



In January 2015, CAPAA approved its 2015-2018 strategic plan. CAPAA is approaching the half-way mark. Below is a summary of progress and current work and opportunities to support achieving the strategic plan.

1. CLOSE THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GAPS THAT IMPACT ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN STUDENTS.

Progress

- Advocated for the successful passage of House Bill 1541 to support student success
- Convened community meetings about the opportunity gaps and school discipline
- Launched the Washington State iCount Report, in partnership with the National Commission on AAPI Research in Education, to bring awareness to the range of AAPI student success in school by showing educational data by ethnicity
- Changed the way the State Board for Community & Technical Colleges will report AAPI data

Current Work

- Assist in implementing strategies to close the opportunity gaps as directed in House Bill 1541
- Develop a framework to ensure K-12 schools continue to improve and support student success
- Promote school attendance to reduce the number of students who miss 18+ days of school
- Promote language access resources and family engagement strategies
- Support the two Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander Education Summits this fall

2. GOAL: IDENTIFY HEALTH DISPARITY ISSUES SPECIFIC TO THE ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COMMUNITIES AND SUPPORT IDENTIFICATION AND PROMOTION OF SOLUTIONS.

Progress

- Increased collection of data by AAPI ethnicities on statewide health and behavioral health surveys of students and adults
- Promoted mental health awareness and reduction of stigma through media and workshops
- Raised awareness of stomach cancer as a concern among AAPI communities
- Advocated for increased funding and translated information to prevent underage marijuana use

Current Work

- Improve health equity for the Marshallese community and other Pacific Islanders who are not eligible for health coverage through the federal Medicaid program
- Ensure state/local health agencies utilize AAPI disaggregated data to address health disparities
- Participate on API coalition to prevent tobacco and marijuana use
- Shape statewide strategy plan to address the diabetes epidemic

3. GOAL: SUPPORT ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN BUSINESS OWNERS AND THOSE SEEKING TO START AND MAINTAIN A BUSINESS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE, TOOLS, AND RESOURCES REQUIRED TO BE SUCCESSFUL.

Progress

- Advocated for data on outreach to diverse communities by local economic development organizations
- Governor ordered a statewide study related to minority business utilization and capacity

Current Work

- Advise the Governor's Business Diversity Subcabinet to improve state agency utilization of minority-owned and women-owned business
- Advise the Department of Commerce Minority Business Roundtable to improve opportunities to access capital and technical assistance

Opportunities to Support Achieving our Strategic Plan

Examine the issues impacting APIs

- Invite community members to attend and present at CAPAA board meetings
- Convene community roundtables to discuss issues and identify strategies to address concerns
- Form partnerships to conduct community-based research and analysis of data
- Attend meetings, conferences, and webinars to learn about the issues

Increase knowledge of local and state issues

- Organize community workshops or trainings on how to access and navigate state programs and services
- Invite state and local agencies to engage with your community
- Utilize ethnic media to raise awareness of the issues and opportunities to get involved
- Distribute informational materials at community events and festivals
- Provide periodic updates about CAPAA and API issues to your networks

Advocate for policy changes

- Meet with state and local policymakers to raise awareness of API issues and affect change
- Participate on state task forces and committees to represent community voices
- Partner with API coalitions to advance a cause (examples: Asian Pacific Islander Coalition, API Coalition Advocating Together For Healthy Communities, Northwest Association Of Pacific Americans, and Pacific Islander Health Board)
- Write letters and op-eds advocating for policy changes
- Attend APA Legislative Day in Olympia