



July 2007

Dear friend,

I hope your summer is off to a great start. Much is happening at CAA, and I am pleased to provide this quick update.

Today the US Supreme Court once again affirmed racial diversity as a compelling government interest, with the decision in the cases of *Meredith v. Jefferson County Board of Education, et al.* and *Parents Involved in Community Schools v. Seattle School District No. 1*. Although CAA is disappointed by the Court's decision to strike down both assignment plans and limit the options available to school districts, districts will still have the opportunity to design plans that will ensure racial integration.

We are also tremendously relieved that potentially devastating changes to national immigration policy were blocked when the Senate failed to move the bill forward. We at CAA have been encouraging Congress to deliver comprehensive immigration reform that protects worker and civil rights, preserves family reunification, and creates a path to citizenship for all our country's residents. The Senate bill failed on multiple counts and would have harmed our community and country for generations to come. Learn more about how this bill hindered real reform from the [National Immigration Law Center](#).

Locally, our community building efforts in San Francisco continue to grow stronger. This past spring we graduated a dozen immigrant parent leaders from our advocacy and leadership development program, along with another two dozen individuals from a pilot training program that prepares immigrants and people of color for electrical and plumbing apprenticeships. We believe such investments help build our community capacity to create a sustainable and progressive Asian and Pacific American movement.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that our advocacy for increased funds for translation services in San Francisco public schools has paid off. This month the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved a funding increase of \$550,000, more than doubling the money available for language services that will support parent involvement for limited-English proficient families. CAA leadership and support to the Visitacion Valley Parents Association and the Asian Pacific Islander Education Coalition were instrumental to this success.

Don't forget to check out our [Asian Americans for Civil Rights & Equality](#) advocacy website, where you can learn about important civil rights issues and access tools to make your voice heard in California's capital.

And thank you to everyone who attended or sponsored our June Celebration of Justice event – you helped make it a terrific success!

Sincerely,

Vincent Pan
Executive Director