Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019 Statement of Principles

As the Legislature continues its work in meeting the state’s needs, we urge the legislature to raise sufficient revenues through progressive measures such as the Governor’s proposed capital gains tax that will make our tax system—the most regressive in the nation—fairer for the residents of our state.

The APA community is deeply concerned about the devastating impact of climate change in our state and home countries. We are already seeing devastating wildfires in our state as well as typhoons in Asia that are unprecedented in strength and frequency. Our Pacific Islands are being threatened with extinction because of rising sea levels. Our state and our country must act immediately to lower carbon emissions before the impacts of climate change become irreversible.

The Legislature should continue to make investments in our mental health system, including ensuring that Western State Hospital meets federal standards. That must be accompanied by investments in community-based programs that will keep people in their communities and out of more costly hospital care.

We condemn the Trump administration’s anti-immigrant policies, including the executive orders banning immigrants and refugees from majority Muslim countries, penalizing low-income immigrants for using public benefits, and restricting access to a naturalization fee waiver. These policies have created fear and anxiety in our communities and have stoked actions of hate and racism against many of our community members. Nearly 70% of APAs in our country are foreign born. Most of us came to the United States as it has been seen as the beacon of hope and opportunity for millions of immigrants during its entire history.

We commend Governor Inslee’s comments and his affirmation that this state welcomes refugees and immigrants. We also applaud Attorney General Bob Ferguson’s aggressive legal challenges against the Trump administration’s executive orders. We hope the Governor will further deepen his commitment to immigrant and refugee communities by supporting legislation to end inappropriate collaboration between federal immigration authorities and local and state law enforcement that is tearing apart communities.

The legislature should also increase funds for programs that help refugees and immigrants in our state, including the naturalization program and the Limited English Proficiency Program, which helps refugees and immigrants obtain job skills. We are thankful for the 2018 decision to provide healthcare for many COFA nation Pacific Islanders in our state and hope the state government will support their access to dental coverage as well.

The APA community is especially sensitive to any discriminatory policy that singles out a group on the basis of ethnicity or religion given the history of the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II and the long history of the Chinese Exclusion Act, as well as the ban on Asian and Arab immigrants in 1924.

Our community knows only too well the tragic consequences of policies that single out groups of people based upon their religion, nationality or race. Such policies have been based on false assumptions and facts, and on bigotry and fear. These policies have turned out to be misguided, ineffective, and devastating to the targeted groups. These policies are contrary to basic American values and should not be part of our political discourse.
# Table of Contents

## Immigrants & Refugees: Naturalization, Employment, and Rights
- Naturalization Services 03
- Limited English Proficient (LEP) Pathway 04
- Dental Coverage for Elderly Immigrants 05
- Dental Coverage for Pacific Islanders 06
- Keep Washington Working Act 07
- Legal Defense Fund 08

## Education
- Reestabishment of Affirmative Action 09
- Ethnic Studies 10

## Other Items
- Tax Reform 11
- 2020 Census 12

## Voting Access
- Postage Paid Ballots 13

## Environmental Justice
- HEAL Act 14

## Adoptee Rights
- Adoptee Citizenship Resolution 15

## Capital Projects
- Wing Luke Homestead Homes Project 16
- ICHS Bellevue Clinic Expansion 17
- AiPACE Washington 18
- Filipino Community of Seattle 19
- SCIDpda North Lot Project 20
TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should support the Governor's proposal to increase funding by $1,000,000 from $1,657,000 to $2,657,000 per fiscal year.

SUMMARY

- In 1996, federal welfare reform made thousands of legal immigrants and refugees ineligible for federal benefits such as food stamps, SSI, and Medicaid until they became citizens.
- In response, Washington State implemented a naturalization program through DSHS' ORIA to help immigrants and refugees become citizens, thus making them eligible for federal benefits and not dependent on state programs such as Disability Lifeline and state food assistance.
- Naturalization services include assistance in completing the USCIS N-400 Application for Naturalization and fee waiver requests; classes in American history and civics as well as English language training needed for the citizenship test; and interview preparation.
- Refugees and immigrants served by the Naturalization program are predominantly elderly or disabled; most know little or no English.
- The Naturalization program is one of the most cost-effective programs funded by the state.
- According to estimates from the City of Seattle, the Naturalization program saves the state about $4 for every dollar spent on the program by making refugees and immigrants eligible for federal assistance instead of relying on state benefits.
- Many current ORIA service providers have indicated higher demands for services due to the recent anti-immigrant political climate and have expended funding before the end of the fiscal year.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Limited English Proficient (LEP) Pathways

TAKE ACTION:

The Legislature should support the Governor’s proposal to increase LEP Pathway funding by $592,000 from $1,774,000 to $2,366,000 per fiscal year.

SUMMARY:

- The Limited English Proficient (LEP) Pathway’s primary goal is to promote economic self-sufficiency for refugees and immigrants through job training, job search, English as a Second Language (ESL) programs, work supports, and social services.

- The program serves limited English speakers who are work authorized and receive TANF or Refugee Cash Assistance as well as other newly arrived limited English speaking refugees who’ve been living in the U.S. less than five years.

- The program has a demonstrated record of success; LEP clients are placed in jobs at a rate equal to that of regular TANF clients.

- LEP clients have a greater monthly income and work more hours than TANF clients.

- The new refugees and immigrants have more barriers to employment; many are illiterate in their own language.

- Refugees and immigrants with little or no English-speaking ability could benefit from intensive ESL classes.

- From 2015 to 2016, Washington State experienced a 34% increase in overall refugee arrivals, which was higher than the national increase of 21%. During the summer and fall of 2016, the average number of arrivals per month increased from 243 in 2015 to 325. During the first three months of the federal fiscal year 2017, the average monthly arrival count was over 500 refugee arrivals.

- The LEP Pathway currently receives $2,366,000 annually in state funds, a significant reduction from pre-recession funding, when the program received a 50% reduction in 2011.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Dental Coverage for Elderly Immigrants

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should appropriate $250,000 to the Aged Blind and Disabled Program per fiscal year.

SUMMARY

- In 2014, the legislature restored dental coverage for all adults on Medicaid. Over 700,000 adults now have access to dental care.

- However, there is one group of vulnerable adults who still are not eligible for dental care--about 2000 mostly elderly and some disabled adults on the Aged Blind and Disabled program receiving $197 per month.

- These elderly and disabled adults are immigrants who are not eligible for Medicaid because they are not citizens.

- Untreated oral disease can have serious health consequences such as heart disease and stroke. For diabetics, gum disease can lead to blindness, amputation and kidney disease.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019  
Dental Coverage for Pacific Islanders

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should ensure that Washingtonians from COFA nations who are income-eligible for Medicaid have access to dental care.

SUMMARY

- Under the Compact of Free Association (COFA), citizens of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau may live and work in the United States and serve in the U.S. military.

- The United States has had a special relationship with COFA nations because it conducted 67 nuclear bomb tests in the Marshall Islands between 1946 and 1958 and, under the Compact, the U.S. maintains military bases there.

- Even though citizens of COFA nations may live and work in the U.S. and serve in the U.S. military, they are ineligible for Medicaid even if their income is below 133% of the federal poverty level, the income threshold for the program.

- Oral health care helps people live healthy lives and be free of unnecessary pain and suffering. But oral health care is not affordable or accessible to everyone.

- HB 1291 / SB 5683 (adopted in March 2018) created the COFA Islander Health Care program, which provides access to medical care to Washingtonians from COFA nations who would be income-eligible for Medicaid. The program launches on January 1, 2019. Dental coverage is not included in the program.

- This proposal reduces oral health inequities experienced by Pacific Islander Washingtonians from COFA nations and advances racial equity by providing Medicaid health benefit parity for a community which has been negatively impacted by institutionalized racism.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Keep Washington Working Act

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should pass the Keep Washington Working Act.

SUMMARY

- Washington State is home to nearly one million immigrants (or one in every seven people).

- Immigrants make up 16% of the workforce and 15% of all business owners in the state. Washingtonians benefit from their significant contributions to the economy.

- Washington should remain a place where the rights and dignity of all residents are maintained and protected.

- This bill would direct state and local law enforcement to not use resources for immigration enforcement to:
  - Inquire into immigration or citizenship status, or place of birth;
  - Respond to notification and transfer requests from federal immigration authorities;
  - Respond to requests for no publicly available personal information about an individual including, but not limited to, information about the person’s release date, home address, or work address for immigration enforcement purposes;
  - Make arrests based on civil immigration warrants;
  - Give federal immigration authorities access to interview individuals in agency or department custody;
  - Perform the functions of an immigration officer, or deny services, benefits, privileges, or opportunities to individuals in custody, or under community custody or probation status, on the basis of the presence of an immigration detainer, hold, notification request, or civil immigration warrant;
  - Place peace officers under the supervision of federal agencies or employ peace officers deputized as special federal officers or special federal deputies, except to the extent those peace officers remain subject to Washington law governing conduct of peace officers and the policies of the employing agency; or
  - Transfer an individual to federal immigration authorities for purposes of immigration enforcement or detain an individual at the request of federal immigration authorities for purposes of immigration enforcement absent a judicial warrant establishing probable cause to believe that the person has committed a criminal offense.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Legal Defense Fund

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should appropriate $2.5 million annually for the Legal Defense Fund.

SUMMARY

- Under the law, immigrants in need of legal support are not guaranteed access to an attorney and often find themselves without legal representation in immigration court if they do not have the means to pay. This includes unaccompanied minors as young as 3 years old being forced to appear alone for these court hearings.

- Studies show that immigrants are more than ten times as likely to be able to remain in their communities here when they have legal representation, meaning that many immigrant community members may be forced to leave simply because of their inability to afford an attorney.

- The federal government’s recent executive orders and changes to immigration enforcement priorities mean that an increasingly larger number of immigrants will require legal representation in court. Federal immigration policies have resulted in thousands of migrant families being separated and detained, including around 200 individuals, mostly mothers seeking asylum, being detained in Washington State.

- Whether or not a person is allowed to remain in their community in our state should not be dependent on financial means to hire an attorney.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019  
Reestablishing Affirmative Action

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should reestablish support for underserved groups in public employment, education, and contracting by passing legislation to repeal Initiative 200.

SUMMARY

- Women and people of color have historically been disproportionately denied opportunities in Washington State in the areas of public employment, education, and contracting, among many others.

- This bill will undo Initiative 200, which in 1998 added unnecessary nondiscrimination language that effectively banned affirmative action in Washington State.

- Initiative 200 claimed it would prevent discrimination in college admissions based on race, but in reality has hampered institutions’ attempts to use race-conscious decision making that takes into account the historical disfavoring of marginalized populations.

- Data from the U.S. Census Bureau and Department of Education show that states that ban affirmative action have disproportionately lower college enrollment rates for Hispanic and African American youth.

- The proportion of African American and Latinx students has increased, but is still not proportional compared to their percentage of the general population.

- In 2014, Latinx students made up 7% of the overall student population, despite being around 16% of the state’s population, and similarly, African American students comprised a mere 3.5% of the student population, even though they represent roughly 6.7% of the overall population.

- While on the surface students collectively referred to as ‘Asian’ may seem overrepresented in college admissions among other areas, data disaggregation reveals that students from Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander communities, among others, are not adequately represented in the aforementioned areas.

- Admissions data from UCLA in 2010 shows that while most East Asian, Malaysian and Indian students were admitted at a higher rate than average, Southeast Asian, Korean, Bangladeshi, and Sri Lankan students were admitted at rates lower than average.

- The struggles of South Asian, Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander communities and other underrepresented communities point to the need for both affirmative action and data disaggregation.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Ethnic Studies

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should pass legislation to establish statewide requirements for grades 7-12 ethnic studies and establish an ethnic studies advisory committee.

SUMMARY

- In 2017, Seattle Public Schools began work to expand its ethnic studies curriculum, including a combined citizen and staff taskforce. The Seattle School Board unanimously passed a resolution in support of ethnic studies on June 28, 2017.

- Studies have shown that comprehensive ethnic studies benefit all students’ learning.

- Historically, school curriculum have had persistent gaps in perspective from populations that have dealt with discrimination and bias, particularly communities of color.

- Students, regardless of their background, should all have a solid educational foundation in understanding the experiences of different ethnic groups in the U.S., including the historical injustices they have endured.

- Ethnic studies is not divisive. By design, it is meant to help students think critically and bridge gaps between groups, which leads to stronger academic outcomes and healthier communities.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Working Families Tax Credit and Capital Gains

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should close the tax break on capital gains and fund, modernize and expand the Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC), to raise $500 million per year in new revenue, and greatly reduce racial and economic disparities in the state tax code.

SUMMARY

- Washington is one of only nine states that doesn’t tax capital gains, which are profits from the sale of high-end financial assets like corporate stocks and bonds. In our state, 73% of capital gains go to millionaires.

- This would only apply to capital gains from households with $600,000 ($300,000 for single filers) or more in capital gains per year, at a rate of 13%. Retirement would be exempt.

- Many full time, low-wage workers in the United States don’t make enough to cover the basics, let alone put money aside for savings and emergencies. The Working Families Tax Credit is modeled off the federal Earned Income Tax Credit to put cash back in the pockets of people who need it most.

- Our proposal would fund and expand the state Working Families Tax Credit to include:
  - Immigrants, who pay taxes, contribute to the economy, and support their families but are barred from the federal program
  - Workers without children
  - Incomes above the current maximum so that individuals and families making up to $50,000 or the current federal EITC maximum qualifying income (whichever is higher) are eligible
  - An increase to the percentage of the federal match from 10% to 50%.
  - Recognition of modern forms of work by providing a benefit for low- and moderate-income college students and those who care for young children, elderly relatives, or family members with disabilities.

- These expansions would not only fight poverty, they would also make a significant impact on racial inequities. Over half of Latinx, Pacific Islander, Black, Native American, and “Other or Mixed Race” tax filers in Washington State would benefit from the expanded Working Families Credit.

- 43% of all Washington residents would benefit from the expanded WFTC, and over 50% of many rural counties.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
2020 Census Funding

TAKE ACTION:

The Legislature should allocate $15 million to invest in community-focused infrastructure that will strengthen statewide efforts around the Census and enhance community-led efforts that are focused on historically under-counted communities via the Washington Census Alliance.

SUMMARY:

- The Census results determine how much federal funding is allocated to each state, amounting to almost $14 billion in education, healthcare, and transportation projects in Washington over a ten year period, to name a few areas of investment, as well as how congressional and state legislative districts are drawn.
- Due to the potential inclusion of a citizenship question and general fear and anxiety among many communities, especially immigrants and people of color, the 2020 Census is at grave risk for severe undercounting.
- A severe undercount will jeopardize funding for critical services that Washingtonians rely on, and undermine the ability of many sectors and each level of government’s ability to plan for the future.
- Washington State stands to lose $1,914 of federal funding for every person not counted.
- Investing in the efforts of the Washington Census Alliance will ensure that the organizations with the right expertise and who are trusted messengers in historically undercounted communities, have the staffing and support needed to fully engage their communities around the 2020 Census.
- Combined with support from the philanthropic community, State dollars could be leveraged to support the outreach work of over 120 community based organizations.
- Just a .25% decrease in the omission rate, achieved by investments in community-focused outreach and education, would represent a difference of approximately $350 million in federal funding (over 10 years).
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Postage Paid Ballots

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should support access to democracy by passing legislation for postage paid ballots.

SUMMARY

- Establishing postage paid ballots ensures consistent protocols across the state when post offices receive ballots and are charged with helping to ensure that every vote is counted.

- Voting ensures that all voices are heard at each level of government. It allows all citizens to have an opportunity to voice their opinion on the issues that matter most to them.

- Voter turnout, even in record years leaves 1 in 4 voices unheard, and every state should take steps that make voter participation easier to have full participation in democracy.

- In 2018, analysis suggests that Asian American/Pacific Islander voter turnout reached close to 60%, and postage paid ballots helped to ensure that their ballots were not rejected arbitrarily.

- The APA community speaks over 40 different languages and voting is a complex issue requiring education in the community.

- Conducting get-out-the-vote activities with AAPI voters requires cultural competency and more time to fully explain voting mechanisms, and streamlining of ballot submission helps strengthen democracy for these diverse communities.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
A Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should pass the HEAL Act and appropriate sufficient funds for the program.

SUMMARY

- The HEAL Act will:
  - Define environmental justice for state agencies.
  - Require agencies to use environmental health disparity data to inform decisions about enforcement, investments, and policy.
  - Improve public participation and tools for community input on policies, including translated services and materials.
  - Maximize cross-agency coordination to ensure environmental programs across the board are enforced and funded equitably.
  - Save millions of dollars in health costs by targeting communities facing the greatest environmental health risks.

- Where you live, your income, race or language ability shouldn’t determine how healthy and safe you are, yet our state shows clear disproportionate environmental health impacts in specific areas and communities in our state.

- AAPIs and other communities of color are disproportionately impacted by the effects of pollution and climate change, including both in Washington State as well as in the places they and their families come from.

All work will be implemented by an Interagency Community Council comprising of state staff and community representatives.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019  
State Resolution for Citizenship for All Adoptees

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should support a state resolution urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to enact legislation securing the citizenship of internationally adopted adult individuals.

SUMMARY

- Since the close of World War II, over 350,000 children have been adopted from abroad by U.S. citizen parents. The Child Citizenship Act of 2000 aimed to provide equal treatment under United States law for adopted and biological children by granting citizenship to internationally-born adoptees. However, when the act became law, it did not apply to internationally-born adoptees who were already over the age of 18.

- As a result, estimated tens of thousands of adult legal adoptees who were born before February 27, 1982 and raised in the United States and/or did not enter the country on an “orphan visa,” do not have U.S. citizenship and therefore potentially subject to deportation. These adoptees’ parents did not complete necessary processes to provide their adopted children with citizenship, or in many cases, even a green card.

- Several deportations of individuals who were legally adopted from foreign countries have already taken place, breaking up families and returning the deported individuals to places where they do not know the language, culture or have any known family members.

- Adoptees who do not have citizenship have come from countries including Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Germany, Guatemala, El Salvador, India, Ireland, Haiti, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Panama, Philippines, Russia, Ukraine, and Vietnam. There are an estimated 18,000 Korean American adoptees alone who do not have American citizenship despite having been legally adopted.

- Two bills which would have granted citizenship to all adult adoptees were introduced with bipartisan support in the 114th Congress: the Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2015 (S.2275), and the Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2016 (H.R.5454). Neither bill was referred out of committee for a Congressional vote.

- Both bills sought to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to grant automatic citizenship to all qualifying children adopted by a U.S. citizen parent, regardless of the date on which the adoption was finalized or the entering visa. Citizenship would be granted to any individual who was adopted by a U.S. citizen before age 18, was physically present in the United States in the citizen parent’s legal custody pursuant to a lawful admission before the individual reached age 18, never previously acquired U.S. citizenship, and was lawfully residing in the United States. The bills also would have given adult adoptees who had already been deported the opportunity to return to the United States.

- Major cities such as Seattle, Los Angeles, Houston and Philadelphia have already passed resolutions in support of adoptee citizenship.

- The Asian Pacific American community supports as a civil right, automatic citizenship to all children adopted by a U.S. citizen parent. Children adopted by U.S. citizen parents should have the same rights as children of U.S. citizens. We additionally welcome legislation that will provide citizenship for all adult adoptees whose adoptive parents did not complete the naturalization process while they were children.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Wing Luke Homestead Home Project

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should appropriate $500,000 to the Wing Luke Museum Homestead Home Project for the 2019 fiscal year.

SUMMARY

- The **Wing Luke Museum Homestead Home Project** is an opportunity for a community-owned neighborhood anchor to purchase a Chinatown-ID property from long-time family owners, preserve a pioneer home, activate Canton Alley with affordable housing and community use, and aid The Wing's long-term financial sustainability.

- The property includes a vacant lot and 80+-year-old home, built by a pioneer Chinatown resident during the Depression and where he raised his family. A historic bean sprout business in the basement supplied neighborhood restaurants for decades.

- The Wing intends to preserve the **Eng Family Home** for use as an immersive educational exhibit and stop on our public walking tours. We will partner with a community developer to build/operate a new community resource (affordable cultural/commercial space/housing) on the vacant lot in the heart of the neighborhood.

- City of Seattle Equity Analysis measures the Chinatown-ID at very high Risk of Displacement (31.0 on citywide range 8-32.7), along with high Access to Opportunity. Neighborhood residents are rapidly losing the places that our ancestors built. The Homestead Home Project is a rare instance of a long-time property owner selling to a community organization of color rather than for-profit outside developers.

- The Wing is the nation’s only pan-APA museum and became 50 years old last year. The project received seed money from the City of Seattle, has applied for County support, and is preparing to launch a fundraising campaign with our members.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Capital Project – ICHS Bellevue Clinic Expansion

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should support the appropriation of $1,600,000 to support the expansion of ICHS’ clinic in Bellevue.

SUMMARY

• International Community Health Services (ICHS) is requesting $1.6 million for behavioral health capital improvements to its full-service clinic in Bellevue.

• New rooms will be created for mental health, substance use disorder, and opioid use disorder visits, with adjacency to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) providers.

• A “pod” room, that care teams use to meet and discuss patient treatment, will be expanded to include behavioral health staff on the care team. In space newly vacated by previous tenants, a new entrance will be created that will give access to a behavioral health reception area.

• Open space in this area will be developed into space for group mental health visits and a new multi-purpose room.

• The renovations will result in improved integration between behavioral health and medical services.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019  
Capital Project: AiPACE

TAKE ACTION

The Legislature should appropriate $2 million to allow ICHS and Kin On build a 25,000 square foot comprehensive care facility in Seattle.

SUMMARY

- Aging in PACE (AiPACE) was incorporated in December 2015 to provide Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) services to the Asian/Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders. International Community Health Service (ICHS) and Kin On Community Health Care are partners in this initiative.

- PACE enable Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries to receive services that allow them to age in their own homes or within their communities as an alternative to nursing home care.

- The AiPACE facility will be constructed in the north parking lot of the Pacific Tower at 1200 12th Avenue South in Seattle. The facility would consist of approximately 30 rooms as well as a lobby/reception area, waiting area, vestibule, and entryway.

- The program will serve participants residing in AiPACE’s service area who are age 55 or over, and able to live safely in the community.

- The level of services provided by AiPACE will allow persons avoid the disruption of moving into residential facilities. It will also allow adults to receive round-the-clock care when other family members are at school or work. Services include primary medical and dental care, as well as specialty services, including occupational, physical, speech, and recreational therapy.

- The facility will also offer social work services, nutritional counseling, transportation, and meal preparation and service for adult day care participants.

- The program is scheduled to open on Beacon Hill in Seattle by 2021 or 2022.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019
Capital Project – Innovation Learning Center & Community Gathering Space

TAKE ACTION:

The Legislature should appropriate $1.6 million to build the Filipino Community Village Innovation Learning Center and Community Gathering Space for residents of the Rainier Valley.

SUMMARY:

- The Filipino Community of Seattle (FCS) requests $1.6 million to build the Innovation Learning Center and Community Gathering Space located in the heart of the Rainier Valley in Seattle.
- The proposed 4800 square feet project will be located in the Filipino Community Village which will house 70 units of newly created housing for low income seniors.
- Upon completion, the Innovation Learning Center and Community Gathering Space will include:
  - State-of-the-art computer lab providing digital access for low-income youth, seniors, and others in Rainier Valley;
  - Robotics training center and Science-Technology-Engineering-Art & Design –Math (STEAM) program;
  - Cultural heritage classes and activities for children, youth and families to learn and rediscover Filipino language, music, arts, and customs;
  - Multi-purpose community space for cultural health screening for low-income seniors, community meetings, listening sessions and informal childcare; and
  - Critically needed space for a utility kitchen, storage, and bathrooms.
- The Innovation Learning Center will provide a safe and inspiring learning environment for youth and young adults who face challenges in finding and pursuing viable education and career pathways. In 2015, 275 youth and young adults participated in robotics and digital access activities at FCS.
- The Community Gathering Space will provide a safe, accessible location for low-income senior residents living in the Filipino Community Village to take part in health and wellness activities and creates an opportunity for positive social interaction. FCS has a long history of providing services to seniors, serving over 10,000 nutritious lunches in a congregate meal program in 2015, and expects to serve many of those same seniors in the Community Gathering Space.
- There is a great shortage of safe and accessible community meeting and convening spaces serving the Rainier Valley community, a problem which this project directly addresses.
- FCS was founded in 1935 to provide fellowship and support among the growing Filipino American community. FCS is recognized as a cultural anchor in the Rainier Valley and has since grown to serve many others including recent immigrants and refugees, and victims of domestic violence.
- The Innovation Learning Center and Community Gathering Space will be an excellent complement to the Filipino Community Village’s senior housing units as it creates a safe multi-generational space for learning and social interaction.
Asian Pacific American Legislative Day 2019  
Capital Project – SCIDpda North Lot Project

TAKE ACTION
The Legislature should appropriate $16M to the North Lot Project.

SUMMARY
- The North Lot project is community development that consists of two structures on the northern-most parcel of the Pacific Medical Center campus. Currently underutilized as a surface parking lot, the project will provide 262 units of affordable rental housing. To meet the need for more family-sized units, 60% of those units will be 2-bedroom units or larger.
- The property is owned by the Pacific Hospital PDA (PHPDA). SCIDpda is negotiating a long-term land lease with the PHPDA; the lease is expected to be finalized in first quarter 2019.
- Situated at the intersection of Beacon Hill and the Chinatown International District (CID), the City of Seattle’s Comprehensive Plan identifies these communities at Very High Risk of Displacement and with High Access to Opportunity due to its proximity to employment, educational opportunities, transit, and community services and support.
- This project is targeting workforce housing for family and seniors. The project will utilize Low Income Housing Tax Credits, where rents are typically capped at 60% area median income.
- The project will include 23,000 SF for a Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly operated by AiPACE, a partnership between International Community Health Services (ICHS) and Kin On. AiPACE expects to serve 330 seniors a year at the facility. Additionally, 44 of the 262 residential units will be marketed towards seniors.
- SCIDpda will partner with El Centro de la Raza to operate a childcare facility to provide a bilingual, multicultural curriculum for children ages one to four. El Centro expects to operate 7 classrooms that can support up to 128 children a year.
- Total development costs for the project are $156M.
  - The public funding required for the housing is $48M from the State, City, and County. Of the $16M requested from the State, $1.5M is needed this year in predevelopment funds. Project was just awarded $2.5M capital funding commitment for construction from King County.
  - This project will also be funded through $52M in Low Income Housing Tax Credit equity and $25M in bank debt.