

APANO



ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN NETWORK OF OREGON

2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

Welcome ALLY Youth

This school year, we launched ALLY (API Leaders for the Liberation of Youth), which works with Asian Pacific Islander high school students throughout the Portland area. Our youth organizer spent countless hours at local schools doing class presentations, buying ice cream, and meeting with our area youth. ALLY's mission is to create youth led social change for our communities. We will focus on developing leadership skills through community organizing and political education. ALLY leaders and members meet weekly and are currently working to create a youth mural in the Jade District, create a youth space in APANO's new community center, and develop a political education workshops for our members. Already, ALLY has made a huge impact in helping to plan community meetings and participating in our language specific get-out-the vote efforts this election cycle. The energy of ALLY has been infectious throughout the organization and the youth have been an amazing addition to our work.



Our Mission, Vision, and our Model for Change

Mission Statement

The Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon is a statewide, grassroots organization, uniting Asians and Pacific Islanders to achieve social justice. We use our collective strengths to advance equity through empowering, organizing and advocating with our communities.

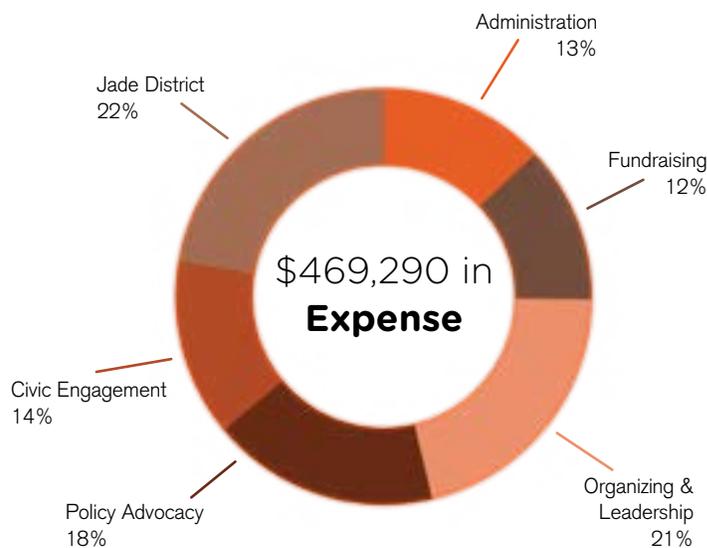
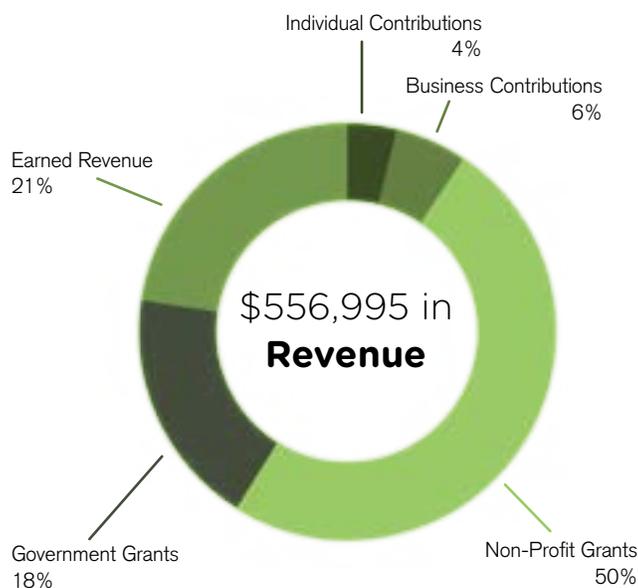
Values Statement

Our communities find strength in a powerful political voice shaped by passion, self-determination and our diverse cultural and ethnic heritages. Strong relationships are the foundation of meaningful change. Our experiences as Asian and Pacific Islanders inspire our partnerships with each other and promote our coalition building in order to find solutions to shared concerns. Our leadership must emerge from, be reflective of, and be accountable to, the diverse needs, interests and heritages within our Asian and Pacific Islander communities. The root causes of inequities are connected and shape our social justice and human rights work. We stand in solidarity with other communities who experience oppression.

Model of Change

APANO's Model of Change is grounded in organizing the leadership and power of Pan-API communities experiencing inequities, fostering partnerships, and engaging in campaigns. We seek to empower Asian and Pacific Islanders, especially those who experience oppression, through analysis, skill building and relationship building which are central to our community organizing.

Financials for Fiscal Year 2014



Our Great Turning



The act of turning opens us up to new wisdom and transformation. We start by turning to one another, in times of sorrow, and in times of joy. When we turn, we smile, extend our hands, and make space in our hearts for another to share their story. We step out of our routines to build new relationships, ask thoughtful questions, and form bonds of trust that allow us to take on new challenges.

APANO's grassroots organizing and advocacy work is grounded in our great universal turning, to one another, fostering harmony and flowing outward as we campaign for the rights, recognition, and resources all our communities need to thrive. As a community minister and your Executive Director, I thank you for being part of our great turning, that is rooted in your story, for finding common ground, and for preparing us to act for justice.

Our great turning comes in the face of renewed xenophobia and racism. This includes efforts to divide and conquer by cherry picking and stereotyping Asians as the “model minority,” and attitudes of rampant individualism that deny us our humanity and ultimately undermine our communities. Oregon is at the forefront of fast changing racial and economic demographics, and your support empowers APANO to fight for our values of social justice and strong families.

As our APANO has grown to over 4,000 supporters, we have become a vibrant community with the capacity to make accountable and lasting change. I'm particularly proud of our new local organizing projects - API Leaders for Liberation of Youth (ALLY) and the Jade International District in SE Portland. These are important developments that complement our role as a statewide organizing “hub”, making possible our success in supporting the new Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion K-12 program, Restoring Drivers License for COFA Pacific Islanders, and engaging 50,000 API voters in 15 languages.

I'm excited to be working alongside our terrific staff, board and leaders as we prepare to take on challenges for immigrant access to health, better education for our English Learners, and fighting for a fair economy that serves all our families. May you have peace and joy during this season.

With gratitude and solidarity,

Rev. Joseph Santos-Lyons,
Executive Director

APANO a Year to Remember

Strong Families Focus

For the past year, the Strong Families Working Group has paved the way for deeper discussions and resources dedicated to reproductive justice, gender, and queer issues. This is built on the idea that all people should have the social, political and economic power and resources to make healthy decisions about our gender, bodies, sexuality and families for our selves and our communities. The year ended strong with an official adoption of the Strong Families framework by the APANO board, ensuring that the Strong Families lens will be used when working with our policy initiatives. We were also proud to bring back the Dis/Orient/Ted comedy tour for a second year. This event highlighted API comedians and others that are not highlighted in entertainment and also helped raise awareness for our Strong Families work. In 2015 the Strong Families Forum will build upon the success of this past year's State of Cultural Competency Forum. The Strong Families Working Group members along with our health equity committee will facilitate a daylong forum to raise awareness on health, reproductive justice, gender, and queer issues.

Civic Engagement Building

Electoral civic engagement is a key strategy that supports APANO's capacity to advocate on the issues that impact our Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities. Ensuring the right to vote, educating our communities on key issues at stake in elections, and increasing voter participation is a core part of our strategy in achieving our vision for a just and equitable world where Asian Pacific Islanders are fully engaged in the civic process.

In 2014, our primary focus during the midterm elections was to measurably increase participation from within our communities and to educate voters on the numerous ballot measures that impacted our communities. One particularly important question placed before voters this past fall was Measure 88. This measure, which would have allowed all Oregon residents the right to a driver's card, was referred to the ballot after passing the state legislature earlier in 2013. Access to driving privileges is essential for daily life in terms of driving to work, school, or church. For our community, roughly 1 out of 8 API in Oregon identify as undocumented. These people are our neighbors, friends and loved ones, and the right to a driver's card would have ensured safer roads for everyone. Though Measure 88 failed to pass, it did build out APANO's electoral infrastructure and broadened the conversation around immigration issues affecting our community. Our civic engagement work this year registered 4,472 voters, we released 50,300 voter guides in various languages, and during elections we made 28,620 get out the vote calls in 22 different languages.



Policy Development Reflection

We believe long-term, social change requires a deep examination of how our public and private institutions operate. Achieving social justice requires structures and systems that ensure the rights, resources and recognition our communities need to thrive. APANO's Policy Advocacy work develops out of our community organizing and leadership development programs, with the goal of winning concrete changes in local ordinances, state and federal legislation, ballot measures, and other public policy. In 2014, we monitored the passage of our two policy victories in the 2013 Legislative Session- data collection and cultural competence for healthcare professionals. Our outlook in 2015 includes continued focus on racial equity, improving the social determinants of health, and promoting strong families. The priority issues we will advocate on in the 2015

- Basic Health Plan option for groups excluded from medicaid coverage
- Reforming the English Language Learner funding formula
- Passing paid sick days statewide.

Jade District Grows

In the fall of 2013, the Jade District was comprised of 4 people meeting in a local noodle shop. In APANO's first full year of managing the Jade District, our community has come together to accomplish some amazing things. After building a steering committee of local residents, renters, business owners, and other stakeholders from Portland Community College and Harrison Park School, we set out to really listen to our community needs. This culminated in our Jade District Visioning in the summer of 2014, which was a large-scale community organizing effort conducted in 5 languages (Cantonese, Vietnamese, Russian, Spanish, and English) to provide a unified community vision.

We found these various communities have closely aligned priorities with:

- Improving the Intersection at 82nd and Division
- Safety and Walkability Improvements
- Community Space
- Green Open Space

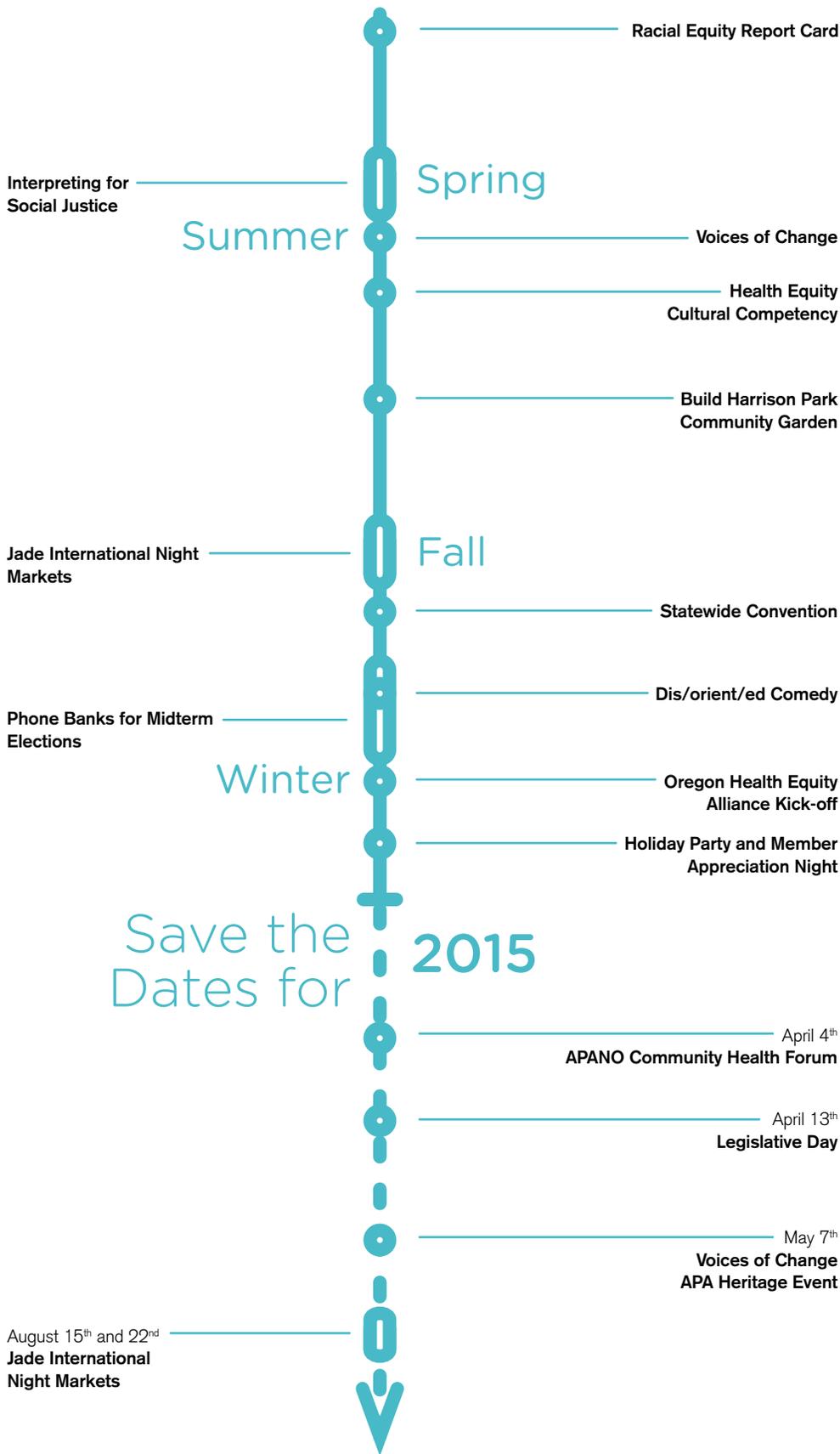
From these shared priorities we focused on building a community garden at Harrison Park School with our community partners because of the need for community building and green space. Numerous business owners and residents also were really excited for an Asian style night market, so we launched the Jade International Night Market this past summer, which brought 20,000 visitors to the Jade District on 4 late summer nights.

Looking forward to 2015, we will continue to work on making the vision of our community a reality. Be on the look out for new community space opening, development of affordable housing, a larger night market, and enhanced safety measures.

For full copies of the Jade District Vision, please contact Jade District Manager Todd Struble at todd@apano.org. or go to www.jadedistrict.org/About



APANO 2014 Timeline



Thank You for Contributing to Our Success

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Special appreciations to those who have contributed as board, staff and consultants

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