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## About the Asian American Federation of New York

Founded in 1989, the Asian American Federation of New York (the “Federation”) is a not-for-profit organization that provides public policy and community service leadership to identify and meet the critical needs of Asian Americans in the New York metropolitan area. The Federation serves the entire Asian American community by analyzing issues and voicing common concerns, advocating for beneficial policies, offering financial and management assistance, coordinating service delivery, and creating and heading unified, community-wide initiatives. The Federation has a membership of 35 community agencies that provide health and human services to diverse populations.

Working toward an empowered Asian American community with full participation in the larger society, the Federation is guided by the following priorities:

- Articulating Asian American concerns on public policy matters, and promoting understanding and cooperation between communities.
- Strengthening the capacity of community institutions.
- Generating human and financial resources for enhanced effectiveness in meeting community needs and aspirations.

The Federation’s public policy and research work focuses on issues related to resource allocation, community needs, service availability and accessibility, immigrant rights, and community development.

Since September 2001, the Federation has been engaged in a comprehensive *September 11<sup>th</sup> Relief, Recovery, and Rebuilding Initiative* that it spearheaded to address Asian American community needs resulting from the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks. Part of this effort was the production of two landmark research reports, entitled *Chinatown After September 11<sup>th</sup>: An Economic Impact Study* and *Chinatown One Year After September 11<sup>th</sup>: An Economic Impact Study*. These reports documented an unprecedented level of economic disruption in Chinatown post-September 11<sup>th</sup> and set forth a number of policy recommendations to enable government, funders, and other stakeholders to more adequately address the community’s economic recovery needs. In addition, the Federation’s efforts have included establishing a community service center in Chinatown, coordinating outreach and relief services, providing financial aid through the *Asian American Federation WTC Fund*, and serving as a founding member of the 9/11 United Services Group, a 13-member city-wide consortium formed to coordinate and provide assistance to people affected by the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedy. In November 2002, the Federation also launched an expansive second phase of the initiative in conjunction with five partner agencies from various Asian communities to focus upon the ongoing and unmet needs of Asian American families resulting from the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedy.

Among other pivotal leadership functions, the Federation is one of the three Asian American organizations on the East Coast selected by the U.S. Census Bureau to operate a Census Information Center. The center was established in August 2001 to conduct data and policy analysis and to encourage representation of the Asian American community in Census Bureau censuses and surveys. The Census Bureau’s designation recognized the Federation’s success in leading the Asian American Task Force on Census 2000, a coalition of 65 organizations that advised the Census Bureau and ensured an accurate count of Asian Americans in Census 2000.

Other current Federation projects, in addition to extensive support of its member agencies, include the New Heritage of Giving, an initiative to promote philanthropy, civic involvement, and volunteerism among Asian Americans.

For more information on the Federation, visit [www.aafny.org](http://www.aafny.org) or call 212-344-5878.

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