Governor’s Commission on
Asian Pacific American Affairs
Letter from Governor

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present to you the 2018 Annual Report of the Governor’s Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs. This report highlights the dedicated work of the Commission over the past year.

I would like to thank the Commissioners for their review and recommendations throughout the process. You remain committed to honoring the legacy your community has made and celebrating the diversity in this great state. My administration will continue to share your rich heritage with other citizens and pass over your contributions to the next generations to come.

I would like to ask all of you to continue to participate in civic engagement and to collaborate with the Commission. The 2020 census approaches, and the role of our communities is enormous. Your voice should be heard. You are the ones who can address the unique needs and strengths of your community. Our administration will do our best to share important information and opportunities for community improvement through the Commission.

I would like to congratulate the Commissioners on this accomplishment again and show appreciation for their leadership and commitment.

Thank you for empowering Marylanders and our communities. I look forward to working with you further in the future.

Larry Hogan
Governor of Maryland
Letter from Executive Director

Dear Friends,

The strength of Maryland comes from the diversity and vibrancy of our communities. Their distinctive culture and traditions make Maryland more embracing and inclusive. The Governor’s Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs has taken an important role to engage, educate, and empower those communities. The Commission has assisted the Hogan Administration in focusing on how it can change Maryland for the better, especially for ethnic populations.

Through our cultural and ethnic commissions, we are educated about your community’s beautiful culture, history, and heritage. More importantly, we have been able to address the issues your community faces and to stand together to find solutions suitable for you. The 2018 activities, projects, and initiatives of the Commission improved our neighborhoods and strengthened their solidarity.

I would like to congratulate the Governor’s Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs and each of the Commissioners who serve as representatives for Governor Larry Hogan and your respected communities. Congratulations to Chair Henry Kim as his dedication is truly appreciated.

I also would like to applaud the Commission’s Administrative Director Christina Poy for her continued support and hard work.

With your perseverance of participation and leadership, the Commission will continue to meet its goals and vision.

Thank you.

Steven McAdams
Executive Director
Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives
Letter from Commission Chair

Dear Distinguished Officials, Community Leaders and Friends,

On behalf of the Governor’s Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, I am pleased to present the 2018 Annual Report.

This report also provides important community resources and demographic data regarding the Asian Pacific American population in Maryland.

We thank the Governor and his staff for all of their leadership and continued support for the Governor’s Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs.

Sincerely,

Henry S. Kim
Chair
Governor’s Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs
According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2017 population estimates of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs), or also known as Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPIs), there are more than 400,000 Asian Americans and 10,000 Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (single and multi-races) in Maryland. It is more than 5% of the total population of Maryland and estimated that the APA community is one of the fastest growing populations in the state. Governor Hogan’s vision of “Changing Maryland for the Better” is reflected by his firm support of all ethnic commissions and the Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives. The Commission is truly proud of the work they have been able to do and looks forward to doing even more in 2019.
Asian Americans in Maryland

Maryland is home for more than 400,000 Asian Americans.
(*single and multiraces)

The breakdown is Indian 25%, Chinese 20%, Korean 15% and Filipino 14%.

41% of Asian Americans in Maryland live in Montgomery County, which is 15% of the total Montgomery County residents. 26.5% of the 41% are Chinese. 30% of Howard County Asian American residents are Korean.

The cities in Maryland with the largest Asian population include Rockville, Gaithersburg, College Park, Greenbelt, and Laurel.

45% of Maryland’s Asian American population has a college degree – a well-educated workforce.
Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Maryland

Source: American Fact Finder 2017 estimates & American Community Survey (single race only)

Maryland is home for more than 14,000 Native Hawaiians & Pacific Islanders. More than 2,700 Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders live in Montgomery County.

(*single and multiraces)
WHAT WE DO

ADVOCATE CULTURAL DIVERSITY

PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

BRIDGE DISPARITIES IN ASIAN PACIFIC COMMUNITIES
Highlights

- 135 events attended and/or hosted by the Commissioners:
  - 28 Lunar New Year’s events at which 24 Governor’s Proclamations were presented.
  - 29 events during the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (May) with 7 Governor’s Proclamations presented.

Chinese Alumni Associations of Greater Washington (CAAGW) 2018 New Year Gala

On January 6, 2018, the CAAGW represents more than 10,000 alumni from 75 member associations and Chinese American community in the Greater Washington area. Every year, the gala and associated food festival attract more than thousands of attendees from the Greater Washington with regional foods prepared by the different alumni associations and cultural performances representative of the various regions and ethnicities of China. After the Gala’s opening cultural performance, First Lady Hogan made remarks and presented the Governor’s Proclamation declaring Asian Lunar New Year 2018 as the Year of the Dog.
Korean American Day
On January 8, 2018, over 100 guests including Counsel General Dong-Gi Kim from the Embassy of Republic of Korea, state legislators, Korean American state employees, and leaders of Korean community from the Greater Washington Metropolitan area joined Governor and First Lady Hogan at the Maryland State House in Annapolis to celebrate Korean American Day. January 13, 2018 marks the anniversary of the arrival of the first Korean immigrants into the United States. The first 102 Korean immigrants comprised of men, women, and children arrived in Honolulu, Hawaii to work on sugar cane plantations. In the 115 years since the arrival of the first Korean immigrants, the Korean Americans faced many hardships in creating a vibrant community which has enhanced the country and fought for our democratic way of life. According to the 2010 census, there are about 1.7 million Korean Americans in the United States. Close to 47,000 Korean Americans reside in Maryland, making them the 4th largest Asian population in Maryland. The Korean American community is invaluable in regards to their contribution to Maryland’s rich cultural diversity, proud heritage, and economic strength.

Community Health Worker (CHW) Graduation
At the Community Health Worker Graduation in Frederick on January 29, 2018, Director of the Frederick County Health Department, Dr. Barbara Brookmyer served the keynote address to the CHW graduates and Administrative Director Christina Poy presented the Governor’s Volunteer Service Certificates to the graduating volunteers. APA Commissioner Elizabeth Chung and SAA Commissioner Gurpreet Kaur were the organizers of the event and involved with creating the CHW training program through their efforts with the Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF).

Community Health Worker (CHW) formal training program provided by the Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF). The Community Health Workers (CHWs) is a certificate-based training program and the first of its kind. The CHWs are frontline public health workers with a strong understanding of the communities they serve. AACF is a longtime champion of this newly formed program in Frederick and committed to strengthening its impact. The Community Health Workers’ training is conducted under the umbrella of the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation EARN Project, the purpose of which is training future workforce. The training had been designed by the Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF) and approved by the MDLLR.
Graduates of the program. Commissioner Elizabeth Chung speaking (right).

**Governor’s Lunar New Year Reception**
On February 8, 2018, Governor and First Lady Hogan hosted the Lunar New Year reception at the Government House to celebrate 2018 as Year of the Dog (Lunar Year 4716). The year of Dog is highlighted by dependability and fidelity in relationships, and building material wealth. The people born in the year of Dog are characterized as sincere, kind, honest, and loyal. The Lunar New Year celebration was attended by representatives from the Embassy of China, the Embassy of Korea, and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office. The Governor, who was born in the Year of the Dog, thanked the attendees for their contributions to Maryland, as well as their continued loyalty and support during his administration.

**Chinese Culture and Community Service Center, Inc. (CCACC) Lunar New Year Celebration**
With over 1,000 attendees at the Chinese Culture and Community Service Center (CCACC) annual Lunar New Year Celebration opening ceremony at Lakeforest Mall, Governor Larry Hogan made remarks and presented the Governor’s Proclamation declaring Asian Lunar New Year Day February 16, 2018 as the Year of the Dog. This spectacular event held on February 17, 2018 included remarks by national, state, county, and city representatives, a ribbon cutting ceremony, lion and dragon dances, as well as other cultural performances to launch week-long programs of demonstrations, performances, displays, and workshops. APA Commissioner Edward Wan was one of the organizers.
Coordination Council of Chinese American Associations (CCCAA) Annual Chinese Lantern Festival and New Year Celebration Gala

With about 3,000 in attendance on March 3, 2018, Deputy Secretary of State Luis Borunda read a letter on behalf of Secretary of State Wobensmith and Administrative Director Christina Poy presented the Governor’s Proclamation during the eighth annual Chinese Lantern Festival Celebration organized by the Coordination Council of Chinese American Associations (CCCAA).

This event is annually one of the largest community Chinese New Year celebrations in the Greater Washington area. The Coordination Council of Chinese-American Associations (CCCAA) was established as an "umbrella" organization for 35 member “hometown” associations with total several thousand individual members – making CCCAA one of the largest Chinese-American organizations in the greater Washington area. Generally, the individual members of each association within the CCCAA are bonded together by their common heritage -- they (or their ancestors) originally came from the same province or major city in China and speak the same dialect.

The “temple fair”-like food and culture fair was held in the cafeteria of the Gaithersburg High School and featured over 50 authentic Chinese food booths and cultural/resource exhibits prepared by the member associations. After delivering their Chinese New Year greetings to the festival audience, Deputy Secretary Borunda, Director Poy, and APA Commissioner Bob Zhang visited every food booth, cultural exhibit, and resource table. Afterwards, they attended a gala of Chinese performances in the auditorium, where over 300 local performers presented traditional Chinese dancing and singing.
Clarksburg Lunar New Year Celebration
Clarksburg welcomed the Lunar New Year of the Dog with First Lady Yumi Hogan, Deputy Secretary of State Luis Borunda, Administrative Director Christina Poy and Commissioner Dottie Li on March 4, 2018. The First Lady of Maryland and a representative from the Embassy of China dotted an eye of the lion for good luck. Following her remarks, she and Deputy Secretary Borunda presented the Governor’s Proclamation declaring Asian Lunar New Year of the Dog to the Chinese Alumni Associations of Greater Washington (CAAGW), which spearheaded a joint effort of 20 other multicultural organizations to provide a variety of authentic Lunar New Year activities and customary culinary samples. Children had the opportunity to Lunar New Year-themed crafts.

Joint Ethnic Commissions Legislative Night in Annapolis
On March 13, 2018, the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives with the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, the Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs, the Governor's Commission on African Affairs, the Governor's Commission on Hispanic Affairs, the Governor's Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs, and the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs hosted the 2018 Governor’s Ethnic Commissions’ Joint Legislative Night reception as a place where constituents were briefed on the Governor’s legislative priorities, as well as a means to meet local and state elected officials in Annapolis. Attendees also enjoyed ethnic cuisines from diverse communities.

Executive Director Steve McAdams of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives started the program with an overview of the ethnic commissioners’ role, work, and relationship between their respective communities and our office. Secretary of State John Wobensmith share information about Maryland Sister-States Program and provided updates on his office’s role in the State’s activities and international engagement. Special Secretary Jimmy Rhee of the Governor’s Office on Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) spoke about entrepreneurial opportunities, and
Secretary Dr. James Fielder, Jr. of the Maryland Higher Education Commission gave an update on Maryland’s extensive resources available for higher education in the form of scholarships and grants.

Reception at Government House
On March 27, Governor Hogan and First Lady Hogan held a reception at Government House for the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs along with all of the Commissioners from the Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives ethnic commissions and the Governor’s Office of Service and Volunteerism. Governor Hogan and Lt. Governor Rutherford spoke with the Commissioners and acknowledged them for their service.

Taekwondo Day in Maryland
Governor Larry Hogan and First Lady Yumi Hogan hosted a ceremony to celebrate the 3rd Annual Taekwondo Day in Maryland at the Miller Senate Office Building on April 5, 2018 which, as in past years, included a demonstration from the governor. He received an honorary 9th degree black belt in Taekwondo during the administration's trade mission to Asia in 2015 and put those skills to use by breaking 6 boards.

Governor Hogan also presented trophies to five individual grand champions and six school grand champions from the 2nd Annual Maryland Governor’s Cup Taekwondo Championship, held at Harford Community College on March 31, 2018. The Maryland State Taekwondo Association, which hosted the Cup, presented the tournament proceeds - totaling $2,000 - to the Children’s Cancer Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit foundation headquartered in Columbia, Maryland that provides grants to researchers, pediatric oncology centers, and programs that support cancer patients.

Governor Hogan first declared April 5 as “Taekwondo Day” in 2016 as a way to recognize the traditional Korean martial art for its positive influence in Maryland. Special Secretary Jimmy Rhee served as the program’s master of ceremony.

Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives Observes Asian Pacific American Heritage Month
The State of Maryland recognized the economic contributions and cultural diversity the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities share with our society on May 14, 2018 in Annapolis. Cultural performances including Tahitian/Polynesian dance and drumming, poetry recitation in native languages representative of the diverse Asian and Pacific Islander diasporas in Maryland, cultural dances of Chinese, Korean, Indonesian and Cambodian origin, demonstrations of Japanese martial art of kendo and the tea ceremony, an Indian duet of a romantic Bollywood song, and a variety of ethnic cuisine from East Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia were among the many
highlights of this program. First Lady Yumi Hogan made special remarks and presented the Governor’s Proclamation declaring the observance of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month throughout the State of Maryland. The evening’s program was emceed by high school student “2016 Pacific Miss Asian Alliance First Runner-Up” Vicky Mei of Rockville and a contemporary dance was choreographed and performed by 2017 Pacific Miss Asian American Jackie Liu. The event’s success comes from the support of several local businesses, Asian Pacific American non-profit, resource groups, and community organizations.

Montgomery County Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Panel
In observance of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the Calvin J Li Memorial Foundation, Chinese American Parents Association in Montgomery County (CAPA-MC), and Montgomery County Public School partnered for the Montgomery County Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Panel on May 19, 2018 at Wootton High School in Rockville. The topic focused on how to foster civic engagement and public service among the Asian American community. With the scope of public service encompassing many occupations, four panelists were invited from healthcare, law enforcement, science, and gubernatorial office fields to share their paths, motivation, and experience in public service.

Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week Economic Cooperation Conference
In celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the Maryland-Anhui Sister State Committee organized and hosted the Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week (May 29 – June 1, 2018) in Rockville with the following events: Opening Ceremony and Economic Cooperation Conference -- Featuring greetings by Lt. Governor Rutherford, and a presentation on both jurisdictions’ economic advantages and opportunities. The Promotion Week featured its opening ceremony, Economic Cooperation Conference, opening reception, and banquet on May 29, 2019 as well as the Anhui Tourism presentation and luncheon on May 30, 2019. As Chair of the Maryland-Anhui Sister State Committee, APA Commissioner Bob Zhang was one of the conference organizers.
The Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week Economic Cooperation Conference was the outcome of a meeting between Governor Larry Hogan and Anhui Party Secretary Li Jinbin during summer 2017. During that meeting, the Governor and Party Secretary agreed that the 38-year-old Sister State relationship between Maryland and Anhui, established in 1980, was deserving of a focus, a celebration, and recommitment to the deep and significant economic, trade, educational, and cultural relationships between Maryland and Anhui Province. This was the largest-ever Chinese delegation (125) to visit Maryland. The Maryland-Anhui Promotion Week included business discussions, with a particular emphasis on opportunities for cooperation and investment in biopharmaceuticals, seafood processing, agriculture, tourism, trade, and transportation. A Maryland Promotion Hall featured displays and information on Maryland businesses and agencies across a number of sectors. On May 29th, First Lady Hogan made remarks at Anhui Art & Culture Exhibit Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony and toured the exhibits. Breakout sessions included a choice of forums on biopharma, agriculture, and education.
Ceremony of Cooperation Agreement between US-Asia Links and Beng Bu Municipal Human Resources and Social Security Bureau of Anhui, China

The morning of May 30, 2018 during the Anhui Promotion Week, US-Asia Links of Maryland and the delegation from Beng Bu Municipal Human Resources and Social Security Bureau of Anhui, China signed a cooperation of agreement to establish a relationship of exchanged resources. Administrative Director Christina Poy provided welcome remarks on behalf of Governor Hogan and served as a witness to the signing of the agreement by Vice Mayor of Bengbu and APA Commissioner George Dang, who was one of the organizers of this relationship establishment.

Governor’s Reception Recognizing Asian American Community Leaders

On August 8, 2018, Governor Hogan and First Lady Hogan hosted a reception recognizing Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese leaders with the Governor’s Citation for their contributions in the communities of Maryland.

41st Annual Korean Festival

First Lady Yumi Hogan, Secretary of State Wobensmith, and Special Secretary Rhee made remarks and presented the Governor’s Proclamation at the 41st Annual Korean Festival on September 15, 2018 at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Local and regional residents, as well as, visitors return each year to the Korean Festival, which brings together diverse and authentic living traditions from Korea. The festival provides experience unique cultural connections through music, craft demonstrations, dance performances, K-pop artists, Tae Kwon Do, face painting, traditional dress and delicious authentic and traditional Korean foods and drinks.
Federal Contracting Advocacy for AAPI Businesses Seminar
Asian & Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce & Entrepreneurship (ACE), KOBE, and Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) hosted the Federal Contracting Advocacy for Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Businesses seminar and open house reception on September 18, 2018 in Rockville. Administrative Director Christina Poy attended. APA Commissioner Chiling Tong, who is the President and Chief Executive Officer of ACE, was one of the organizers of this event.
PARTNERSHIPS

Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF)
Asian American Chamber of Commerce
Asian Pacific American Bar Association – Maryland (APABA-MD)
Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship (ACE)
Asian Pacific Island American Public Affairs (APAPA)
Calvin J. Li Memorial Foundation
Cambodian Buddhist Society Cultural Committee
Chinese American Parents Association of Howard County (CAPA-HC)
Chinese American Parent Association of Montgomery County (CAPA-MC)
Chinese American Real Estate Association (CAREA)
Chinese Alumni Associations of Greater Washington (CAAGW)
Chinese Biopharmaceutical Association
Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA)
Chinese Culture and Community Service Center (CCACC)
Chinese Freemasons of Baltimore
Chinese Language School of Columbia
Chinese Youth Club (CYC)
Coordination Council of Chinese American Associations (CCCAA)
DC Beauty of Beijing Opera (DCBBO)
Ester Missionary
Howard County Chinese School
International Leadership Foundation (ILF)
Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)
International Leadership Foundation (ILF)
Korean American Senior Citizens Association (KASCA)
KoBE Government Contracting Alliance
Maryland Kendo Club
OCA - Asian Pacific American Advocates
Organization of Chinese Americans Greater DC Chapter (OCA-DC)
Organization of Chinese American Women Maryland Chapter (OCAW-Maryland)
Opera International
Peiying Chinese School
Pacific Culture International (PCI) Pacific Miss Asian American
Spotlight Studio
Washington Cathay Future Center (WCFC)
Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce & Entrepreneurship
(National ACE)
A&D Stars
American Diversity Group
Amer-Indo Organization, Inc.
Asian Arts & Culture Center at Towson University
Asian Indians for Community Service
Baltimore Changwon Sister City Committee
Baltimore Kawasaki Sister City Committee
Baltimore Xiamen Sister City Committee
CCACC Guzheng Club
Filipino American Young Professionals (FAYP) Maryland chapter
Global Federation of Chinese Business Women, Baltimore
Chapter (GFCBW)
Han Pan Korean American Cultural Center
Jayamangala
Jing Ying Institute
Joy Arts Club (JAC)
Katipunan (Filipino Organization of Maryland)
Korean Society of Maryland (KSM)
League of Korean Americans (LOKA)
Maryland Anhui Sister State Committee
Maryland Jeollanam-do Sister State Committee
Maryland Kanagawa Sister State Committee
Maryland Gyeongsangnam-Do Sister State Committee
Maryland Ninh Thuan Sister State Committee
Mid Atlantic Foundation for Asian Artists (MAFFAA)
Misako Ballet Company
Montgomery Community Media (MCM)
Montgomery County - Korean American Association (KAAMC)
Taiwanese American Diversity Associates (TADA)
Taiwanese Association of America Greater Baltimore & Columbia Chapter
(TAAA-GBC)
Taiwanese Association of America Greater Washington Chapter (TAAA-GWC)
Taiwan Culture Center
The United States Kuo Shu Federation
United States China Association of Commerce
Washington Guzheng Society
Xa Loi Temple
Zhong Sheng
Mission of the Commission

The Governor’s Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs will advise government, advance solutions, serve as a resource to ensure the economic, educational, health, and social well-being of Asian American and Pacific Islander constituents.

Commission Members

Chair:
Henry Sangtai Kim (Korean, Howard)

Vice Chair:
Hung-bin Ding (Taiwanese, Howard)

Members:
May Chan Anderson (Chinese, Montgomery)
Kyong “Ken” Yol Baik (Korean, Baltimore)
Hyunsook Choi (Korean, Montgomery)
Mitsuhiro “Micky” Saito Choi (Korean/Japanese, Anne Arundel)
Elizabeth L. Chung (Chinese, Frederick)
George P. Dang (Vietnamese/Chinese, Montgomery)
Hyun S. “Helen” Han (Korean, Montgomery)
Linda Han (Korean, Prince George’s)
Dottie Tiejun Li (Chinese, Prince George’s)
Robert Manankil (Filipino, Baltimore)
Tina Melton (Korean, Howard)
Chau Nguyen (Vietnamese, Montgomery)
Mie Mie Strickler (Chinese/Indonesian, Cecil County)
Chiling Tong (Chinese, Montgomery)
Sovan Tun (Cambodian, Montgomery)
Edward Wan (Chinese, Montgomery)
Beth Wong (Filipino, Montgomery)
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