In 1983, Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles (Advancing Justice-LA) was founded to fill the significant legal and advocacy gaps of diverse Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities. In our 34th year, we are proud of our decades of work to expand our communities’ access to justice, and we continue to work to strengthen our collective voice and power.

Without a doubt, 2017 was a challenging year for many of our clients and community members. Ongoing attacks on vulnerable communities — immigrants, the poor, Muslims, people of color, LGBTQ individuals — underscore the need for Advancing Justice-LA’s work, whether it’s individual legal services or impact litigation or advocacy, media strategy or building the capacity of partner organizations.

We are proud of our staff, volunteers, community partners, supporters, and countless others whose dedication to serving vulnerable communities have made this organization thrive. Thanks to your generous support, we will continue to fight back and advance justice for AANHPIs in Los Angeles, Orange County, and beyond.

SINCERELY,

STEWART KWOH NITA SONG
2017 Finances

Assets

- Cash & Cash Equivalents: $1,669,949
- Long-term Investments: $7,923,147
- Grants + Pledges Receivables: $5,001,423
- Property + Equipment, Net: $2,764,653
- Deposits: $18,335
- **TOTAL ASSETS**: $17,377,507

Liabilities

- Accounts Payable: $106,919
- Accrued Employee Benefits: $299,178
- Deferred Revenue: $125,000
- Grants Payable: $1,301,238
- Custodial Funds: $2,414
- **TOTAL LIABILITIES**: $1,834,749

Net Assets

- Unrestricted: $7,415,875
- Temporarily Restricted: $7,126,883
- Permanently Restricted: $1,000,000
- **TOTAL NET ASSETS**: $15,542,758

Total Liabilities and Net Assets: $17,377,507

For more information about our 2017 financials, please visit advancingjustice-la.org.
Regional Offices

Advancing Justice-LA has regional offices in Sacramento and Orange County.

Advancing Justice-LA continues to partner with our sister affiliate Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus to run a very active office in Sacramento to advance state policy that protects immigrant communities amid an increasingly xenophobic national climate.

The Orange County regional office had a momentous year—moving to a new space in Santa Ana, more than doubling staff, expanding programs, and growing local donors and supporters. The Orange County team focuses on citizenship assistance targeting Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese communities, and coalition-building with immigrant rights, Muslim, and other groups to advance immigrant and civil rights issues locally. The Orange County advisory councils have also been very active, helping to launch an individual giving circle and selling out a 400-person luncheon event in May.

In 2017, we opened the doors to our new community space in the San Gabriel Valley, home to over half a million AANHPIs. Located in the heart of the City of Rosemead, this space allows us to continue to expand community education and legal services to low-income and limited English-speaking populations.

For more info about all of our programs, visit advancingjustice-la.org.
Leadership Development

Advancing Justice-LA develops the leadership skills of youth and parents from diverse communities across Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley, so they can impact issues affecting their families.

Our Youth and Parent Leadership Development program trains and mentors youth and adults as they deepen their leadership from service to activism, from participation to facilitation, and from individual growth to community transformation. Youth in several high schools participate in school-based, after-school, and community service activities to support their academic achievement, future college success, and career readiness.

Advancing Justice-LA also fosters positive and sustainable intergroup relations for social change. Our Leadership Development in Intergroup Relations (LDIR) program trains community leaders to collaborate across differences and engage in innovative projects, such as training the Groundlings Theater and launching an arts and activism open mic series.

We proudly support community members organizing for real change in the areas of education, health care, and immigration, including our Asian American and Latino youth leaders who registered and turned out voters, and created a multiracial coalition advocating for reforms in education access. Collectively, Advancing Justice-LA's leadership programs are building a network of engaged community members to help build a movement that positively impacts their families, schools, and neighborhoods.

For more info about all of our programs, visit advancingjustice-la.org.
In 2017, Advancing Justice-LA advocated for the rights of immigrant and Asian American communities to access health care, in-language resources at the polls, higher education, and more.

Protecting health care access was a major priority this year, with repeated attacks in Congress on the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Advancing Justice-LA worked closely with both national partners and our 60+ Health Justice Network members in California to defeat efforts to replace or weaken the ACA, expand our oral and behavioral health access work, and outreach to and enroll eligible community members into health coverage programs, including undocumented children and their families.

Advancing Justice-LA promotes greater access to higher education for all California students, through the 65+ member College for All Coalition we anchor. This year, we championed safe schools for undocumented students and helped implement landmark legislation that improves college access, readiness, and success for all students, particularly those who are low-income and underrepresented.

Amid escalating attacks on immigrant communities, we also worked to protect immigrant communities in California. In coalition with partners led by Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus, we advocated for SB 54, the California Values Act, a pro-immigrant state law that takes a significant step towards disentangling local law enforcement from immigration enforcement.

Advancing Justice-LA also produced critical data and research on Asian Americans voters. In November 2016, we were part of the national Asian American “election eve” poll that provided detailed data on Asian American voters in California, by ethnicity as well by Presidential, Senate, and key ballot measure races. The statewide poll monitoring project resulted in “Voices of Democracy,” a report that highlighted inconsistencies in language access best practices in California’s 2016 Presidential election, and sponsorship of a state bill (AB 918) that would make California the national leader in language accessible elections. Advancing Justice-LA continues to research and advocate for voting rights, including recently producing a report on the above-average rejection rate for Asian American vote-by-mail ballots.

For more info about all of our programs, visit advancingjustice-la.org.
Advancing Justice-LA litigates a range of civil rights cases, with a focus on employment and low-wage worker issues.

This past year, we filed a case on behalf of Vietnamese nail salon workers challenging exploitative labor practices at a popular Orange County nail salon. Through this case, we seek to expose and change these practices which plague the broader nail salon industry — long hours without meal and rest breaks, less than minimum wage and no overtime compensation, unlawful deductions for using equipment and supplies, and working off the clock. In addition, we have represented port truck drivers, medical supply delivery drivers, and other workers in wage theft cases.

Advancing Justice-LA has also been pushing back against any attempts to implement xenophobic and exclusionary policies that discriminate on the basis of faith, national origin, and immigration status. Alongside our partners, we have mobilized against “extreme visa vetting” and demanded transparency for the City of Los Angeles’s acceptance of federal grants under the Countering Violent Extremism program.

In addition, Advancing Justice-LA is defending affirmative action on behalf of Asian American and Pacific Islander applicants and students to Harvard University, which has been sued by opponents of affirmative action and is also under federal investigation. We believe it is critical to defend race-conscious holistic admissions policies, which are separate and distinct from any quotas on or discrimination against Asian Americans.

For more info about all of our programs, visit advancingjustice-la.org.
Direct Services

Advancing Justice-LA helps thousands of immigrants with a range of legal issues including immigration, citizenship, and domestic violence and family law. Through toll-free helplines, we serve clients in seven languages.

We provide free legal assistance to low-income, limited English-speaking immigrants facing domestic violence, including assistance with protective orders, immigration, divorce, and other family law issues. Every year, we aid over 800 abuse survivors, mostly women and children.

Working with both local and national community partners, Advancing Justice-LA assists over 7,000 immigrants with citizenship and immigration applications annually. Following the November 2016 election, we focused on helping undocumented youth “know their rights” and renew their administrative relief (DACA), and expanded legal assistance to immigrants who are detained or in deportation proceedings. Our citizenship team remained extremely busy as many immigrants sought to naturalize to protect themselves and their families.

For our many clinics and workshops, Advancing Justice-LA relies on over 700 wonderful volunteers – interns, fellows, law clerks, and pro bono attorneys – who share their time, expertise, and bilingual skills with us and with our clients. Pro bono attorneys are also instrumental to the success of our litigation cases and other projects.

For more info about all of our programs, visit advancingjustice-la.org.
Our 2017 Reach and Impact

Through over 66 Know Your Rights sessions, we reached an audience of...

9,022 People

6,065 citizenship applicants assisted by Advancing Justice-LA and New Americans Campaign partners across the U.S.

1,560 youth & parents served through school-based programming and leadership development

600 students enrolled in ESL/Civics courses

330 homeowners assisted with foreclosure prevention

20,730 individuals enrolled in state and local health coverage and safety net programs by Advancing Justice-LA and Health Justice Network partners

149,500 individuals educated about state and local health coverage programs by Advancing Justice-LA and Health Justice Network partners
8,163 calls made to legal helplines

1,261 citizenship and immigration clients served by Advancing Justice-OC

860 domestic violence survivors assisted

930 individuals provided with immigration relief consultations

200+ Anti-Asian hate incidents reported on www.StandAgainstHatred.org, Advancing Justice’s hate tracker

757 volunteers, interns, and pro-bono attorneys helped Advancing Justice-LA by contributing over 25,600 hours, worth approximately...

$700,310

$5.45 million
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- United States Department of Justice – Office of Victims of Crime (in collaboration with Thai Community Development Center) ('16-'19)

**$50,000 – $99,999**

- Unitaran Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock ('16-'18)
- W.K. Kellogg Foundation (in collaboration with Asian Americans Advancing Justice – AAJC) ('19-'21)

*Parenthetical references indicate multi-year gifts. Multi-year donors are listed in the category that reflects their cumulative gift. We strive to be as accurate as possible with our donor listings. If we made an error, please let us know by calling (213) 977-2500 or emailing donate@advancingjustice-la.org.*