

2009 – 2011 STRATEGIC PLAN

*Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs*



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#### LEGISLATIVE DECLARATION

The legislature declares that the public policy of the state is to insure equal opportunity for all of its citizens; the legislature finds that Asian Pacific Americans have unique and special problems. It is the purpose of RCW43.117.010 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. The legislature is particularly concerned with the plight of those Asian Pacific Americans who, for economic, linguistic, or cultural reasons, find themselves disadvantaged or isolated from American society and the benefit of equal opportunities.

#### STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

For the 2009-11 budget development, CAPAA mission aligns with the following critical statewide results that citizens expect from government:

“Improve the ability of state government to achieve its results efficiently and effectively.”

The level of indicator is the improvement of the lives of the citizens of Washington State.

#### MISSION STATEMENT

To improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education and other areas (RCW 43.117.110).

#### GOALS

1. Research and Analysis. To examine and define APA issues and to make recommendations to the governor, legislators, and state agencies with respect to desirable changes in program and law.
2. Advisory. To advise the Governor, state and local public officials on the development and implementation of comprehensive and coordinated policies, plans, and programs focusing on the special problem and needs of APAs.
3. Education. To educate APAs about laws, programs, and policies that affects its well-being.
4. Conduit and Consultant. To make government more accessible by serving as a liaison and consultant between APA communities and state agencies.
5. Resource. To serve as a resource through research and educational materials, technical assistance, agency referrals, casework, community forums, and other venue of partnerships and cooperation.

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#### OBJECTIVES

To insure that the needs of Asian Pacific Americans are met:

- On Education

1. Increase greater APA inclusion in the Washington Assessment on Student Learning (WASL) tests and curriculum
2. Increase assistance in bilingual education and training program to help new immigrants and refugee's transition into their new environment
3. Increase equitable access to Limited English Proficiency (LEP) pathways services; and adequate preparation for new immigrants, refugees, Pacific Islanders and other APAs to succeed in WASL.
4. Breaking the model minority myth - disaggregation of data of the API population so that groups like the Cambodians, Laotians, Hmongs and other Southeast Asian groups that are doing very poorly in schools are identified, and are given appropriate assistance in passing WASL
5. Study of the Achievement Gap for the Asian American Community and Pacific Islander Community, that will include three common elements included in the budget proviso of HB 2687 for separate studies:
  - ❖ Recommend a comprehensive plan for closing the achievement gap pursuant to goals under the federal no child left behind act.
  - ❖ Identify performance measures to monitor adequate yearly progress.
  - ❖ Conduct an analysis starting with the call to action paper by the multi-ethnic think tanks and as guided by appropriate groups.

- On Health Care and Human Services

1. Increase the availability and accessibility of culturally appropriate and sensitive health and human services.
2. Increase the accessibility to affordable health care services, especially for children and the elderly population.
3. Work with the Governor's Interagency Coordinating Council for Health Disparities in the elimination of health disparities

- On Workforce and Economic Development

1. Ensure that strategies around narrowing the skills and wage gaps between non-whites and people of colors are met
2. Increase minority contracting through a collaborative effort to outreach to minority and women owned businesses to apply for state certification with the Office of the Minority and Women Business Enterprises
3. Help minority and women-owned businesses access the Linked Deposit Program; and access the supplier diversity initiative.

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#### STRATEGIES

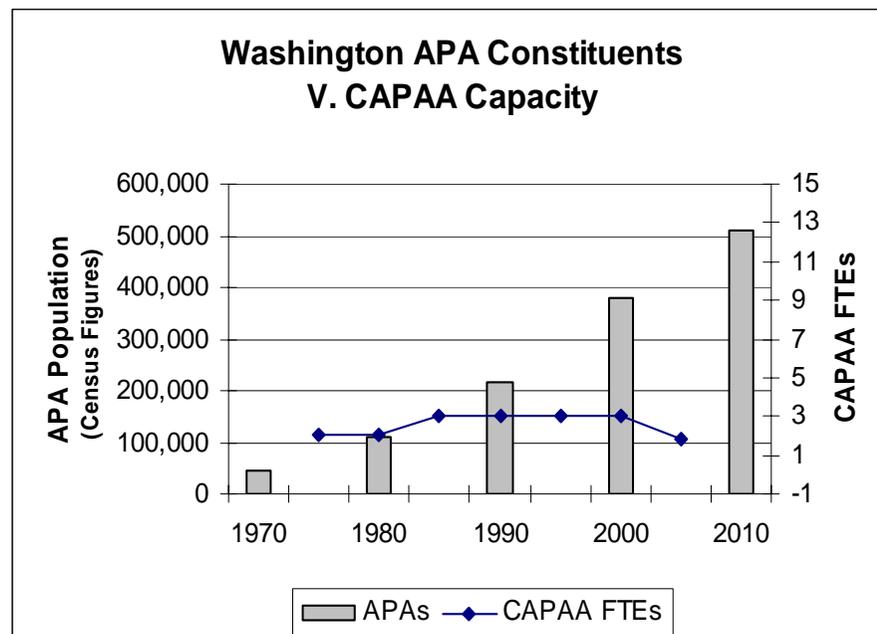
- Increase commissioner's participation and visibility through community outreach, forums, and town hall meetings
- Maintain and update an informative website, publish a quarterly newsletter and produce relevant posters to help in Early Learning and K-12 outreach
- Improve the database capability of CAPAA
- Conduct research on the state of APA affairs in the state and policy development, and recommend appropriate legislation
- Coordinate the statewide celebration of the APA Heritage Month in May
- Strengthen relationship to the governor, legislature and state agencies through proactive networking, meetings and reporting
- Engage the APA youth in civics and citizenship endeavors through workshops, seminars and/or conferences
- Increase participation in other community based and non profit organizations' events to increase awareness of CAPAA
- Proactive invitation to APA constituents to meetings to hear their concerns and issues on APA affairs

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CONSTITUENT NEEDS AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

The CAPAA is severely limited in its ability to meet APA constituent needs. The legislature established the CAPAA in 1974 to improve the well-being of APAs by improving access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas (RCW 43.117.110). CAPAA endeavors to meet this charge by examining state policies that affect APAs and offering policy alternatives when necessary.

*Figure 1. APA Constituent Growth V. CAPAA Organizational Capacity*



However, in the last 30 years, as the APA population increased by over 700%, CAPAA’s capacity in terms of FTEs increased by only one during the same period, from two to three in 1984. For the fiscal year of 2003, CAPAA staffing level has been reduced by 60% to 1.8 FTEs. In 2005, the 1.8 FTE became 2.0 FTE. Also adding to the complexity, the Legislature included the Pacific Islanders to CAPAA’s stewardship in 1995. The name change from Commission on Asian American Affairs (CAA) to the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (CAPAA) reflected this additional responsibility. In effect, this change added 19 more communities to CAPAA’s stewardship of 28 Asian communities, for a total of 47 distinct communities.

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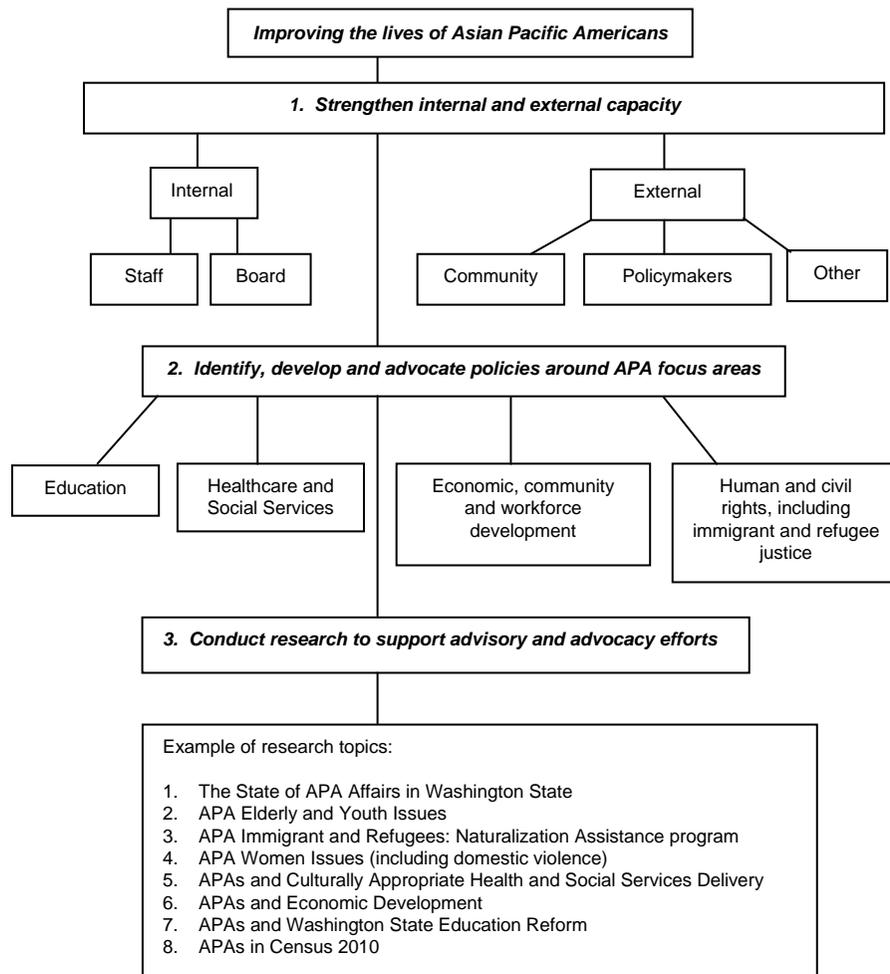
No other ethnic group in our state has as a diverse collection of ethnicities with differing languages, dialects, culture, and immigration patterns. It is simply *unrealistic* to expect CAPAA to meet its constituent needs without the capacity and the tools necessary to accomplish its mission.

In this regard, with an additional FTE, CAPAA will tremendously increase its capacity to achieve its mission and meet Governor Gregoire’s mandate on all fronts, considering that we have one of the most progressive, forward thinking state governments in the nation.

FULFILLING CONSTITUENT NEEDS: IMPROVING THE LIVES OF APAS

The following strategy reflects a three-pronged approach to enable the CAPAA to effectively, efficiently, and substantively improve the lives of APAs.

***Figure 2. 2009 – 2011 Strategic Principles Graphical Summary***



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#### ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER, A DIVERSE POPULATION

The Asian and Pacific Islander population is made up of many different groups of people, including Asian Indians, Filipinos, Koreans, Native Hawaiians, and Samoans. Many of the people in some groups, such as the Chinese or Japanese, have been in the United States for generations. Other groups, such as the Hmong, Vietnamese, Laotians, and Cambodians, are comparatively recent arrivals to this country. Chinese make up the largest group of Asians, with Filipinos and Asian Indians the next two largest in size.

The Asian population in the U.S. is increasing faster than the total population. From 1990 to 2000, the population of those people who identified themselves as being Asian (either alone or in combination with another race) grew 72 percent, while the total population grew only 13 percent. About half of the Asian population lived in the West in 2000, where they made up 9.3 percent of the total population.

**Figure 3. Profile Race and Ethnicity Characteristics**

2005 American Community Survey of the Bureau of Census – State of Washington	
	Estimate
Total	405,030
Asian Indian alone	41,583
Chinese alone	72,135
Filipino alone	87,871
Hawaiian	7,634
Samoan	7,303
Japanese alone	40,115
Korean alone	51,929
Vietnamese alone	60,543
Other Pacific Islander	6,736
Guamanian or Chamorro	6,707
Other Asian, not specified	50,854

NOTE: There is an estimated 42,761 Native Hawaiians in Washington State

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*Figure 4. Asian Alone or in Combination with One or More Other Races*

American Community Survey of the Bureau of Census – State of Washington		
	Estimate	Upper Bound
2004 Total	462,698	468,671
2005 Total	n/a	n/a