



HND NEWS FLASH

January 2009

HMONG NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Hmong National Development, Inc. (HND) is a national, 501(c)(3), not-for-profit organization. Our mission is to build capacity, develop leadership and empower the Hmong American community. HND works with local and national organizations, public and private entities, and individuals to promote educational opportunities, increase community capacity, and develop resources for the well-being, growth, and full participation of Hmong in society.

The HND News Flash is a bi-weekly electronic newsletter with information regarding policy issues, HND updates, and current community news. For more updates, visit: www.hndinc.org.

Disclaimer: *The views expressed in this edition do not necessarily represent the views of the organization. Unless specified otherwise, the below information and/or resources are provided for informational purposes only.*

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- [Charles H. Revson Fellowship \(NYC\)](#): The Charles H. Revson Fellowship offers a unique opportunity for self-development in mid-career for urban leaders who have made significant contributions to New York City.
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I. Legislative & Issues Updates

1. Legislative Updates

a. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (courtesy of NCAPCD)

- i. The \$825 Billion economic recovery plan now being finalized in Congress is critically important legislation. Both the Senate and the House versions include essential new spending on expanding the health safety net, developing new green technology, and relief for schools, states, and local governments.
- ii. The plan is likely to provide somewhere between \$14 and 16.4 Billion in new spending for all housing or U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) administered programs. This falls well short of the over \$40 Billion in projects jointly proposed by a broad range of housing organization and even of the informed estimates offered by insiders even a few weeks ago. Hence many advocates have expressed disappointment with the present housing provisions.
- iii. The House is expected to vote on the economic recovery bills this Wednesday. Senate committees are scheduled to consider the bills this week with the full Senate expected to vote next week. Speaker Pelosi has stated she expects a final bill approved by February 13.
- iv. Both versions increase funding for job training and small business development but the bills do not address structural barriers within the existing programs. For example, the job training program does not expand adult ESL as other API organizations urged. Similarly, the increased funding for small businesses lending without other reforms may miss many minority businesses.

b. State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)

- i. The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) was created in 1997 to insure children in families not qualified for Medicaid and unable to afford private insurance. SCHIP, a bipartisan solution, was designed to provide states with federal support for children's health access.
- ii. In 2006, approximately 36 million children were enrolled into SCHIP. In 2007, Congress failed twice to override a Presidential veto to re-authorize the program with expanded coverage. Instead, Congress voted to extend its current funding until March 2009.
- iii. On March 31, 2009, the SCHIP is due to expire. Without re-authorization, along with expanded coverage, at least 31 states will run out of funding and millions of children will be dropped.
- iv. The 2009 SCHIP bill is expected to lift a provision in place for more than a decade that bars legal immigrant children and pregnant women from federal health programs during their first five years in the U.S. About 400,000 children would be newly eligible for federal health programs under the change.

c. Digital Television Transitions

- i. On February 17, 2009 all full-power broadcast television stations in the United States will stop broadcasting on analog airwaves and begin broadcasting only in digital. Digital broadcasting will allow stations to offer improved picture and sound quality and additional channels.
- ii. This television receiver has only an analog broadcast tuner and will require a converter box after February 17, 2009, to receive over-the-air broadcasts with an antenna because of the Nation's transition to digital broadcasting. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before with cable and satellite TV services, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players, and similar products.

- iii. Consumers who rely on antennas to receive over-the-air broadcast signals on TV sets will need to obtain separate digital-to-analog **set-top converter** boxes to watch over-the-air TV. These boxes receive digital signals and convert them into analog format for display on analog TVs. Analog sets connected to such converter boxes will display digital broadcasts, but not necessarily in the full, original digital quality.
- iv. The TV Converter Box Coupon Program has reached its funding ceiling. However, coupon requests from eligible households will be filled as funds from expiring coupons become available. If you would like to apply for a coupon today and are eligible, you will be placed on a waiting list and will receive coupons on a first-come-first-served basis as funds from expiring coupons become available. Coupons will expire within 90 days of the date they are mailed.

2. Policy News

- a. **President Barack Obama Repeals the Global Gag Rule:** President Obama signed an executive order Friday, January 23, 2009 ending the Global Gag Rule. The Global Gag Rule prohibited family planning programs in other nations that receive US aid from using non-US monies for abortion counseling, advocacy, and referrals. The rule was instituted by President Reagan in 1984, was repealed by President Clinton, and was reinstated by President George W. Bush. The Global Gag Rule inhibited women worldwide from access to gynecological exams, AIDS prevention and treatment, and contraceptive options. It also halted shipment of condoms and contraceptives to more than 20 countries. In part because of restricted access to reproductive health services, more than 70,000 women annually die from unsafe abortions worldwide.
- b. **Economic Stimulus Bill Clears the House:** Just eight days after his Inauguration, President Obama's recovery plan cleared the House Wednesday evening after Republicans failed in back-to-back efforts to shift the focus more to tax cuts and traditional highway and water infrastructure projects. Changes could still be made in the course of the Senate floor debate which will stretch into next week.
- c. **Senate Ready to Pass SCHIP:** The Senate is expected to vote this week on legislation to expand a popular health care program for uninsured children. On January 22, 2009 the Senate Finance Committee approved a \$31.5 billion measure to expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program, or SCHIP, for another 4 1/2 years. The bill could hit the Senate floor as early as January 28, 2009.
- d. **Hundred Gather to Support Immigration Reform:** On January 21, more than 800 faith leaders and community members gathered in front of Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) headquarters in Washington D.C. to urge a moratorium on the raids and immigration reform. Following the rally, everyone marched to Westminster Presbyterian Church for a community forum.
- e. **House Passes Bill Addressing Discrimination in the Workplace:** On January 9, 2009 the House passed two bills important to restoring fairness for women workers, the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 and the Paycheck Fairness Act. The Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act states that the 180-day statute of limitations for pay discrimination resets with each new discriminatory paycheck. The Paycheck Fairness Act allows employees to collect back pay for two years prior to filing a discrimination complaint.
- f. **Congress Votes to Release Second Half of \$700 Billion Bailout Bill:** On Thursday January 15, 2009 Senate voted to release the second half of the \$700 billion bailout package. A number of senators crossed party lines on the vote. Six Republican senators voted for the release of the bailout funds, and nine Democratic senators voted to bar the use of the remaining billions. Obama wants access to the remaining funds to expand lending to consumers and small businesses, but lawmakers from both sides of the aisle have expressed opposition to releasing the funds from the unpopular rescue plan.

- g. **Supreme Court to Hear Challenge to Voting Rights Act:** On January 9, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear arguments in a case that will challenge the constitutionality of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965. At issue in the case is a provision that requires certain states and jurisdictions to submit any voting changes to the federal government for "preclearance." They have to prove that the change will not adversely affect minorities' ability to vote in their candidate of choice before the change can go into effect. The Court's decision could severely limit the federal government's ability to protect the voting rights of minorities.
- h. **FCC Says NO to Obama's DTV Transition:** January 8, 2009 President-elect Barack Obama's transition team requested that Congress not switch off the analog signals just yet, citing that the program ran out of money and currently could not fill the requests of consumers seeking converter box vouchers, thus the need to delay the change. Federal Communications Commission's chairman Kevin Martin said that a delay in the upcoming analog-to-digital transition taking place next month might actually cause more confusion, that there are other options to pursue rather than push the transition date back. Congress could pass additional funding, or eliminate the 90-day expiration deadline on the coupons.
- i. **Senator Harkin Announces Senate Agriculture Committee Members for the 111th Congress:** Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today announced the list of Democratic Senators that will comprise the majority of the Committee. The roster includes newly-named Senators Gillibrand of New York and Bennet of Colorado. The Republican Leadership had made its announcement regarding members last week, with the exception of one vacancy. A full membership list can be found at <http://agriculture.senate.gov>
- j. **Senators Unveil Plan to Revitalize Rural America:** Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND) and Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.) today introduced legislation they authored to boost struggling rural economies with federal investment in water and infrastructure upgrades, expansion of rural health care, and new power generation and transmission projects. The proposal — known as the Rural Revitalization Act of 2009 — would make significant investments in rural development priorities, including infrastructure projects, energy programs, housing assistance and rural health care. More information on the legislation can be found at <http://conrad.senate.gov/>
- k. **Supreme Court Unanimously Upholds Gender Discrimination Rights In Schools:** The United States Supreme Court in *Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Committee* unanimously upheld that ability of students and parents to sue individuals, cities, and governments for gender discrimination and sexual harassment under Section 1983, a Reconstruction-era civil rights law in addition to other laws.
- l. **Nashville Rejects English-only Law:** Voters in Nashville on January 22, 2009 rejected a proposal that would have made the country music capital the largest U.S. city to make English the official language of local government. U.S. English Inc, which has promoted and keeps track of such language proposals, said 30 states, had passed official English legislation, which applies in varying degrees to state government activities but not local ones. In the past 2 1/2 years, it added, a number of smaller towns had passed such measures. Nashville, with a population of about 600,000, would have been the largest U.S. city by far to have approved such a step had it passed.
- m. **Department of Health and Human Services Releases New Poverty Guidelines:** The federal government this month updated the poverty guidelines that govern eligibility for the Community Services Block Grant and a host of other programs for the poor. The guidelines can be accessed at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-1510.htm>
- n. **Obama Signs Order to Close Guantanamo Within One Year:** Obama signed a series of orders today that include setting a timeline for shutting down the Guantanamo Bay Detention Camp within a year and closing down secret detention centers run by the CIA where detainees were reportedly tortured.

II. HND Updates

1. **CALL FOR ART EXHIBITION DEADLINE EXTENDED JANUARY 30, 2009:** Since the 2005 Conference, HND has strived to provide a national venue for Hmong artists to showcase their work, regardless of the medium. We believe that art can be a vehicle to moving our community forward in that it provides opportunities for Hmong to reflect on their bicultural identity share their historical past and bring attention to our challenges. This Call for Art Work Submission is to broaden the opportunity for Hmong artists to share their work with the HND and larger Hmong community. To access the Call for Art Work Submission, please visit our website at www.hndinc.org. You may also contact HND by calling 202-797-9105 or via email at info@hndinc.org.
2. **CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP, EXHIBITS & ADVERTISEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**
 - a. **Conference Sponsorship Opportunities.** We ask and welcome your support to make the 14th Hmong National Conference a successful and memorable event. Your support serves as a building block to a stronger Hmong American community locally and nationally by helping HND increase access and helps to maintain low registration fees; build the capacity of developing young leaders, professionals, parents, and community members; and encourage increased community involvement and development. HND provides four levels of sponsorship to meet your needs. You may also call HND to discuss additional conference sponsorship options that will better meet the needs of your organization and/or business.
 - b. **Exhibit Booth Opportunities.** To rent an exhibit booth at the 14th Hmong National Conference, please fill out an exhibit application form and return it with your payment to HND. Note that space is limited to corporations/businesses, nonprofit organizations, government entities, and colleges/universities. HND will accept exhibit applications on a first come, first serve basis.
 - c. **Advertisement Opportunities.** HND is accepting applications to advertise in our 14th Hmong National Conference program. Interested entities must fill out an application and return it with your payment to HND. Again, note that space is limited and HND will be accepting advertisement applications on a first come, first serve basis. Your support in sponsoring the 14th Hmong National Conference is not only crucial to the success and development of conference participants from all over the United States, but also to the success and development of the larger Hmong & non-Hmong communities in the State of Wisconsin. Sponsorship, exhibit booth, and advertisement opportunities can be found online at: www.hndinc.org.
3. **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION – EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 13, 2009.** The 14th Hmong National Conference will serve as a bridge for the Appleton and greater Wisconsin community to the national Hmong community and will provide a forum for the professional development of Hmong and non-Hmong alike. Last year's conference in Denver, Colorado drew over 500 attendees from all over the United States. Register early to save on registration pricing and lodging. **The early registration deadline is March 13, 2009.** Please note that registration fees will increase after that date. Additionally, for hotel lodging at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, WI 54911, please call (888) 201-1718 or (920) 733-8000 directly to make your reservations. Mention the *Hmong National Conference* to receive a discount rate of \$112 for single/double/triple/quad occupancy rooms (tax not included). Please note that **discounted lodging rates are available until March 15, 2009.** For more information and/or to register, go to: www.hndinc.org. Locate the "Hmong National Conference" tab and click on "14th Hmong National Conference". You may also register online at <http://14hnc.eventbrite.com> and/or contact Srida Moua at (202) 797-9105 or via email at info@hndinc.org.
4. **CONFERENCE WORKSHOP AND SPEAKER UPDATES:** Conference workshop schedules and descriptions have been posted onto the [HND website](http://www.hndinc.org). Information on conference keynote speakers and plenary session topics can also be found on the [HND website](http://www.hndinc.org).

III. Hmong & the News

1. **Wausau East High School holds welcome night to encourage more Hmong parent, student activity.** Wausau East High School officials who want to increase Asian students' participation in school activities invited about 55 Asian families to visit the school this week. About 20 percent, or 263 students, at the school are Southeast Asian, according to Wausau School District enrollment data for 2007-08. But those students generally are less involved in extracurricular activities than their peers. Officials worry that Hmong families aren't as comfortable with the system and students aren't getting as much as they can during their school years.
2. **Exhibits focus on our fabric and fashion fancy.** When clothes become more than a functional outer layer, high fashion can cross into high art. Three art exhibits opening and ending this month capitalize on our collective fascination with fabrics, style and status. With about 500 items from more than a dozen different Asian cultures, "Writing with Thread: Traditional Textiles of Southwest Chinese Minorities" communicates values through piles of silver necklaces, elaborate headdresses, delicate embroidery and ancestral images. Chinese miniskirts are among the items on display at the exhibit, which opens at the Chazen on Friday, Jan. 30.
3. **English school for Fresno Hmong refugees closing.** A school that teaches English to Hmong refugees is closing its doors because of declining enrollment; a situation administrators say is a sign of success. After five years, enrollment at the Academy for New Americans is down to 46 from a high of 600. The school was established to help the wave of young Hmong refugees who poured into Fresno in 2004. Now most of the students have transferred into their neighborhood schools.
4. **Rights Groups Fear Protests in Thailand Refugee Camps.** There are growing fears of protests inside Lao-Hmong refugee camps in Thailand, following confirmation by the new Thai government it will repatriate thousands of Hmong held in camps for almost two years. Fresh appeals are being made by the United Nations and rights groups for greater "transparency" in the repatriation process. Thailand's plan to repatriate 5,000 Lao-Hmong refugees is causing concern that violence last year in the Huay Nam Khao camp could be repeated. The Hmong people are one of several major tribal groups in Laos.
5. **Dental Hygienist Tries To Change Hmong Attitudes.** brushing your teeth twice daily, it's something we do out of habit. But many in the Hmong community say they don't necessarily trust common dentistry basics like brushing and flossing. One local Hmong dental hygienist is trying to change that. La Lor is a dental hygienist in Wisconsin. Lor says for many Hmong immigrants from Laos and Thailand, taking care of your teeth before you get toothaches is something they just don't do.
6. **Slain Fresno Hmong fled Southeast Asia for safety of U.S., only to be killed.** Va Ger Vang eluded death on the battlefields of Southeast Asia and in Thai refugee camps even as it claimed family members and friends all around him. But death caught up to him Jan. 11 in a foggy central Fresno alley. Va Ger Vang, 63, was beaten to death just feet from his home early on a Sunday morning by a man police say is a Bulldog gang member. Francisco Garcia, 22, faces murder charges.
7. **Buried in Laotian soil, a war's threat endures.** It is a disturbing fact that during the secret US war in Laos from 1964 to 1973, Xieng Khouang was the second most heavily bombed province in a country that would gain the unenviable distinction of being the most heavily bombed country per capita in history. An estimated 20 million devices remain unexploded in and on the land. Included in that figure are a large number of anti-personnel cluster bombs, called bombies by the Lao people, as well as other bombs, mortars, artillery shells and land mines. The need for land to be cleared increases even more as Hmong refugees are repatriated from camps in Thailand.
8. **Thailand agrees to repatriate 5,000 Hmong refugees to Laos.** Thailand has agreed to repatriate 5,000 members of the Hmong ethnic minority to Laos from Thai refugee camps, a foreign ministry spokesman told AFP Saturday. Thousands of Lao Hmong live in the camps in north east Thailand and are seeking political asylum. They say they fear persecution because many Hmong once fought alongside US forces during the Vietnam war.
9. **Rutgers scholar sheds light on 'Gran Torino' ethnic stars.** It is a paradox of Louisa Schein's life that she is fascinated by an ethnic group that barely registers in the tri-state area. The Rutgers University anthropologist is the country's foremost expert on the Hmong, the Asian hill people who figure prominently in the new Clint Eastwood film, "Gran Torino." Schein is so tapped into the Hmong

community that she was allowed telephone access to the closed film set to interview the actors, and accompanied one of the movie's stars to its New York premiere last month.

10. **Clovis boy charged in death must stay in jail.** A judge says a 13-year-old Clovis boy must remain in jail until his trial for the death of a toddler girl because his parents can't control him. Fresno County Superior Court Judge David Gottlieb said Tuesday that the eighth-grader would be a threat to the community. The toddler, Jennifer Yang, was severely beaten Dec. 11 while the boy was baby-sitting her. Family members took her off life support three days later, and she died of head injuries. The boy is being held at the Fresno County Juvenile Justice Center and will be arraigned Jan. 27 on charges of manslaughter and assault on a child causing great bodily injury.
11. **War memorial vandal to be sentenced today.** A California man convicted of spray-painting a Sheboygan veterans memorial is scheduled for sentencing today. Alexander S. Nava, 19, vandalized the Lao, Hmong and American Veterans Memorial in Deland Park and 13 other locations between Aug. 5 and 17, according to a criminal complaint. He was convicted of seven misdemeanor counts of graffiti — the other counts were dismissed under a plea deal — and could face more than five years in prison.
12. **A way of life for a shaman was no excuse for a judge.** A federal judge sentenced an 86-year-old Minnesota woman and her daughter for smuggling animal products, hoping to provide a deterrent.
13. **DTV Hotline Open Now.** Analog television will end on February 17th. Northeast Wisconsin Broadcasters are staffing a DTV Answers Hotline this evening to take your calls and answer your questions to help you get ready. Please call 888-538-9646 for English, 888-538-9647 for Spanish and 888-538-9648 for Hmong. Lines will be open until 9pm. Information is also available on the web at www.dtvanswers.com
14. **Doctor bridges gap to Hmong community.** Muaj Lo knew one English word - "chair" - when he arrived in the United States on Jan. 21, 1980, from a refugee camp in Thailand. Living in a new country, the 11-year-old native of Laos - who initially lived with his grandparents in St. Paul - learned quickly and went on to become a family medicine physician.
15. **Foreign film series encourages conversation.** NEW World Cinema, the Fox Cities' ongoing foreign film series that's now in its third year, is a grass-roots program. Volunteers organize showings, and audience members provide the movie suggestions. The seasonal series, which starts up again Jan. 25 and 26 with the Danish movie "After the Wedding," stimulates conversation among those who participate in the discussions after each film showing at Fox Cinema, 400 Third St., Menasha. The spring lineup includes one movie per month through April. The Spanish film "Volver" will play Feb. 22 and 23. The Hmong film "A Good Hearted Daughter-in-law" on March 29 and 30 will precede the 14th Hmong National Conference in Appleton that takes place April 3-5. Finally, "In the Name of God," a film from Pakistan, will run April 26 and 27. Tickets for each showing cost \$5.

IV. Announcements

VI. Announcements

1. GENERAL

- **CALL FOR PAPERS: AAPI Nexus: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Policy, Practice and Community.** AAPI Nexus is a peer-reviewed, national journal published by UCLA's Asian American Studies Center focusing on policies, practices and community research to benefit the nation's burgeoning Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. The journal's mission is to facilitate an exchange of ideas and research findings that strengthens the efforts through policy and practice to tackle the pressing societal problems facing Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities. Since the inception of ethnic studies, the goal of "serving the community" has been at the heart of Asian American Studies and Pacific Islander Studies. More information can be found at <http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/aascpress/pressresources.htm>

2. UPCOMING EVENTS

- **RELEASE OF 2007 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE RESULTS:** On Wednesday, February 4, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will release the long-awaited results of the 2007 Census of Agriculture. The release will take place at the Jefferson Auditorium

USDA South Building. The Ag Census, conducted every five years, is the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation. At the briefing, representatives from USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will provide a look at highlights from the new Census, including changes in farm numbers and acreage, the demographics of U.S. farm operators, and the economic aspects of agricultural production.

- February 7, 2009 (Milwaukee, WI): APAMSA-MCW 2009 Conference on APA Leadership Training
- 9th Annual Quality Education Conference: *Strengthening Opportunities to Learn in Challenging Economic Time*: **This year's conference will again bring together** plaintiff litigators, education advocates, community organizers, and policy experts to network and explore critical education reform issues. The conference will be held May 7-8, 2009 in Washington, DC. **This conference will be by invitation only. Please email EDJUSTICE for an invitation.**
- [Northeast-Midwest Institute Capitol Hill Summit: Revitalizing Older Cities](#): Feb. 11-12, Washington, D.C.
- [NCSHA Legislative Conference](#): March 2-4, Washington, D.C.
- [Housing California 2009 Annual Conference](#): April 27-29, Sacramento, Calif.
- [National Low Income Housing Coalition Annual Housing Policy Conference & Lobby Day](#): April 19-22, Washington, D.C.
- [Solutions for Working Families: 2009 Learning Conference on State and Local Housing Policy](#): June 28-30, Chicago
- [Alliance for Children and Families: Senior Leadership Conference](#) The Alliance for Children and Families Senior Leadership Conference will bring together child and family services professionals from throughout the United States. Three workshop focus areas will allow participants to self-design their experience to maximize their knowledge and leadership development. The Operational Development track will investigate business-driven planning, staff development, change management, and operational issues as powerful tools for organizations. The Leadership Development track will develop personal and professional skills and values that support career growth. The Organizational Development track will explore the benefits and practical application of strategic alliances, strategic planning, and promising program practices. The conference will be held in St. Pete Beach, FL, on February 21-25, 2009. Visit the website listed above for conference details.
- [Child Welfare League of America National Conference](#) The Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) is a coalition of hundreds of private and public agencies serving vulnerable children and families in all 50 states. CWLA's 2009 National Conference, "Children Today... America's Future," will set the stage for the important work to be done in 2009 to ensure that our children are a national priority among policymakers and the general public. The conference will offer progressive sessions in four specialty summits: Trauma-Informed Child Welfare System, Transformation of Residential Care, Leadership Development, and Substance Abuse and Child Welfare. The conference will be held in Washington, DC, on February 23-25, 2009. To download the conference brochure and submit the registration materials, visit the CWLA website.

3. [JOB OPENINGS](#)

- Education and Training Manager, Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (Sacramento, CA)
- Executive Director, Organization of Chinese Americans (Washington, DC)
- Development Director, Organization of Chinese Americans (Washington, DC)
- Director of Policy and Social Action, Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Madison, WI)
- Immigration/Poverty Law Attorney, Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Madison, WI)
- Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin seeks a Human Services Professional. Please direct inquiries to Manila Kue, (920) 225-1718.

4. **STUDENTS: Available Fellowships/Scholarships/Internships**

- **Federal Asian Pacific American Council (FAPAC):** FAPAC is offering internship and scholarship opportunities for Asian American college students; applications are due February 28, 2009. More information can be found on the [FAPAC website](#).
- **Hmong Student Association of Colorado (HSAC)** is proud to introduce our first scholarship for Hmong youths. Deadline to apply is March 31, 2009. More information can be found at: <http://hmongstudent.org>.
- The **Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)** announces a Hepatitis B Policy Fellowship Program for 2009. The fellowship is a year-long program based in Washington D.C. and will be awarded to a medical, public health, or policy professional who is interested in strengthening the collaboration between key stakeholders and the federal government in order to achieve practical solutions for the disparate impact of hepatitis B on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. The deadline for receipt of applications for the 2009 fellowship is **February 2, 2009**. More information can be found on the [AAPCHO website](#).
- **Charles H. Revson Fellowship (NYC):** The Charles H. Revson Fellowship offers a unique opportunity for self-development in mid-career for urban leaders who have made significant contributions to New York City. Each year, the program selects ten Fellows of diverse backgrounds and fields of achievement. Application deadline is February 1, 2009. More information can be found at www.revson.columbia.edu.
- The **Wellstone Fellowship for Social Justice** is designed to foster the advancement of social justice through participation in health care advocacy work that focuses on the unique challenges facing many communities of color. Applications are due February 6 and can be found on the [Families USA website](#).

5. **ORGANIZATIONS: Available Funding/Grant Opportunities & Organization Updates**

- **Grantwriting Assistance**
 - **Making Time to Write Grants** The number one reason people give for not applying for a particular grant is that they don't have the time. This 90-minute webinar is full of practical advice that can help you organize your approach to grant seeking by teaching you how to create the time to do the job and do it well. Cynthia Adams, CEO of GrantStation, will cover everything from big picture thinking and how it can drive your grant seeking efforts, to how to use volunteers effectively. The webinar will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2009, at 2 p.m. EST. The registration fee is \$89 per person. Visit the website listed above to register.
 - **Grant Writing: Getting Off to a Good Start** If you are new to grant writing, this 90-minute webinar will help you identify the information you need to collect and the files you need to establish to begin developing compelling grant proposals. Cynthia Adams will use a PowerPoint presentation and the GrantStation website as visual training tools. A 30-minute question and answer session provides the opportunity to ask tough questions, and share the challenges you face as a beginning grant writer. The webinar will be held on Thursday, February 19, 2009, at 2 p.m. EST. The registration fee is \$89 per person. Visit the website listed above to register
- **Foundation deadlines**
 - **HP Innovations in Education** The 2009 HP Innovations in Education grant program provides support to educational institutions in the United States through two initiatives. Grants for Secondary School Districts help eligible districts launch innovative pilot programs that support the administrators and teachers responsible for student success in math and science in middle schools and/or high schools. HP plans to award approximately 25 grants valued at more than \$270,000 each in HP technology, cash, and professional development to public or qualified private school districts. Grants for Colleges and Universities are

targeted at administrators and faculty who are enhancing undergraduate degree programs in engineering, computer science, information systems, and information technology. HP plans to award approximately ten grants valued at more than \$240,000 each in HP technology, cash, and professional development to public or qualified private colleges or universities. The online web-based proposal submission system will open in early March 2009. Proposals must be submitted by 5 p.m. Pacific Time on March 30, 2009. Visit the HP website listed above for detailed program guidelines.

- [The Calvin K. Kazanjian Economics Foundation](#) The Calvin K. Kazanjian Economics Foundation is dedicated to the goal of increasing economic literacy throughout the United States. The Foundation gives priority to programs with national impact that address the following issues: raising the public's participation in economic education and creating a demand for greater economic literacy; encouraging measurement of economic understanding; the application of new strategies for teaching economics, including web-based instruction; and helping disenfranchised youth or young adults with children learn to participate in the economic system. The next deadline for proposals is February 15, 2009. Visit the Foundation's website to review the application guidelines.
- [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Communities Creating Healthy Environments](#) Communities Creating Healthy Environments, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, aims to prevent childhood obesity by increasing access to healthy foods and safe places to play in communities of color. The program will support community-based organizations and federally chartered tribal nations in the development of effective, culturally competent policy initiatives to address childhood obesity at the local level. Examples of eligible proposals include action to increase public resources for recreation in underserved communities, and land-use and zoning policies that increase healthy food access in a community. Eligible applicants must have a track record of at least two years of successful community organizing and policy advocacy to address health-related problems in communities of color. Through this call for proposals, the Foundation will provide grants of up to \$250,000 over a three-year period in up to ten communities. The application deadline for brief proposals is February 26, 2009. Applications must be submitted online through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation website listed above.
- [Sprint Supports Character Education](#) The 2009 application period for the Sprint Character Education Grant Program opens February 2. This program is open to K-12 public schools and school districts throughout the United States for the support of character education programs that promote leadership, youth volunteerism, and school pride. Individual schools may apply for grants of up to \$5,000; school districts may apply for grants of up to \$25,000. Awarded grants may be used for the purchase of materials and supplies, teacher training, and equipment that facilitates character education for K-12 students. Applications will be accepted online until February 27, 2009.
- [Do Something Awards Exceptional Youth](#) Do Something is accepting applications for the annual Do Something Awards. These awards recognize youth in the U.S. and Canada under the age of twenty-five whose self-initiated projects are tangibly improving their communities. Five winners will each receive a minimum of \$10,000 in community grants. From among these winners, one will be chosen as the grand prize winner and will receive a total of \$100,000 in community grants. Note: Winners who are eighteen years of age or younger are eligible for \$5,000 in community grants and a \$5,000 scholarship. Applications are due March 1, 2009.
- [Dollar General Supports Literacy Programs](#) Dollar General is accepting applications for Adult Literacy Grants and Family Literacy Grants. Adult Literacy Grants support direct services for adults to improve literacy, including assistance in the instructional areas of adult basic education, general education diploma

preparation, and English for speakers of other languages. Family Literacy Grants support family literacy service providers. Applications are due March 4, 2009.

- [Project Orange Thumb](#) Started in 2003, Project Orange Thumb is a grant program that provides community garden groups with the tools and materials they need to reach their goals for neighborhood beautification and horticulture education. Community garden groups, as well as schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities, etc. are encouraged to apply. Applications are due February 17, 2009.
- [UnitedHealth Group/PacifiCare to Provide New Grants to Benefit California Health Care Consumers.](#) UnitedHealth Group and PacifiCare have announced that they will fund \$25 million in total new grants over the next three years to benefit health care consumers and improve the delivery of healthcare services in California. These new grants are part of PacifiCare/UnitedHealth Group's commitments to California made in association with UnitedHealth Group's acquisition of PacifiCare. Applicants must be entities that deliver healthcare services, facilitate the delivery of healthcare services (through information technology or some other means), or train healthcare professionals in California. Preference will be given to public entities or nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status. Proposals are due February 18, 2009.
- [Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation](#) The mission of the Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation is to promote a sustainable and just social and natural system. The Foundation provides support to grassroots nonprofit organizations nationwide through the following grantmaking programs. The Foundation's Protect the Health and Environment of Communities Threatened by Toxics program supports state and regional organizations that address toxics exposure and contamination. The Advance Environmental Justice program supports organizations that work to counter environmental degradation in low-income communities and communities of color. The Promote a Sustainable Agricultural and Food System program supports rural and urban organizations that focus on issues involving sustainable agriculture and community food security. The Ensure Quality Reproductive Health Care as a Human Right program supports organizations that advocate for public policies to safeguard reproductive freedom. Letters of inquiry may be submitted throughout the year. Visit the website listed above for details on each of the Foundation's grantmaking programs.
- [FINRA Investor Education Foundation](#) The FINRA Investor Education Foundation supports innovative research and educational projects that give investors the tools they need to better understand the markets and the basic principles of saving and investing. The Foundation's General Grant Program funds projects that support its mission of providing underserved Americans with the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary for financial success throughout life. In 2009, the Foundation is especially interested in applications that focus on the following areas: creating new marketing and distribution channels for financial and investor education; helping Americans manage their finances and investments in retirement; meeting the financial and investor education needs of underserved audiences; and using behavioral finance to improve saving and investing. The 2009 application deadlines for Project Concept Forms are February 4 and May 6. Application guidelines and forms are available on the Foundation's website.
- [MoneyGram Global Giving Program](#) The MoneyGram Global Giving Program supports U.S. and international nonprofit organizations that strengthen communities of people that rely on money transfer and bill payment services. The program's grant categories include Basic Needs and Affordable Housing, with a focus on services that provide housing, shelter, and food as well as other basic needs. The Basic Education category emphasizes basic literacy for youth and

adults, appropriate grade level achievement, parenting skills, and social adjustment for academic success. Requests are reviewed two times per year; the next application deadline is March 15, 2009. Visit the website listed above to review the MoneyGram Global Giving Program's funding guidelines.

- [Castle Rock Foundation](#) The mission of the Castle Rock Foundation is to promote a better understanding of the free enterprise system, help ensure a limited role for government and the protection of individual rights as provided for in the Constitution, encourage personal responsibility and leadership, and uphold traditional American values. The Foundation provides general operating support and special project grants to nonprofit organizations throughout the United States whose goals and purposes address the mission of the Foundation. The upcoming application deadline is March 15, 2009.
- [Innovating Worthy Projects Foundation](#) The mission of the Innovating Worthy Projects Foundation is to provide support for quality special-needs children's programs throughout the United States. The Foundation's focus is on nonprofit organizations dedicated to developing innovative programs, disseminating ideas, or providing direct care or services for children with special needs, acute illnesses, or chronic disabilities. Grant requests of up to \$5,000 are considered. Preference is given to small organizations that might not otherwise be helped. Requests are accepted from January 1 through August 31 of each year.
- [The Annenberg Foundation](#) The Annenberg Foundation exists to advance the public well-being through improved communication. As the principal means of achieving its goal, the Foundation encourages the development of more effective ways to share ideas and knowledge throughout the U.S. and globally. The Foundation focuses its grantmaking on the following program areas: education and youth development; arts, culture, and humanities; civic and community; animal services and the environment; and health and human services. Letters of inquiry that address the Foundation's interests are accepted throughout the year.
- **Federal Deadlines**
 - [National Endowment for the Arts: NEA International Literary Exchanges: Chinese and U.S. Contemporary Poetry Anthologies](#) This program provides funding for the publication of an anthology of work from writers of a foreign country, and the partner country commits to publishing a corresponding anthology of work from United States writers.
 - [Health and Human Services: Telehealth Network Grant Program \(TNGP\)](#) This program seeks to support telehealth networks by demonstrating how these networks can be used to: improve the quality of health care services; expand the training of health care providers; and improve the quality of health information available to health care providers, patients, and their families.
 - [Department of Agriculture: RMA Community Outreach and Assistance Partnership Program](#) This program funds projects that provide limited resource, socially disadvantaged, and other traditionally underserved producers with training, informational opportunities, and assistance necessary to understand the kinds and use of risk management tools, and how to make sound risk management decisions.
 - [Institute of Museum and Library Services: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services](#) This program promotes enhanced learning and innovation within museums and museum related organizations, such as cultural centers.
 - [Department of Justice: Education and Training to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women with Disabilities](#) This program supports the education, training, and establishment of multi-disciplinary teams at the state and local level to address violence against and abuse of women with disabilities.

- [**Department of Education: Grants for the Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems**](#) This program will provide funds to increase student access to high-quality mental health care by developing innovative approaches that link school systems with the local mental health system.
- [**Department of Agriculture: Specialty Crop Block Grant Program**](#) This program provides funds to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops.
- [**Department of Justice: Grants to Enhance Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Program**](#) This program seeks to provide culturally relevant services to victims from underserved populations by addressing the unique barriers they face when seeking services that best meet their needs.