DACA recipients on a pathway to citizenship without expanding harmful immigration enforcement measures. Furthermore, with looming threats to Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for multiple countries, we supported our community partners in advocating for the renewal of TPS for Nepal, which would protect 9,000 Nepalis from deportation while allowing them to work in the U.S. When the administration announced that TPS for Nepal would be terminated, we pushed for Congressional oversight and urged the administration to reconsider its decision to strip TPS protections from Nepali immigrants. In April 2018, Advancing Justice | AAJC and our affiliates organized a mobilization in D.C. in support of a clean Dream Act, TPS, and family immigration with over 200 AAPI community leaders representing 24 states, which included press conferences, meetings with the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, rallies, and nearly 100 legislative visits to 68 Congressional offices.

Advancing Justice | AAJC continued to push for a clean DREAM Act—a permanent legislative solution that would place DACA recipients on a pathway to citizenship without expanding harmful immigration enforcement measures.

As a member of the New Americans Campaign, we work with many of the D.C. area immigration legal service providers to provide naturalization assistance, mainly through low-cost citizenship workshops. At these workshops, trained bilingual volunteers help legal permanent residents to complete the naturalization application and, where applicable, requests for fee waivers. All applications completed at these workshops are reviewed by attorneys, which is critical at a time when immigration applications are subject to greater scrutiny. We held a media briefing early in the year to encourage legal permanent residents who wished to vote in the midterm elections to apply for naturalization as soon as possible and to alert them to backlogs that may affect their ability to become voters in 2020.

Our citizenship workshops help eligible immigrants with the naturalization process.

NATURALIZATION: SUPPORT FOR ASPIRING NEW AMERICANS

Discriminatory policies. We remember the history of Japanese American incarceration and the Chinese Exclusion Act, and we continue to strongly oppose the administration’s Muslim Ban in all its forms. Advancing Justice | AAJC educated Congressional offices, local and national AAPI organizations, and the public on the administration’s changes to immigration policy that negatively impact Muslim immigrant communities. Throughout 2018, we have worked with our coalition partners to amplify the efforts of the #NoMuslimBanEver campaign.

MUSLIM BAN

Advancing Justice | AAJC stands up for and alongside affected Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian communities in the face of
PROTECTING OUR DIGITAL PRIVACY AND LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND IN THE DIGITAL AGE

With technology affecting our everyday lives, so many members of our community are left behind with no digital access or limited digital literacy. As access to technology moves from being a benefit to an absolute necessity, understanding the technological and telecommunications needs of our emerging and diverse population becomes even more important. Advancing Justice | AAJC has worked to ensure that the Asian American voice is heard by major telecommunications industry leaders, as well as by policymakers.

We see privacy as both a human and civil right. It is embedded in the values that led to the birth of our nation and is a right we should guard jealously. In a digital society, that right extends to personal data collection and information sharing which creates an individualized digital footprint of each American. Advancing Justice | AAJC has worked to ensure that the Asian American voice is present and heard in the debate over what privacy means for our communities in the digital space.

We maintained robust government engagement at all levels and played a leadership role in multiple civil rights coalitions that focus on this issue. Importantly, we led efforts with our Asian American Technology and Telecommunications Table to broaden the coalition and uplift Asian American organizations committed to having their voices heard in this discussion.

This past year, Advancing Justice | AAJC submitted multiple comments to the Federal Elections Commission, Federal Trade Commission, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to present the impact of proposed rulemaking on Asian American communities. We educated Congress and the public on pertinent telecommunications and technology issues and served as a resource for analysis regarding the impact of telecommunications and technology policy on our communities.

MEDIA DIVERSITY: OUR REPRESENTATION MATTERS

Advancing Justice | AAJC continues the fight to ensure that diversity in media reflects the world around us. From being a leader in the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition (APAMC) to calling out negative portrayals of Asian Americans on television, we continued to ensure that the images meant to reflect our communities were accurate, thoughtful, and relevant. This past year, we also celebrated ground breaking performances and stories where representation reflected our communities. Furthermore, Advancing Justice | AAJC firmly believes that diverse media ownership is necessary to ensure that all constituencies are served. As such, we consistently opposed efforts by the FCC to relax media ownership rules without conducting studies to analyze the impact of such a change on ownership by people of color.
ENSURING LEGAL PROTECTIONS FOR ASIAN AMERICANS

Through our legal advocacy program, Advancing Justice | AAJC influences key civil rights issues that have significant impact on AAPI and immigrant communities, both in the courts and through technical assistance for our Community Partners. We pursue impact litigation in federal courts, file amicus briefs, including in cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, and engage with the broader racial and social justice coalition to advance key issues creatively.

AMICUS BRIEFS

Advancing Justice | AAJC led amicus brief efforts in the United States Supreme Court and other federal courts on key issues including immigration, voting rights, and access to technology.

Welcoming Cities Amicus Briefs: City of Chicago v. Sessions (7th Circuit) and City of Philadelphia v. Sessions (3rd Circuit). We submitted briefs in support of Philadelphia and Chicago’s pro-immigrant welcoming policies that help build trust between immigrant communities and law enforcement to create a safer city for all.

Stringer v. Pablo (5th Circuit). Together with the ACLU and Demos, we filed a brief in support of voter registration during online transactions with driver’s license offices in a case seeking Texas’s compliance with the National Voter Registration Act.

Moreno v. Nielsen (EDNY). We submitted a brief in support of Nepali, Yemeni, and Syrian TPS holders facing roadblocks to getting their Green Cards, highlighting the work of our community partner Adhikaar which assisted many Nepalis in applying for Temporary Protected Status.

Metro PCS v. Picker (ND Cal.). We filed an amicus brief in support of improved broadband internet access for communities of color and low-income communities impacted by the digital divide.

IMPACT LITIGATION

Throughout 2018, Advancing Justice | AAJC investigated cases and pursued impact litigation in federal courts, as well as engaged with civil rights partners on strategies for participation in existing litigation.

LUPE et al. v. Ross et al. (DMD). Advancing Justice | AAJC, together with MALDEF, filed a lawsuit in May 2018 alleging that the administration’s addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 decennial Census was motivated by racial animus and will lead to a severe undercount of Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Americans, immigrants, and other populations, depriving these communities of political representation and federal funding. The trial court ruled in our favor, finding that Secretary Ross and Department of Commerce violated the Administrative Procedures Act and the Enumerations Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

Illinois Automatic Voter Registration. Advancing Justice | AAJC sent a pre-litigation notice letter to Illinois officials seeking to enforce the Illinois Automatic Voter Registration statute and compliance with the National Voter Registration Act.

Minnesota Section 208 Compliance. Advancing Justice | AAJC investigated violations of Section 208 of the Voting Rights Act that occurred as a result of an erroneous application of conflicting state law. Under threat of litigation, two counties with the most impacted populations changed their practices, allowing community organizers to assist Limited English Proficient voters at the polls.

Affirmative Action

Advancing Justice | AAJC has long supported affirmative action policies. Working with our Advancing Justice affiliates over the years, we filed briefs in the Grutter and Gratz cases in support of affirmative action at the University of Michigan, and in the Fisher cases supporting affirmative action at the University of Texas.

Throughout 2018, we have worked to educate our community, including recent immigrants who may not be well-versed in civil rights history, about affirmative action and race-conscious admissions policies. We have held briefings, including a Congressional Briefing for staff of the Congressional Tri-Caucus, and worked to engage media to counter the efforts of affirmative action opponents to frame Asian Americans as a wedge group amongst communities of color. We have also partnered with APIAVote and AAPI Data to survey Asian American registered voters, and found that the majority continue to support affirmative action.
OUR IMPACT

KEEPING CONGRESS ACCOUNTABLE TO REUNITE OUR IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

Launched the Value our Families Campaign and defeated legislative attacks against Family Immigration

USING THE COURTS TO PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY TO FIGHT THE CENSUS CITIZENSHIP QUESTION

Sued the government to stop the citizenship question and WON

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS TO VOTING TO PROTECT THE VOTING RIGHTS OF ASIAN AMERICANS

Our hotline served over 700 VOTERS in the 2018 elections in English and 8 Asian languages
MOBILIZING OUR COMMUNITIES’ POWER TO ADVANCE THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF ASIAN AMERICANS

Over 90 visits to Congressional Offices by over 230 community members from across 30 states.

Using media to influence public opinion on issues like immigration and census.

160+ COMMUNITY PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS IN 33 STATES AND D.C.

States with community partner organizations

ADVOCATING FOR DIGITAL ACCESS FOR ALL TO ENSURE NO ONE IS LEFT BEHIND IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Led the Asian American Pacific Islander Technology and Telecommunications Table and protected our communities’ digital privacy.

PODCASTS
Appeared as a guest on tech podcasts such as WashingtonTECH and the Mike Muse Show.

WEBINARS—COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND OUTREACH
4 census webinars in 2018 with an average 85 participants each.

WEBINARS—COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND OUTREACH

MEDIA VISIBILITY

9,000+ Facebook Followers

Nearly 4 million Twitter impressions

More than 26,000 impressions in one hour on our Twitterstorm calling on the Census Bureau to support AANHPI languages.

We were covered by The Huffington Post, PBS Newshour, The Hill, Vox, NBC Asian America, World Journal, USA Today, Houston Chronicle, AP, the Atlantic and more.

OUR VISIBILITY
PROTECTING VOTING POWER AND EQUAL ACCESS TO THE BALLOT BOX FOR ASIAN AMERICANS

As a nationally recognized expert on voting rights, Advancing Justice | AAJC works to increase access for AAPIs to the political process by eliminating barriers to participation and promoting policies that increase access. We promote compliance with voting rights laws and increased access to the ballot, fight voter intimidation and suppression, produce reports on voting rights issues, and conduct voter surveys to increase understanding about the voting behavior and attitudes of our community. We also file amicus briefs on voting rights to ensure AAPI and other disenfranchised communities’ needs are known and on the record. With increased efforts by this administration and state-level officials to disenfranchise and suppress the votes of immigrants and communities of color, our continued work to fight for our communities’ access to the ballot box is more urgent than ever.

LANGUAGE ACCESS AND ELECTION PROTECTION

Recognizing the importance of language assistance for full participation by AAPI voters, Advancing Justice | AAJC worked with Fair Elections Center and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund to publish three “Guides to Language Access” for election officials, policymakers, and community leaders that clarify legal requirements and opportunities to provide language assistance, as well as outline best practices.

Since the 2012 elections, Advancing Justice | AAJC, with APIAVote, has hosted the Asian Language Election Hotline, 888-API-VOTE, which offers bilingual assistance in English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Vietnamese, Hindi, Bengali, Tagalog, and Urdu. For the 2018 midterm elections, our hotline saw a surge in calls, serving over 700 voters and more than doubling the calls we received for the prior midterm elections in 2014.

AMICUS BRIEFS

Advancing Justice | AAJC participates in legal advocacy on key voting rights issues through filing amicus briefs.

- **Stringer v. Pablo (5th Circuit).** In September 2018, Advancing Justice | AAJC, jointly with the ACLU and Demos, filed an amicus brief in a case seeking Texas’s compliance with the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). Advancing Justice | AAJC is particularly interested in ensuring the provision of voter registration services during online DMV transactions are being done in-language.

- **Husted v. A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI) et al. (U.S. Supreme Court).** In 2017, Advancing Justice | AAJC had led a joint effort with Latino Justice PRLDEF and NALEO to file an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court arguing that the aggressive practice used in Ohio of purging voter rolls of individuals who have not voted in a two-year period is harmful to communities of color, and especially AAPI and Latinx communities. In June 2018, in her dissent, Justice Sonia Sotomayor quoted our brief in highlighting the impact on limited-English-proficient and other marginalized voters.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

BUILDING POLITICAL POWER

ENGAGING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO PROTECT AND ADVANCE THE RIGHTS OF ASIAN AMERICANS

COMMUNITY PARTNERS NETWORK

Established in 1995, the Community Partners Network has over 160 community-based organizations and local allies in 33 states and Washington, D.C. We work closely with members of the network to develop regional and local capacity to elevate community voices across the nation. In turn, the network provides us first-hand information about the issues facing our diverse community.

Throughout the year, we have mobilized our Community Partners around advocacy campaigns, in-person and digital actions, and community education opportunities. In April 2018, we kicked off our 2020 Get Out the Count campaign with a census convening at our Advancing Justice Conference, followed by virtual and in-person convenings to further develop our plans for community education materials and draft them in consultation with our Community Partners. We launched our monthly census webinar series in August 2018 to provide community education opportunities around the 2020 Census.

We also convened our Community Partners for a capacity building training on immigration advocacy and communications tools and best practices.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Advancing Justice | AAJC’s Youth Leadership Summit is a three-day leadership development program for college students. The summit provides a unique opportunity for young advocates from across the country to gain hands-on experience from interactive workshops and activities with policy advocates and legislative staff of Members of Congress on Capitol Hill. In 2018, Advancing Justice | AAJC provided scholarships for 18 students to come to Washington, D.C. Following the summit, we awarded five stipends to alumni to support campus-based projects that elevate AAPI stories and experiences and advance dialogue, advocacy, and civic engagement within our communities.

These projects were implemented at Smith College, University of Chicago, University of Colorado, University of Notre Dame, and University of Pennsylvania.

ANTI-HATE INITIATIVE

Documenting Hate Incidents and Lifting Up Our Communities’ Voices

With hate on the rise, Advancing Justice | AAJC continues to document hate crimes and other incidents of hate committed against our Asian American and immigrant communities. We lift up such incidents to media and policymakers in order to shed light on the breadth of incidents targeting our communities and immigrants across the country, and work to connect individuals targeted by hate with resources, including legal assistance.

Through the Advancing Justice affiliation’s multilingual Stand Against Hatred website (standagainsthatred.org), which is accessible in Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese, we track and report on hate crimes and hate incidents against AAPIs. We have received more than 250 reports from across the country since the website’s launch in 2017.

We are a partner in the diverse Communities Against Hate coalition, led by the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. Through this coalition, we continue to work with the Lawyer’s Committee to support its Stop Hate project, including its 1-844-9-NO-HATE hotline, to make assistance available in Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and other Asian languages.
PROTECT, RESIST, ADVANCE

The Advancing Justice Conference is the first and only national conference in the AAPI community focusing on civil rights and social justice. Community leaders from across the U.S. come together to address issues facing one of our fastest growing populations. It serves as a unique forum where stakeholders can learn from issue area experts and community leaders, discuss common challenges and opportunities, share best practices and find more effective ways to work collaboratively. Conference attendees participate in panel discussions, caucus sessions, skills and capacity building trainings, legislative visits, and networking receptions. Advancing Justice | AAJC hosted the conference in 2018, bringing nearly 700 community leaders from over 30 states to Washington, D.C. for three days of programming in April that utilized subject matter experts to update, inspire, and enrich our attendees with the tools to protect, resist, and advance in this current challenging climate.

CENSUS CONVENING

In conjunction with the Advancing Justice Conference, we hosted a half-day convening focused on the 2020 Census on April 11, 2018, with over 250 community leaders. The census convening launched our “Get Out The Count” efforts, covering impacts and challenges of the 2020 Census, capacity and funding discussions, curriculum and materials development, and building community support. This event was the first of many engagements to coordinate partners and work towards a successful and accurate count of our communities.

Advancing Justice | AAJC hosted the conference in 2018, bringing nearly 700 community leaders from over 30 states to Washington, D.C.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Senator Mazie Hirono provides keynote remarks to 1,000 people at the 2018 Advancing Justice Conference. | Our conference dinner featured an “armchair dialogue” between John C. Yang and Chris Lu, former Deputy Secretary of Labor and White House Cabinet Secretary in the Obama Administration. | Nearly 300 people gathered for an all-day 2020 census planning convening at the 2018 Advancing Justice Conference.

Legislative Advocacy Day

Demonstrating the power of our numbers, over 200 community leaders from 24 states met with over 70 Congressional offices in one day, advocating for AAPI communities on the Census, family immigration, DACA, and TPS. We held a press conference with the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus during our Advancing Justice Conference Legislative Advocacy Day, featuring Representatives Judy Chu and Grace Meng and community speakers.
The American Courage Awards is an annual event hosted by Advancing Justice | AAJC, honoring individuals, groups, and corporations in recognition of their extraordinary courage or commitment to the cause of Asian American and Pacific Islander civil and human rights.

**The American Courage Award:** Ai-jen Poo, Activist, Director of The National Domestic Workers Alliance and Co-Director of Caring Across Generations

**The Changemaker Award:** Hari Kondabolu, Comedian, Writer, and Podcaster

**The Bridge Builder Award:** Verizon

Ai-jen Poo is an active force for change within the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. From fighting for labor protections for domestic workers to creating an organization to protect those workers, Ai-jen is fearless in challenging systemic problems. As an accomplished author, she takes readers on a journey to find innovative practices to the problems facing our society. Her book, like Ai-jen herself, ultimately aims to organize change for a better society.

A better, inclusive, and more diverse society is a foundational value for Verizon. Advancing Justice | AAJC is proud to count Verizon as a partner in our policy and advocacy work to include the Asian American and Pacific Islander perspective and how their technology will affect the community. One would expect Verizon to be a vocal advocate for digital access for all communities, but the company has been equally vocal in support of DACA and immigrant rights. As with everything Verizon does, it is important to give voice to the problem and use their voice to elevate the conversation.

We honored Hari Kondabolu for his persistent pursuit of breaking down media stereotypes and calls for diversity in media representation. Hari’s biting wit but uncompromising social commentary on what it means to be brown in America is challenging perspectives on what a fair and equitable society for all really means. His podcast, Politically Reactive, co-hosted with W. Kamau Bell, was a great platform for exploring current event issues like immigration, how to be part of the movement for change, and how we move forward as a country.

Guests show their flame is burning bright during fund-a-need at 2018 American Courage Awards.
PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE
We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals who are members of President's Circle. The President’s Circle is a premier support group of Advancing Justice | AAJC.

CHAMPION ($25,000+)
Jeffrey D. Hsi and Amy W. Wagenfeld
Parkin Lee and Doris Ng

DEFENDER ($10,000 - $24,999)
Yoon-Young Lee and Matthew J. Regan
Gina N. Shishima and Ernest D. Sosa
Jactina Titter-Ashley and James C. Abbott

ADVOCATE ($5,000 - $9,999)
Andy Liu and Carolin Benjamin Liu
Anne H. Chow and Robert Moore

The Javade Chaudhri and
Gail Keel Fund
Joan M. Harutani
Kim Tran
Anonymous
The Paris and Mary Lee Fund

PROTECTOR ($2,500 - $4,999)
John Fleck
Ivan K. and Sharan Ty Fong
Stewart and Pat Kwoh
Ehn Lew Family Foundation
Diana C. Liu
ONG/Leung Fund

John Song
John C. Yang and Esther H. Lim

BENEFACTOR ($1,000 - $2,499)
Warren Chan and Mee Lon Lam
The Honorable Denny Chin and Kathy Chin
Nelson G. Dong
Grandy N. Parke and Lars Johan Frelim
Anikur J. Goel and Jasmeet K. Seehra
Chih Yao Huang
Paul and Louisann Isgaas
Kenzo Kawanabe
Eugene Lao

Stanley Young and Hyun-
Sook Park
Nicky Yuan

FRIENDS ($1 - $999)
Ian Amelkin
Tim August
Darren Banh
Jinni Bartolome
Gary Bass
Audrey Blackwell Eady
Linus Chan
Anonymous
Andy Chan
Michael Chan
Charles Chan
Kelly Chang
Liz Chiu
Alfred Young Chi
Diana Chi
Rebecca Chinn
Sean-Young Chi
Jeremy Cole
Mark Cuevas
Mai Daniels
Gwen D’Arcangelis
Anchita Dasgupta
Christina Davies
Daniel de Moura
Jennifer Dexter
Marina Drummar
Nina Dutton
Donna Epps
Minerva Etectornez
Daniel Falkowski
Gloria Fisk
Elaina J. Fong
Lillian G. Fong and Stewart Fong
Keyhanan Freeland
Solomon Fung
Daniel Gang
Gary Gordenhire
Katherine Ha
Robert Handel
Chanelle Hardy
Jerry Hashimoto
Casey Heeg

Janini Herath
Scott Harman-Giddens
Douglas Hargig
Kevin Hogan
Alex Holloward
Mai-Linh Hong
Briallen Hopper
Alex Howerton
Ginny Huang
Dennis Jang *
Kasey Johnson
Carrie Usui Johnson
Krystal K’ai
Blossom Khan
Travis Kaya
Laura Kelly
Sandra Kim
Kim Knight
Kelli Kolling
Thomas and Janet Komatani
Karmen Kubesh
Richard Kuniyuki
Ajit Lalwani
Cathy Lam
Kevin Le
Hiep Chinh Le
Sumi Lee
Alice Lee
Richard G. Lee
Susan Lehrke
Richard Leong
Thomas Lessard
Gary Lim *
Doree Ling Cohan
Susan Littenberg
Yin Lu
Grandma Lui
Rei Magoski
Mark Malonzo
Sunsear Marshall
William McAuliff
Elizabeth Moorman
Dean Moscowsky
Andy Mueller
Janet H. Namikung
Chris Ng
Rose Ng
Norkio Okamoto
Kevin Pan

Derek Perkins
Mimi Pham
Abby Picaud
Elizabeth Pili
Sophia Pilouras
Michael Pluta
Joy Pugh
Phyllis Rainey
Alex Reppie
Michael Reyes
Dovard A. Robinson
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Michelle Robinson Boykins
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Gay F. Wikins
Rabby Wang
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## Financials

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>1,596,725</td>
<td>1,848,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>1,137,205</td>
<td>654,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and pledges receivable</td>
<td>3,101,987</td>
<td>3,008,366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and deposits</td>
<td>77,061</td>
<td>67,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and equipment, net</td>
<td>19,969</td>
<td>22,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,932,947</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,600,703</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liability</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>175,944</td>
<td>339,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred rent</td>
<td>312,843</td>
<td>317,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>488,787</strong></td>
<td><strong>656,398</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Asset</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Without donor restrictions</td>
<td>872,898</td>
<td>870,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With donor restrictions</td>
<td>4,571,262</td>
<td>4,074,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,444,160</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,944,305</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Liabilities and Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,932,947</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,600,703</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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For full audited financial statements, please call 202-296-2300 ext. 0111

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**Expenditures 2018**

- **Program**: 80.05%
- **Management and General**: 7.33%
- **Fundraising**: 12.62%

**Revenue 2018**

- **Grants and Contributions**: 80.53%
- **Special Events/Others**: 19.47%
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Vice President of Policy and Programs

Lucy M. Lee
Vice President of Finance and Operations

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—GINA SHISHIMA, ADVANCING JUSTICE | AAJC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“I support AAJC in honor of and in gratitude to my immigrant parents and grandparents, and all who have fought and struggled so hard for civil rights and justice in America. These are challenging times, and more than ever we need skilled and dedicated advocates like AAJC standing up and speaking out against discrimination and fearmongering, and attacks on voting rights, immigrant rights, Census participation and other basic and cherished rights. By supporting AAJC, I hope we can all “pay it forward” to future generations to ensure they have an effective voice and civil rights champion.”
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