

INFLUENCE AND IMPACTS

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API
C O U N C I L

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API Council

General Membership

APA Family Support Services
API Legal Outreach
Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus
Asian Neighborhood Design
Asian Pacific American Community Center
Brightline Defense Project
Center for Asian American Media
Charity Cultural Services Center
Chinatown Community Development Center
Chinese Cultural Center of San Francisco
Chinese for Affirmative Action
Chinese Historical Society of America
Chinese Newcomers Service Center
Chinese Progressive Association
Community Youth Center of San Francisco
Donaldina Cameron House
First Voice
Filipino Community Center
Filipino-American Development Foundation

Gum Moon/Asian Women Resources Center
Japanese Community Youth Council
Japantown Task Force
Kai Ming Head Start
Kimochi
OCA-SF Asian Pacific American Advocates
NICOS Chinese Health Coalition
Nihonmachi Street Fair
Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival
Richmond Area Multi-Services
Samoan Community Development Center
Self-Help for the Elderly
South of Market Community Action Network
Southeast Asian Community Center
The YMCA of San Francisco - Chinatown
Veterans Equity Center
Vietnamese Youth Development Center
Visitacion Valley Asian Alliance
West Bay Pilipino Multi-Service
Wu Yee Children's Services

Steering Committee

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CONTENTS

Executive Summary	4
Overview	5
Findings	6
Coalition Development	6
Advocacy	8
Research & Data	11
Collaborations because API Council	13
Other Strategies	14
Conclusion	15

Executive Summary

The API Council is a 40-member coalition of nonprofit organizations in San Francisco that works in coalition to ensure that underserved Asian & Pacific Islanders' needs are visibly engaged, addressed and represented in policies, research and data collection, and equitable funding allocations, to advance overall healthy communities to enhance and shape San Francisco's continued vibrant evolution. The Asian and Pacific Islander Council (API Council) commissioned Meraki Strategies LLC, to conduct a strategic review of the impact of the coalition to date, and to quantify their overarching successes to both the general membership and external stakeholders who have been invested in the progress and success of the API Council since its formation in 2013.

Four key findings are summarized below that weave the impact of the API Council over the past five years. This network creates opportunities not only for Asian and Pacific Islanders living in San Francisco, but for the city of San Francisco to strengthen the plight of low-income and underserved communities to contribute to the evolution and growth of our city. Accompanying these core findings are case studies that highlight the impact of these strategies.

Within this vision, we note in the findings that 1) **the coming together of almost 40 organizations is a historic evolution of API collective power in San Francisco in working to promote health and wellness equity for the API community as a whole.** The API Council unites all the neighborhoods of San Francisco, ethnic communities and issue areas, to promote fair, inclusive and meaningful engagement of underserved APIs to strengthen the vibrancy of San Francisco. 2017 marks five years where the API Council has palpable political and citywide recognition as a broad representative coalition sensitive to diverse API community needs.

The next finding highlights the use of 2) **advocacy as a strategy that has garnered an additional \$5 million dollars over 5 years to underserved API communities in San Francisco that have improved equity in health and wellness.** Strength in numbers rings true for the API Council, and in their value-proposition they have developed for their advocacy work directed towards policy-makers has primarily benefited underserved API constituents. The policy-makers have come to recognize, respect and even anticipate this budget advocacy process from the API Council at every step in the city's budget process every year. So support strong advocacy, the API Council has 3) prioritized research and data collection to share the stories of their community. In doing so, the **API Council released its first published report about the Health and Wellness of APIs in San Francisco in 2014.** Important to note, this is the first comprehensive report about the State of APIs in San Francisco in over 30 years. Additional data about the high rates of poverty among the API community was released recently by the city's office of Human Services Agency underlying the unmet needs of high rates of poverty in these communities.

The final key finding speaks to the 4) **numerous policy and service projects that have evolved from the emergence of API Council.** As relationships between members deepen, issues and strategies to address underserved APIs with thought partnership and perspectives

are exchanged, gaps and opportunities emerged to produce over six collaborative partnerships that were shaped and funded.

In summary, the API Council as a citywide coalition has been successful through its multi-prong approach. They have quality and reputable member involvement, and leadership that has increased the needs and resources of underserved APIs in San Francisco. The API Council will continue to evolve, capturing their continued impacts to promote equity to impact health and wellness of the API community in San Francisco.

Overview

The API Council is a 40-member coalition of nonprofit organizations in San Francisco that works in coalition to ensure that underserved Asian & Pacific Islanders' needs are visibly engaged, addressed and represented (in policies, research and data collection, and equitable funding allocations) to advance overall healthy communities to enhance and shape San Francisco's continued vibrant evolution. Collectively, these organizations serve approximately 250,000 APIs annually. The API Council unites all the neighborhoods of San Francisco, ethnic communities and issue areas, to promote fair, inclusive and meaningful engagement of underserved APIs to strengthen the vibrancy of San Francisco. Using vehicles of policy/advocacy, research/data and network development which has leveraged relationships, partnerships, and political power to enable the API Council to be the go-to API counseling entity for policy-makers, administrators and elected officials in city and beyond.

The API Council commissioned Lina Sheth of Meraki Strategies, LLC to conduct a strategic review of their impact to date, and to quantify their overarching successes to both the general membership and external stakeholders who have been invested in the progress and success of the API Council since its formation in 2013. This report is part of a strategic plan developed in 2015 and an effort to further understand the API Council's strategic direction funded by the City of San Francisco, Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs (OCEIA).

A mixed method approach was utilized with a combination of quantitative survey instrument implementation, key informant interviews, document review and direct observation. Literature about Coalition development for systems and policy change was also reviewed to place the API Council's finding into the context of the general field. The survey tool was developed and administered using survey monkey to the membership. 24 of 38 (63%) organizations answered the tool-- fairly consistent response for this group through this method from past tool administration. Additionally, 16 interviews were held with key-informants across the membership to understand the impact of the API Council more deeply on the key-informant, their organizational work, and the API Council as a whole. Strategic and key documents were reviewed along with direct observation at steering committee and general membership meetings.

Findings

The findings for this report are structured to encompass four key findings related to mission impact the API Council has achieved to date. The four areas described in further detail relate to 1) Coalition development 2) Advocacy 3) Research and data and 4) Collaborations that emerged because of the API Council.

1) Coalition Development

The coming together of almost 40 organizations is a historic formation of API collective power in San Francisco in working to promote health and wellness equity for the API community as a whole.

A key finding in this report synthesizes the coalition development approach and framework of the API Council. Historically there have been ethnic or issue specific collaborations and coalitions in Chinatown, Japantown and among Filipino and Pacific Islander organizations in San Francisco. But not until 2013, did coalition development occur to form the API Council.

2017 marks five years where the API Council has palpable citywide recognition as broad coalition that advocates for diverse and unmet API community needs. The Council remains steadfast on deepening its impact to not just improve the lives of underserved APIs, but to contribute to the vibrancy of city of San Francisco. Several key informants interviewed stated, *“The formation of the API Council, itself, is historic.”* Another one elaborated more deeply, *“APIs have lived in San Francisco for generations, and contributed to the arts and culture that make the city unique, and yet we have never witnessed a network like this one.”*

The API Council expanded in 2013 from the Chinatown Budget Coalition, which was formed in 2009, in reaction to the recession, and impending budget cuts that would have devastating impacts to underserved and low-income Chinese communities. Many readers may not believe that the Chinese organizational network was not well oiled and networked in 2009, but this has been largely the case, until 2010. There was some historical distrust among organizations in Chinatown but through the formation of the Chinese Budget Coalition and then expansion to the API Council, relationships and trust were re-established and strengthened. As one member describes, *“There was some critical brokers that needed to come together in the Chinese community and without them at the table, I know an API Council type entity would not exist nor would it be so successful.”* In expanding to include Japanese, Filipino, Vietnamese, Korean and Pacific Islander groups across all districts in the city, the API Council was also able to establish trust and working relationships across these different ethnic communities in different neighborhoods.

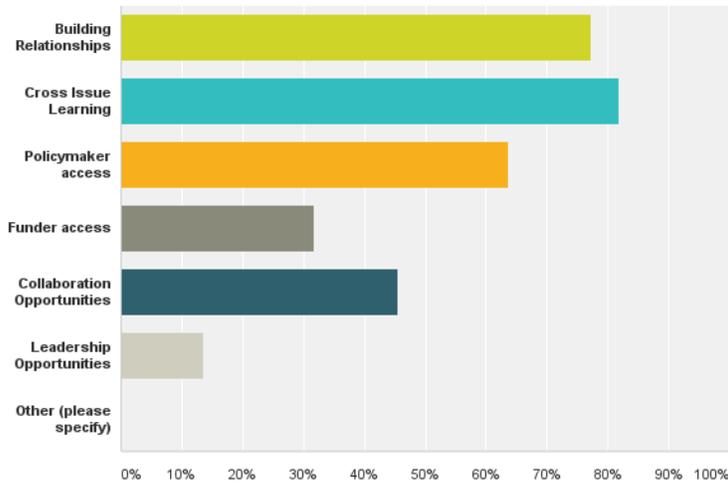
Clear focus on budget advocacy to mitigate core service funding for underserved APIs created a clear direction for the API Council in its immediate formation. The possibility of devastating budget cuts to core life-affirming services became a touchstone of organizing, coalition building and leadership network development for the API nonprofit sector in San Francisco.

Membership is comprised of almost 40 nonprofits that serve across economic and workforce

development, health, human services, youth and family services, senior services, education, affordable housing, and the arts. When membership was surveyed to assess the biggest benefit of membership, the table below shares the top findings.

Q2 What has been the biggest benefit of being part of API Council for you or your agency?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 2



As some members report, *“The relationships have become deeper and more engaging. I never knew what some organizations did prior to becoming a member of the Council. Now I can even call someone when I see an opportunity to leverage resources. For instance, we recently invited Chinese for Affirmative Action to come to our agency in the Tenderloin to educate our staff about Know Your Rights in this new federal era, so they could help our clients better.”*

Additional Benefits of Membership

- ✓ Membership has built trust to leverage personal and political capital
- ✓ Increased resources and capital for underserved APIs across the city
- ✓ Improved cross-issue sharing and understanding to such as new federal immigration policies and threats, and access to affordable housing that threatens API health and wellness
- ✓ Increased capacity of individual members with policy/advocacy strategy and tactics at the city level
- ✓ Engaged new members from other sectors such as the Health or Arts & Culture
- ✓ Smaller ethnic groups have been able to leverage new political capital
- ✓ Smaller API ethnic groups have been able to leverage new political capital

The API Council has a strong and recognized leadership led by two Co-Chairs, a governance steering committee and two functioning task forces, active monthly membership meetings and a full-time, Director on staff, Cally Wong, supported by two strategic consultants. The Steering Committee ensures the broader API health and wellness agenda is taken into account broader

than membership needs, equity across neighborhood needs especially as API demographics have and continue to shift.

The API Council has been able to raise over \$530,000 in the past 3 years to formalize its coalition structure and membership, produce a 3-year strategic plan to 2020, focus and leverage mission impact of the API Council, and contribute to increased awareness, understanding and resource allocation for API underserved communities through policy/advocacy and formative research. They have been successful in raising these funds through citywide resources particularly OCEIA and the Mayor's Office of Housing & Community Development, some private foundations and membership dues.

Case Study - API Council as a Hub for Smaller Networks

This case study showcases how the API Council becomes an organizing "Hub" for other smaller networks or informal groups interested in impacting inequities in API communities. The API Health Parity Coalition (APIHPC) was formed ten years ago to ensure health equity for APIs. The coalition has both public, nonprofit and private partners working closely together, with a governing steering committee and part-time staff supporting the coalition's activities. Many active members of this coalition are also part of the API Council. In 2015, the API Health Parity Coalition approached the API Council to become members, which was ratified in 2016, and they are now serve as subcommittee on Health for the API Council. APIHPC has a policy agenda that focuses largely on administrative policy change; and being part of a larger entity that sweeps across many issues areas, APIHPC feels that advocacy may be easier to achieve than going alone.

A loose affiliation of API Arts and Cultural groups also has used the API Council as an organizing Hub for political power and policy change. Many of these groups have since become members of the API Council. Based Supervisor Eric Mar's study on API Arts and Culture Funding in 2015, many Arts and culture groups were ignited to organize where historically have lacked a unified voice to advocate for greater API art programs in mainstream arts organizations, opportunities for individual API artists and dedicated funding from city arts agencies for API art organizations. During 2016, many of these arts and cultural groups became part of an organizing effort to ensure increased funding would be allocated to grassroots ethnic arts funding through a Ballot Initiative related to the Hotel Tax Initiative. This mobilized groups that were API artists and artist groups, neighborhood arts initiatives and arts and cultural centers that preserve and promote API arts and cultural heritage. Many of these arts and culture groups were not in coalition or collaboration with each other and API Council worked as a facilitator and Hub to this loose network. The arts and culture group are still defining their vision and being incubated within the API Council.

2) Advocacy

Using an advocacy approach to increase awareness of unmet needs with underserved APIs has improved health and wellness. Central to ensuring resource equity in unserved API communities across the city, the API Council has been very successful with using a highly organized approach in their advocacy strategy by garnering an additional \$5 million dollars over

the past 3 years. Developing or deepening relationships with key City and County Board of Supervisors and their staff across all districts, the Mayor and his staff at the Mayor's office, and City Department key directors and their staff, has contributed to the API Council's success in establishing a credible, representative and united voice for API unmet needs. The policy-makers have come to recognize, respect and even anticipate this budget advocacy process from the API Council at every step in the budget process every year.

Instead of individual voices, a singular voice encompasses the top priority community needs and has mitigated budget cuts, added additional funding to existing funded programs, and supported new programs including capital investments from the city. This budget advocacy success, important to recall, at a time in 2010 when the recession had fully hit the City of San Francisco and tough implications were clearly written that would impact many underserved residents in the city, including underserved APIs and the nonprofit sector. The API Council also is a member of other budget coalitions and partnership when the pathways align.

Some members share the benefits of coming together advocate to policy-makers through the API Council, which included how smaller ethnic communities gained access to stronger political voice as API vs. solely Vietnamese. One members describes: *"The budget advocacy work the API Council does is so hopeful to making sure programs stay intact to help our Vietnamese communities. We are a small community in the Tenderloin but can use the political voice of the API Council to get our needs met better."* Another member described how relationships with board of supervisors across the city was leveraged across every district in coalition vs. individual organization with, *"Because APIs live in every single district in San Francisco, the API Council is critical because we can reach out and partner with every Board of Supervisors we may not have access to from one district to another."* And finally, one member described how their agency didn't get pitted against another individual agency when budget cuts occurred and the API Coalition protected and presented a unified front for API communities. He says, *"As a small agency, we thought joining the API Council is good because while we only had relationships with our Board of Supervisor in our district and the Mayor's office, we became protected with a unified budget presentation to policy-makers from cuts in our individual budgets and it didn't pit us individually against each other as agencies when cuts came down."*

The API Council has also been a central place for education and coordination about important City policy and ballot issues, which affects API communities. For example, API youth and child care organizations were able to coordinate input on the 2015 Children's Fund or the health care organizations were able to share knowledge and positions about the 2016 proposed Soda Tax, or the arts groups were able to educate non-arts organizations about the 2016 Hotel Tax measure to expand arts funding to promote API culture and arts.

Benefits of United Advocacy Approach for the API members and constituents

- ✓ Over \$5 million dollars mitigated funding cuts, expanded programs or supported new programs to underserved APIs
- ✓ An additional 30,000 underserved APIs were reached with these additional resources that were underfunded or unmet needs

- ✓ Credible, representative and united advocacy body for APIs in San Francisco
- ✓ Increased resources to underserved APIs in high need neighborhoods
- ✓ Smaller ethnic communities gain access to a larger political forum and gain access to a broader advocacy network of influence
- ✓ Smaller nonprofit organizations serving underserved APIs are more protected from budget cuts vs. presenting budget advocacy as individual entities
- ✓ Relationships across the districts may be leveraged at the policy-maker level, which elevates the advocacy effort's success.
- ✓ Capacity is built and deepened across the API Council and individual organizations in advocacy/policy.

Success of API Council's advocacy translates to increased resources for underserved APIs to improve health and wellness. Over the past three years, an additional \$5 million dollars has served over 30,000 individuals. An array of critical services for low-income and marginalized APIs were retained or added through this advocacy approach that sustained core services for the community at-large. They range from life affirming mental and health care to job readiness and worker development placement and training, bolstering youth development, and API culture and arts activities are just some of the services. Listed below are the diverse sample of services.

Sampling of Types of Services provided with the Additional Resources

housing case management for low-income families and seniors	workforce engagement and development in hospitality
English as a second language and job readiness for English language learners	enhance adult workforce development in language towards financial independence
youth workforce development services	gambling prevention and treatment services
legal services for API domestic victim survivors mental health capacity development to provide services	Safety and keeping Chinatown alleyways clean
neighborhood planning and preservation for Japantown	SRO families engagement in Chinatown, Tenderloin, SOMA and Mission on housing safety
housing case management for low-income families and seniors	nutritious meals for low-income seniors
health care access and family planning for APIs in Tenderloin	strategic planning and implementation of the Filipino Cultural Heritage District
STEAM summer program and culture opportunities for Filipino high-risk youth	multicultural youth development services in the Bayview Hunters Point
workforce development of limited English proficient through culinary program	know your tenants rights education to prevent evictions

The growth in membership of the API Council is largely built on their success on a united call for attention for the unmet needs of underserved APIs in San Francisco. The advocacy to ensure core services that alleviate poverty and equity of resources are sustained or grown is a key mission point of the API Council.

API Council is directly reviewing and taking positions on San Francisco Ballot Initiatives since 2015. API Council has developed an internal debate and voting process and officially endorsed positions on Ballot Initiatives, often most aligned to the mission impact of serving underserved API communities.

Case Study: The Revitalization of Japantown

This case study presented showcases how advocacy and relationship building through the API Council has a direct impact on the revitalization of Japantown. The Peace Plaza in Japantown today is a cultural symbol of the Japanese American community and the long-standing contribution to the diverse vibrancy of San Francisco. Redevelopment in Japantown occurred in the late 1960's and during this period, Japanese American residents were dislocated to other parts of the city and beyond. It is now acknowledged that the Peace Plaza's design, construction and development were faulty to begin with, and over the years, the space has fallen into disrepair. The fountains were never functional and there are regular leaks within the plaza that have rarely been fixed. With the platform the API Council has established, key Japantown members used their voice to bring their long-term concerns to the Mayors and Board of Supervisors offices in a cogent advocacy process.

The Japantown Task Force works closely with city agencies, including Parks and Recreation who owns this land, Department of Public Works who is responsible for maintenance and repair, and Municipal Transportation Agency who manages the garage below, along with Supervisor Breed of District 5. Using a budget advocacy process through the API Council secured initial resources in 2016 from the Mayor's office for Phase I - A Comprehensive Analysis with Forensic Demolition of redevelopment for the Peace Plaza Mall, which is now complete. Phase II will complete the renovation by 2020.

The advocacy platform of the API Council elevated the public commitment and financial resources from the Mayor's office and across the Board of Supervisors to renovate and redevelop the Peace Plaza. Had the Japanese American community gone directly, which they had tried for several years, the process may have occurred, albeit , slower and not as well resourced. Using the API Council has elevated this critical project and moved it to completion more quickly.

3) Research & Data

The API Council's Health and Wellness Report released in 2014 was the first comprehensive report about the State of APIs in San Francisco in over 30 years.

Given that Asian and Pacific Islander communities have long histories and form the largest community of color of 32% today of San Francisco's population, this is a surprising fact. What the report also included were critical facts about unmet needs of API communities outlined in the box below:

- Asian & Pacific Islanders make up 32% of the total population in San Francisco.
- 42% of low-income residents in San Francisco are APIs (100% of the Federal Poverty

Level).

- Between 2007-2012, APIs experienced the largest increase in poverty rates of all ethnicities by 43%.
- In Chinatown, overcrowding in households is 5 times greater than the rest of the city.
- When comparing a general 5.4% unemployment rate, Asians have a 7.3% rate and Pacific Islanders have a 14.2% rate which are substantially higher.

While this report was used to increase visibility and awareness with decision-makers, there was a clear and active strategy to engage philanthropy with these clear unmet needs. To date, only one private foundation has stepped forward to support an API Council project; and surprisingly there has been little traction to support the coalition's development and core foundation where most often philanthropy funds. There has been surprise and deep disappointment in the lack of progress in this sector with one member stating, *"I am surprised how the philanthropic sector doesn't fund our core efforts to build our voice and power to ensure the core unmet needs of our API communities are included in data, policy and resource allocation."*

This data has been further corroborated by utilization data report produced by Human Services Agency in the fall, 2016, which illustrates that:

- 42% of low-income residents in San Francisco are APIs (100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)).
- Chinese families make up 32% of the low-income residents in San Francisco (100%FPL).
- While many public assistance programs exist to support families and children in poverty, it appears that only 14% of Chinese families use Cal works, making this population the lowest users of Cal works of any group.

Research and data analysis is critical to understanding equity and parity of resources to API communities particularly as economic displacement for low-income API residents become a reality. A 2016 Policy Link report predicted that San Francisco's racial diversity will decline from its current 58% minority population, to 45% by the year 2040, with the API population declining from 34% to under 28%, due primarily to income inequality, housing costs and housing displacement. While the report was sobering enough in its projections, there is great fear in all minority communities that new policies from the Trump Administration will make the future of San Francisco's racial and economic diversity even worse.

Additionally, given the imminent threats to immigrants in this new federal era, both undocumented and documented, understanding the impact will be critical to document along with other strategies. Fighting for the rights of the API undocumented, which encompass over one third of San Francisco's estimated 33,000 undocumented population, and maximizing both new affordable housing and housing preservation, are obvious strategies toward this end.

4) Collaborations Because of the API Council

Multiple policy and service projects have emerged from API Council. While many organization-to-organization collaborations pre-existed among some of the organizations, some new ones have emerged over the past few years. As relationships between members deepen, issues and strategies to address underserved APIs with thought partnership and perspectives are exchanged, gaps and opportunities emerged to produce over six collaborative partnerships that were developed and funded.

Some key collaborations that have emerged are:

Greening and Open Space Use in Chinatown through two collaborations, focused on improving access to safe and open recreational spaces in one of the most densely populated areas in California. Today 2 playgrounds and clubhouses have re-opened and a neighborhood preservation fund of \$40 million and Chinatown Parks Endowment for \$12 million will be established.

Early Childhood Services focuses on co-locating services between APA Family Services and Chinatown YMCA serving hundreds of pre-school aged children over the past 3 years.

Mental Health Supportive Services in Public Housing focuses on co-locating licensed and supportive mental health services from APA Family Services into CCDC's Ping Yuen Public Housing that started in 2016.

SRO Living Room collaborative between Chinatown YMCA and CCDC's Ping Yuen Public Housing, focuses on using the YMCA's space to support SRO families to build their own network, increase their mental and physical health, and improve their children's opportunities for growth and development.

Small Business Development collaborative between Southeast Asian Community Center (SEACC), City College of San Francisco and Self-Help For the Elderly focuses on increasing English as Second Language Vocational Job training and placement, and small business development for Vietnamese immigrants in the Tenderloin.

Training and Workshops on health coverage and immigrants between NICOS Chinese Health Coalition and Chinese for Affirmative Action.

These types of collaborations that support long standing changes in the system around green space and housing preservation to providing key wrap-around services to maintain families in public housing are critical strategies to actualize on the high functioning opportunities beyond the API Council provides and build equity for underserved APIs in San Francisco.

Case Study: Greening and Open Space in Chinatown

This case study looks deeper at the Greening of Chinatown. San Francisco's Chinatown has the least amount of safe and open space for community-wide use in California. Along with residential overcrowding at 24.4% compared to 5.1% for the rest of the city, Chinatown houses the highest density of residents in the city by five times. From a health equity lens, the lack of access to safe and open recreational spaces has an elevated risk of chronic disease burden such as diabetes, cancer, obesity and heart disease. Simply put, there are limited spaces for underserved and low-income residents to partake in regular habitual exercise, fresh air and social interaction that mitigate these disease disparities.

Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC), Self-Help for the Elderly (SHE) and Community Youth Center of San Francisco (CYC) came together in a historic collaboration to work on this critical issue facing young children, families and seniors living in Chinatown, and work with the City Parks and Recreation Department to re-open two clubhouses and playgrounds that had been shut for many years. For over two years now, the open spaces serve over 80,000 residents and visitors to the neighborhood every year.

Building on the success of this, seven organizations came together in Chinatown to negotiate a community benefits agreement with the Transbay towers. These organizations include CCDC, Kai Ming, Portsmouth Garage, CYC, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, SHE, and the Committee on Better Recreation and Parks. While developers tried to negotiate individual agreements with some of these organizations, because the API Council was in place, the collaborative had strong allied relationships and would not be swayed individually. This community benefit will result in a Downtown Neighborhoods Preservation Fund resulting in \$40 million for Housing Preservation and the Creation of a Chinatown Parks Endowment of \$12 million.

Without the API Council, this Fund probably would have been negotiated by one or two organizations. With large dollars, the API Council fostered value-based collaboration increasing the quality and respect among members, partners and funders.

Case Study: Workforce Development among Vietnamese community

This case study looks at a service gap revealed and how three partners came together to support self-sufficiency and poverty alleviation. A key solution to poverty amongst the immigrant, low-income Vietnamese community was workforce development. The multiple language barriers to English and the cultural assimilation place these immigrants in low wage jobs or unemployment. Southeast Asian Community Center (SEACC), based in the Tenderloin, partnered with SHE and City College of San Francisco to support ESL vocational training, job counseling and placement in small businesses for the Vietnamese community. The program has been successful in building SEACC's capacity in vocational workforce development as a community resource. Together, the partners elevated the worker readiness and economic contribution of the Vietnamese community while creating self-sufficiency. This program has been funded by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development through API Council's budget advocacy process with approximately \$345,000 over the past 3 years.

Other strategies to drive impact

Media Advocacy

API Council has used some media advocacy and public awareness raising tools such as traditional media and has produced six digital stories to highlight unmet needs of the API community. The API Council has a website but little social media presence and should look to strengthening this strategy over time.

Emerging Policy/Advocacy Strategies

While API Council has relied heavily on influencing elected policymakers, the Council also recognizes that administrative policymaker influence is necessary to ensure underserved APIs

are included in department level plans and resource allocation. Recently, the API Council hosted a reception for the new appointed Chief of Police highlighting neighborhood safety and crime issues in their districts. A partnership strategy is being further developed. Human Services Agency also attended a recent API Council general membership meeting to initiate a partnership and identifying strategies for very low-income APIs to access key public benefits, such as Cal works and others, to alleviate extreme poverty in these communities. These types of partnerships with city administrators will be key to long -term goals and sustainability to meet unmet needs of underserved APIs in San Francisco.

Conclusion

Highlighted throughout this report points to significant impacts the API Council has facilitated for underserved Asian and Pacific Islanders in San Francisco over the past five years. Through their unified and strategic approach, the success of their strategies are clear. The API Council has quality and reputable member involvement and leadership that has increased the needs and resources of underserved APIs in San Francisco. As the API Council evolves in capturing their continued impacts to promote equity in health and wellness for the API community.