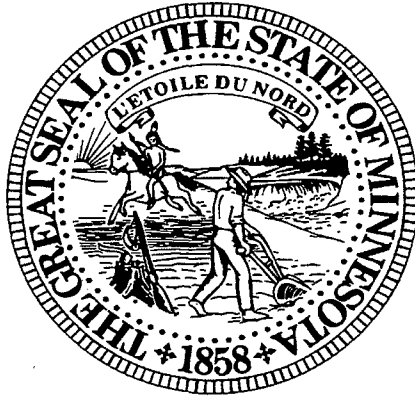


State of Minnesota
Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans

07 - 0283



Biennium Report
Fiscal Years 2005—2006

Submitted to the Governor and the Minnesota State
Legislature in compliance with Minn. Stat. 3.9226, subd. 7.

The mission of the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans is to be an advisor to policymakers, advocate for the community, and a builder of bridges

Asian Pacific Minnesotans

- Asian Pacific Minnesotans account for 204,421 or 4.4% of the state's total population (Census Bureau 2005)
- 42 Asian and Pacific Islanders ethnic groups in MN, with differing religions, languages and cultural practices
- Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders as a racial group is a relatively new recognition and still evolving mostly it is a political identity for political empowerment
- Unity of Purpose – we come together to work towards mutual gain

On behalf of this population, the Council plays the role of advisor, advocate and broker. In these capacities, it deals with problems unique to non-English speaking immigrants and refugees. Serving as a conduit to state government, the Council recommends legislation to the governor and state legislature designed to improve the economic and social condition of all Asian Pacific Minnesotans.

The Council may perform its own research or contract for studies to be conducted for use in developing policy recommendations intended to benefit the Asian Pacific community. Areas of focus may include education, workforce development, violence prevention/intervention, immigration and refugee issues, social welfare, or any other timely matter. For a more thorough understanding of these issues or to facilitate a community dialogue, the Council frequently hosts roundtable discussions, forums and workshops.

Performance Review

Key Highlights

- Developed Strategic Plan that prioritizes the Council's work and resources to best meet the needs of the community and other constituents. Now in 3rd year of implementation
- Provided leadership and coordination on most recent Hmong refugee resettlement to Minnesota (5,000 + total). Collaborated with community organizations and advocacy groups to address and reduce Hmong refugee homelessness
- Partnered with the Legislative Commission on the Economic Status of Women to pass and fund statewide effort to combat and address the real issue of human trafficking.
- Provided advocacy training and leadership development to community based organizations to address the issue of compulsive gambling, mental health, and tobacco cessation across a wide spectrum— training and certification of culturally competent counselors, opening clinics within the community, obtaining institutional funding to help sustain community effort
- Continued to bring visibility and leadership to key social issues: domestic violence, health disparities and basic needs.
- Provided leadership and coordination on economic issues that helped the community become self-sufficient—job training and placement; adult basic education
- Publicized and celebrated the contributions and accomplishment of Asian-Pacific people via the Asian Pacific Leadership Award in conjunction with the annual commemoration of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Major Issues Facing the Community

Economic Disparities

Disadvantage Business

Enterprise Program — The state needs to fully enforce its procurement program. When this issue was last looked at seriously minority owned businesses garnered only 36 million of the state's 2.2 billion procurement dollars, a mere 1.6%.

Small Business Development — small businesses grow and sustain new and emerging communities and are the economic growth engines in neighborhoods and cities. But these businesses and/or entrepreneurs find it hard to obtain financing and other essential services to realize their goals. Financing institutions and programs and the Small Business Administration needs to develop and implement greater outreach and culturally competent services.

Educational Disparities

Although the Twin Cities metropolitan area is blessed with good incomes and high educational attainment rates, some groups and some places are lagging behind. (Mind the Gap) 33 percent of its residents have a bachelors degree or higher, however, only 19 percent of African Americans, 11 percent of Mexicans, and 8 percent of Hmong do. Education and income are directly correlated. Those individuals with an education are able to obtain more highly-skilled jobs, which in turn pay more.

Citizenship & Voting Gap

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are disproportionately foreign-born. In Minnesota, 43% of all foreign-born are naturalized. 57% or a majority of the community have yet to be naturalized. More citizenship education and assistance, voter registration, and get-out-the vote efforts are needed to promote broader civic engagement among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.



Biennium Work Plan

Strengthening Internally

The Council's strategic "architecture" as laid out in our Strategic Plan sets forth strong goals and objectives that we use to track our performance. In the next biennium, it is our intent to continue to relate our goals to our annual performance and to be accountable to doing the job we've laid out.

We want to continue to be financially sound and viable so as to best serve our constituents. We will continue to seek creative resources, collaboration, and partnerships to support our work. We will strengthen and maximize technology tools to communicate and disseminate information about our work and ability to provide and do the needed services.

Responding to the Community

- ◆ Council as convener—host 3 to 4 forums to bring together the community and legislators to discuss the issues and recommend solutions.
- ◆ Provide leadership on "minding the gap" in education, income, and health that exist for the Asian Pacific community. This includes addressing the lagging high school graduation rates for those of refugee backgrounds, increasing the community's access to wealth via homeownership, business development and participation in procurement programs.
- ◆ Provide leadership to engage the community civically by increasing the citizenship and voting rates of Asian Pacific Minnesotans.
- ◆ Stronger Rural Presence—continue to do capacity building with rural communities (St. Cloud, Baudette, Duluth, Rochester, Worthington, and Marshall).

Financial Report FY 2005 & 2006

Revenues		
General Fund (100)	Operations (1005)	483,607
Misc. Sp. Rev. (200)	APC Conf. (1008)	16,480
	APA ComNet Project (2016)	835
	Strategic Planning (2017)	9,165
	AP Dialogue on Racism (2019)	1,650
Gift Fund (690)	CAPM Gift (1002)	11,094
	APA Heritage Month (1008)	30,007
Total		552,838
Expenditures		
Salaries & Benefits		449,059
Space Rental, Maint., Utilities		30,423
Repairs		
Printing & Advertising		2,929
Computer & Systems Service		555
Communications		11,343
Travel & Subsistence-Inst.		1,853
Supplies		4,815
Equipment		4,917
Employee Development		230
Other Operating Costs		45,378
Agency Provided Prof/Tech. S.		175
State Agency Reimbursement		(350)
Statewide Indirect Costs		1,511
Total		552,838

Information provided by MN Department of Administration/Financial Management and Reporting Division.

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