

Strategic Directions in a Changing Landscape

November 18, 2015

Dear Friends,

Having just adjourned from a full board retreat designed to consider AAPIP's future strategic directions, I'm happy to report that we are making great strides. With leadership transitions occurring across the nonprofit sector, including among philanthropic affinity groups, it seems fitting that many organizations are engaged in thinking about the future. What is challenging is not landing on many potentially new and exciting ideas, but rather aligning these ideas with the changing landscape of philanthropy, and the communities we aim to serve.

For AAPIP, we are using this planning opportunity to revisit three fundamental questions: Why is it important for AAPIP to exist? What are our unique advantages and strengths? And what can we do going forward that will have the greatest impact on advancing our mission? Using these as lenses, we have reached several preliminary conclusions:

- First, we must continue to engage philanthropic and community leadership from across our membership, which has grown increasingly diverse as new forms of community philanthropy emerge.
- Second, that we have a unique role to play in continuing to organize our sector through research and advocacy, as well as through storytelling and direct relationship-building.
- And third, that strong partnerships can lead to innovative problem solving that advances equity and social justice within the AAPI community, and for all communities.

We will have much more to report as we enter the New Year, and I look forward to inviting our members and stakeholders to be part of that important conversation.

Until then, I hope you enjoy a safe and happy holiday season.

Best wishes,



Cora Mirikitani
President & CEO