



THE ASIAN AMERICAN ACTION FUND

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ELECTING OUR LEADERS. EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY.

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 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 Chicago, Virginia, New York/New Jersey, Boston, Los Angeles and San Francisco/Oakland/San Jose. 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, AAA-Fund has endorsed over 60 candidates and raised over \$500,000 for its endorsees. In 2006, over 75 percent of our candidates were elected. In 2008, over 60 percent of our 38 endorsed candidates were elected. And last November, nearly 70 percent of our endorsed candidates were elected during a difficult year for Democrats.

OUR PROJECTS

Elect Democratic Candidates. The AAA-Fund works to strengthen the Democratic voice 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.

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 career opportunities 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.

2010-12 Endorsed Winners

US Sen. Reid (NV)
US Rep. Chu (CA)
US Rep. Clarke (MI)
US Rep. Connolly (VA)
US Rep. Hanabusa (HI)
US Rep. Honda (CA)
Gov. Abercrombie (HI)
Attorney General Kamala Harris (CA)
CA Board of Equalization Member Yee
CA Senator Lieu

2009 Endorsed Winners

Councilwoman Susan Shin Angulo (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)

Expand the Blog. BLOG at www.aaa-fund.com

The AAA-Fund operates an award-winning Blog that provides national dialogue on social and political issues that directly affect the APIA community and the community-at-large. Recognized by the Library of Congress, 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, Executive Editor Richard Chen, and Editors-in-Chief Caroline Fan and Justin Gillenwater. 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 to ask about joining the Blogteam.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2010: Nearly 70 percent of our endorsed candidates won in November, including Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, US Rep. Colleen Hanabusa, US Rep. Hansen Clarke, Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie, and California Attorney General Kamala Harris. Galvanized support for and successfully drew national media attention to US Rep. Hanabusa's insurgent campaign against a candidate backed by the party establishment. Launched Young Leaders Group. Hosted two career panels on professional opportunities inside the Washington DC Beltway.

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 elected woman. Former AAA-Fund Board Member Mark Keam becomes the first Korean American state legislator in Virginia and endorsee Judy Chu becomes the first American Chinese woman elected to Congress.

2008: AAA-Fund launches Northern California affiliate. AAA-Fund hosts two successful and highly-attended roundtables on Presidential Appointments and Careers on Capitol Hill. 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 inaugurates Chicago affiliate, launches Blog at 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, and organizes press conference with reporters nationwide to speak with elected officials and scholars about a report on APIA political involvement. Three-quarters of AAA-Fund's 24 endorsed candidates are elected.

2005: AAA-Fund launches Virginia affiliate, and successfully engages APIAs across Virginia to elect Governor Tim Kaine in a challenging political climate.

2004: AAA-Fund Board members take the lead in organizing a \$1 million fundraiser for US Sen. John Kerry in Washington, DC. AAA-Fund leaders organize the AAPI Gala at the Democratic National Convention, and support candidates all across the country.

2003: AAA-Fund hosts a Presidential Town Hall meeting featuring front-runner Gov. Howard Dean attracting over 500 AAPI leaders and every major media organization.