

# THE ASIAN AMERICAN ACTION FUND

## ELECTING OUR COMMUNITY. POWERING OUR COMMUNITY.

### AAA Fund Board of Directors

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### AAA Fund Honorary Board

US Representative Honda (CA), Chair  
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US Senator Inouye (HI)  
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US Representative Abercrombie (HI)  
US Representative Becerra (CA)  
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US Representative Wu (OR)  
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State Assemblymember Eng (CA)  
State Assemblymember Furutani (CA)  
State Representative Goyal (OH)  
State Delegate Lee (MD)  
State Assemblymember Lieu (CA)  
State Delegate Valderrama (MD)  
State Representative Vo (TX)

### OUR MISSION IS TO

**Encourage** Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) to participate in the political process;

**Empower** the AAPI community to address the severe under-representation of AAPIs in the political life of this country;

**Elect** promising Democratic AAPI candidates and candidates committed to AAPI issues at all levels of government;

**Educate** the media and general public about AAPI issues and political engagement.

Since the AAA-Fund was founded in 2000, we have pursued our mission by identifying qualified Democratic candidates, providing them with financial and technical assistance, and building a nationwide network of activists.

### WHO WE ARE

The AAA-Fund is a national organization with local affiliates in Virginia, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco. We work closely with the National Filipino-American Democratic Council and have a Young Professionals group. The AAA-Fund's Board of Directors, Honorary Board and Advisory Board represent every major AAPI ethnic community nationally.

### WHAT WE DO

The AAA-Fund endorses candidates who have the commitment, conviction and courage to fight for the AAPI community and a better America. It supports candidates at all levels of government by providing financial, technical and grassroots campaign assistance. Since 2000, the national AAA-Fund has endorsed over 60 candidates and raised over \$500,000 for its endorsees. In 2006, over 75 percent of the national AAA-Fund's candidates were elected. In 2008, over 60 percent of AAA-Fund's 38 endorsed candidates were elected.

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### 2009 Endorsed Winner

Councilwoman Susan Shin Argulo (NJ)  
US Rep. Judy Chu (CA)  
State Rep. Mark Keam (VA)

### 2008 Endorsed Winners

US Sen. Franken (MN)  
US Sen. Merkley (OR)  
US Rep. Abercrombie (HI)  
US Rep. Becerra (CA)  
US Del. Bordallo (Guam)  
US Rep. Connolly (VA)  
US Del. Faleomavaega (Samoa)  
US Rep. Green (TX)  
US Rep. Hirono (HI)  
US Rep. Honda (CA)  
Assemblymember Lieu (CA)  
US Rep. Matsui (CA)  
US Rep. McNerney (CA)  
US Rep. Nye (VA)  
US Rep. Peters (MI)  
US Rep. Scott (VA)  
US Rep. Sestak (PA)  
US Rep. Titus (NV)  
US Rep. Wu (OR)  
State Sen. Dandekar (IA)  
State Rep. Fong (CA)  
State Rep. Furutani (CA)  
State Rep. Goyal (OH)  
State Rep. Tong (CT)  
State Rep. Vo (TX)

### OUR PROJECTS

**Elect Democratic Candidates.** The AAA-Fund works to strengthen the Democratic majority in Congress. We concentrate our financial and grassroots campaign resources on battleground states and target congressional races with swing AAPI populations.

**Launch New Affiliates.** The AAA-Fund will continue to add new affiliates across the country with the goal of building a nationwide network of political leaders who give the AAPI community voice and power in every corner of the country. Currently we are setting up an affiliate in Boston.

**Develop Young Professionals:** The AAA-Fund reaches out to young AAPI professionals, and identifies and develops future AAPI political leaders. Through panels and events on professional development, presidential and political campaign appointments and careers on Capitol Hill, the AAA-Fund has played a leadership role in encouraging AAPIs to enter Democratic politics. Due to our exceptional Honorary Board we provide Young Professionals with the unique opportunity to network with elected officials.

**Expand the Blog. BLOG at [www.aaa-fund.com](http://www.aaa-fund.com):** The AAA-Fund operates an award winning blog that provides national dialogue on social and political issues that impact the AAPI community. The blog contains current and unique perspectives on topics from local community news to our nation's economy and healthcare by elected officials, community leaders, policy experts, and students. Lead bloggers include publisher Gautam Dutta and co-editors in chief Caroline Fan, Justin Gillenwater and Richard Chen. With official press credentials, the AAA-Fund blog provided an inside view of the 2008 Democratic National Convention. The blog will continue to add new writers, seek out diverse views, and broaden its readership in anticipation of the 2012 elections. Contact [info@aaa-fund.com](mailto:info@aaa-fund.com) to ask about joining the blog team.

### OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### 2009

- AAA-Fund hosts career panels on campaign and political jobs featuring leading AAPI political professionals who work at the DNC, DCCC and in the Obama Administration.
- AAA-Fund funds a Campaign Fellow to work on Sam Yoon's Mayoral campaign in Boston.
- AAA-Fund endorsee Susan Shin-Angulo becomes America's highest ranking Korean American woman elected.
- Former AAA-Fund Board Member Mark Keam is elected as the first Korean American state legislator in Virginia
- Endorsee Judy Chu becomes the first American Chinese woman elected to Congress.

#### 2008

- AAA-Fund hosts two successful and highly-attended roundtables on Presidential Appointments and Careers on Capitol Hill.
- AAA-Fund launches San Francisco affiliate.
- DNC approves AAA-Fund Blog as one of two AAPI blogs to receive press credentials for the 2008 Democratic Convention and the Blog's elections coverage is recognized and archived by the Library of Congress.
- Los Angeles affiliate hosts Presidential Roundtable featuring 1988 Democratic nominee Michael Dukakis.

#### 2007

- AAA-Fund launches Chicago affiliate.
- Starts blog at [www.aaa-fund.com](http://www.aaa-fund.com)
- Partners with the Filipino American Democratic Council.
- Organizes presidential candidate debate in Los Angeles, and conducts monthly online presidential candidate straw polls featuring statements from each of the major Democratic candidates.

#### 2006

AAA-Fund launches Los Angeles affiliate and Young Professionals group.