



NATIONAL KOREAN AMERICAN SERVICE & EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

**NAKASEC**  
미주한인봉사교육단체협의회

# **IMPACT REPORT**

**FISCAL YEAR 2025  
JULY 1 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025**



## DEAR FRIENDS OF NAKASEC,

We must begin by acknowledging that we are living in a time of immense fear and consequence for immigrants, who make up so much of our community. We are also living in a time of great courage and, more than anything, we are living among the ongoing efforts of movement builders who have for years pursued liberation for all and continue to do so as we speak. If there is anything we have learned in thirty years of organizing Asian Americans for a more just world, it is that we cannot let those in power divide us. We see our communities used as scapegoats, and we see attempts to pit us against other marginalized people. But we know our solidarity is our strength, and we are proud to be building with others in the immigrant justice movement and beyond to pursue solutions to issues that impact all of us.

At NAKASEC, we reached over 400,000 community members this year. As a network, we encouraged hundreds of thousands of Asian American voters to make their voices heard during the elections. We launched an immigrant defense rapid response program educating our communities to protect themselves when interacting with immigration enforcement, provided Know Your Rights resources in Korean and English, and launched a KYR app in 23 languages. We continued mobilizing for our Citizenship for All work, visiting New Orleans for the DACA hearings, Nashville for a critical moment in education, and D.C. to defend birthright citizenship; we urged action from our elected officials via weekly phonedogging. And equally important: we healed as a community, hosting multiple regional retreats for connection.

We are excited to share our Fiscal Year 2025 accomplishments and experiences with you, including uplifting the work of our affiliate organizations and our projects Adoptees for Justice and Woori Ujima. A movement requires many hands in many roles, and we are grateful for all those who have contributed to our growing impact.

In Community,

**Gayoung Chung, Board Chair**  
**Becky Belcore and Jung Woo Kim, Co-Directors**

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# OVERVIEW

## MISSION AND VISION

NAKASEC's mission is to organize Korean and Asian Americans towards racial, economic and social justice. We envision a future in which the marginalized become the change-makers to dismantle systems of oppression and reimagine a more equitable society for all.

## AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

NAKASEC is one of the only national progressive Asian American networks in the United States. Today, we are composed of four grassroots community-based organizations in five states:

**Hamkae Center - Virginia**

**HANA Center - Illinois**

**Minkwon Center for Community Action - New York, New Jersey**

**Woori Center - Pennsylvania**

**400,000+**

Community Members Served

**\$15M+**

Combined Budget

**102**

Staff

**400+**

Volunteers



# TURNING OUT ASIAN AMERICAN VOTERS FOR THE 2024 ELECTIONS



5  
STATES



123  
VOLUNTEERS



228,623  
TEXTS SENT



25,814  
DOORS KNOCKED



106,968  
PHONES CALLED



30,600  
BILINGUAL MAILERS  
SENT



400,000+  
ASIAN AMERICAN VOTERS REACHED



## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Asian Americans are the fastest growing electorate in the country, and our local affiliates are uniquely positioned to increase voter turnout by engaging voters in their preferred languages and with cultural attunement.



# IMMIGRANT DEFENSE RAPID RESPONSE

Learning from our experiences in the past and through our peers in the immigrant justice movement, NAKASEC developed and launched a rapid response program in January to defend our immigrant community members in a time of aggressive anti-immigrant actions.

## IMMIGRATION EMERGENCY HOTLINE

Beginning in February, NAKASEC revived our around-the-clock immigration hotline in Korean and English (with a direct connection to a Spanish hotline). The hotline is an essential resource for those facing an encounter with immigration enforcement or in search of a loved one who has been detained.

## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS MATERIALS AND TRAININGS

NAKASEC hosted monthly online trainings for community members, providing information on family preparedness planning, Know Your Rights for small businesses, and a community defense workshop. On the ground, our local affiliates outreached to small businesses, churches, schools, and community leaders with information, resources, and specially curated trainings to meet their needs.

## WEEKLY PHONEDOGGING

In February we launched a weekly phonedogging campaign, gathering staff and volunteers nationwide to call key decision-makers in Congress and beyond to voice our demands. Call session issues included opposition to harmful policies like H.R. 29 and bloated budgets, advocacy for policies that improve the lives of millions, and demanding the release of community members trapped by immigration enforcement.

**1-844-500-3222**

**24**

HOURS A DAY

**100+**

VOLUNTEERS

**500+**

CALLS

**2,600**

POSTERS & CARDS

**500+**

SMALL BUSINESSES  
REACHED

**50+**

COMMUNITY TRAININGS

**25**

SESSIONS

**250+**

CALLS MADE

**170**

PARTICIPANTS

## THE FIGHT TO DEFEND DACA

In October 2024, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals heard oral arguments reviewing a 2022 ruling about the lawfulness of the Deferred Actions for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. This hearing was one of many in the years-long battle over the program that provides work permits and protection from deportation for young people. NAKASEC and the Home is Here Coalition gathered over 300 people from across the country for a day of action in New Orleans. Together, our presence highlighted the importance of DACA and underscored our commitment to a pathway to citizenship amidst DACA's constant precarity.



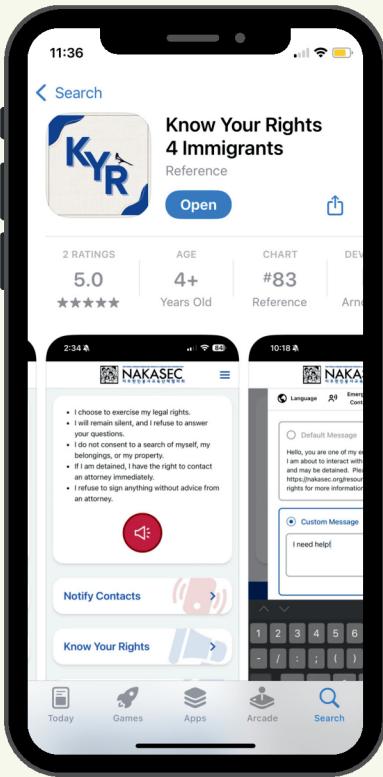
## EDUCATION FOR ALL

NAKASEC, as part of the Fair Immigration Reform Movement (FIRM), joined the Tennessee Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (TIRRC) in April as they mobilized hundreds of students, teachers, parents, faculty, and advocates at the state's capitol. The Tennessee legislature had proposed legislation that would exclude children from public education based on their immigration status and would have set a dangerous precedent nationwide. Thanks to the tireless work of TIRRC and their partners, the bill did not advance this legislative session, marking a win in a continuing battle to protect education for all.

## HANDS OFF THE 14TH!

In May, members of the NAKASEC Network joined national partners in Washington, D.C. to defend the Constitution's 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment right to birthright citizenship. The Supreme Court held oral hearings on the nationwide injunctions placed on Trump's executive order attempting to end birthright citizenship, and the case will continue through the courts.





## MULTILINGUAL KNOW YOUR RIGHTS APP

NAKASEC developed and launched a "Know Your Rights 4 Immigrants" app for Apple and Android that explains one's constitutionally-protected rights in their preferred language, reads rights out loud in English in the case of an immigration enforcement emergency, and texts an emergency contact when needed. It connects users with critical information like embassy contacts, the ICE detainee locator, and how to create a family preparedness plan. The app is available in 23 languages and has been downloaded over 29,000 times.



Apple Store



Google Play Store

## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP

At the beginning of the year we started a monthly mental health workshop for a cohort of impacted community members, led by a certified mental health counselor. This virtual group is cultivated to center the stories and voices of the participants and allow them the safety to share and connect over their experiences.

## REGIONAL RETREATS

NAKASEC held regional retreats for our impacted community members to have time away from the overwhelming shadow of anti-immigrant policies and to be in intentional community with one another, seeking rest and joy. We hosted a retreat for East Coast community members and planned one for the Midwest in the following fiscal year. This dedicated space for healing and connection in nature is invaluable in times of heightened fear and anxiety.





# ADOPTEES FOR JUSTICE

Adoptees for Justice (A4J) is an intercountry adoptee-led project of NAKASEC whose primary focus is securing citizenship for all intercountry adoptees and building community resources for adoptees without citizenship. A4J works to ensure that intercountry adoptees have the same rights, opportunities, and protections as any other child of American parents.

## LEADERSHIP SUMMIT IN KOREATOWN

In March, 20 A4J staff, key volunteers, and community members gathered in Los Angeles to re-strategize our plans toward winning a gubernatorial pardon for two adoptees without citizenship in California, advancing the Protect Adoptees and American Families Act, and providing legal and general support for impacted adoptees.

## COMMUNITY CARE

A4J disbursed \$27,800 in mutual aid to vulnerable community members to help them meet their basic needs; supported 30+ adoptees in applying for naturalization, work authorization, and other legal matters; and facilitated 12 virtual support group calls with a licensed mental health professional for adoptees without citizenship.

**"YOUR COMPASSION HAS GIVEN ME REAL HOPE THAT ONE DAY I'LL BE ABLE TO PAY IT FORWARD AND HELP SOMEONE ELSE THE WAY YOU'VE HELPED ME."**

— MUTUAL AID RECIPIENT

# WOORI UJIMA

Woori Ujima is an initiative created by NAKASEC and the UndocuBlack Network (UBN), and its name uses Korean and Swahili to mean, "Our Collective Work and Responsibility." UBN and NAKASEC see it as our collective work and responsibility to foster deep and authentic relationships with each other, and to build Black and Asian power toward the liberation of all peoples.

## INTRODUCING WOORI UJIMA.ORG

Woori Ujima now has an official website! Part of the website is a timeline-style archive of major events in Black and Asian immigrant history, telling the larger story of our communities within the context of the systemic forces that shaped our present. It also illustrates the history of Woori Ujima back to our founding in 2017.



## WOORI UJIMA FELLOWS

NAKASEC and UBN launched a fellowship program with each organization hosting a Woori Ujima Fellow in 2025. The fellows worked together to develop content for Woori Ujima's official website and have been responsible for planning upcoming Woori Ujima convenings.





# HAMKAE CENTER

In 2012, Hamkae Center (formerly NAKASEC VA) was founded to collectively build power with Korean and Asian American communities in Northern Virginia. Guided by community members, Hamkae Center meets immediate needs, builds community power to make long-term systemic changes that address the root causes of these needs, and center human connections.



FAIRFAX, VA

18

STAFF

2,700+

COMMUNITY MEMBERS SERVED

\$1,925,865

ANNUAL BUDGET

## WHAT COMMUNITY IS SAYING

"I believe that everyone living in this country, no matter their immigration status, should have access to health insurance. I want to sincerely thank Hamkae Center for their hard work in helping people like us." — Hamkae client

## HIGHLIGHTS

**When a community member was detained by ICE, Hamkae Center's team helped get them released** by connecting their employer to necessary resources. Hamkae is currently building deeper relationships with community members, offering Know Your Rights trainings, and organizing campaigns to end the racial profiling of immigrants and keep us safe.

Hamkae Center is a co-founder of Virginians for Reproductive Freedom, a coalition advocating for abortion access and to end criminalization of accessing and providing reproductive healthcare. **Hamkae helped secure the passage of resolutions from the House and Senate**, a major win toward codifying reproductive rights in the State Constitution.

Hamkae Center met community member Allison while tabling at Annandale's Korean Festival. Allison had lived in the United States for 20 years without pursuing naturalization. After that initial meeting, she went to Hamkae Center for assistance in navigating the process and **received her citizenship, gaining more confidence in her day-to-day life**.



# HANA CENTER

HANA Center was created as a strategic merger of two Korean American organizations in Chicago in 2017. HANA means "one" in Korean, symbolizing unity and wholeness. HANA Center's mission is to build the power of Korean American and multiethnic immigrant communities through social services, education, culture, and community organizing to advance human rights.

## WHAT COMMUNITY IS SAYING

"Due to HANA Center and the Healthy Illinois Campaign's organizing, I could have regular check-ups with a primary care physician for the first time in decades. That is where my doctor discovered a tumor in my breast. Two days ago, I had it removed. I am deeply grateful." — Mrs. Lee



CHICAGO &  
PROSPECT HEIGHTS, IL

41

STAFF

18,500+

COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
SERVED

\$4,374,000

ANNUAL BUDGET

## HIGHLIGHTS

HANA Center celebrated **two years of base building through the Korean art of nonggi-making** in partnership with artist Aram Han Sifuentes. This event displayed over 100 nonggi created by immigrants across Chicagoland and used at rallies, community events, and cultural celebrations to express their stories and hopes for a just future.

During the Illinois state legislative session, HANA Center and partners worked to designate **more funding for organizations for immigration application assistance, citizenship classes, public benefits enrollment, and Know Your Rights outreach**. They also advocated for the successful passage of the Safe Schools for All Act.

Ms. Kim came to HANA Center as a volunteer providing free haircuts for job seekers in the workforce program. She did not plan to apply for citizenship because she was afraid of the test and language barriers, but she attended HANA's citizenship class just to "see how it goes." Over time, **her confidence grew, and she was able to become a U.S. citizen**.



# MINKWON CENTER

Founded in 1984 (originally YKASEC), MinKwon Center for Community Action was named for the Korean word meaning "civil rights"; this name change reflects the organization's history of service and organizing by and for their community. MinKwon Center's mission is to empower the Korean American community and wider Asian American and immigrant communities to achieve economic and social justice for all.



FLUSHING, NY &  
PALISADES PARK, NJ

**24**

STAFF

**2,800+**

COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
SERVED

**\$2,753,184**

ANNUAL BUDGET

## WHAT COMMUNITY IS SAYING

"감사드립니다! 처음으로 도움을 받게 되었고, 마치 사혜처럼 일상처럼 든든했어요. 도움을 주셔셔요. Thank you so much! It was my first time receiving help, and it felt deeply reassuring, like a quiet blessing woven into daily life. Thank you for your kindness." — SNAP client

## HIGHLIGHTS

MinKwon Center facilitated meetings for the Korean Immigrant Network, a forum where community members could meet monthly to discuss community advocacy efforts around local issues. They also built their base through Korean Tales, storytelling sessions for immigrant community members.

MinKwon helped lead a campaign against a development plan to turn public land near Citi Field in Flushing into a casino. They mobilized resistance through community surveys, public hearings, rallies, and ongoing coalition efforts. MinKwon New Jersey joined a coalition to advocate for the passage of the Immigrant Trust Act.

In response to the rising issue of EBT skimming, MinKwon staff supported over 38 households in reclaiming \$16,370 in stolen benefits to help restore stability and trust in their communities. One family, scammed twice and devastated by their loss, found hope again through this assistance, successfully recovering both claims.



# WOORI CENTER

Founded in 2018 and with roots in Korean American organizing in the 1990s, Woori Center takes its name from the Korean word for "our," reflecting their work to uplift their whole community and work in unity with other marginalized groups. Woori Center empowers Korean and Asian Americans in the Greater Philadelphia area, envisioning a society in which everyone thrives together based on mutual understanding and respect.

## WHAT COMMUNITY IS SAYING

"By volunteering in the voter registration program, I wanted to help the Asian community participate in democracy, raise their voices, protect their rights, and break down barriers ahead of us. Woori Center is a vital connector between generations." — Minjeong, Civic Engagement Volunteer



LANSDALE, PA

6

STAFF

2,000+

COMMUNITY MEMBERS SERVED

\$413,265

ANNUAL BUDGET

## HIGHLIGHTS

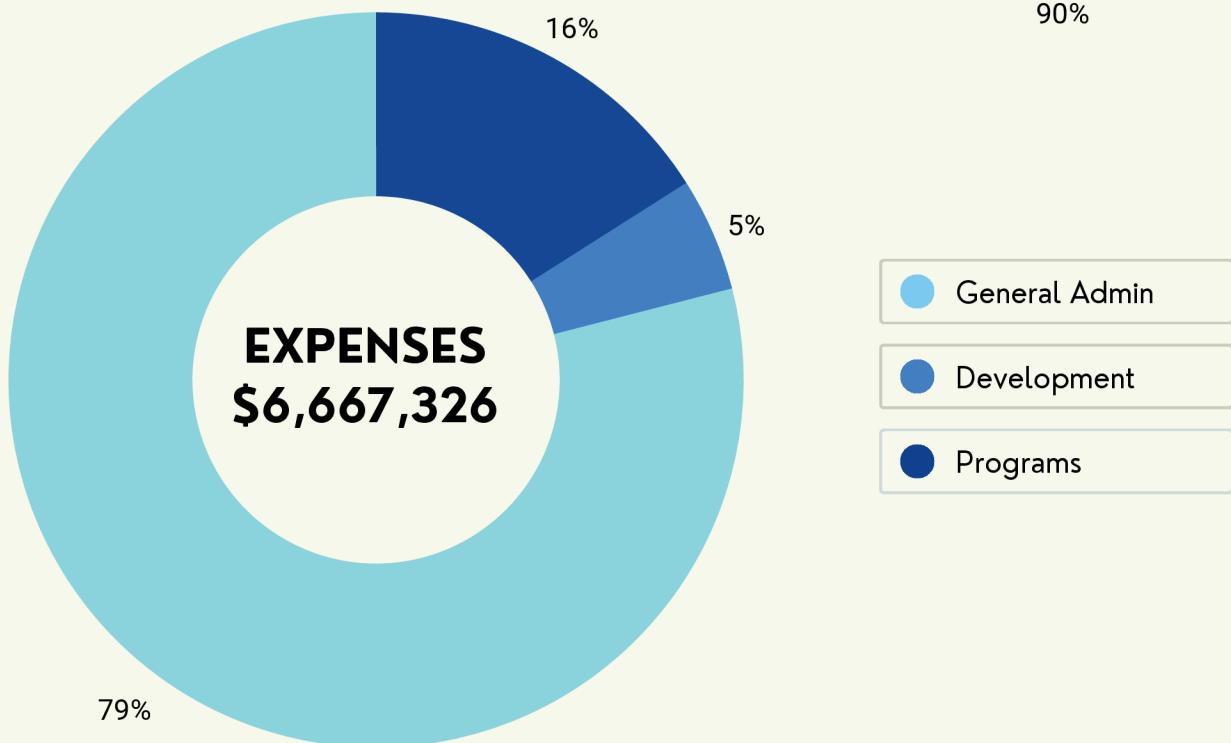
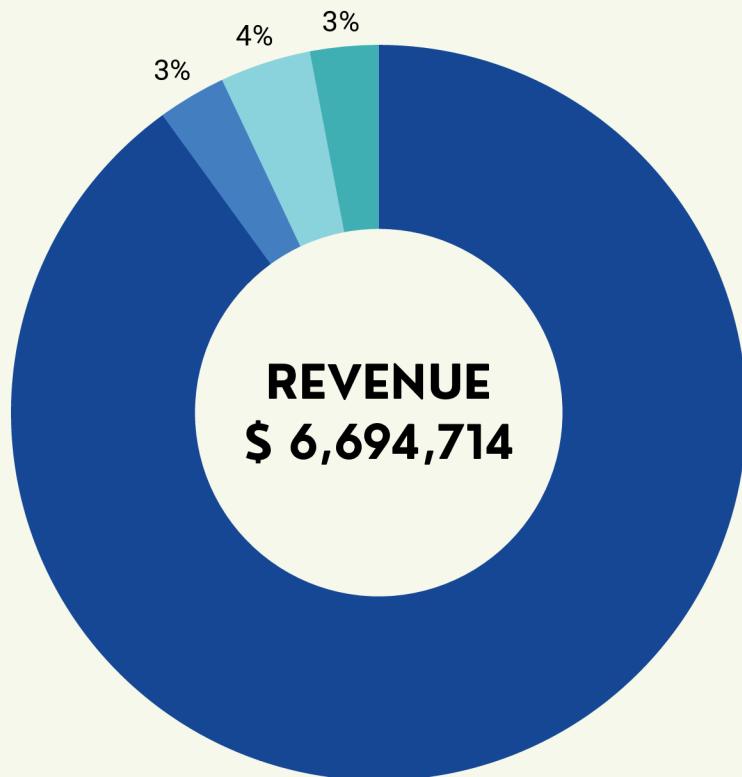
**Woori Center joined the No Arena Campaign to save Chinatown**, the last working-class community of color in Center City, from the development of a 76ers arena that would have gentrified the neighborhood and displaced its residents. Community leaders hosted a nonggi-making workshop to express their demands, then brought the banners and drums to the rally.

Woori community members met with state legislators, county commissioners, and school district superintendents **to push for welcoming school and county policies**. These efforts helped lead to a public pledge by two commissioners to not sign the 287(g) agreement, as well as internal policies that prohibit collaboration with ICE.

Woori Center launched Woori Fresh Mart, a food pantry program that has so far **brought fresh produce to over 400 Asian and other low-income senior community members**. They also used these visits to the senior apartments to assist community members in registering to vote.

# FINANCIALS

- Foundation
- Government
- Grassroots
- Other



## WE RAISED OVER \$66,000!

On May 22, 2025, NAKASEC hosted our third annual virtual fundraiser, New Narratives: Documenting Untold Stories. Special thanks to brilliant guest speakers Jota Mun, award-making filmmaker of *Between Goodbyes* (2024) and Chi-hui Yang, an accomplished film scholar joining us from the Ford Foundation. And thank you to everyone who contributed to help us exceed our goal!

**Jota Mun**

[betweengoodbyes.com](http://betweengoodbyes.com)  
@betweengoodbyes  
@nakasec | @adoptees4justice



**Chi-hui Yang**

[betweengoodbyes.com](http://betweengoodbyes.com)  
@betweengoodbyes  
@nakasec | @adoptees4justice



## DOCUMENTING UNTOLD STORIES

Our guests had in an in-depth conversation on transnational adoption and documentary filmmaking as narrative form, and Jota shared about their process in creating *Between Goodbyes*.

# NEW NARRATIVES

# FRIENDS OF NAKASEC

NAKASEC can only continue advancing the immigrant justice movement with passionate supporters who believe in our mission and share our values. Many thanks to all of our generous donors.

The following list is of individuals who made gifts to NAKASEC and Adoptees for Justice from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025; this list does not include gifts made to NAKASEC affiliate organizations.

## INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Lynn Aaker	Annie Choi	Monik Flores	Nina Huang
Eddie Ahn	Dan Choi	Emily Flynn	Soohyung Hur
Joshua Ahn	Heejun Choi	William Giacofci	James Hurt
Beth Alden	Heisun Choi	Kris Gilbert	Jo-Anne Hyun
Monica Allen	Inhe Choi	Erika Glancy	Kathy Im
Daniel Altschuler	Kat Choi	Byel Gould	Louise Jacob
Sandra Amelino	Seung Choi	Rowan Graves	Taneka Jennings
Marie Au	Sung Yeon Choi Morrow	Mike Greco	Michelle Jenny
Heather Avens	Leona Chu	Nicholas Greene	Inah Jeong
Suzanne Bachner	Esther Chun	Leslie Griep	Hana Jeong Pak
Thomas Baek	Ga Young Chung	Loren Guay	Michael Jessup
Rodlyn-mae Banting	Katie Chung	Kimberly Gube	Youngju Ji
Kenneth Barker	Juliana Chyu and David Whitney	James Gui	Felicia Jia
Nancy Bason	Steve Clark	Hazel Gurland	Sara Jones
Molly Battaglini	Daniel Clayton	Sun Guthrie	Patrick Jones
Caitlin Behle	Anna Cohen	Carola Haas	Tanya Kaanta
Becky Belcore	Laura Collins	Frieda Hacic	Tarah Kadzielawski
Brian Belcore	Lawrence Corry	Meredith Hackett	Mary Pat Kanaley
Alisha Bennett	Alice Cottingham	Elizabeth Hafter	Nanwon and Wan-Mo Kang
Ann Berdahl	Beth Couture	Youngmee Hahn	Amy Kearse
Will Biby	Marian Dalke	Annie Hamaty	Emily Kessel-Qureshi
Miae Bok	Ethan Dang	Amy Hammond	Carol and Andrew Kim
Christina Bradford	Anna Maria Dare	Angela Han	Euichul Kim
Judith Brauer	Dawn Davenport	Aram Han Sifuentes	Heaja Kim
Eleanor Byrne	Joyce Davis	Shanna Harrington	Hee Sook Kim
Jimmy Byrne	Jennifer Davis Seckel	Lindsey Harris	Helen S. Kim
Joseph Byrne	Stephanie Davis Wallace	Hannah Hearn	Jennie Kim
Jam C	Henry Der	Charles Hegenberger	Ji Hye Kim
Dana Calvet	Cindy Dinh	Sarah Helinek	Jong Kim
Mike Calvet	Marisa Dinino-Fernandez	Katelyn Hemmeke	Jung Woo Kim
Jennifer Carlson	Wynne Dobyns	Lee Herrick	Megan Kim
Nara and Paul Carman	Nicole Docta	Scarlett Hester	Min A Kim
Chris Carr	Yoon Dokko	Ashley Hicks	Robin Kim
Cathy Cha	Sam Dowling	Jaye Hobart	Sophia Kim
Elizabeth Chacich	Catherine Doyle	Anita Hochstettler	Susan H Kim
Jessica Chappell	Jongyeon Ee	Daniel Hoddinott	Yongho Kim
Young Sun Cheon Klessig	Ashley Elstad	Kim Holder	Younhee Kim
Amanda Cho	Sara Engelhardt	Meghan Holtan	Zu Whan Kim
Jasper Cho	Andrew Ericson	Nam Holtz	Judith Kloper
Julie Cho	Kate Firestone	Ju Hong	
		Anna Hu	

## INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS CONTINUED

Tae Kneidinger	Sookyung Oh	Aeri Swenndson
Rebecca Koch	Jolene Olson	Gayle Swift
Lydia Kostuch	Kira Omans	Katie Tall
Danae Kovac	Ka Hyun Paek	Michelle Tan
Dae Keun Andres Kwon	Grace Pai	Valeri and
Joanne Lam	Elizabeth Pak	Mark Tao
Jessie Lan	Janet Park	Jane Theodore
Kimberly Langrehr	Hyun Sook Park	Mary Thoman
Boksoon Lee	Anne Park	Joy Thorne
Ellie Lee	Helene Parker	Yoongi Tom
Eunsang Lee	Katherine and	Elena Towers
Gus Lee	Jason Patch	Vi Tran
JeeYeun Lee	Yolanda Pereira	Vi Anne Traynor
Jinhee Lee	Siriluck Sarah Poontong	Amanda Tucker
Joann Lee	Asad Quasem	Shannon Turner
Sae Jin Lee	Kim Radanovich	Kerri Uehlein
Shinjeong Lee	Bill Radtke	Sally Verstraete
Mel Lee	Zhen E Rammelsberg	Kristen Vitello
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Chris Light	Kathryn Robb	Susan Walther
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Amanda Lowrey	Rosa Sanchez	Guy Ward
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Debra Madonna	Dan Schober	Ryan Whitacre
Alicia Mady	Jennifer Schrader	Sharon White
Tae-Ahn-Jeong Mady	Kerry Schultz	Timothy Wickey
Allen Majors	Parker Segal	Grant Williams
Tania Malven	Munsup Seoh	Linda Wilson
Kathleen Mannion	Jenny Seon	Miranda Wilson
Dana Marston	Kala Sharp	Katie Wind
Melinda Matthews	Chris Shepard	Chris Wodicka
Jaime Mayer	Emily Shewmaker	Nancy Wu and
Valerie McDonnell	Irene Shin	Daniel Situ
Kimberly McGough	Kala Sharp	Amy Wu
Cori McMillan	Ernestina Short	Susan Wu
Julie Lee Merseth	Christa Shreve	Eve Wu
Erin Morris	Seema Singh	Kevin Xu
Gregory Morris	Bailey Smith	Chi-hui Yang
Seth Morris	Jihyeon Song	Alvina Yeh
Saba Nafees	Hankyeol Song	Linda Yencich
Nancy Naslund	Nancy Sosnowski	Claire Yoo
Jen Neis	Bob Soule	Daniel Yoon
Lauren Nelson	L Springer TTEE	Michelle Zelazny
Jennifer Newton	Alice Stephens	Katherine Zhang
Hyunja Norman	Betsy Stephens	Hannah Zwerk
Mai Li O'Keefe	Rich Stolz	
Jon Oaks	Heidi Strong	
Linda Oh	Maquita Sue	
Sally Oh	Allison Sullivan	
Soon-Young Oh	Laura Summers	



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