

What happened?

On November 5th, a group of former APANO employees, one former Board member and volunteers from 2008-2017 sent a letter to the APANO Boards demanding the resignation of Executive Director Joseph Santos-Lyons, Associate Director Duncan Hwang, and the full Boards of Directors by November 8th. The group is identified as the API Community Transformation Collective.

Where can I read more?

Prior to this letter being delivered, APANO issued the below update to our community on November 5: <http://www.apano.org/blog/2017/11/05/an-update-to-our-community/>

If you want to read the letter from the Collective sent to APANO Boards, it was made public on Nov. 22 by the Collective and can be accessed here: <http://bit.ly/2iWjZzy>

On November 15, APANO Staff and Boards issued these joint messages to our members: <http://www.apano.org/blog/2017/11/15/apano-response-to-community-about-sexism-and-homophobia>

On November 22, Willamette Week released an article connecting this issue with the #MeToo hashtag, and falsely implying instances of sexual assault. We are not linking this article.

On November 22, the Collective issued the following open letter: <http://bit.ly/2BZKbAD>

On November 29, the Collective issued a follow-up statement regarding their response to Willamette Week, clarifying they have not made claims of sexual harassment or rape: <https://www.facebook.com/APITransformationCollective/posts/170086646921451>

On November 30, the Chairs of the APANO Boards announced that an independent third party community liaison will conduct a thorough examination to hear any community concerns: <http://www.apano.org/blog/2017/11/30/update-members-community/>

Given the specific role of the community liaison and the questions around her selection and process, an additional FAQ is available here: <http://www.apano.org/about/board-of-directors/community-liaison-faq/>

What is happening now and what will happen next?

As community liaison, Elisa Dozono is available to document concerns from any community member, collect written statements, conduct follow-up inquiries, and will send the collected information directly to the APANO and APANO Communities United Fund Boards. The Boards will review the report, consider all options, and make public non-confidential report information and the action steps the organization will take. The Boards have no preconceived notion about the outcome of this process, and all options are on the table for whatever resolution is needed to address community concerns. This could include decisions about staff or Board transitions, mediation or restorative justice processes. Throughout this process, we will continue to uphold our legal and ethical obligation to protect the confidentiality of current and former volunteers and staff, including those who signed the letter.

Staff and members of the Boards are always open to community feedback and input on the process and next steps. Board chairs can be contacted at apano.board.chairs@gmail.com. Elisa Dozono can be contacted at 503.205.2450 or elisa.dozono@millernash.com.