



ASIAN AMERICANS
ADVANCING
JUSTICE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

IMPACT REPORT

ASIAN AMERICANS ADVANCING JUSTICE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

2024
&
2025



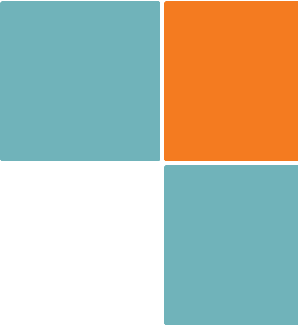


FOREWORD

2024 and 2025 brought profound change and growing uncertainty for our neighbors, families, and the values we hold dear. Through it all, Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California (AJSOCAL) remained grounded in the strength and resilience of our communities. These pivotal years underscored why our work matters, how much remains at stake, and the urgency of continuing to protect the rights, dignity, and well-being of those we serve.

Between 2024 and 2025, AJSOCAL provided critical support to more than 30,000 people, offering in-language legal assistance grounded in cultural understanding and delivered with dignity and care. Over 4,000 people turned to us for help with immigration matters, housing, and health access alone. Our domestic violence and family law team supported more than 1,200 survivors, while our attorneys took on significant civil rights matters involving employment, education, conservatorships, discrimination, and more. Behind every number is a person, a family, and a life changed through access to trusted legal help.

Together, these two years reflect AJSOCAL's continued commitment to protecting rights, expanding access to justice, and standing with communities across Southern California. They also underscore the ongoing need for trusted, culturally responsive, and in-language advocacy.



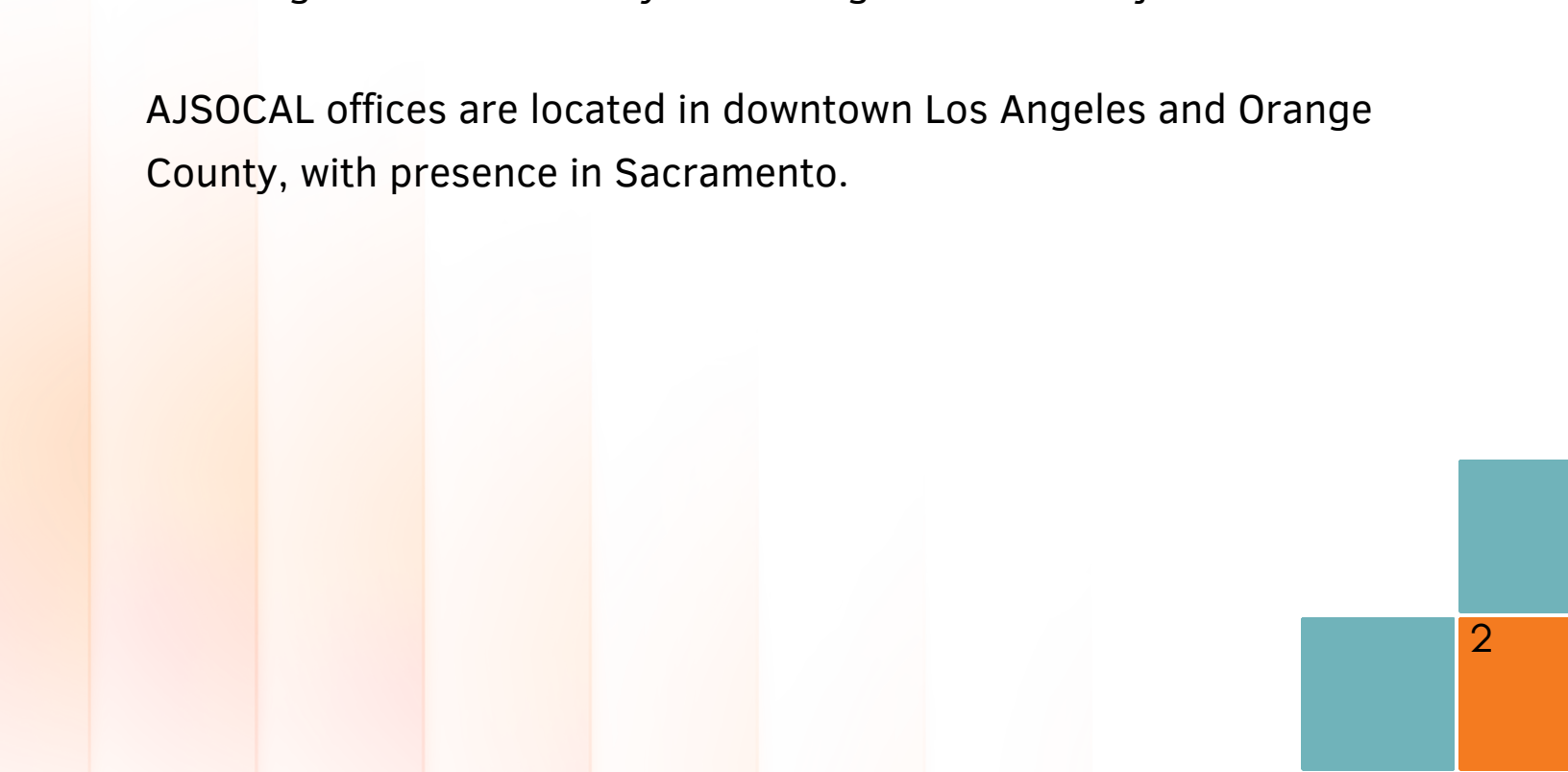
OUR MISSION

Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California is a social justice organization that protects and strengthens the rights and dignity of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities, especially those that are most disadvantaged.

ABOUT US

AJSOCAL is the nation's largest legal advocacy organization for AAPIs. Founded in 1983, AJSOCAL supports over 15,000 individuals and organizations annually. By offering free legal help, engaging in impact litigation and advocating for policy change, AJSOCAL prioritizes the most vulnerable members of AAPI communities while fostering a robust advocacy for civil rights and social justice.

AJSOCAL offices are located in downtown Los Angeles and Orange County, with presence in Sacramento.





ASIAN AMERICANS
**ADVANCING
JUSTICE**
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

2024



2024

A DONOR'S JACK YEH

STORY

I am a Senior Partner and Trial Lawyer at the Greater Los Angeles offices of Sidley Austin, LLP. Like many of you, my connection to AJSOCAL and its history has been a strong one.

I have served on the Board of AJSOCAL for nearly two decades. In that time, I have watched the incredible AJSOCAL staff and attorneys carry out a vision that has elevated the health and welfare of our community, and it is the seamless integration of our roles as lawyers in that vision that has connected all of us together.

AJSOCAL has been the catalyst to put our talents as legal professionals to work so that we can make our respective contributions to improve the influence and impact we have on our community.

The reason I serve on this Board and the reason why Sidley Austin is a sponsor of this organization is because we are proud and honored to do so. But more importantly, it is our duty. It is our duty to help and it is our duty to be an integral part of this vision.

And so, to all of AJSOCAL's supporters, I first want to say **thank you**, for your support, for stepping up, and getting involved.

At the same time, after reflecting on what this organization has done and continues to do, please understand that your support and active involvement with this organization is not simply a charitable contribution. I'll repeat that. This is not a charity. It is a responsibility. As leaders we are responsible to all of our communities, for an organization that means so much to all of us and has such tremendous impact.

– Jack Yeh | AJSOCAL Board Member

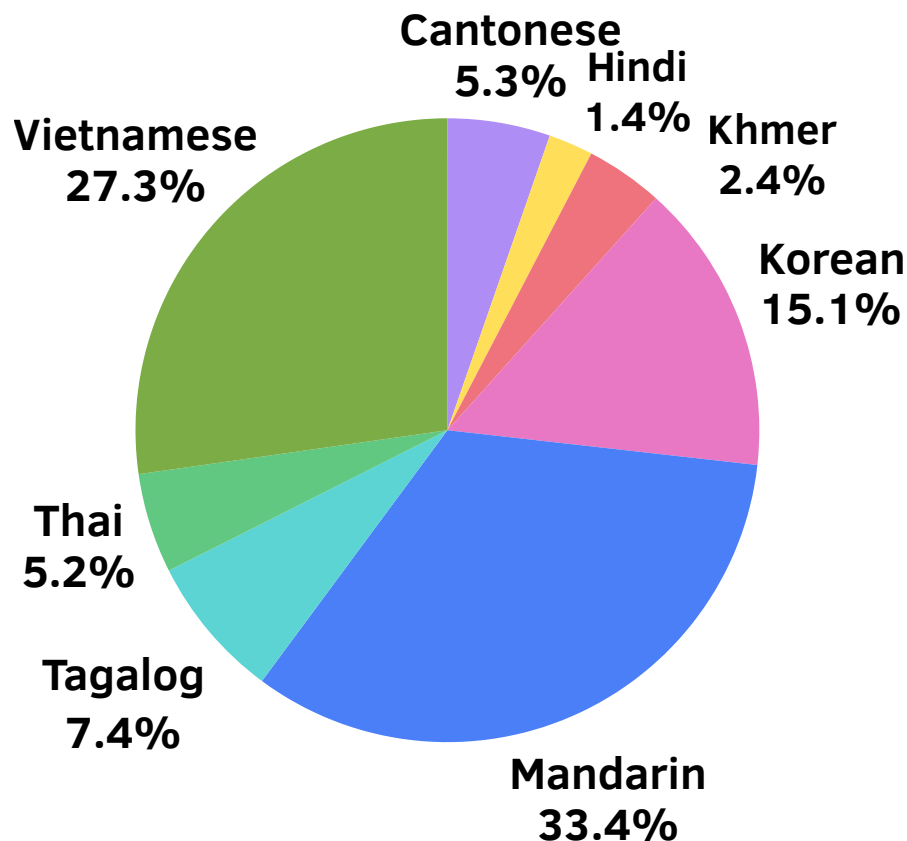
Asian Language Legal Intake Project (ALLIP)

2024

AJSOCAL's **Asian Language Legal Intake Project** (ALLIP), known as our “helplines,” remains one of the most comprehensive in the nation. In 2024, ALLIP continued to offer free, language-accessible legal support in Cantonese, Mandarin, Hindi, Khmer, Korean, Tagalog, Thai, Vietnamese, English, and Spanish.

 **9,358 total calls**
in 2024.

Top Asian Languages*



These are the top 8 Asian languages we serve, in addition to English and Spanish. We've also taken calls in 39 different languages total.

Community Engagement (CE)

2024

AJSOCAL's Community Engagement (CE) unit exists to actively engage with Chinese-, Korean-, and Vietnamese-speaking community members through in-person community events, educational seminars and social media.

CE focuses on supporting individuals facing anti-Asian discrimination (AAD) and also provides culturally responsive guidance and victim support, essential components for seeking justice.

In 2024, AJSOCAL conducted **44 anti-Asian discrimination workshops and seminars** generating more than **694,000** digital impressions.

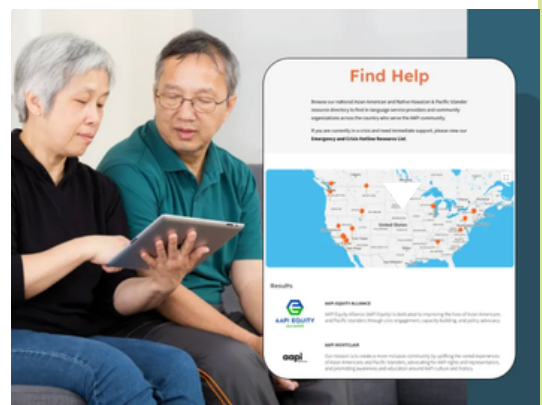
We also held **24 Bystander Intervention and Response Trainings**, reaching **689 participants**.

Demographic Research Project (DRP)

AJSOCAL promotes a deeper understanding of AAPI communities by producing and disseminating crucial research that underscores the diversity and disparities among the 50+ ethnicities that make up the AAPI population in the U.S. Through demographic reports, technical assistance, and training from our Demographic Research Project (DRP), AJSOCAL provides critical context to inform policy, community engagement, and advocacy efforts. DRP's reports are available for free online at [AJSOCAL.org](https://www.ajsoocal.org).

100+ AAPI Organizations

featured on AsianResourceHub.org, a website developed by the Demographic Research Project to make resources and data on Anti-Asian hate more accessible to the public.



Health Access Program (HAP)

The **Health Access Program** (HAP) at AJSOCAL works to advance health equity for AAPI communities through multilingual outreach, community education, and policy advocacy. The program focuses on reducing systemic barriers to care—including language access, low health literacy, immigration status, and cultural stigmas—that continue to prevent many AAPIs from receiving the health services they need.

In 2024, AJSOCAL directly assisted **150 individuals or households** with health coverage access. Through a statewide partnership of 14 community-based organizations, the network helped **1,955 people** enroll in or renew Covered California coverage.

Housing Preservation (HP)



The **Housing Preservation** program provides free legal counsel, housing rights clinics, and access to language-appropriate resources that help protect tenant rights. AJSOCAL also collaborates with partner organizations and coalitions to advance policies that promote housing justice and equitable access to safe, affordable housing for all Californians.

495 housing matters

handled to help tenants remain in their homes



2024



Immigration and Citizenship

As one of AJSOCAL's most significant areas of work, immigration and citizenship provides legal services to low-income and limited English-speaking AAPI populations. In collaboration with local partners, AJSOCAL regularly conducts free citizenship application workshops where trained staff and volunteers assist clients with eligibility screening, application preparation, and fee waiver requests. This year, AJSOCAL also began participating in the region's rapid response network, helping immigrants impacted by federal immigration enforcement.

1,608 immigration and citizenship matters handled.



Impact Litigation Unit (ILU)

The Impact Litigation Unit brings cases in state and federal courts to address systemic injustice in immigration, employment, civil rights, discrimination, and other areas affecting AAPI communities. In 2024, AJSOCAL filed a pivotal lawsuit in Sacramento Superior Court against the California Massage Therapy Council (CAMTC) on behalf of six Asian American massage therapy students.

The complaint alleges that CAMTC engaged in discriminatory practices by imposing additional English-language interviews unrelated to licensure requirements, effectively denying certification to otherwise qualified students. **The case seeks to remove structural barriers to professional licensure that disproportionately affect limited-English-proficient AAPI applicants.**



2024

AJSOCAL defends and advances civil rights primarily through advocacy at the state and federal levels. Through engagement with the U.S. Congress, the California Legislature, and government agencies, AJSOCAL works to reform laws and institutional policies that impact AAPI communities.

In 2024, AJSOCAL launched the **“Our Untold Stories”** statewide policy campaign focused on highlighting the forgotten stories of AAPIs in some of our community’s most vulnerable sectors. The campaign amplified the unique challenges that AAPI communities encounter in labor, education, and public safety.

In 2024, AJSOCAL supported **93 bills and ballot measures** and launched the **AAPI Queer Joy Coalition**, a new QTAPI (Queer Trans Asian Pacific Islander) initiative advocating for policies that help LGBTQ+ AAPI communities thrive.



In 2024, AJSOCAL successfully co-sponsored **AB 1780**, which was signed by the Governor and prohibits California’s private colleges and universities from providing preferential admissions to children of alumni and donors, a practice known as “legacy admissions.”



Pro Bono

In 2024, pro bono attorneys, law students, firms, and other legal professionals supported citizenship clinics, advised clients on employment matters, drafted amicus briefs responding to federal policy, and pursued public records requests related to anti-Asian hate.

Our Pro Bono partners don't just help with AJSOCAL's operations, but they make a significant impact on complex cases and ensure our clients get the legal expertise they deserve.

380 attorneys, law firm professionals, and interns helped with clinics.
9,481 hours donated to client cases, clinics, and more.



Survivor and Family Empowerment (SAFE)

In 2024, bilingual staff supported survivors with family law matters, including restraining orders, child custody and support, divorce, and paternity judgments, as well as elder abuse civil restraining orders. AJSOCAL is one of the region's few providers offering culturally and linguistically responsive legal assistance to AAPI survivors. Survivors are also assisted in pursuing immigration relief independent of their abusers through protections available under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the U-Visa program.

AJSOCAL supported **512 survivors** in domestic violence, civil harassment, and elder abuse matters.
 More than **250** were mothers.



CLIENT STORY

Survivor and Family Empowerment (SAFE)

Ms. T endured coercive control, isolation, and economic abuse, even though her husband did not physically assault her.

Ms. T came to the United States on a fiancée visa in 2019. Within 90 days, she married her partner and as a result, received a conditional green card.

In the span of two years, Ms. T's life turned upside down. As a monolingual Vietnamese speaker, she relied on her husband for every aspect of day-to-day life. Ms. T's husband continuously and intentionally wielded this power imbalance as a means of control.

Within a year of their marriage, Ms. T had her first child. Less than a year later, when she was pregnant with her second child, Ms. T's husband kicked her out of the house. She was moved to a minimally furnished home down the street, where he watched her daily under the surveillance of 10+ cameras he had installed. She was allowed only the food he would bring her; at one point, she was not nourished enough to produce breastmilk. He forced her to sign documents imposing rules that restricted whom she could speak with, whether she could leave the home, and whether she could learn English or drive. Soon after she delivered their second child, Ms. T's husband took their son to his house and would not let Ms. T see him. When she tried to walk over, Ms. T's sister-in-law threatened to have Ms. T deported.

Eventually, Ms. T found respite from her abuser after he tried to have her sign over her parents' property in Vietnam to him.

When she refused, he filed for divorce. Ms. T received guidance from the one place she knew she would be safe from her abuser: her gynecologist's office. That office then connected Ms. T with AJSOCAL.

AJSOCAL helped Ms. T obtain lawful permanent residence and a restraining order, file for divorce, and secure court orders awarding her full legal and physical custody, child support, and spousal support. A large part of Ms. T's story has to do with her community; it was her neighbors who helped testify against Ms. T's abuser in court, as well as a select few nurses who spoke Vietnamese, and overheard Ms. T's husband yell at her during doctor's visits for their son.

AJSOCAL accompanied Ms. T to the custody exchange where she reunited with her son. That moment reflected what legal advocacy can make possible: safety, stability, and a path forward.

While finding relief from her abuse, Ms. T also found community.

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OUR LEADERSHIP

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The Justice Giving Circle is a major patron alliance committed to AJSOCAL's mission. Comprised of distinguished community, business, and philanthropic leaders, their collective support drives transformative change for Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

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OUR LEADERSHIP

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AJSOCAL relies on the Pro Bono Advisory Council specifically for guidance in the development of its pro bono programs, turning to these members first as a resource in assisting with pro bono matters and issues. The Pro Bono Advisory Council also helps raise vital funds and resources needed to support and expand AJSOCAL's pro bono programs.

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2024

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\$10,000 and up

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Paul S. Chan & Kim Gohata	Ann Park
Hon. Mike Eng	

\$5,000-\$9,999

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***Donation made in memory of AJSOCAL's beloved, decades-serving citizenship attorney, Mark Yoshida*

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2024

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Adobe Inc.	Netflix
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld	Peloton
Bank of America	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Comcast NBCUniversal	Southern California Gas Company
Edison International	The Capital Group Companies
GitHub	The Walt Disney Company
Google	UnitedHealth Group
Hubspot	Warner Bros. Discovery
JPMorgan Chase Foundation	
Microsoft	

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Hochstadter's Slow & Low	

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2024 FINANCIALS

FY 2024 ASSETS:

Cash and Equivalents:	\$2,936,867
Contributions and Grants Receivable:	\$2,745,161
Investments in Marketable Securities:	\$21,691,622
Other Current Assets:	\$397,025
Property and equipment, Net:	\$2,792,732

FY 2024 REVENUE:

Percentage Breakdown

Foundation & Corporate Grants:	57.5%
Investments:	10.7%
Fundraising Events, Individual giving:	6.7%
Program Service Fees:	0.3%
Government:	23.7%
Other Revenue:	1.1%

FY 2024 LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:

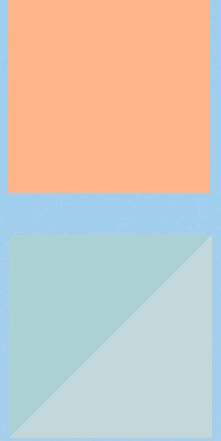
Current Liabilities:	\$3,165,099
Long-Term Liabilities:	\$271,522
Total Liabilities:	\$3,436,621
Unrestricted Assets:	\$16,513,628
Unrestricted Board-Designated Reserves:	\$6,500,000
Assets with Donor Restrictions:	\$4,113,158

FY 2024 EXPENSES:

Programs:	\$12,578,916 (76.6%)
Fundraising:	\$1,649,575 (10.1%)
Administration & Infrastructure:	\$2,191,344 (13.3%)



ASIAN AMERICANS
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2025





2025

DONOR



SPOTLIGHT



What It Means to Support the Work

“... nothing can be taken for granted. What we enjoyed yesterday is already gone in some cases. What we believe we deserve, what we have every right to expect, may be next.

That calls for a loud, aggressive, demanding voice. An advocate willing to fight to ensure that our children and those brave enough to want to come to this country have the same opportunities we have had.

So that is why I give to Advancing Justice. They are willing to fight the fight. That’s why they have my support.”

– Don Jue | AJSOCAL Board Alumnus

Asian Language Legal Intake Project (ALLIP)

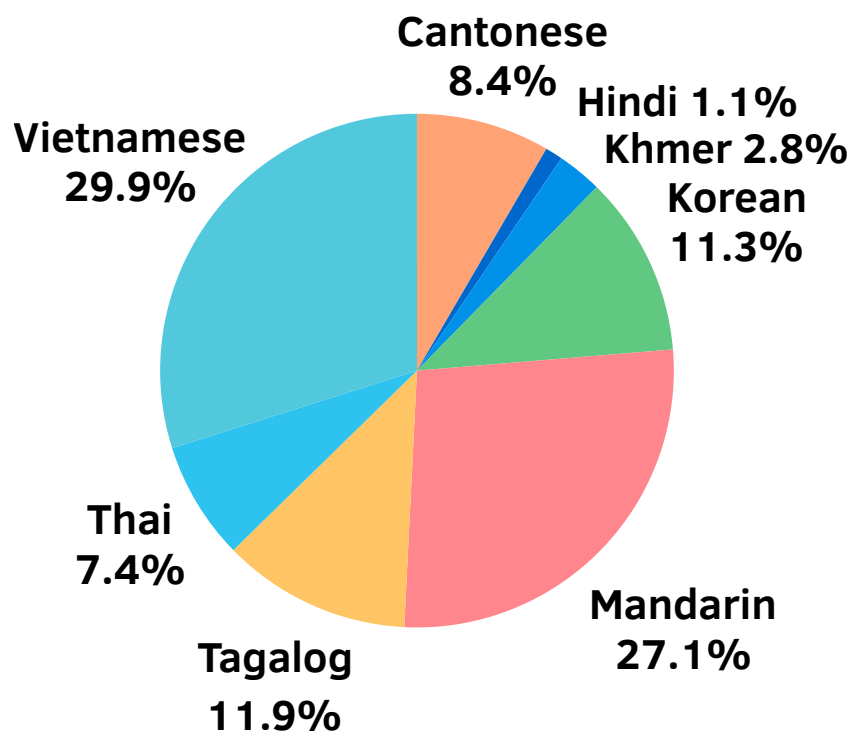
2025

Known as our “helplines” and one of the nation’s most robust, **AJSOCAL’s Asian Language Legal Intake Project (ALLIP)** serves as a critical resource for limited English-speaking and low-income individuals seeking assistance with a wide range of legal issues, including immigration, housing protection, domestic violence and family law, employment, discrimination, and human trafficking.

Our multilingual staff provide culturally responsive, trauma-informed support, helping clients navigate complex legal challenges with dignity and care.

15,843 total calls
in 2025.

Top Asian Languages*



*These are the top 8 Asian languages we serve, in addition to English and Spanish. We've also taken calls in 39 different languages total.



2025

Community Engagement (CE)

AJSOCAL advances broader community resilience through public education campaigns, bystander intervention trainings, and Know Your Rights (KYR) trainings, in partnership with our affiliates. Through these efforts, AJSOCAL remains a trusted advocate for the safety, rights, and dignity of AAPI communities across Southern California. As immigration enforcement increased, AJSOCAL expanded Know Your Rights trainings to help AAPI immigrants and families understand their rights and respond safely.

In 2025, AJSOCAL conducted **47 anti-Asian discrimination** workshops and seminars, generating more than **743,000 digital impressions**. We also held **20 bystander intervention and response trainings**, reaching **580 participants**.

Demographic Research Project (DRP)

In addition to the Asian Resource Hub, AJSOCAL's Demographic Research Project (DRP) launched the Community of Contrasts website, an interactive, user-friendly platform that offers data and stories about our communities.

At a time when science, education, public health, diversity, and equity face increasing attacks, Community of Contrasts provides lawmakers and organizations with reliable, disaggregated data by race and AANHPI ethnic groups on 33 indicators across 10 subject areas, including population, housing, immigration and language.

The site features more than **2,200 data visualizations** covering demographics, anti-Asian hate, housing, immigration, language, and other community indicators.



2025

Health Access Program (HAP)

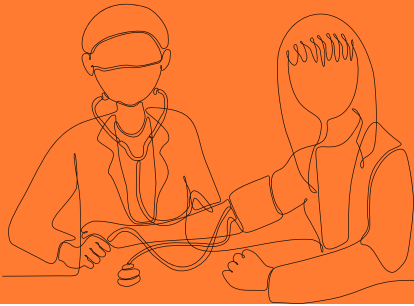
Equity cannot be achieved without a healthy AAPI community. In collaboration with community-based organizations and statewide coalitions, our Health Access Program (HAP) supports enrollment in public health programs, provides healthcare navigation services, and promotes access to preventive care and affordable coverage. The program's work is grounded in partnerships that elevate community voices to influence public health policy, and in 2025, as a response to federal restrictions on Medicaid, Medicare, and the Affordable Care Act, HAP expanded its policy work and partnerships to community health organizations.

In 2025, AJSOCAL assisted **188 individuals or households** with health coverage access. Through a statewide partnership of 14 community-based organizations, the network helped **1,391 individuals** enroll in or renew Covered California coverage.





2025



CLIENT STORY

Health Access Program

After six months of unanswered calls, hours on hold, and inadequate language assistance, Mrs. G and her daughter still could not secure the Medi-Cal support her husband needed.

When the chronic illness afflicting Mrs. G's husband worsened, he required significantly increased care. Worried that they would not be able to shoulder the financial burden that came with this, Mrs. G and her daughter contacted Medi-Cal and their local Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to receive guidance and aid. However, Mrs. G and her daughter found that despite persistence, both the DPSS and Medi-Cal did not offer adequate assistance – including failing to provide language assistance in Mrs. G's native language. This frustrating process extended over six months, stretching the family to their limits as they struggled to withstand this increased financial burden.

With Korean-language assistance and advocacy, AJSOCAL helped the family obtain spousal impoverishment protections, \$0 share-of-cost Medi-Cal coverage for Mrs. G's husband, and reimbursement for care expenses they had paid out of pocket.

Our organization works towards ensuring that all Californians are provided equal access to social welfare and public health benefits. Mrs. G's story shows how language access and informed advocacy can protect both a family's health and its financial stability.

Housing Preservation (HP)

2025

Contrary to the myth that all AAPIs are economically thriving, more than half of AAPI renters are cost-burdened, spending over 30% of their income on housing. Over **60% of Cambodian, Korean, Pakistani, and Taiwanese renters are also housing cost-burdened**. Through legal assistance, outreach, and advocacy, our Housing Preservation team supports tenants facing eviction, landlord disputes, and housing insecurity (communityofcontrasts.org).

506 housing matters

handled to help tenants remain in their homes.



Immigration and Citizenship

As federal immigration policy continues to shift, AJSOCAL continued to meet rising demand and respond to emerging challenges in 2025. This included scaling legal capacity, expanding outreach and education efforts, and reinforcing partnerships to ensure that immigrant communities are equipped with accurate information and meaningful access to legal support.

The immigration team offers in-language legal support for a wide range of relief options, including adjustment of status, family-based petitions, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), removal defense, and immigration protections for survivors of domestic violence, trafficking, and other crimes.

1,445 immigration and citizenship matters handled.

Impact Litigation (ILU)



2025

The Impact Litigation Unit uses the law to confront systemic injustice and create change that extends beyond any single case. Through litigation in state and federal courts, public records enforcement, amicus advocacy, and election protection, the team advances the rights of low-income and underserved communities in matters involving employment, education, discrimination, human trafficking, worker exploitation, and other civil rights violations.



In 2025, AJSOCAL successfully enforced a public records request seeking hate-incident data and policies from the Rancho Palos Verdes Sheriff's Department, bringing greater transparency to how law enforcement responds to anti-Asian hate. **The team also led election protection efforts in Orange County during the special election**, filed an amicus curiae brief in *United States v. California* in support of California's law limiting masked law enforcement, and strengthened AJSOCAL's writ of mandate practice to challenge unlawful government action. Together, these efforts demonstrate AJSOCAL's role not only in protecting individual rights, but also in changing the systems that affect entire communities.

Policy

In 2025, the new administration's federal policies took aim at basic civil liberties and crucial programs that served our community. Our policy team responded quickly with the **Rise and Resist** legislative package to resist injustice and protect our communities. Rise and Resist focused on language access for those facing evictions, digital privacy for the most targeted communities, resources for dual-language education, and protecting students from warrantless immigration enforcement.

Two bills were signed by the Governor: **AB 863** calls for in-language housing protections for tenants in Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Korean--a critical measure that protects over 6 million limited English-proficient Californians' housing.

AB 49 prohibits immigration enforcement officers from entering nonpublic areas of school campuses without a valid judicial warrant, subpoena, or court order and prevents schools from disclosing student information without consent.



In 2025, AJSOCAL supported **101 state and 44 federal bills**, while our AAPI Queer Joy Coalition celebrated the coalition's first-ever legislative priority list.

2025

Pro Bono

As our communities faced a more challenging and uncertain landscape, pro bono attorneys, law firm professionals, law students, and other experts supported immigration matters, guardianships for immigrant youth, amicus briefs, public records requests, and election protection.

Our legal volunteers also helped organize a large-scale election protection effort during a special statewide election to ensure our most vulnerable community's right to vote was lawfully protected.

296 attorneys, law firm professionals, experts, law students, and interns contributed **11,794** hours to client matters, clinics, and other projects.

Survivor and Family Empowerment (SAFE)



AJSOCAL provides vital legal services to immigrant survivors of domestic violence, with a focus on those who are low-income and limited English-speaking. As one of the few providers of linguistically and culturally competent legal assistance for Southern California's AAPI communities, AJSOCAL remains a trusted resource for survivors navigating complex legal systems.

AJSOCAL supported **690 survivors** in domestic violence, civil harassment, and elder abuse matters.

2025 FINANCIALS

FY 2025 ASSETS:

	\$31,029,015 (Total)
Cash and Equivalents:	\$4,095,476
Contributions and Grants Receivable:	\$1,798,445
Investments in Marketable Securities:	\$21,255,215
Other Current Assets:	\$179,085
Property and Equipment, net:	\$3,700,794

2025 REVENUE:

Percentage Breakdown

	\$14,035,430
Foundation & Corporate Grants:	33.7%
Investments:	18.3%
Fundraising Events, Individual giving:	9.3%
Program Service Fees:	0.5%
Government:	36.8%
Other Revenue:	1.4%

FY 2025 LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:

	\$31,029,015 (Total)
Current Liabilities:	\$1,353,536
Long-Term Liabilities:	\$4,474,479
Total Liabilities:	\$5,828,015
Unrestricted Assets:	\$14,570,031
Unrestricted Board-Designated Reserves:	\$6,500,000
Assets with Donor Restrictions:	\$4,130,969

2025 EXPENSES

	\$15,961,216 (Total)
Programs:	\$12,042,386 (75.4%)
Fundraising:	\$1,512,633 (9.5%)
Administration & Infrastructure:	\$2,406,197 (15.1%)

OUR LEADERSHIP

Justice Giving Circle:

The Justice Giving Circle is a major patron alliance committed to AJSOCAL's mission. Comprised of distinguished community, business, and philanthropic leaders, their collective support drives transformative change for Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

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AJSOCAL relies on the Pro Bono Advisory Council specifically for guidance in the development of its pro bono programs, turning to these members first as a resource in assisting with pro bono matters and issues. The Pro Bono Advisory Council also helps raise vital funds and resources needed to support and expand AJSOCAL's pro bono programs.

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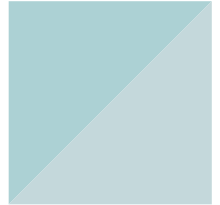
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