Northwell Health is dedicated to strengthening communities—a mission we’re proud to share with Coalition for Asian American Children and Families.

We applaud their ongoing commitment to ensuring the long-term health and well-being of children and families, as well as mobilizing a coalition of partners to fight for system and policy changes.

Congratulations to this year’s honorees:

Jason DaSilva
Project by Project
And our very own Ram Raju, MD
CONNECT CREATE CHALLENGE

CACF’S YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM, THE ASIAN AMERICAN STUDENT ADVOCACY PROJECT (ASAP), ACTIVATES APA YOUTH TO BE LIFE-LONG LEARNERS AND CHANGE-MAKERS WHO:

1. ARE PREPARED TO THRIVE IN THE REAL WORLD AND TAKE ACTION
2. KNOW THEIR SELF-WORTH, UNDERSTAND THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND FEEL A SENSE OF BELONGING
3. BUILD MORE EQUITABLE SCHOOLS, COMMUNITIES, AND SYSTEMS THAT TOUCH THE LIVES OF ALL NEW YORK CITY STUDENTS
DEAR FRIENDS,

On behalf of the board and staff of CACF, we thank you for joining us this evening for the third annual Catalyst for Change Awards Gala. We are excited to celebrate with you the contributions of our 2019 honorees as well as the successes CACF has had over the past year.

Our Catalyst for Change honorees have raised the consciousness of others, have trained our community leaders, and have implemented policies that impact hundreds of thousands of lives every day. Jason DaSilva through his films and his activism has told stories to expand our perspectives, challenge the status quo, and ensure we are lifting the stories of those who are often the most invisible amongst us. Project by Project, for over two decades has created the space for young Asian Pacific American professionals to build their leadership skills and understanding of our community’s history and struggles, but also support local APA community organizations through philanthropy, volunteerism, and outreach. Dr. Ram Raju has dedicated his life to quality health care and ensuring that systems of care address the needs of the most vulnerable communities and work to eliminate health disparities.

Just like our honorees, CACF continues our fight for those in the APA community who are most marginalized. We listen to our community’s stories, develop our next generation of leaders, and unite our diverse communities. We are committed to transforming our communities so that every child has the resources they need to reach their fullest potential. CACF knows we do not do this alone - with our members, young people, and allies, we are building a collective voice for the Asian Pacific American community. We believe that by working to improve the conditions of those struggling with poverty, linguistic and cultural barriers, and the myth of the model minority, we can improve the health and well-being of our children and families.

With your support, CACF will continue to build upon our successes to shape a world that can live up to our highest values.

CACF’s Invisible No More campaign passed City and State legislation that requires the collection of more accurate demographic information on the APA community.
CACF’s 15% and Growing campaign continues to work with over 50 community based organizations to fight for City investments in culturally competent and language accessible services - over the years we’ve seen increasing City dollars supporting local groups.
CACF’s In-Person Navigator collaborative will build upon 5 years of successfully supporting tens of thousands of families to enroll in health insurance with a new 5 year grant and more partners (10 partners, 13 sites) and more languages (19 languages).

We thank you again for being here with us this evening to celebrate community and our collective power for change.

Larry Lee
BOARD PRESIDENT

Anita Gundanna
CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Vanessa Leung
CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
THANK YOU

SPONSORS

PLATINUM
BARBARA TURVETT
AND EDWARD PAULY

GOLD
blossóm

SILVER
FRENSCO BUILDING PRODUCTS

MAIN STREET RADIOLOGY
MUKASEY
FRENCHMAN & SKLAROFFS

THE POSES FAMILY FOUNDATION

PROGRAM

THE COALITION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WELCOMES YOU TO OUR CATALYST FOR CHANGE 2019 AWARDS GALA

EMCEES
ERNABEL DEMILLO
REPORTER/HOST OF THE 7-TIME EMMY NOMINATED SHOW “ASIAN AMERICAN LIFE” CONTRIBUTING REPORTER FOR “ARTS IN THE CITY” AND “SIMPLY SCIENCE” CUNY-TV CHANNEL 17, 25.3 AND NOW ON NYC MEDIA, CHANNEL 25 AND PBS STATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTY
CHAIR OF THE COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA CULTURE DEPARTMENT, SAINT PETER’S UNIVERSITY

WELCOME
ALEXANDER TSUI
GALA CHAIR

ANITA GUNDANNA AND VANESSA LEUNG
CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY
JEEHAE FISCHER, KOREAN AMERICAN FAMILY SERVICE CENTER
REHAN MEHMOOD, SOUTH ASIAN COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICES
LINDA OALICAN, DAMAYAN MIGRANT WORKERS ASSOCIATION
JASON WU, ESQ.

CATALYST FOR CHANGE AWARD PRESENTATION
RAM RAJU, MD, MBA, FACHE
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND COMMUNITY HEALTH INVESTMENT OFFICER
NORTHWELL HEALTH

CATALYST FOR CHANGE AWARD PRESENTATION
PROJECT BY PROJECT
(ACCEPTED BY LILIANA CHEN, CO-FOUNDER)

DINNER
CATALYST FOR CHANGE AWARD PRESENTATION
JASON DaSILVA
FILM DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, WRITER
PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER, AXS LAB

TESTIMONIAL
SADAF OMAR
SENIOR PROGRAM MANAGER, NEIGHBORHOOD 360 SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES

LIVE AUCTION
CHARLES ANTIN
AUCTIONEER

CLOSING
LARRY LEE
BOARD PRESIDENT
Ram Raju, MD combines his executive leadership experience in healthcare with a deep commitment to achieving social equity to improve the health of communities in need.

As senior vice president and community health investment officer, he evaluates the needs of Northwell’s most vulnerable communities, and provides solutions for them by collaborating with community-based organizations. He’s responsible for promoting, sustaining and advancing an environment that supports equity and diversity, and helping the health system eliminate health disparities.

Prior to Northwell, Dr. Raju served as president and CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals from January 2014-November 2016. NYC Health + Hospitals has 42,000 employees, 11 acute-care hospitals, five nursing homes, six diagnostic and treatment centers, more than 70 community-based health centers, a large home care agency and one of the region’s largest providers of government-sponsored health insurance, MetroPlus Health Plan.

Dr. Raju also served as CEO for the Cook County Health and Hospitals System in Chicago, the nation’s third largest public health system, where he improved cash flow by more than $100 million and changed the system’s financial health during his tenure from 2011-2014.

His medical career began at Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn and he later served as chief operating officer and medical director at NYC Health + Hospitals’ Coney Island Hospital. In 2006, Dr. Raju became the HHC chief medical officer, corporate chief operating officer and executive vice president. Under his leadership, HHC continued to improve quality, patient safety and health care data transparency.

Dr. Raju served as vice-chair of the Greater New York Hospital Association and currently sits on the boards of numerous city, state and national health care organizations, including the American Hospital Association, the New York Academy of Medicine and the Asian Health Care Leaders Association.

Among his numerous awards and accolades, Dr. Raju was selected to Modern Healthcare’s “100 Most-Influential People in Healthcare.” Modern Healthcare also named him one of the “Top 25 Minority Executives in Healthcare” and one of “50 Most-Influential Physician Executives in Healthcare.” In 2013, he was named a Business Leader of Color by Chicago United.

Dr. Raju earned a medical diploma and Master of Surgery from Madras Medical College in India. He underwent further training in England, where he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. He later received an MBA from the University of Tennessee and CPE from the American College of Physician Executives.

Project by Project (PbP) was founded in 1996 by a group of young Asian American professionals motivated to empower the Asian American community by developing leaders through innovative philanthropy. Core to PbP’s methodology is a three-pronged approach to enhancing voluntarism, awareness, and fundraising for issues uniquely affecting Asian America. Building upon those principles, PbP created a platform for annual thematic campaigns tackling different causes from year to year. From domestic violence, to immigration, to homelessness, PbP has become a gateway for young Asian Americans to explore civic engagement while exercising leadership skills.

Its signature event, Plate by Plate, brings together the best the culinary world has to offer to celebrate Asian American achievements. Marking its 22nd year of service, Plate by Plate has partnered with over 50 non-profit organizations via its chapters in New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

Communications executive, Liliana Chen, is a co-founder of Project by Project and the only member to serve on the leadership team continuously for 22 years. Ms. Chen has shephered PbP through expansions to 3 chapters in New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, as well as guided its development into a leadership program with a focus on Asian American legacy. PbP boasts a leadership team of 100 active volunteers nationwide, many of whom serve multiple years on the Steering Committee. Under her stewardship, PbP’s marquee event, Plate by Plate has become the premier annual tasting benfit for the Asian American community, featured in an episode of Bravo TV’s “Top Chef.”

Throughout the course of her career in communications, Ms. Chen has worked with various entrepreneurs, entertainers, journalists, and culinary personalities, many of whom are Asian American. Currently, she works in the luxury timepiece industry helming public relations in the US and Canada for Breguet, one of the most prestigious watch brands in the world.
Jason Dasilva is a director, producer, writer and disability rights activist best known for the Emmy Award winning documentary, When I Walk, the first film in a documentary trilogy. The documentary follows his diagnosis of primary progressive multiple sclerosis for seven years as he progresses from cane to walker to wheelchair. Following the success of When I Walk, Jason released the second film in the trilogy, When We Walk. When We Walk follows his life as he deals with his MS and fights to stay close with his son. The film is based on his New York Times Op Ed article, Mapping the Disability Trap. In 2019, the film premiered at the Hot Docs Film Festival, won best documentary at the Center for Asian American Media’s CAAMFest, and had its New York debut at the Human Rights Watch Film Festival. The final film, When They Walk, is currently in production.

Jason DaSilva is also the President and Founder of AXS Lab, a nonprofit organization dedicated to giving a voice to people with disabilities through film, media and technology. As the President of AXS Lab, Jason is the key creative and strategic voice of the organization, providing insight to necessities in disability activism and facilitating AXS Lab's work with the United Nations and partner organizations around the world. AXS Map, a crowd sourced Google map based platform which rates the accessibility of businesses, is the primary technology branch of AXS Lab, the largest online database in North America for accessibility. In 2015, Jason had the opportunity to share his AXS Map on a disability panel at the White House. AXS Map serves as an active tool for change alongside his films.

In 2014, Jason won three awards: the American Association of Persons with Disabilities (AAPD) Paul G. Hearn Leadership Award, the New Mobility Magazine: Person of the Year Award, and the Christopher Award for Excellence in Film. This year, he is being awarded the Top 40 Trailblazers Award from the Community Resource Exchange, an award for leaders who are driving meaningful change in their communities and the larger world.

Ernabel Demillo is a veteran New York City broadcaster and journalism educator. For 10 years, she worked as a reporter and anchor on the Emmy-award winning FOX morning news show, “Good Day New York.” Before coming to New York, she was a reporter for the Orange County Newschannel and the CBS-affiliate in Sacramento.

She currently hosts and reports for CUNY-TV’s 7-time Emmy-nominated program “Asian American Life” http://www.cuny.tv/show/asianamericanlife, a magazine-style show focusing on the tri-state’s Asian American community. Her stories have focused on hard-hitting AAPI issues from the growing political influence of AAPIs to Asian American parents and their LGBTQ children. Her stories have also focused on diversity in theater, Hollywood and children’s/YA literature. And she has interviewed and profiled innovators, leaders and rising stars in business, technology, entertainment and the arts.

In addition, Ernabel is a contributing reporter for several CUNY-TV-produced programs, including “Acts in the City” and “Simply Science.” In 2019, 2017 and 2013, she was honored with an individual Emmy nomination for her reporting on Cambodians in the Bronx, Filipinos in New York City and Best Environement Program for her story on a group of musicians who turn trash into musical instruments.

She is an award-winning journalist, cited by the Governor of New York for her service and contributions to the Asian American Community and was honored with a Folio Award for Best Environmental Reporting. She also made Buzzfeed’s list of 34 Epic Filipinos in the United States for her work as a journalist and educator and was featured in the recent book: Filipinos in New York. Ernabel was also featured in The Limited’s New Look of Leadership Campaign.

Along with her work as a journalist, Ernabel managed to find success in a second career. She is a tenured Journalism professor at Saint Peter’s University in Jersey City, N.J. and currently serves as faculty chair of the Department of Communication and Media Culture. She started the Journalism program in 2008 and served as the faculty advisor to the school newspaper, the Pauw Wow, which was named one of the Top 10 college newspapers in the country.

Ernabel is also quite active in the Asian American community. Along with emceeing numerous events, she has served on the boards of several organizations including: Vice President of Broadcast for AAJA, board member for Apex for Youth, an AAPI mentoring organization and a board member for the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF) for almost two decades. CACF is the largest pan-Asian advocacy group in the country. She recently joined the board for Advancement for Rural Kids (ARK), a non-profit helping build schools and empowering communities in developing countries.

Ernabel grew up in San Francisco, California. She received her B.A. in Journalism and International Relations from the University of Southern California and her M.S. in Broadcast Journalism from Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism. She lives on the Jersey Shore with her husband, John Muller, an anchor for PIX11News and their 16-year-old daughter. Follow her on Twitter @ErnabelD.
Catalyst for Change

Emcee

Alan Muraoka

Alan Muraoka is most recognizable for his role in the Emmy-winning series, Sesame Street, where he has played Alan, the proprietor of Hooper’s Store for 21 seasons. With Sesame Street Alan has performed at the White House (for President Obama and the First Lady Michelle Obama), the Pentagon, Carnegie Hall, the Hollywood Bowl, the NY Public Library, and with the Boston Pops, Alan has appeared in 7 Broadway shows; Disney’s Aladdin, the Roundabout Theatre of Hooper’s Store (National Asian American Theater Company). Other New York credits include: The Report (NY Fringe Festival), Kung Fu (Signature Theatre-Assistant Director), Ann Harada. American Songbook (Lincoln Center), Awesome & Awesome!!! (Triad Theatre), Telly Leung: Playlist and What Makes a Man? (54 Below), Grand Hotel (NYU/Cap 21), John Tartaglia AD/Elbert (Joe’s Pub), & Christmas Eve With Christmas Eve (IBC/EFA Benefits). For the past 2 years he has been a director for the ABC Talent Showcase, Regionally: Gold Mountain (Eccles Theatre Salt Lake City & Peepin’s Egyptian Theatre in Ogden) South Pacific (Olney Theatre), Once On This Island (Olney Theatre), At the Lyric Theatre in Oklahoma City: The King and I, Xanadu, Disney’s High School Musical and Disney’s High School Musical 2. Other regional credits include Disney’s High School Musical (MUNY, Casa Manana), Urinetown (Trinity University), and Associate Director for Up In The Air (Kennedy Center), Television: Alan has directed for Sesame Street and for the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade on NBC.

Mr. Muraoka is a graduate of UCLA, where he received the Carol Burnett Musical Comedy Award for performance. He was also the 2004 recipient of the APEX Inspiration Award and the FCC’s 2007 Role Model of the Year Award. Please visit his website at: www.alanmuraoka.tv. You can also follow him on Instagram @alanathoopers.

Auctioneer

Charles Antin

Charles Antin is a Senior Wine Specialist and Auctioneer at Zachys, and was both a commercial auctioneer and charity auctioneer at Christie’s for close to a decade. He auctioneered hundreds of benefits including the Jackson Hole Wine Auction, Seth Rogen’s Hilarity for Charity, Autism Speaks, Teach for China (Hong Kong), the Brady Center for the Prevention of Gun Violence, the Friends of Acadia auction, Pairings Nashville and auctions benefiting the Boston Symphony and the Nantucket Wine Festival. He was also a NY State licensed commercial auctioneer at Christie’s, at the time of licensing the youngest at the firm, bringing down the gavel on thousands of lots, and tens of millions of dollars of wine, watches, Post War & Contemporary art, Asian art, and single-owner collections, such as the collections of Robert H. Ellsworth and Huguette Clark. He holds an MFA in fiction from NYU, a commercial pilot’s license, and his essays and fiction have appeared in Food & Wine, the New York Times, the VQR and elsewhere.

Catalyst for Change

Testimonial

Sadaf Omar

In addition to her community organizing roles, Sadaf served on the Board of the Muslim Writers Collective (MWC), a grassroots national initiative dedicated to reclaiming the Muslim narrative through storytelling. Muslim Writers Collective has been featured in Vice, The Guardian, Buzzfeed, The Daily Beast, and many more media publications. MWC has active chapters in seven cities across the country, and has been credited with providing “a space for young Muslims to honor their humanity” by Vice. She shared her own stories at open mics across New York City, and has been a featured performer at Subdrift Open Mic. Sadaf has brought writers and storytellers all across the country together to create an unbreakable community, often hosting rapid response townhalls for communities in need to share and heal together.

Sadaf is a graduate of the JCRC-NY “We are All New York” Fellowship, a 10-month leadership development program dedicated to advancing the next generation of New York City’s diverse leaders and helping them become change-agents to strengthen our city.

Sadaf is a political strategist, community organizer, mentor, storyteller and event planner who aims to create unity among the diverse and complex communities of New York City. She hopes to infuse the culture of inclusion everywhere she goes. Sadaf immigrated to New York City from Calcutta, India at the age of three with her parents. She is multilingual and enjoys traveling all over the world. Sadaf began her journey in politics and community relations as a youth leader and advocate when she joined the second cohort of the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families’ Asian American Student Advocacy Project (ASAP). Since then, she has remained actively involved with CACF. Sadaf truly believes that “change begins with me.”
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Larry Lee
Board President
Willing Irene Chin-Ma
Grand Street Settlement
Jarrod Fong
JP Morgan Asset Management
Jessie Harlin
Moore Capital Management
Navneet Kathuria, MD
Community Healthcare Network
Vanessa Li, PhD
Vienna Praxis
Edward Pauly, PhD
Kanika Priya Sethi, M.S.Ed
Columbia University School of Social Work
Vivian Tseng, PhD
William F. Grant Foundation
Alexander Tsui
DMD
Angie Wang
Abigail E. Disney
Jennifer Yuen
Torchlight Investors

STAFF
Celine Chong
Policy Associate
Anita Gundanna
Co-Executive Director
Saffi Hadi
Policy Analyst
Jean Hon
Communications and Outreach Coordinator
Vanessa Leung
Co-Executive Director
Joyce Ma
Contracts and Grants Coordinator
Angela Mak
Development Associate
Tasfia Rahman
Policy Coordinator
Tiffany Wong
Research Associate
Andrea Wu
Director of Operations
Denis Yu
Program Coordinator

GALA CHAIR
Alexander Tsui, DMD

HOST COMMITTEE
Julie Azuma
John J. Chin, Ph.D. & Haftan Eckholdt, Ph.D.
Wayne Ho & Eda Chao
Geoffrey James
Jessica S. Lee
Sumie Okazaki, Ph.D.
Beesham A. Seecharan
Udai Tambar
Norma Tan, Ph.D.

AUCTION DONORS
2Fox Alchemy
Angela Tsai and Michael Hollick
Anonymous
Asian CineVision
The Bar Rover
Big Apple Circus
Carnegie Hall
China Institute
Enchanted Branding & Public Relations
Equinox
Jean Hon
Jessie and Brian Harlin
Jinhee Park Lee
Liliana Chen
MB Artists
Maiden Lane
Mekelburg's
Museum of Chinese in America
New York Jets
New York Hall of Science
New York Liberty
New York Philharmonic
Noguchi Museum
Nom Wah Tea Parlor
One World Observatory
Outlier Linguistics
Pernod Ricard USA
Red Bull New York
Row House Chelsea
Sen Sakana
Taste and See Events
Youtherapy Medical Anti-Aging Spa

THANK YOU
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Larry Lee
Board President
Willing Irene Chin-Ma
Grand Street Settlement
Jarrod Fong
JP Morgan Asset Management
Jessie Harlin
Moore Capital Management
Navneet Kathuria, MD
Community Healthcare Network
Vanessa Li, PhD
Vienna Praxis
Edward Pauly, PhD
Kanika Priya Sethi, M.S.Ed
Columbia University School of Social Work
Vivian Tseng, PhD
William F. Grant Foundation
Alexander Tsui
DMD
Angie Wang
Abigail E. Disney
Jennifer Yuen
Torchlight Investors

STAFF
Celine Chong
Policy Associate
Anita Gundanna
Co-Executive Director
Saffi Hadi
Policy Analyst
Jean Hon
Communications and Outreach Coordinator
Vanessa Leung
Co-Executive Director
Joyce Ma
Contracts and Grants Coordinator
Angela Mak
Development Associate
Tasfia Rahman
Policy Coordinator
Tiffany Wong
Research Associate
Andrea Wu
Director of Operations
Denis Yu
Program Coordinator

GALA CHAIR
Alexander Tsui, DMD

HOST COMMITTEE
Julie Azuma
John J. Chin, Ph.D. & Haftan Eckholdt, Ph.D.
Wayne Ho & Eda Chao
Geoffrey James
Jessica S. Lee
Sumie Okazaki, Ph.D.
Beesham A. Seecharan
Udai Tambar
Norma Tan, Ph.D.

AUCTION DONORS
2Fox Alchemy
Angela Tsai and Michael Hollick
Anonymous
Asian CineVision
The Bar Rover
Big Apple Circus
Carnegie Hall
China Institute
Enchanted Branding & Public Relations
Equinox
Jean Hon
Jessie and Brian Harlin
Jinhee Park Lee
Liliana Chen
MB Artists
Maiden Lane
Mekelburg's
Museum of Chinese in America
New York Jets
New York Hall of Science
New York Liberty
New York Philharmonic
Noguchi Museum
Nom Wah Tea Parlor
One World Observatory
Outlier Linguistics
Pernod Ricard USA
Red Bull New York
Row House Chelsea
Sen Sakana
Taste and See Events
Youtherapy Medical Anti-Aging Spa

THANK YOU
PAST CATALYST FOR CHANGE AWARD HONOREES

2018
Hari Kondabolu, Comedian & Writer
Larry Lee, Executive Director, Womankind
Ayeshia Ver-Yu, CEO & Co-founder, ARK, Runaloko.org

2017
Vishaan Chakrabarti, Author, founder, Practice for Architecture and Urbanism
Lisa Ling, Award-Winning Journalist and TV Presenter
Sayin Si, founder and Executive Director, Central Queens Charter School
The New American Leaders Project (accepted by Suyi Sibang, Founder and President)

PAST CARING FOR CHILDREN AWARD HONOREES

2016
The Lee Family – Chester Lee, Board Member, First American International Bank; Board Member, NYU Lutheran Augustine Center for Extended Care and Rehabilitation; Dina Lee, Senior Counsel, Minnich, Phillips & Phillips, LLP; Board Member, The Brooklyn Charter School; Former Co-Chair and Board Member, WCSA of Brooklyn, Inc.; Michael Lee, Executive Director, Apa for Youth
Dr. Teresa Q. Co-Director, Facial Nerve Center, Vascular Birthmark Institute of New York and Dr. Milton Waner, President & Chairman, Waner Children’s Vascular Anomaly Foundation
Dr. Raymond Fong, President, Chinatown Health Clinic Foundation; Past President, Chinese American Medical Society and Dr. Danny Fong, Immediate Past President, Chinese American Medical Society
Anurima Bhargava, former Chief, Educational Opportunities Section, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice; Leadership in Government Fellow, Open Society Foundation

2015
Samidh Guha, Partner, Jones Day
Kathy Ko Chin, President and Chief Executive Officer, Asian & Pacific Islanders American Health Forum
Fatima Shama, Executive Director, Fresh Air Fund

PAST CATALYST FOR CHILDREN AWARD HONOREES

2018
LaRay Brown, Senior Vice President, Corporate Planning, Community Health & Intergovernmental Relations; New City Health and Hospitals Corporation
Rachael Chong, founder and CEO, Catherine Joy Lieberthal Rho, Social Worker; Adoptive Community Advocate

2013
Joyce Moj Executive Director, Asian American/Asian Research Institute of the City University of New York
Beesham A. Seecharan Managing Director and Associate General Counsel, Goldman Sachs & Co.
Preeti Sinha, Founder, COO, Savvy Nutrition, Inc.; co-founder, AJ, and President/Chairman, Apa for Youth

2012
Deep Ghosh, Director of Youth Development, Child Center of New York
Sarah BJ Sung, Chair, Korean-American Family Service Center; Public Affairs Manager, Consolidated Edison Co.

2011
Rocky Chint, Civil Rights Attorney and Community Activist/ Organizer
Jeremy Kohohmban, Ph.D., President, and CEO, Kids Village
Suki Terada Platt, founder and Executive Director, Family Health Project

2008
Sari Jayaraman, Executive Director, Restaurant Opportunities Centers United
Julian Liu, Executive Director, JP Morgan Securities
Tara Tran Nguyen, Fiscal Director, Mayor’s Office of the Criminal Justice Coordinator

2007
Angelo Diaz, Director, Asian Outreach Clinic, The Child Center of New York
Ruby Takahashi, President and CEO, Foundation for Child Development
S. J. Jung, President, Young Korean American Service and Education Center

2006
Tuahina De O’Connor, Executive Director, New York Asian Women’s Center
June Lee, Community Alliance Women’s Center; Verizon Foundation
Grace L. Volckhausen, Commissioner, New York Human Rights Commission

2005
Quang Bao, Executive Director, Asian American Writers’ Workshop
Mary Ann Lee, M.D., Medical Director for the Christiana Care; Deputy Director of Physician Services in the Department of Community Medicine, St. Vincent’s Hospital
Theresa Thanjut, Filmmaker & Director of Youth Solutions, Citizen’s Council

2004
aphl.org, Founders: Americh, American

2003
Leena Doshi, M.D., President, Doshi Diagnostic Imaging Services and Foundation, Doshi Difference
Virginia Kee, Founder and Board Member, Chinese-American Planning Council
Yung Duk Kim, Ph.D., Board President, Asian American Federal of New York
Hafemml Lee, 2003 Winner; Faye, NBC

2002
Julie Atztam, Community Advocate
Sayu V. Bhogwani, Former Commissioner, Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs and Founder; Former Executive Director, South Asian Youth Action
Aiyoung Chol, Former Chair, Korean American Family Service Center

2001
Joan Bang, M.D., President, Korean American Youth Foundation
Smiti Khanna, President, Indian Advisory Board, Queens Child Guidance Center and Co-host of Bhavna Vas
Cao K. O, Executive Director, Asian American Federation of New York

1999
Elaine Choy Lee, M.D.
Eric Sin-Kam Poon, M.D.
Sundar Ramaswamy, M.D.
Thelma M. Reyes, M.D.

The Staff and Faculty of Chinatown Schools

2000
In Sook Hong, Founder and Former Executive Director, Flying YMCA
Sabitha S. Rao, M.D., Pediatrician, Children and Family Health Services
Angel Velasquez, Filmaker, Author, Professor, Community Activist
Alexander Tsui, M.D., Founder and President, Asian Professional Extension, Inc.

Sesame Workshop

2003
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, LLP

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019
CACF is building a community too powerful to ignore.

**CACF LISTENS**
so we can identify our community’s needs

**CACF TRAINS**
the next generation of leaders for our community

**CACF UNITES**
our diverse community

**CACF FIGHTS**
for equal access to funding and service for our community

**Our vision** is for all children and families, including Asian Pacific Americans (APAs), in New York City to be safe, healthy, and able to reach their full potential in life.

**Our Impact**

- **CACF CONVENES AND TRAINS**
  50+ MEMBERS & PARTNERS

- **CACF CONVENES AND TRAINS**
  250+ APA YOUTH
  TO BE LEADERS IN BUILDING UP THEIR COMMUNITIES

- **CACF ADVOCATES**
  SUCCESSFULLY ATTAINED
  $800,000+ FOR HEALTH PROGRAMS

- **CACF LEADS A COLLABORATIVE THAT**
  HAS ENROLLED
  30,000+ APA NYERS
  IN ACCESSING HEALTH INSURANCE
  THROUGH THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

- **PASSED LAWS IN NYC**
  TO BETTER CAPTURE DATA
  ON NEEDY APA
  AND IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

- **REALIZED A THREE-FOLD INCREASE**
  IN NYC CITY COUNCIL
  DISCRETIONARY FUNDING
  TO APA ORGANIZATIONS

- **RESULTED IN**
  NYC’S ADOPTION
  OF FRED T. KOREMATSU
  DAY
  OF CIVIL LIBERTIES AND
  THE CONSTITUTION

Contrary to the model minority myth,
too many Asian Pacific American (APA) families
and children continue to struggle to succeed.

- **ALMOST A QUARTER OF APAs**
  **LIVE IN POVERTY**
  **IN NEW YORK CITY.**

- **WE HAVE THE**
  **HIGHEST POVERTY RATE**
  **OF ALL RACIAL/Ethnic GROUPS**
  **IN NYC.**

- **40% OF NYC APA YOUTH**
  **ARE NOT COLLEGE READY**
  **UPON GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL.**

- **MANY IN OUR COMMUNITY ARE NOT**
  **FLUENT IN ENGLISH**
  **AND STRUGGLE**
  **APPROACHING SYSTEMS & SERVICES.**

- **40% OF NYC APA YOUTH**
  **ARE NOT COLLEGE READY**
  **UPON GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL.**

- **WE HAVE THE**
  **HIGHEST PERCENTAGE**
  **OF RACIAL HARASSMENT**
  **AMONG ALL RACIAL GROUPS.**

- **40% OF THE APA POPULATION**
  **IN NYC RECEIVES MEDICAID.**

- **ACROSS THE COUNTRY, ASIAN AMERICAN STUDENTS REPORT THE**
  **HIGHEST PERCENTAGE**
  **OF RACIAL HARASSMENT AMONG ALL RACIAL GROUPS.**

- **78% OF THE COMMUNITY IS**
  **FOREIGN-BORN AND**
  **LINGUISTICALLY**
  **ISOLATED**, **WITH NO ONE OVER THE AGE OF 14 SPEAKING ENGLISH WELL.**

- **42% OF HOMES ARE**
  **LINGUISTICALLY**
  **ISOLATED**
  **WITH NO ONE OVER THE AGE OF 14 SPEAKING ENGLISH WELL.**

There is power in numbers.
The Asian Pacific American (APA) population, over 1.3 million people, comprises over 1.5% of New York City – the same size of the entire population of Dallas. Yet, the needs of the APA community are often overlooked, misunderstood, and uncounted by decision-makers and those in power in New York City and State. The APA community must have alliances and coalitions that represent them.

**CACF activates a coalition of almost 50 member organizations** to identify and speak out on common challenges and needs across the APA community.

**We must speak up and be invisible no more.**
Our communities’ problems remain invisible to those in power. This means our communities and the organizations that serve them lack resources to provide critical services for those in need.

**Without CACF**
APA youth and families risk continued prejudice, marginalization, and oppression. The organizations that serve the APA community risk losing funding, resources, and political power – hindering their ability to help those in need.
November 4, 2019

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to join the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families in welcoming everyone to its 2019 Catalyst for Change Awards Gala.

My administration remains steadfast in our efforts to promote the wellbeing and inclusion of Asian Pacific New Yorkers, and we are grateful to CACF for its commitment to ensuring that members of this community are equipped with the resources that will help them reach their fullest potential. For 32 years, this organization has listened carefully to the needs of the diverse population it serves in order to effectively advocate for high impact legislation, combat prejudice, increase health care coverage, and train the next generation of leaders passionate about Asian Pacific American issues. Tonight’s event offers a wonderful opportunity to applaud CACF’s staff and supporters for their efforts to build a brighter, more inclusive tomorrow for our residents, and I look forward to everything that the organization will accomplish in the years ahead.

On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to tonight’s honorees. Please accept my best wishes for a memorable event and continued success.

Sincerely,

Bill de Blasio
Mayor

November 4, 2019

To the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families,

On behalf of the City of New York, I would like to offer you my congratulations and well-wishes as you celebrate Catalyst for Change Awards Gala. The CACF has long been committed to its mission of advocating for equity and opportunity for marginalized Asian Pacific American (APA) children and families. I offer you my gratitude for your tireless efforts.

I would like to offer particular congratulations to this evening’s honorees:

- Jason daSilva, President of AXS Lab and founder of AXS Map
- Ram Raju, SVP and Community Health Investment Officer, Northwell Health
- Project by Project New York

As Public Advocate, I know the importance of voices and organizations serving as catalysts for transformational change. I support your work to mobilize communities and share information to impact policy and reform systems, and appreciate your successes over the years. I hope that you celebrate today and continue that work tomorrow. Congratulations on your achievements, and I wish you success for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Jumaane D. Williams
Public Advocate for the City of New York
November 4, 2019

Coalition for Asian American Children and Families
50 Broad Street, 18th Floor
New York, NY 10004

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to extend best wishes to all attending the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families’ Catalyst for Change 2019 Awards Gala.

For more than three decades, the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF) has advocated on behalf of Asian Pacific American children and families across the five boroughs. CACF is committed to increasing representation of our City’s Asian Pacific communities, while expanding access to critical healthcare resources and social services. In addition, CACF provides leadership training and mobilizes members around important policy issues. I am confident CACF will continue to make a positive impact on our City’s Asian Pacific communities for years to come.

Congratulations to tonight’s honorees: Jason Dasilva, Ram Raju, M.D., and Project by Project. Their commitment to the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families’ mission is evident in all they do.

Thank you to the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families for bringing us together tonight to celebrate community and service. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Stringer
New York City Comptroller

November 4, 2019

Dear Friends:

As the Speaker of the New York City Council, I am delighted to extend my personal greetings to everyone gathered here tonight at the Coalition for Asian American Children+Families’ (CACF) 2019 Catalyst for Change Awards Gala!

For centuries, people from all across the world have come to this great city of ours to pursue their dreams of a better life for themselves and their families. And by working hard, overcoming daunting challenges, and achieving personal triumphs, they have helped to make New York one of the greatest cities in the world.

Through it all, various traditions and cultural practices have also found a home here, weaving their way into the fabric of our communities and city.

That’s why the New York City Council and I are fighting to keep New York the welcoming place that it has always been. We recognize that New York City’s diversity is one of our greatest strengths — something that has made us truly unique and a beacon of hope and opportunity to so many.

As they celebrate their awards gala tonight, I would like to thank the CACF and its dedicated team for the important work that they are doing to help support and strengthen the lives of our city’s vibrant Asian Pacific American community.

Congratulations as well to tonight’s honorees.

I hope everyone has a wonderful time tonight. Enjoy!

Sincerely,

Corey Johnson
Speaker
November 4, 2019

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to the Coalition of Asian Children + Families (CACF) on the occasion of their 2019 Awards Gala.

For 30 years, CACF has fought for Asian Pacific American children and families. CACF has become a leader in advancing equity and fairness for New York City’s fastest growing population. From advancing legislation that helps service providers and policymakers understand the nuances between different API ethnic groups to establishing the first Fred T. Korematsu Day in City of New York, it has been a pleasure to work alongside CACF to advocate for our city’s API communities. Together we have also fought to ensure that these New Yorkers receive their fair share of city dollars. In the immigrant communities I represent and throughout the City, CACF has had a tremendous impact on the lives of children from diverse backgrounds.

As a New York City Council Member representing the communities of Jackson Heights and Elmhurst, I thank CACF for faithfully serving our city’s immigrant families, and wish them many more years of success.

Sincerely,

Daniel Dromm
New York City Council Member, 25th District
Mukasey Frenchman & Sklaroff LLP is a proud supporter of the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families and congratulates the 2019 Catalyst for Change Awards Gala honorees.

MU KASEY FRENCHMAN & SKLAROFF

2 Grand Central Tower
140 East 45th Street, 17th Floor
New York, New York
(212) 466-6400

Best Wishes to
Coalition for Asian American Children & Families
On your Awards Gala

Congratulations to
Tonight’s Honorees

Jason DaSilva
Ram Raju, MD, MBA, FACHE
Project by Project

THE ASIAN/PACIFIC/AMERICAN INSTITUTE AT NYU

Proud Supporter of the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families and congratulates the 2019 Catalyst for Change Awards Gala honorees.

APA

THE ASIAN/PACIFIC/AMERICAN INSTITUTE AT NYU

Proud Supporter of the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families and congratulates the 2019 Catalyst for Change Awards

CAMS-CAIPA Community Service Fund
11 E Broadway Unit 4C | NY, NY 10038
Tel: (212) 334-4760 | Fax: (646) 304-6373
camsociety.org

CAMS-CAIPA Community Service Fund
11 E Broadway Unit 4C | NY, NY 10038
Tel: (212) 334-4760 | Fax: (646) 304-6373
camsociety.org
CONDON O’MEARA MCGINTY & DONNELLY LLP has concentrated our auditing and tax practice exclusively in the non profit sector and have earned a reputation for providing the highest quality personal professional services to our clients.

The firm currently serves over 600 non profit organizations. It is our pleasure to be a supporter of the Coalition for Asian Children & Families.

BytesBot
IT Services for the Community

System Support
Network Support
Web Support...

All your technology needs

We are BytesBot.

for inquiry
info@bytesbot.com
COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL IMAGING
7 DAYS A WEEK AND EVENINGS
MRI • Open MRI • CT
X-Ray • Ultrasound • Nuclear Medicine • Interventional • Women’s Imaging • Biopsies & More

LOCATIONS
32nd Avenue
32-25 Francis Lewis Blvd
Bayside, NY 11358

Bayside 44th
44-01 Francis Lewis Blvd
Bayside, NY 11361

Downtown Flushing
136-25 37th Ave
Flushing, NY 11354

Western Queens
72-06 Northern Blvd
Jackson Hts, NY 11372

Glendale
83-14 Cooper Ave
Glendale, NY 11385

TEL (718) 428-1500 | FAX (718) 428-2475
MAINSTREETRADIOLOGY.COM
Northwell Health is dedicated to strengthening communities—a mission we’re proud to share with Coalition for Asian American Children and Families.

We applaud their ongoing commitment to ensuring the long-term health and well-being of children and families, as well as mobilizing a coalition of partners to fight for system and policy changes.

Congratulations to this year’s honorees:

Jason DaSilva  
Project by Project  
And our very own Ram Raju, MD

Michael A. Epstein  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Michael J. Dowling  
President and CEO