



## Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC

**Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC**, a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization, was incorporated in 1991 and opened its Washington, DC office in 1993. Our mission is to advance civil and human rights for Asian Americans and to build and promote a fair and equitable society for all.

Our organization is driven by our commitment to empower Asian Americans to participate in the democratic processes that shape our communities, to ensure that Asian Americans are valued as equal and integral members of society and to guarantee that Asian Americans have equal access to resources and opportunities that allow us to provide for our families and contribute to American society. Specifically, we work to:

- **Building Democracy:** By protecting voting rights, monitoring local and federal voting reforms, positioning community leaders to participate in democratic processes at local and national levels and working to obtain an accurate count of our community in Census 2020 to maximize our political voice.
- **Promoting a Just and Inclusive Society:** By addressing racial violence and discrimination, advancing immigration reform and ensuring an accurate portrayal and representation of our communities.
- **Expanding Community Access:** By monitoring the implementation of the health care reform, removing barriers that restrict access to education and employment, and ensuring that our communities have equal access to broadband services.

Our expertise on issues of importance to the Asian American community is widely acknowledged in the media, by the public and by lawmakers at the very highest tiers of government. Noteworthy accomplishments include:

- **Voting Rights:** In 2012, to eliminate barriers to voting and to increase voting rights awareness, we led the establishment of the only national Asian-language voter hotline. In 2014, the hotline will support voting outreach efforts targeting geographies that were previously protected by Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act and contain large Asian American communities.
- **Affordable Care Act (ACA):** In 2009, we successfully advocated for the inclusion of civil rights protections that prohibit discrimination on the basis of language, national origin, and ethnicity within the provisions of the ACA. Subsequent to the ACA's passage, we have assumed a national leadership role in monitoring our communities' experience of the program's implementation.
- **Accurate Count:** Since 2000, we have worked on national and regional levels to ensure that demographic data accurately reflects our diverse communities. Our work has shaped the US Census Bureau's methodologies, and has yielded unprecedented data that continues to fuel advocacy on local levels.
- **Immigration Reform:** In 2013, we brought more than 200 community members from across the country to participate in the "Rally for Citizenship" on Capitol Hill. Many participants met with their representatives for the first time ever, sharing their stories and voicing their concerns about the current immigration system. These community members, together with our Community Partners representing community-based organizations from across 30 states, continue to provide local leadership in our national effort to achieve immigration reform.

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