



The State of Washington

COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS

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Improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans

Executive Director's Report Everett Senior Services Baker view Center 1401 Poplar St. Everett, WA 98201 January 5, 2008

1. CAPAA's **Financial Report as prepared by** the Small Agency Client Services (SACS). The Agency's budget for the 2007-09 Biennium Year, operating only, is \$ 257,000 for FY 2008 and \$252,000 for FY 2009 with a total of \$509,000. Please refer to the attached report.
2. **Website Restructure with DIS-** Will do a website re-structuring for CAPAA in order to make us code compliant with the State and install a search engine in the amount of \$3,300. The funds will be taken from our savings incentive plan.
3. **Website Enhancement** – we are preparing an application for the \$52,000 funding from DIS for website enhancement. It will be used for a Certification outreach video and tutorial, in coordination with the Office of the Minority Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE), and a Certification translation in five major languages- Chinese mandarin, Chinese Taiwanese, Vietnamese, Korean and Cambodian. These are efficiency measures that can be used effectively in the future; and a small portion of the funding will be allocated for a resource guide in collaboration with the other ethnic commissions and state agencies.
4. CAPAA has just undergone **Audit for 2003 to 2007**. The audit went very well. We have provided you with a copy of the letter from the State Auditor's office.
5. **Korean American Day on January 12-** please help spread the word about it. We have provided you with flyers and posters, and please attend the event.
6. **EDUCATION - SB 5843** – OSPI was given \$270,000 for all the element of DB 5843, which includes the disaggregation of student data. The superintendent of public instruction shall develop a reporting format and instructions for school districts to collect and submit data on student demographics that is disaggregated by distinct ethnic categories within racial subgroups so that analyses may be conducted on student achievement using the disaggregated data- according to the new section- section 5- of the SB 5843. Actions taken were:

Agency Overview

The CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

1. To meet with Senator McAuliffe in February to discuss strategies to extract such information from OSPI. In my previous meetings with staff of OSPI, it was mentioned that they don't have a mandate to disaggregate student data. This meeting was with the Education Ombudsman, Adie Simmons.
 2. Spoke to Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos about it and she confirmed that there was funding for OSPI to disaggregate student data.
 3. Spoke to Senator Steve Hobbs who is has asked OSPI to disaggregate student data.
 4. We should meet with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instructions, Terry Bergeson, to make a follow-up on this particular request, and ask for an update on the questions we had asked from her when she was a guest at one of our board meetings in 2006.
7. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** - Washington State is a great place to start a business. It is the nation's highest rate for new business start-ups. It is number 5 in the nation for small businesses. It is the nation's number 8th state with Asian Pacific Islander businesses. According to the 1997 Economic Census, there are 23,309 API firms in Washington State. The top 3 counties are: King- 14,523; Pierce- 2,461; Snohomish – 1,956. These small businesses offer such services such as: Agricultural, forestry, fishing, mining; construction; manufacturing; transportation; communication; wholesale trade, retail trade; finance; insurance; and real estate. Here is a breakdown of API businesses according to ethnicity:
- o Korean- 5,477
 - o Chinese- 5,241
 - o Japanese – 3,011
 - o Filipino – 2,212
 - o Asian Indians- 1,924
 - o Other Asians -1,885
8. **CERTIFICATION WORKSHOPS** – we have requests for certification workshops in SW Vancouver with the Women of Vietnam, Seattle at the Safeco Jackson Center, and Snohomish with Asian Indian businesses. Out of the two certification workshops in 2007 that CAPAA conducted with OMWBE, at least five have become certified firms, and others have an ongoing application with OMWBE. This is our GMAP measure.
9. **HEALTH CARE** - Languages services in Washington State- Approximately 400,000 immigrants with limited English proficiency go to the hospital or to see their primary care provider regularly and cannot communicate with their health care provider because of their limited English skills Although Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and recent Executive Orders issued by President Clinton and President Bush clarify the legal requirement that health professionals must provide language services, yet many patients still do not receive these services, largely because the question of who pays for interpreter services has not been answered. Few hospitals receive direct reimbursement for language services costs. In Washington State, Medicaid reimburses for interpreter services, however, private businesses and Basic Health DO NOT. The consequence is that, patients

that do access care but do not receive assistance from a medically trained interpreter RECEIVE SUB-STANDARD CARE. Solution: addressing language-based health disparities can and should be the shared responsibility of private, health care providers, interpreter services agencies, and the government. Under the current system, the burden rests mostly on the health care provider, with the state bearing some of the cost for Medicaid patients. This system creates a disincentive for healthcare providers to serve IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE communities.

10. JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

I attended a meeting with API stakeholders about their concerns on the recent Judicial Appointment of Governor Chris Gregoire. They had met with Governor Gregoire and the African American stakeholders about common concerns on No Minority appointments to the bench. Roz Jenkins, executive director of the Commission on African American Affairs, and myself were present at the meeting.

I have set up a meeting for January 3, with Ron Judd, Governor Gregoire's senior policy adviser, Rep. Sharon Tomiko Santos, Bob Santos, Ruth Woo, Dolores Sibonga, Elaine Ko, Richard Mitchell, Megan Owen, from the Governor's office for a continuing dialogue on their concerns on no minority appointments, and work out solutions with the Governor's office on how to approach next vacancies in the superior court and supreme court; and more robust community outreach for recruitment from the Governor's office. Please see attached joint letter from ethnic commissions' executive directors.

There is a meeting set up for January 11 with the Governor's office and minority bar associations' presidents.

11. WASHINGTON NEW AMERICANS INITIATIVE- Letter of Hate Free Zone to Governor Gregoire to express their strong support for the new initiative. This is to ensure a comprehensive, strategic approach to integrating immigrants and their families in Washington State. This is one of CAPAA's legislative priorities for 2008.

12. LEGISLATIVE SESSION – will begin on January 14, 2008. APIC leaders will meet with Governor Gregoire on February 14 at 10:30 am at the Governor's conference room. The meeting with key legislators and APIC leaders is at 2:00 pm at the Senate Rules Room. CAPAA is assisting with the logistics of these meetings.