

The State of Washington

CAPAA

COMMISSION ON
ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans



Executive Director's Report

January 18, 2014
General Administration Auditorium
210 11th Avenue Southwest
Olympia, WA 98504

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1. FINANCIAL REPORT:

- **2013-2015 Biennial Operating Budget:** The agency's 2013-2015 operating budget totals \$420,000, \$213,000 for FY 2014 and \$207,000 for FY 2015. The agency is monitoring proposed changes in the supplemental budget due to adjustments in Department of Enterprise Services billing levels for administrative services.

2. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION:

- **Website:** The agency is transitioning its website to a private vendor as a result of a recent study by the Office of Financial Management. This will result in significant cost to the agency in FY 2014.
- **Results Washington:** Results Washington aims to make state government more effective, efficient, accountable and transparent. CAPAA is participating on the Prosperous Economy Goal Council and is working with other agency directors to reach our targets and goals. The agency is working closely with the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises and other agencies to develop strategies to increase state utilization of minority, women and veteran-owned businesses. Visit www.results.wa.gov for more information.
- **Casework System:** The agency continues to maintain an online casework system. The number of requests for assistance from the agency remains steady.

3. LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

- **Regular Session:** The 2014 legislative session began on January 13, 2014. The regular session will be 60 days in length to pass laws and make adjustments to the state budget. The last day of regular session is March 13, 2014. CAPAA sends out a weekly E-Legislative Update about committee hearings and information that may be of interest to the APA community.
- **APA Legislative Day:** On February 3, 2014, APA community leaders will meet with legislators in Olympia and the Governor to discuss priorities that will improve the lives of APAs.
- **Ethnic Legislative Reception:** On March 6, 2014, community members are invited to attend the Ethnic Legislative Reception in the Columbia Room in the Legislative Building from 6 to 9 p.m.

4. OUTREACH:

- **Statewide Outreach:** Staff have attended more than 40 meetings and events with community leaders and organizations, agency directors and staff, and stakeholders in the last two months, in addition to the numerous events our commissioners have attended in each of their regions.
- **Community Connections:** Staff met with numerous community leaders and community-based organizations in our Community Connections Network to hear about issues and concerns facing their

unique communities. When necessary, casework and policy issues are brought to the attention of the Governor's Office, federal agencies, state agencies, legislative members and municipalities.

- **Asian Pacific Directors Coalition:** Staff presented the draft 2014 CAPAA legislative priorities list to members of APDC.
- **Road Map Project Community Network Steering Committee:** Staff attended the meetings chaired by Sili Savusa to develop strategies to involve community voices in closing the opportunity gaps. The Road Map Project aims to double the number of students in the region who are on track to obtain a college or career credential by 2020 and close the opportunity gaps for students of color and low income children.
- **Community Events:** Staff attended community events including an event at Filipino Community Center of Seattle for Typhoon disaster relief and the Northwest Asian Weekly Top Contributors to the Asian Community event (former Commissioner Rey Pascua was an honoree).
- **Federal Outreach:** Our agency continues to maintain relationships with federal agencies to stay apprised of policies impacting the Asian and Pacific Islander communities in our state.
 - **White House Initiative on AAPIs:** Staff participated on the AAPI State and Local Commission Conference Call and Webinar. WHIAAPI staff are working to hold regional events through its Interagency Working Group, which will facilitate information-sharing and coordinate community engagement with the AAPI community between federal regions.
- **Agency Outreach:** Staff continues to connect with members of the agency's Asian Pacific American State Agency Liaison Network (APASAL Network). These monthly check-ins serve as an important way to cover current policies and programs for the AAPI community, partnership opportunities, assistance requests, recommendations and policy issues with state agencies.
 - **Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises:** OMWBE will launch the Get Certified Campaign on January 20th. The campaign is in partnership with the Office of the Governor, the Washington State Department of Transportation and Sound Transit. The campaign will make over 30 stops throughout the State and hold educational workshops for small diverse businesses on the benefits of certification. Information and a list of community events are available at www.getcertifiednw.com.
 - **Department of Commerce:** Commissioner Dash and three APA business leaders will represent CAPAA at the newly formed Minority Business Roundtable. The Roundtable will meet on a quarterly basis with Department of Commerce Director Brian Bonlender and his staff to discuss and collaborate on issues of mutual concern to the minority business community.
 - **Department of Financial Institutions:** DFI has translated brochures about the Foreclosure Fairness Act in 10 languages, including Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Cambodian, Tagalog and Samoan. The brochures are available at www.commerce.wa.gov/Programs/housing/Foreclosure/Pages/default.aspx.
 - **Office of the Education Ombudsman:** OEO released its annual report summarizing its work and recommendations to policymakers about how to eliminate barriers for family and community involvement in education. The report is available at www.governor.wa.gov/oeo.

- **Department of Enterprise Services:** Staff met with Anita Bingham, Enterprise Services HR Manager, who recently assumed the role of managing the department's human resources consultants. DES provides HR services to CAPAA and other small agencies.
- **Department of Health:** Staff is monitoring Department of Health's work around marijuana prevention and education. The ethnic Commissions have expressed a desire to work closely with DOH to minimize the impact of marijuana legalization on communities of color.
- **Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction:** Staff will provide an update to the Commission at the Board meeting on the new Common Core Standards and ESSB 5329 regarding persistently failing schools.

5. CAPAA COMMISSION:

- **CAPAA / ACLF Fellowship:** CAPAA and the Asian Pacific Islander Community Leadership Foundation (ACLF) is pleased to announce the selection of our 2014 Fellows: Brianne Ramos, Jintana Lityouvang and Krysel Manzano. Our Fellows will assist with bill tracking, event planning and research. This is the fifth year of the program.
- **Board Meetings:** The Commission will hold its second board meeting in 2014 on March 15, 2014 at Asia Pacific Cultural Center. Visit www.capaa.wa.gov for more details and for the full 2014 schedule.
- **40th Anniversary:** The Commission is organizing a community celebration to mark its 40th anniversary on May 15, 2014. This event will bring together youth, community leaders and current and former Commissioners and staff to celebrate our achievements and look forward to the future.
- **Board vacancy:** The Commission is actively recruiting for the position of commissioner. The commissioner helps examine and define issues pertaining to the rights and needs of Asian Pacific Americans, and makes recommendations to the Governor and state agencies with respect to desirable changes in program and law. They serve on a voluntary basis and have the responsibility to maintain communication with the community they represent as well as to the board. Applicants should visit the CAPAA website for information on how to apply.

6. UPDATE ON ISSUE AREAS:

- **Education:**
 - **Asian American and Pacific Islander Voices in Education Initiative:** The Commission continues to support grassroots efforts engaged during the Asian American and Pacific Islander Voices in Education Initiative.

Southeast Asian American Access in Education Coalition (SEAEED): Staff attended a meeting regarding the Southeast Asian American outreach coordinator position at the University of Washington. SEAEED Coalition members are concerned that the position is no longer being funded at the UW for 2014.

Our Future Matters: Members of Our Future Matters will present to the CAPAA board about UPRISE, the second Pacific Islander Education Summit, which brought together hundreds of youth, parents and community members at Highline Community College on October 5.

- **Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee (EOGOAC):** The Committee held a community forum in Federal Way on November 19 about the EOGOAC's six priorities to help address the educational opportunity gaps. Commissioner Takamura and Sili Savusa continue to serve as our representatives on this committee. Ben Kodama and Mele Aho serve as the Commission's alternates.
- **Student Discipline Task Force:** Zharina Angeles, an educator in the Renton School District, joins the Task Force alongside Matt Vaeena, a leader in the Pacific Islander community and member of Our Future Matters, as CAPAA's representatives. The Task Force will continue to meet in 2014 to discuss student disciplinary policies in school and how it impacts students of color.

- **Health Care and Human Services:**

- **Asian American and Pacific Islander Health Disparities Initiative:** Commissioner Aragon continues to represent the Commission on the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities.

Staff met with Christy Hoff, staff for the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities, to discuss Health Impact Reviews (RCW 43.20.285). A Health Impact Review can be requested to determine how a proposed legislative or budgetary change will likely impact health and health disparities in Washington.

- **Marijuana excise taxes:** Due to the passage of Initiative 502, the state will begin levying and collecting an excite tax on the sale of marijuana. The initiative designates portions of the revenue to the Department of Health and Department of Social and Health Services for marijuana education, prevention, and treatment. Due to marijuana's disproportionate impact on communities of color, CAPAA will coordinate with the other Ethnic Commissions to ensure these funds are used for community-based education, prevention and treatment.

At the request of the Ethnic Commissions, a meeting has been scheduled with the Department of Social and Health Services to address concerns regarding I-502 implementation. The Commissions previously met with staff at Department of Health regarding this matter.

- **Economic Development:**

- **Minority Small Business Summit:** Staff is working closely with the other Ethnic Commissions on an event to engage the AAPI business community and other minority business owners in discussions around state contracting, the regulatory environment, and small business support.

On Dec. 5, a pre-Summit meeting was held at Renton City Hall with 50 minority business leaders in attendance. Agency staff from OMWBE and DES gave presentations and answered questions.