

VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

**NGƯỜI
VIỆT
ILLINOIS**

**WORLD
REFUGEE DAY
2019**
HISTORY AND ACTIVITIES

**SUMMER
COMMUNITY
EVENTS**
WORKSHOPS,
PICNICS, STREET
MARKETS, AND
MORE!

**CELEBRATING ASIAN
PACIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH
IN MAY**

**VAI HEADS TO
SPRINGFIELD FOR ASIAN
AMERICAN ACTION DAY**

**GEARING UP FOR
CENSUS 2020**



SUMMER 2019

ISSUE 435

Driving over to the Uptown neighborhood?
Consider parking in our lot located at
5019 N Winthrop Ave, Chicago, IL 60640

Our rates are competitive and all proceeds go toward:

- Culturally-competent home care for seniors
- After school programming for local elementary and middle school students
- Summer camp for youth in our community
- English and Civic Education classes for immigrants, refugees, and asylees
- Legal assistance and representation for those who need it most
- Advocacy efforts and rallying around issues that most affect our community



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June 3, 2019

Dear valued community member,

This is such an exciting time for our organization, our city, and the state of Illinois. Not only does VAI have a new leader in me, but the state elected a new governor for the state of Illinois in Governor JB Pritzker last November, and a new mayor for the city of Chicago in Mayor Lori Lightfoot this past April. A lot has happened since our lunar new year celebration and we're excited to share all the great things that we've been up to as an organization.

We are proud to announce that our community magazine will now be distributed quarterly. Since I came on board last September, our team reevaluated the purpose of our community magazine and we asked ourselves some key questions. Why do we have a community magazine? How will ours be different than the other existing Vietnamese publications? As a result, we believe that our magazine is part of our organization's mission to strengthen and unite Vietnamese Americans across the Chicagoland area. We would like to use our community magazine as a tool to educate our community members around key issues that impact our community, highlight our organization's involvement in the greater community, and share personal success stories of the people that we serve. We also understand the importance of using our magazine to support other Vietnamese organizations through promotion of their events and successes.

Fiscal year 2020 is a critical year for VAI and our community, which begins on July 1, 2019 for our organization. We have been quite concerned about our state and the state budget as it relates to our ability to continue to provide much needed in home services to our elderly clients through the Community Care <<continued on next page>>

Program. While we are very supportive of providing a living wage to our dedicated team of home care aides, the increase in the minimum wage over the over the past few years and then again on July 1, 2019 to \$13 per hour in the city of Chicago greatly impacts our organization's ability to sustain the Community Care Program without any corresponding increase in the reimbursement rate from the state. However through our ongoing advocacy efforts down in Springfield this past year, we were successful in getting an increase in the reimbursement rate from the state to continue to provide in home services for our elderly clients as well as pay our workers a living wage. We would like to thank our human services champions, State Senator Heather Steans and State Representative and Leader Greg Harris, the Illinois state legislature, and Governor JB Pritzker for passing a balanced \$40 billion state budget for fiscal year 2020. The state budget for fiscal year 2020 includes additional funding that will support a two-tiered approach to increase the reimbursement rate for in-home services on July 1, 2019 and then again on January 1, 2020. The state budget also maintains the immigrant services line item that provides funding for our organization to offer immigration and legal services.

Additionally, the state budget also includes significant funding for the state of Illinois to invest in census outreach and ensure that all Illinoisans will be counted. The US Census 2020 will take place over this next fiscal year and it will be a huge priority for VAI and our community to ensure that we will be accurately and fairly counted. The census is an official headcount of every person living in the

United States where every single person matters regardless of their immigration status. Every ten years, the federal government is required to conduct a census to count everyone and record basic information about them. The census directly impacts how over \$800 billion is allocated in the US, which includes funding for Medicaid, SNAP, and housing among many other social benefits. Our team will be conducting outreach and educating the community about the US Census 2020 and how to properly fill out the form. Throughout the summer, we will raise awareness about the importance of the US Census 2020 at Argyle Night Market on Thursday nights. Please be sure to come find us and learn more about the US Census 2020!

Finally, we are actively working to grow and expand our services in our DuPage office over this next fiscal year. As we wait to hear back about key grants to fund our programs, we will know more as this current fiscal year comes to a close on June 30, 2019. We are hopeful to be able to provide ESL and citizenship classes to the Vietnamese community in DuPage County. Until then, we will officially kick off summer by co-hosting a picnic with the Vietnamese Senior Association of DuPage on Sunday, June 30, 2019 from 11am – 2pm. We look forward to seeing you there and hopefully there will be more exciting news to come.

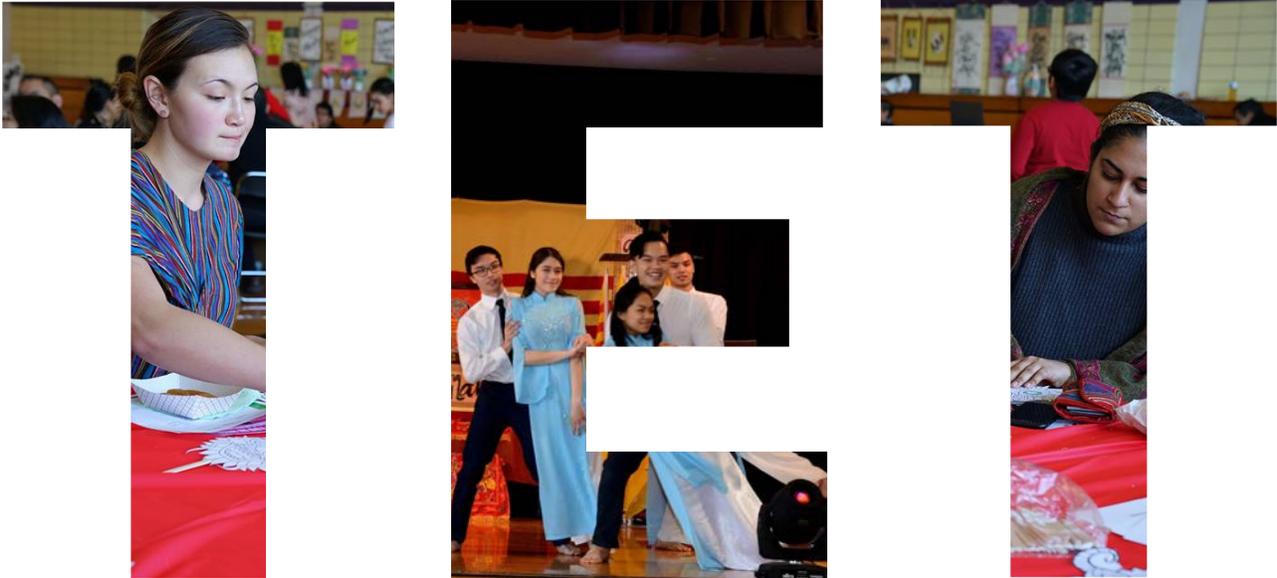
Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,



Tuyet T. Ngo
Chief Executive Officer





Lunar New Year, Tet, is a sacred time for many Asian cultures. It's a holiday to honor our ancestors and to celebrate the importance of family. Vietnamese Association of Illinois, along with community partners such as Unified Vietnamese American Community-IL (UVAC-IL) and The Vietnamese Buddhist Truc Lam Youth Association, continued our long-standing tradition of bringing the Uptown/Argyle area community together by hosting a Lunar New Year "Hoi Cho Tet" celebration on February 09th, 2019 at St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church.

This year the event was hosted a bit differently than in the past, but one factor that stayed constant was our passion for celebration and education; VAI's goal is to gather our community around key issues that affect us most. The day was packed full of activities and entertainment. There was a traditional ancestral ceremony and salute to the flags.

Truc Lam's Lion Dance group brought excitement to the audience, giving the crowd moments of awe and screams of delight. The youth group at Truc Lam Temple put on an exciting and entertaining dances and performances. There was energetic dancing by the elementary schoolers, dynamic contemporary dances by the middle and high school groups, and sophisticated performances by adult musicians and dancers. Singers entertained the crowd with nostalgic "Nhac Xuan" (traditional New Year songs) bringing back memories for some of our older attendees.

We were honored to have officials from the State, City of Chicago, diplomats, and Vietnamese community leaders attend in support of our event. Among our guests were U.S. Senator – Dick Durbin, U.S. Representative – Jan Schakowsky and IL State Representative – Theresa Mah; <<continued on next page>>

Alderman Harry Osterman; Marjorie Moore - JGF and Chief of Asian American Affair, IDCFS; Ms. Ngoan Le from the Bureau of Refugee and Immigrant Services, Illinois Department of Human Services; Mr. Doug Nguyen, Regional Communication Director, SSA; Ms. Josina Morita from the Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.

The annual "Hoi Cho Tet" Lunar New Year Festival was a success in our book and we are looking forward to many more to come. Of course, we couldn't have pulled any of this off without the help of many hands. A big thank you and shout out to all the staff members, volunteers, entertainment team and to all the vendors who supported our event!





Photo credits to Anh Tam Nguyen, Anh An Tran and Chu Duy Nhan

VAI TRAVELS TO THE ASIAN AMERICANS ADVANCING JUSTICE CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA

VAI staff joined over 1,000 advocates at the Advancing Justice Conference in Atlanta in March to discuss civil rights and social justice issues facing the fast-growing Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. This year's theme was "Roadmap to 2020 and Beyond," which highlighted the opportunities to mobilize and strategize around the 2020 Census and the upcoming Presidential Election in order to win more resources for our communities.

The conference brought together a remarkable group of organizers, movement leaders, and civil rights advocates from across the country for a focused discussion on how to leverage our past successes to win bigger achievements for the next ten years. VAI participated in three full days of programming, which included panel discussions, plenaries, workshops, skills-building trainings, and networking receptions. In between plenaries, our staff had the opportunity to participate in a wide range of workshops, including "Advocacy 101," "Data Disaggregation," "Voter Suppression," and more. The workshops raised the visibility of key community issues and explored approaches to center the voices and leadership of Asian Americans. <<continued on next page>>



Some notable highlights from the conference:

- The opening plenary featured a panel composed entirely of women of color who shared personal stories about the power of community. They stressed the need to build sustainable movements through grassroots organizing and policy advocacy.
- The second day of programming featured political leader and Fair Fight CEO, Stacey Abrams, as a keynote speaker. She addressed the need for language access at all levels of government and services in order to achieve democracy for all.
- On the third day, we stood in solidarity with the immigrant and refugee communities by rallying at the Georgia State Capitol against anti-immigrant laws. We demanded “Licenses for All” which would promote equitable transportation access by allowing undocumented immigrants to get their drivers’ licenses.
- At the “Challenging Islamophobia and Anti Blackness” plenary, panelists emphasized that we must stand up and speak out against racism of any kind. We must foster strong partnerships and enhance accountability to ensure that everyone has a safe space to live and work in.

Following the conference, VAI staff attended a two-day training and learned about how to effectively organize our communities for system-wide and policy change. Training included workshops on phone banking, canvassing, and social media campaigns.

Over the course of the five days, we learned from community experts, discussed common challenges and opportunities, and shared strategies to build AAPI power. Through critical conversations, VAI staff developed many meaningful connections that inspired us to continue moving forward in our work to empower Vietnamese and other immigrant communities. Being a part of this conference has shown us that we are not alone in our fight to advance social and racial justice.



ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and VAI has been busy representing our community as well as speaking with leaders at celebration events across the state. Below is a brief recap of what we at VAI have been up to!

OCA Greater Chicago and The Asian American Coalition of Chicago

To kick off the first day of APA Heritage Month, OCA, an Asian Pacific American advocate organization, along with the Asian American Coalition of Chicago, hosted a celebration that involved the meet and greet of Asian American official, cultural performances, and mixers with different leaders of various communities.



Cook County Treasurer Asian Pacific Heritage Month Celebration

On May 10th, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas hosted her Asian Pacific Heritage Month celebration. In a room full of representatives from different Asian organizations and various countries' consulates, Treasurer Pappas presented her property tax plans, specifically on educating the Asian American community about the property tax system. She emphasized the many languages, including Vietnamese, that her website, <https://www.cookcountytreasurer.com/>, can now be translated into, and encourages constituents to learn more about their property taxes.





Illinois State Treasurer Celebration

On May 15th, Illinois State Treasurer, Michael W. Frerichs, held his brief Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration event at the James R. Thompson Center. Among those honored were Asian American leaders who advocate for and represent our community every day. Beverly Kim Clark, Chef and Co-Owner of Parachute, an Asian fusion restaurant, was honored for Outstanding Service in Business. Irene Jisun Sohn, Executive Director of Hanul Family Alliance, was honored for Outstanding Service in Leadership. Professor Anna Gueverra, Founding

Director of the UIC Global Asian Studies Program, was awarded for Outstanding Commitment in Education. Representative Theresa Mah was honored for her Outstanding Commitment as an Elected Official. Don Villar, Secretary/Treasurer of the Chicago Federation of Labor, was honored for his Outstanding Service in Workforce and Labor. Tommy Shimoda, a Special Olympics Athlete, received honors for his Outstanding Achievement in Sportsmanship. VAI staff attended to support and applaud all these community leaders who represent us so well!



Illinois Secretary of State Celebration

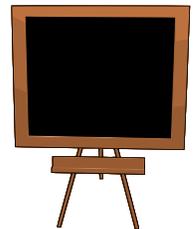
On May 21st, the Secretary of State Jesse White's office paid tribute to the Asian Pacific community in Chicago with a vibrant event in the concourse of the Thompson Center. As the regular work day crowd jostled across the food court to get their lunches, a contingent of influential Asian-Americans and other interested parties gathered to listen to Jesse White speak and to honor the recipients of awards to Chicago area Asian Americans who have accomplished remarkable feats. CEO Tuyet Ngo and Literacy Coordinator Kevin Langson attended on behalf VAI. The Secretary of State supplies a significant portion of the funding for our adult literacy program.

This was a momentous opportunity to hear the respected local leader speak. Besides meeting the man himself, a highlight was hearing well-known Indian-American actor Ajay Naidu give a heartfelt speech. The comedic actor known most for his role in "Office Space" expressed immense gratitude to the Evanston School District and the city of Chicago for helping to make him the well-adjusted person and successful artist that he is. It was also a pleasure that the event was emcee'ed by Vietnamese-American news anchor Vi Nguyen.

VAI's ESL/CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM IS RECRUITING TUTORS!

Are you or is anyone you know interested in becoming a volunteer instructor for our English and Civic Education Program? Please join us at Vietnamese Association of Illinois!

- Opportunity to work with adults preparing for their Citizenship interviews (a concrete goal with a success to be celebrated) or help them acquire the English skills needed to live more comfortably and to be more fulfilled in the US
- Great experience for Education or Non-profit students, as well as those considering teaching ESL abroad
- 6 -month commitment preferred but one semester option for students
- 2-day training required for all tutors – great learning opportunity and of no cost to volunteers, offered monthly
- Peer and staff support, as well as library of resources available for use
- 2 hours/per week, flexibility regarding which day(s)
- Must be 18
- Vietnamese-English speakers needed (but all are welcome!)
- Flexible start dates



Please email Kevin Langson at kevin.langson@hnvi.org for more information.

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM CELEBRATION

Come celebrate citizenship successes with VAI!

VAI's Civic Engagement and Education Development Program is throwing a party to celebrate all of our students who have passed their citizenship interview so far in 2019, as well as the volunteers who helped them prepare.

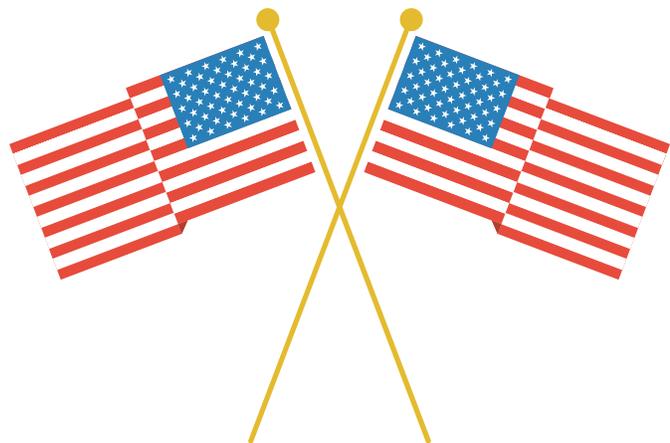
Bring food or drink to add, or just come and enjoy what we have. Socialize, dance, and rejoice!

Date: Sunday, July 14

Time: 12:00-2:00pm

Location: Vietnamese

Association of Illinois, 5110 N
Broadway St, 3rd floor, Chicago,
IL 60640



LIEN TRAN | ESL PROGRAM STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



VAI staff and literacy volunteers root for the students in the literacy program as they strive to be conversant in English and to attain their American citizenship. These are no easy tasks for adults with an array of responsibilities related to establishing a fruitful life in Chicago. Literacy student Lien Tran embodies these ambitions and the disciplined labor required in their pursuit. She agreed to sit down with me and share her thoughts at the end of her lesson with longtime volunteer tutor Morton Friedman – one of her last lessons leading up to her Citizenship interview.

Like many students in VAI's literacy program, she first entered the organization through another program and then found her way to literacy. Lien has been a homemaker in the Community Care Program (CCP) for five years and has been studying ESL and Citizenship for a year. Working as a homemaker helps keep her connected to the Vietnamese community in a positive way, and improving her English helps her navigate her daily life with greater ease. She points to interactions on the bus and with her landlord as examples of how the English ability she has acquired largely through her attendance of Saturday classes, has made her life in Chicago more pleasant and well-functioning. She also mentions the Civics content that is an integral part of the curriculum for those preparing for their Citizenship interview. Along the way, Lien has learned about U.S. history, laws, and political system.

She explains that it's not easy carving out time to study. Not only does she work full-time, but she also has four children in her charge, including a 9-year old son. When asked about her personal goals beyond citizenship, she discusses her aspirations for her children. She foresees them having rewarding lives in the U.S. and having important careers. She imagines them becoming doctors or engineers, perhaps an aircraft engineer making planes safer for passengers.

When asked what she thinks of the city she has called home for the last five years, she mentions the resplendence of summertime in Chicago and taking her children to the lake, which she finds beautiful. Like most of us, she shudders to think of the cold winters;

<<continued on next page>>

but that's just part of the adjustment of landing in a completely new place. In contemplating how Chicago differs from her native Saigon, she mentions formal behavior in office settings, personal greetings from strangers on the street, and traffic that responds to pedestrians in a way she doesn't recall happening back in Vietnam. Most of all she appreciates the freedom of expression that the U.S. affords its citizens; this, along with the desire to vote and contribute to the selection of local politicians for office, are reasons she is prepared to give if prompted by her interviewer to speak to why she wants to be a citizen here. Though she concedes to being nervous, all indications are that Lien is ready to ace her interview.

DENNIS WAWRZYNIAK, VOLUNTEER FOR 4 YEARS AS OF JUNE 1, 2019

ESL PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR SPOTLIGHT



Committed volunteers are the lifeblood of VAI's Literacy Program. On June 1st, volunteer tutor/teacher Dennis Wawrzyniak marked four years of service here, assisting a variety of students with English practice and Citizenship interview preparation. Dennis had a career conducting media research and maintains a longtime interest in classical music and opera, at times attending Lyric Opera here in Chicago. When reflecting on what is rewarding about his volunteering experience at VAI, Dennis mentions the aspect of getting to know people from different backgrounds, as well as sharing in their joy of success when they pass their Citizenship interview.

Fortuitously, Dennis, who is a Chicago native and a longtime Edgewater resident after having grown up on the Southwest side, stumbled upon VAI during its renovation period. <<continued on next page>>

He had been looking for a volunteer opportunity to occupy some of his time during his retirement. Previously, he had helped a Ukrainian man and a Chinese woman receive additional English language practice through Chinese Mutual Aid Association, so he knew this was a kind of help that he enjoyed providing. He describes VAI learners as intelligent and hardworking, and during his time here he has taken an interest in learning the Vietnamese language, enticed partly by its use of a familiar-looking alphabet. For about a year and a half he studied Vietnamese here at VAI, happily receiving extra help from the receptionist as he came and went from the building. He made this endeavor largely because he wanted to be able to compare the two languages when helping his Vietnamese students understand English.

Understanding how Vietnamese grammar differs from English grammar helps focus his lessons, as he's able to guide beginner students who are grappling with forming correct and articulate sentences in English.

While volunteering here, Dennis has been impacted by stories of war from places like Ethiopia and has learned a bit about the political geography of Vietnam. He mentioned in particular a former student who was incarcerated for his anti-Communism activism. Mr. Vu taught him a considerable amount about Vietnamese history and also left him a drawing he did of Dennis before he moved. It's often the both personal and informative interactions with students that make volunteering a dynamic experience. Dennis also discussed his enhanced appreciation of Vietnamese cuisine, spurred by a celebratory potluck that the literacy department hosted to honor those who passed their Citizenship interviews. On that occasion, many students brought home-cooked dishes that Dennis was trying for the first time. Dennis's informed and personally invested instruction embodies the sort of volunteer/learner dynamics we hope to foster at VAI.



YOUTH PROGRAM SUMMER CAMP

The Vietnamese Association of Illinois Youth Program is now accepting applications for this year's full-day summer camp. Some features of this year's program are:

- Cooking Demos
- Weekly Field Trips
- Computer Classes
- Arts & Crafts
- Music
- Gym
- Daily trips to the park
- Lunch & snacks provided



Summer Camp space is limited. Be sure to contact Sandra, our Youth Program Coordinator, at sandra.ortiz@hnvi.org with any questions. Call our main office for additional inquiries: (773) 728-3700.



VAI YOUTH PROGRAM UPDATES

Earth Day!

April 22nd, 2019

This Earth Day, 35 youth went out to collect trash from the Uptown neighborhood. Broken up into three groups, each team had 30 minutes to collect the most trash. Many of the children were disappointed when having to return because they truly loved helping the planet. The outcome was remarkable and in the end, we were all winners!



Computer Literacy Fun

May 1st, 2019

The Vietnamese Association of Illinois Youth Program is now adding computers to our programming. Many of our youth have homework assignments online. However, they cannot navigate the computer. By combining gaming, coding and typing to the after school program, we allow our youth to gain 21st-century skills.





Community Empowerment Legal Clinic

OPEN TO ALL!

DO YOU NEED LEGAL AID?

We offer free or low-cost legal representation and assistance for a wide range of issues including:



immigration;
family law;
housing;
employment;
education;
consumer rights and;
criminal records.



Clinic hours are Monday through Friday 9AM-5PM

For information or to schedule an appointment, contact
Thuong Phan at 773-728-3700 ext. 37 or
thuong.phan@hnvi.org.



5110 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60640

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT LEGAL CLINIC SUCCESS STORIES

Edo came to the Community Empowerment Legal Clinic at VAI seeking assistance with his asylum claim. Edo was a political dissident in Togo. After participating in a peaceful political rally, he was arrested and tortured within an inch of his life. He was lucky enough to make it to the United States and found his way to the Kovler Center, a social services organization that focuses on providing health resources to folks seeking asylum from persecution.

When he came to CELC, Edo had not realized that his work authorization card was just about to expire. Attorney Hanan Van Dril is working with Edo on his asylum case, but also made sure to quickly get Edo's renewed work authorization on file, and to coordinate with Edo's employer to make sure that Edo would not be laid off while his work authorization application was pending with USCIS. Edo now is able to continue to work and support himself, and in doing so, is continuing to build a life for himself in the United States while he waits for his asylum interview.



Community
Empowerment
Legal Clinic



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT LEGAL CLINIC SUCCESS STORIES

Alain sought asylum in the United States from political persecution in the Congo. Alain belonged to the Movement for Reconciliation of Congo, a political group that challenges the current government's unconstitutional power grabs and seeks to instill true democracy in the Congo. After the government rigged an election in 2015, Alain participated in a political protest against the regime. It was his first time attending a protest, even though he had been very involved in politics up until then. Alain and other protestors were brutally attacked by the government during this protest; soldiers



opened fire against protesters, tear gassed them, and arrested them en masse. Alain was wounded by one of the soldiers' bullets and lost consciousness as a result. Alain woke up in prison, where he was interrogated and brutally tortured for over two months.

Alain found his way to VAI's Community Empowerment Legal Clinic through the Kovler center, where he continues to receive medical and psychological treatment for injuries he sustained from being persecuted by the Congolese government. The attorney assisted Alain in filing his application for asylum, and submitted a detailed legal brief and country conditions report on his behalf. The attorney also prepared Alain for his interview, where he advocated for himself by telling his own story to the asylum officer. During the interview, Alain broke down in tears several times, reliving the worst days of his life. However, we are happy to report that Alain has been granted asylum in the United States and can now live safely and freely, free from harm and persecution.

VAI HEADS TO SPRINGFIELD ON ASIAN AMERICAN ACTION DAY

Seniors ready to be “Counted In” and “Welcoming Immigrants.”

28 Vietnamese seniors and community members went to Springfield on the annual Asian American Action Day on Wednesday, May 15th to demand increased funding for services and pass legislation in the Illinois Assembly that impacts Limited English Proficient immigrants and refugees. As part of the Community Care program and a statewide coalition of home care providers, Vietnamese Association of Illinois is advocating for a reimbursement rate increase from the Illinois Department of Aging to continue supporting home care workers who help seniors live independently.



Vietnamese Association of Illinois, in conjunction with Pan-Asian Voter Empowerment Coalition (PAVE), Asian Americans Advancing Justice and 12 other Asian American advocacy and social service providers, also supports the following items on the PAVE legislative agenda:

- Count our families by ensuring robust funding for the 2020 Census, including outreach for hard to count communities, including the Asian American community.
- Protect our families by preventing local law enforcement from becoming ICE agents and prohibiting private detention centers in our state.
 - YES! On HB 1637 Keep Illinois Families Together Act (Rep. Villanueva)
 - YES! On HB 2040 Private Detention Facility Moratorium Act (Rep. Cassidy – Sen. Peters)

Home care aide and community leader Shana Y at main rally (left photo).

- Value our families by preventing landlords from discriminating against renters because of their immigration status, making sure a person's immigration status isn't unnecessarily disclosed in court, and by ensuring that children are able to have short-term guardians if their parent is detained or deported by ICE.
 - YES! On SB 1290 The Immigrant Tenant Protections Act (Sen. Castro – Rep. Mah)
 - YES! On SB 1429 Evidence – Immigration Status (Sen. Villivalam – Rep. Gong-Gershowitz)
 - YES! On HB 836 Guardians-Minor:Non-US Parent (Rep. Gong-Gershowitz – Sen. Villivalam)
- Invest in our families by increasing educational equity through state financial aid, creating an Asian American Family Commission, ensuring fair reimbursement rates for workers providing care in our communities.
 - YES! On HB 3217 Asian American Family Commission (Rep. Mah – Sen. Villivalam)
 - YES! On HB 2776 and SB 2019 (Rep. Andrade – Sen. Hunter)
- Expand investment in the Immigrant Services Line Item (ISLI) to \$10 million



Photo courtesy of Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Chicago

The seniors were enthusiastic about being a part of a broad coalition of Asian American community members who lobbied their legislators, learned more about the policy areas above and becoming vocal leaders engaged in the state legislative process. Joining the rally of over 300 attendees with the main theme of “Count Us In” to promote increasing Census funding to reach hard-to-count communities, community member and home care aide Shana Y had expressed support by stating “increased Census funding and support for Community Care Program would enable the [limited English speaking] seniors I take care of freedom to live in the community.”

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As this article goes to print, HB2040 has passed the Illinois House and Senate for Governor Pritzker's signature.

With the growth of Vietnamese populace in the Chicagoland area, VAI is increasing the grassroots power of Vietnamese constituents to influence issues that impact them such as immigration, social services and housing. Leveraging our civic engagement work in educating and empowering clients into active participants of change, VAI is transforming into a strong advocate for the rights and interests of the Vietnamese community, getting involved with state and local campaigns defending family based immigration, senior services and language access.

Please contact Clark Nguyen, (773) 728-3700 ext. 37 or at Clark.Nguyen@hnvi.org 37 to get involved in advocacy and issue campaigns on legislation impacting immigrant and Asian communities.



Census 2020

WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

The census is an official headcount of every person living in the United States. Every ten years, the federal government is required to conduct a census to count everyone and record basic information about them.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Being counted in the census is very important to the future of our communities and state. Census data helps the federal government understand the needs of our communities. It is used to determine where to build new schools, hospitals, and businesses; how to draw districts lines and how many seats Illinois will get in the U.S House of Representative; and how over \$800 billion in federal assistance will be allocated.

Unfortunately, Asian Americans have been historically undercounted in the census. Language barriers and concerns about data confidentiality, among other reasons have prevented our community from participating in the census. In the past, our communities have not received our fair share of resources because we have not been fully included in the count. Given our rapidly growing population, it is imperative that we all work together to be accurately and fairly counted. An undercount would create additional challenges to our communities. It would effectively result in less funding for vital programs such as Medicaid and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).



Additionally, without accurate political boundaries, we would be denied a full voice in policy decision-making. Participating in census ensures that our communities' needs are represented and prioritized accordingly.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

Each household will have the option of participating online, by mail, or by phone. Paper questionnaires will be available in English and Spanish. The online census form and telephone census assistance will be provided in 12 different languages, including Vietnamese.

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Census 2020 (continued)

Census Operational Timeline:

Early March 2020

All households will receive a postcard about census.

Mid to End of March 2020

Most households will receive a letter invitation with information about how to take the census survey online. Some households will receive a letter invitation with the paper questionnaire (20–25% of people based on demographic characteristics and Internet connectivity of a geographic area will receive this).

End of March 2020

People who have not responded to the survey will receive a reminder letter or postcard.

April 1, 2020 is Census Day.

Mid-April 2020

People who have not responded will receive a letter and paper questionnaire.

May – July 2020

Census Bureau workers will go door to door to follow up with non-respondents.

VAI'S PLANS FOR CENSUS 2020

Vietnamese Association of Illinois has already begun work to ensure that the census collects the fullest and most accurate data on the Vietnamese community..

During Asian American Action Day on May 15th, we engaged with elected officials and rallied in Springfield to call for more funding for census outreach and implementation in Illinois. As Census Day approaches, we plan to create a comprehensive and collaborative campaign to increase census participation rates. Through workshops and canvassing, we will educate people about the importance of census and provide in-language assistance to fill out the forms.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

You can help ensure a fair and complete count of the Vietnamese community!

- Fill out your census form
- Tell your friends and family about the census and why it is important to participate.
- Join our education and outreach campaign to “Get Out the Count” for Census 2020.

For more information, please contact Thuong Phan or Clark Nguyen at 773-728-3700.



LANGUAGE ACCESS CAMPAIGN

On May 17th, staff and leaders from Jane Addams Senior Caucus, Apna Ghar, Inc. (Our Home), United African Organization, Cambodian Association of Illinois, RefugeeOne, Vietnamese Association of Illinois, Kinetic, and Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Chicago came together to talk about our vision for building a city that values and respects all its residents, regardless of language background. It was an exciting and powerful conversation that we can't wait to continue. Thanks to all the organizations who attended!
#ISpeakPower

This preliminary meeting was to discuss next steps to building power within the Vietnamese and other immigrant communities centered on language justice and leadership development across Chicago. By identifying language access, such as interpretation and translation, in Chicago Housing Authority buildings as well as Chicago Public Schools, the Limited English speaking coalition is planning a grassroots campaign to pressure Chicago elected officials, enabling our communities access to city services and resources by guaranteeing language provisions.

As part of the Language Access Campaign, Vietnamese Association of Illinois, with Advancing Justice's support, will be holding civic education classes called I Speak Power to engage ESL students on organizing and overcoming language barriers, as well as gathering surveys from CHA residents and LEP community members to assess what specific areas in respondents' daily lives where Limited English proficiency holds them back.

On the following page is a Language Access Survey. If you would like, please fill out and return to Clark Nguyen at Clark.Nguyen@hnvi.org.



NAME:

PHONE:

SITE:

DATE:

MIGRATION

RACE/ETHNICITY:

MIGRATED FROM:

YEAR:

WHY?

LANGUAGE

MOTHERTONGUE:

ADDITIONAL:

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4- 5

WHO ASSISTS YOU: Family Friends Agency Other

GENERAL

EMPLOYED: Y/N

TYPE OF JOB:

HEALTH INSURANCE: Y/N

HOUSING: Rent Own

LIVE: Alone Family Other

BARRIERS

- Government Office (Benefits, Driver's License, Etc)
- Education (school policies, report card, teacher mtgs)
- Employment (applications, complaints, etc)
- Health (hospitals/clinic, forms, nurse/dr interactions)
- Immigration/Naturalization (applications, etc)
- Housing (lease agreements, complaints, etc)
- Emergency Services (911)
- Legal (Courts)



IT'S SPEAK POWER

NAME:

PHONE:

SITE:

DATE:

Talking to a doctor?

1 2 3 4 5

Calling 911?

1 2 3 4 5

Talking to a teacher?

1 2 3 4 5

Completing a job application?

1 2 3 4 5

Signing a lease?

1 2 3 4 5

Getting an ID or Drivers License?

1 2 3 4 5

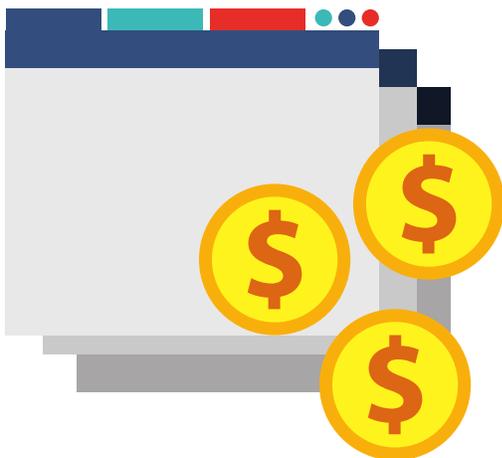
Going to the airport?

1 2 3 4 5

VAI Past Workshop Recaps

FINANCIAL LITERACY, FAMILY LAW AND IMMIGRATION WORKSHOP AT ROHINGYA CULTURAL CENTER

At the Rohingya Cultural Center on April 13th, Civic Engagement and Advocacy Coordinator Clark Nguyen helped educate 12 recent refugees from the Rohingya community, who face language, cultural, socioeconomic and other unique barriers, on the vital issues of financial literacy and family law. Some areas of money and family law they learned include types of credit, money management and savings, divorce and child custody, to name a few. With input from the attendees, Mr. Nguyen was able to hold an introduction to family-based immigration and asylum, providing an avenue for family reunification and much needed information that the community members could use to help their relatives in beleaguered situations.



HOUSING AND TENANTS' RIGHTS WORKSHOP WITH IRAQI MUTUAL AID AND SYRIAN COMMUNITY

In partnership with Iraqi Mutual Aid Society and Syrian Community Network, VAI Staff Clark Nguyen and Thuong Phan held an introduction to tenants' rights and housing with Limited English Proficient Arabic speaking community members who learned about substandard housing conditions, types of housing violations and dealing with unresponsive landlords, amongst other topics relating to the Chicago Residential Landlord and Tenant Ordinance. Armed with this knowledge, these members were able to comprehend their rights as tenants, identify abuses by their landlords, understand what legal leases are, and seek appropriate resources to remedy any possible housing issues they may face.

VAI Past Workshop Recaps

SPRINGFIELD INTRODUCTION AT VIETNAMESE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOUNDER'S DAY

As part of Founder's Day celebration, a traditional Vietnamese holiday, VAI staff Clark Nguyen presented at the annual Vietnamese American Association of Illinois festival at the Edgewater Armory on April 21st on the importance of attending Asian American Action Day in Springfield and strengthening the Vietnamese community's power by lobbying state legislators on issues impacting immigrants and refugees on May 15th. Mr. Nguyen was able to sign over 6 attendees up to get on the bus to Springfield and educate the audience on issues such as the reimbursement rate and immigrant services on the state legislative agenda.



ASIAN AMERICAN ACTION DAY LEADERSHIP AND LOBBYING TRAINING

To prepare for Asian American Action Day, VAI held a Leadership training on May 1st with 5 leaders ready to go to Springfield to lobby their state legislators. Mr. Clark Nguyen explained what legislative items VAI is supporting as part of the Pan Asian Voter Empowerment Coalition (PAVE), why they were important to the Vietnamese and immigrant community, connecting issues with personal stories, and briefly introducing how to lobby in Springfield. Community members such as Thu D and Shana Y were able to connect their personal narrative to the legislative items as well as understand the basic to lobbying as a constituent.





Community
Empowerment
Legal Clinic



VIETNAMESE
ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

Citizenship and Family Reunification Workshop

SUNDAY, June 23rd, 10:30 – 12:00 PM

Queenship of Mary Church

219 Armitage Ave, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Come learn about the steps to becoming a citizen,
getting civically engaged and petitioning family members
to immigrate with Vietnamese Association of Illinois!



CONTACT **JANA PHAM**
(JANA.PHAMLE@HNVI.ORG)
TEL: (630) 580-9438

OR
CLARK NGUYEN
(CLARK.NGUYEN@HNVI.ORG)

[Cite your source here.]



I SPEAK POWER

Civic Leadership for English Learners

The goal of I Speak Power is to develop powerful leaders, who want to transform Chicago and Illinois. I Speak Power is an interactive program that combines English language classes with civic literacy. We believe that our immigrant and refugee community members have the power to lead communities regardless of their English proficiency. I Speak Power participant will not only have the opportunity to learn new skills but to use those skills to help us change language access laws here in Illinois!

Join us!

VAI Community Care Program Update: Reimbursement Rate Increase



ILLINOIS HOMECARE PROVIDER REIMBURSEMENT RATE INCREASE (HB2776 AND SB2019)

Community Care Program (CCP) for Senior In-home Care:

- Established in 1979 by Public Act 81-202, the Illinois Department on Aging's (IDOA) Community Care Program helps senior citizens, who might otherwise need nursing home care, to remain in their own homes by providing in-home and community-based services, assisting seniors to maintain their independence and providing cost effective alternatives to nursing home placement.
- The CCP is VAI's largest program, with over 200 home care aides employed and 300 senior clients currently served.
- As part of a statewide coalition of CCP homecare providers, VAI is asking for an increased IDOA reimbursement rate of in-home senior care providers in the FY 2020 budget to \$21.64/hour from \$19.96/hour in FY2019.
- In line with minimum wage increases in Illinois and City of Chicago to \$13/hour in City of Chicago by July 1, 2019.
- Enhances support for local non-profits such as VAI to continue providing essential homemaker services to immigrant and refugee seniors in the community.
- Enables homemakers with greater benefits and living wages to provide in-home care through providers with the language capacity and cultural connections they trust.

MARCH SPRINGFIELD HOME CARE PROVIDER LOBBY DAY

VAI, as part of the 51 member Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly (CLESE) and the Illinois Association of Community Care Program Home Care Providers (IACCPHCP), went down to Springfield last March to advocate for a home care rate increase for the Community Care Program with state legislators. Two homecare aides, Truc N. and Hong P., told their personal stories about the needs of the seniors they serve and how the CCP has benefited their lives. They met with State Senator Rahm Villivalam, Representatives Kelly Cassidy and Yehiel Kalish who all expressed support for the rate increase bills HR2776 and SB2019 which would keep culturally appropriate home care services intact for seniors and allow ethnic service providers such as VAI to continue supporting Limited English and immigrant seniors in the community.

We continued to lobby for the rate increase, along with other funding for immigrant and refugee communities, on Asian American Action Day, through submitting witness slips in coalition intervention on Appropriations committee meetings on the bills, and calling our legislators to support the rate increase. Please join us in supporting increased rates for the Community Care Program by calling your state legislators about HR2776 and SB2019!





NEW MAYOR FOR CHICAGO

On May 20, 2019, Lori Lightfoot was sworn in as the new mayor of Chicago. Mayor Lightfoot breaks new ground as the first black female and first openly gay leader of our city.

Lightfoot is a Democrat and ran on a platform of greater government accountability and accessibility. She swears to work to create opportunity for every Chicagoan, regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, or economic status. Mayor Lightfoot also believes in investing in neighborhood schools, expanding affordable housing, supporting small businesses, defending immigrants, supporting LGBTQ+ rights, and legalizing cannabis among other issues. We look forward to seeing her work throughout the next four years!

ALDERMEN DISCUSS PUBLIC SAFETY



On Wednesday, May 15, 2019, at the Uptown Furama Restaurant, Aldermen Harry Osterman and James Cappleman jointly held a community meeting in Uptown to discuss recent events as they relate to public safety. Alderman Osterman represents the 48th Ward, where Uptown is situated, and Alderman Cappleman represents the 49th Ward. Two police commanders from the 19th and 20th districts were also in attendance to provide their updates and to field questions from the community.

The meeting started off with a briefing from the aldermen to the 200+ community stakeholders in the room regarding the May 6 shooting at the Argyle Red Line Station. The police commanders informed the crowd that the two suspects related to the shooting are in police custody.

The meeting went on to address interrelated violence beyond Uptown in the Edgewater and Rogers Park neighborhoods as well. Alderman Oster underlined his plan to increase police presence in Uptown, stating “safety on Argyle is my number one priority.” The alderman also claimed he would begin more severe crackdowns on ‘smaller’ illegal behaviors, such as loitering and public drinking, as these actions create an unsafe environment that leads to larger problems.

Overall, the main points the officials emphasized were:

- The individuals involved in the last few violent incidents, including the most recent shooting, are not residents in the Uptown area.
- The above-mentioned incidents were random, and have no links to one another.
- Don’t be afraid to dial 911 if you witness illegal or suspicious behaviors, or are afraid for your own safety.

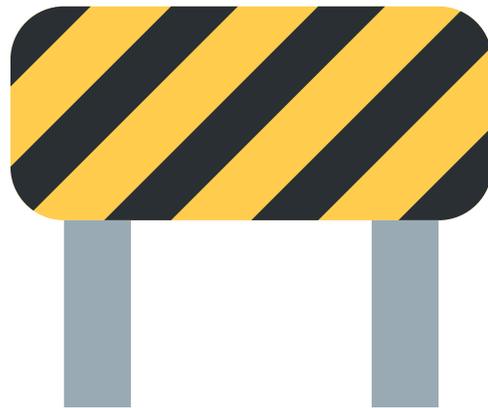
Expect greater police presence and more intensive outreach efforts in the form of community events from the aldermen’s offices this summer.

RPM: RED PURPLE MODERNIZATION PROJECT

Serious construction is coming to VAI's neighborhood! The CTA red line is being modernized between Lawrence and Bryn Mawr, including construction of four brand new stations intended to be more modern, comfortable, and accessible. On May 21st CTA held a community meeting at Somerset Apartments on Sheridan Road during which they - along with Walsh-Fluor, the company contracted to design and build - worked to reassure local businesses and residents that they will maintain thorough engagement with the community throughout the five-year construction project so that incipient problems are dealt with and business losses prevented.

The Red-Purple Modernization (RPM) project is unfolding in two phases, and the first phase is known as the Lawrence to Bryn Mawr Modernization Project. The liaison for the project explained that the track system in this area is a century old and the stations in this corridor (Lawrence, Argyle, Berwyn, Bryn Mawr) were opened between 1916 and 1923. Over 4.6 million passengers rode through here in 2018, and it is high time for renovation. The tracks will be replaced to allow trains to travel faster and to increase capacity. Trains will be more frequent during rush hour to end the grim reality of

commuters having to wait for several trains to pass before they are able to board a crowded train. As far as the stations, they will resemble the new Wilson station - cleaner and more capacious than the current ones. Once open, the new stations will offer wider platforms, improved lighting and security features, longer canopies and more windscreens, and real-time information boards. Elevators will also be installed at each station, so that ADA accessibility standards are met.



This ambitious vision for modernizing Chicago's public transportation, particularly in areas such of Uptown that are increasing in popularity, is slated to be completely finished in 2025, with stations hopefully re-opened by Summer 2024. Beginning in Winter 2020 temporary stations will be constructed at Argyle and Bryn Mawr, so that traffic flow/commutes are not horrendously interrupted.

<<continued on next page>>

RPM CONTINUED...

At this time, the project's design is still being finalized. As was stated in the meeting, Walsh-Fluor has an obligation to replace impacted parking, spot by spot, so that parking doesn't become a scarcity during the construction period. Likewise, they are launching a campaign to help businesses remain thriving in spite of station closures and unsightly and inconvenient construction work on the streets.

During the meeting, one business owner asked about community alert notices posted in other languages prevalent in the neighborhood, and the liaison affirmed that they are working on a plan for postering in other languages. Residents who are interested or concerned should look for notices for a follow up community meeting near the end of 2019. Details about the project are on CTA's website.





**Vietnamese Association of IL-DuPage
& Senior Association of DuPage**

Present

Summer Outing At The Garden



Cantigny Park

**1s151 Winfield Rd
Wheaton, IL 60189**

Sunday

06. 30. 2019

At 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM

***Join us for a day of
fun in the Sun &
beautiful scenery!***

For more information please contact:

Jana Pham Le: (630) 580-9438

Tua Luu: (331) 218-9847



WORLD REFUGEE DAY WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED NATIONS TO HONOR THE COURAGE, STRENGTH, AND DETERMINATION OF WOMEN, MEN, AND CHILDREN WHO ARE FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES UNDER THE THREAT OF PERSECUTION, CONFLICT, OR VIOLENCE.



WORLD CHICAGO 2019 REFUGEE DAY

CELEBRATING CULTURE, STRIVING FOR UNITY
JOIN US TO CELEBRATE CHICAGO'S GROWING REFUGEE COMMUNITY

JUNE 21
HEARTLAND ALLIANCE
4419 N. RAVENSWOOD AVE.

6PM - 9PM: "FACING THE NEW US"
PORTRAIT EXHIBIT BY PAM INGALLS
FEATURING CHICAGO REFUGEES

A PORTION OF PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT PORTRAIT SUBJECTS & HEARTLAND

JUNE 29
POTTAWATTOMIE PARK
7340 N. ROGERS AVE.

8AM-4PM: SOCCER TOURNAMENT
10AM-12PM: ENTERTAINMENT & KIDS' ACTIVITIES
12PM-1PM: ONE HUMAN FAMILY MARCH



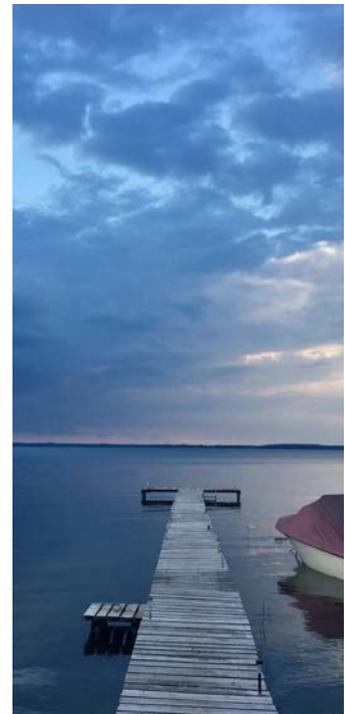
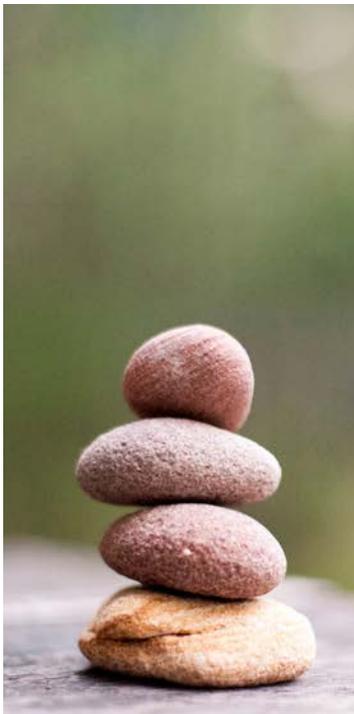
STAY CONNECTED WITH NEWS & EVENTS AFFECTING REFUGEES IN CHICAGO AND ACROSS THE GLOBE, AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2019. PLEASE VISIT [FACEBOOK.COM/WRDCHICAGO/](https://www.facebook.com/wrdchicago/) TO LEARN MORE, AND DONATE TO THE CAUSE THROUGH OUR GOFUNDME.

WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2019

Every June, Chicago pays tribute to the city's robust refugee community with a World Refugee Celebration. Internationally, World Refugee Day is observed on June 20, but Chicago is throwing its party on June 29 this year. At that time, refugees, the agencies that serve them, and the sympathetic public will take over Pottawattomie Park (7340 N. Rogers Ave.) in Rogers Park for a soccer tournament, performances, and food.

This is the first year that the Vietnamese Association of Illinois is participating. Though the timeline of Vietnamese resettlement is different, in that this community was refugees in decades past rather than recently, it is still very much a part of the refugee fabric of the United States. The event is a great opportunity to appreciate Chicago's diversity and to share a fun and meaningful afternoon with an eclectic group of people with common interests.

The Chicago event got its start around 2005, when Refugee One, Pan-African Association, and the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) collaborated on a small advocacy-focused event hosted at Refugee One. It was in 2007 that a larger group of mutual aid association and resettlement agencies came together and the World Refugee Day Committee began to form. <<continued on next page>>



The latter eventually became a fusion of soccer tournament and event with entertainment and food (formerly at a refugee-owned reggae club in Uptown). This is what the community enjoys now – an array of performances representing the music and dance of the countries that constitute Chicago's refugee community happening simultaneously alongside nation-specific teams competing for the soccer championship trophy.

Most years there is a lunchtime event in Daley Plaza focused on advocacy and capturing a downtown audience that may not know much about refugee-related issues. However, this year all resources are being funneled into the refugee community event in its new location. As we all know, these are tumultuous times for any sort of immigration; the advocacy piece remains vital. With that in mind, there will be a One Human Family March from 12:00pm-1:00pm – a great opportunity to show solidarity with other refugee communities and to show the press that Chicago is a diverse and welcoming city.

Please visit

<https://www.facebook.com/wrdchicago/> for more information on the event.



VAI Hosts CAPS Night Out!

VAI is teaming up with the 48th ward Alderman Osterman's office to host a CAPS Night Out on Wednesday, August 14, 2019. CAPS Night Out is a community event that runs every Wednesday throughout the summer where residents can engage various community organizations as well as local police officers in sports, arts, games, and civic education. Come join us as we co-host a night together! Visit the 48th Ward website for more information: <http://48thward.org/ward-events/caps-night-out-at-buttercup-park-2019-08-14/>.

Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2019

Time: 5-7pm

Location: Buttercup Park, 4913 N. Sheridan Rd., Chicago, IL

Cost: Free!



Argyle Night Market Comes to Uptown

Argyle Night Market will be happening on various Thursdays throughout the summer. The Night Market features food from local restaurants and live performances. This event is hosted by Uptown United and the 48th Ward office, in partnership with the 20th District of the Chicago Police Department. Visit Uptown United for more information: www.exploreuptown.org.

Dates: Thursdays (beginning on July 11)

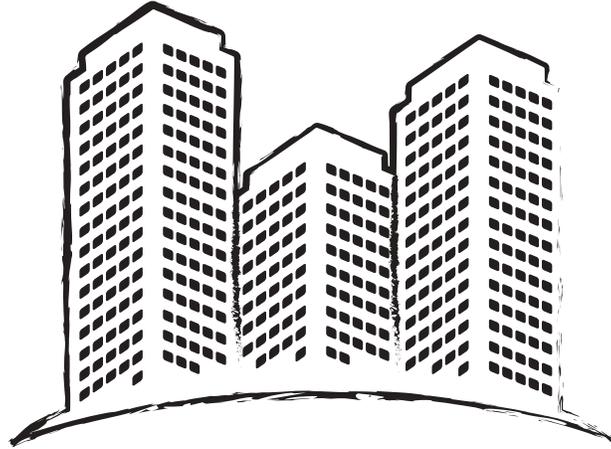
Time: 5-9pm

Location: Intersection of Argyle St and Sheridan Rd

Cost: Free!

COMMUNITY SUBMISSION

AREA: EMPOWERING ASIAN AMERICAN HOMEOWNERS IN 2019



Earlier this May, activists, real estate professionals, and leaders across various fields and disciplines convened to discuss some of the most pressing issues in Asian American and Pacific Islander homeownership. The policy summit was largely organized by the Asian Real Estate Association of America (AREAA), a nonprofit professional trade organization.

AREAA was founded in 2003 with a single vision: “promoting sustainable homeownership opportunities in Asian American communities by creating a powerful national voice for housing and real estate professionals.” Since its inception, the organization has grown to 41 chapters with 17,000 members nationwide. This year, our chapter is under the leadership of Tuyen Nguyen, 2019 Greater Chicago President. Mrs. Nguyen grew up on the North side of Chicago since 1979 and have been part of the Vietnamese community and serving the community in the Greater Chicago market in commercial and residential real estate transactions.

Among them, the AREAA Greater Chicago Chapter is perhaps one of the most recent chapters as well as the largest in the Midwest, with 200 members alone. Founded in 2008 by Nancy Survarnamani, the chapter hosts about 10-12 events a year promoting Asian American and Pacific Islander homeownership.

Between May 14 and 16, AREAA members and community partners met with local representatives to discuss the association’s top three policy points: alternative credit, diversity & inclusion, and language access.

<<continued on next page>>

First, AREAA advocates for a modern update to the credit scoring system. Access to credit remains one of the most vital qualifications for taking out a home loan. But due to differing cultural backgrounds or lack of education, many Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders do not have enough credit history, or have no history at all. AREAA is pushing for more “common sense criteria”, such as payments towards rent or utilities, to count towards loan eligibility.

Second, AREAA recognizes the rapid expansion of diverse communities within the United States. As a result, the organization is in full support of Sec. 342 of the Dodd-Frank Act promoting diversity and inclusion across all professional industries, particularly the residential mortgage and commercial/multifamily industry.

Finally, AREAA is pushing towards greater access to “in-language documents and services” in the homeownership industry. Even within the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, there are dozens of various ethnicities, cultures, and languages. Proper education of forms is crucial to avoiding risky deals and agreements.

Members and attendees were offered policy training sessions and public speaking resources in preparation for their meetings. Forums were held to create a sounding platform for prominent real estate professionals and members.

Although AREAA’s Policy Summit is over, their mission is not. Chapters across the nation continue to advocate for AAPI homeownership, through educational seminars, networking events, and volunteer opportunities. For AREAA Greater Chicago, we will continue the groundwork and accomplishments of our previous leaders. We have various events planned for the remaining year with great networking and learning opportunities with emphasis on affordable housing, the global market, commercial real estate, mentorship and leadership, community outreach events, and many more. Our chapter is prepared to move forward to the future and we are committed to achieve our mission. Please join us for our next event on New Construction on June 19th featuring expert panelists discussing the major developments within city of Chicago.

To learn more about our events and chapter, please visit us at www.areaa.org/chicago or contact Tuyen Nguyen to learn more about AREAA at tuyen.chicagocre@gmail.com.

Submitted by Tuyen Nguyen, Commercial Broker



We are revamping our magazine to have more community-based, community-contributed, and community-relevant content. As a community member, we'd love to hear your feedback on how we're doing!

If you are interested in providing feedback, please tear this page out and return (in-person or via snail mail) to our Chicago office, located at 5110 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60640, or our DuPage office at 640 E St. Charles Rd., Suite #203, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

For any additional comments, please email Emily at Emily.Sun@hnvi.org.

MAGAZINE SURVEY

Directions: Please fill in the circle according to your opinion of each statement being presented.

(1)

This magazine is relevant to my interests.

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

(2)

I would like to read more articles regarding Vietnamese Association of Illinois and its program in this magazine.

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

(3)

I would like to read more Chicago and/or DuPage County related news and updates in this magazine.

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

(4)

I find this magazine useful in updating me regarding issues happening in my community.

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

(5)

Please use the space below to write any other comments or suggestions you may have about our magazine.

THANK YOU!

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF OUR CONTRIBUTORS AND VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE THIS ISSUE POSSIBLE

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