

Asian American & Pacific Islander Giving

Its many faces and forms...



Top-bottom:
Hawaii Club of Raleigh;
NAAAP-NC "Silk Road"
fundraiser; Sichuan
Earthquake donation
group; at the Asian
Festival in Charlotte

Fast Facts

Asian American and Pacific Islanders give generously to their family, friends, community and homelands. These groups include Asian cultures from countries like Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Vietnam, Hawaii, Guam, and Samoa.

- The obligation to help others is a deeply held value, and giving traditions are as richly diverse as the ethnicities represented.
- Giving is shaped by many religious traditions and cultural customs.
- Remittances to homelands are considered an essential part of philanthropy.
- In 2005, 1 in 5 Asian Americans volunteered.

Embracing Philanthropy's Roots

Broken down, the word *philanthropy* actually means "love of humankind." Every gift is valuable, including time, talent AND treasure. And everyone is a philanthropist ~ everyone gives!

- Asian American and Pacific Islander philanthropy was influenced early on by immigration, when families developed mutual aid groups to provide immigrant members with basic services and assistance with becoming a citizen.
- Giving to homelands remains strong. In one year, India received \$27 billion from the USA.
- These days, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are contributing more and more to organizations, giving circles, funds and other forms of organized and collective giving.

Types of Giving

Individual giving is when one person contributes time, talent and/or treasure to a cause important to him or her. Examples include volunteering for the dragon boat race at the Asian Festival in Charlotte, giving money to Asian Americans in Philanthropy and donating blood to the American Red Cross.

Collective giving happens when people make contributions to a cause together. Examples include:

The Hawaii Club of North Carolina ~ The club brings together people from across the Triangle region to help its members in times of need, such as helping a family with a new baby move into their new home.

The National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP-NC) ~ The NC Chapter members sponsored "The Silk Road Fundraiser," collecting \$1,909 for the Alliance Medical Ministry to provide affordable healthcare to many working-but-uninsured residents of Wake County.

Sichuan Earthquake Donation Group ~ In 2008, 15 Chinese-based community organizations in Wake County came together to raise \$215,000 in online donations over the course of two weeks to help victims of the Sichuan earthquake. The money was wired to the Chinese Red Cross Society.

NCGives is a statewide organization on a mission to celebrate and strengthen North Carolina's culture of giving, especially among women, young people and communities of color. The Asian American and Pacific Islander giving initiatives we have supported include a research project led by Hi-Tann Le, a college student intern originally from Viet Nam. Information on giving traditions was collected from Asian American and Pacific Islander-led nonprofits and community associations across the state through face-to-face interviews.

To learn about celebrating and strengthening a culture of giving in *your* community, visit www.NCGives.org or call (919) 256-6908.

