

# WHAT DIFFERENCE DO YOU WANT TO MAKE?

What troubles your sense of justice?

Is it hatred, bias, violence? Ignorance, inequality or oppression?

Is it that Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities receive less than 0.4% of all foundation dollars?

If you could change those things, would you change those things?

We're looking for dreamers and doers.

Those optimistic enough to envision a better world, and practical enough to know they have to roll up their sleeves to make that world a reality.

We provide the tools that allow the doers and dreamers to do more. The support they need to get things started. The advice they need to get things done.

Our enemies are apathy and ambivalence.

Our allies are passion, determination and the knowledge that a small group of committed people can change the world; in fact, it's the only thing that ever has.

## GIVING TO MY COMMUNITY

**Eric Mah** is president of the Chicago based Gim Electric company. Growing up, Eric never really identified with the AAPI community. But that changed when he joined forces with other AAPI-owned construction businesses and nonprofit organizations to push the City of Chicago to change its minority contracting policy which excluded Asian Americans.

"The experience reinforced my belief that Asian Americans need to have a political voice and a voice in philanthropy. As a local business, our clients ask us to make contributions to various charities. We're happy to, but these are other people's interests. The Giving Circle gave me the opportunity to stop and think about donating to my own community and make my own choices about who I'm giving to."

Do you dream of changing your world?  
Are you ready to do just that?  
Let the change begin with you.  
Let the Circle start with you.



Call today for a Giving Circle Starter Kit and start to make a difference in your community.

Visit: [aapip.org/StartaCircle](http://aapip.org/StartaCircle)

Email: [GivingCircles@aapip.org](mailto:GivingCircles@aapip.org)

Call: 415.273.2760

**AAPIP** ● ● ●  
**GIVING CIRCLES**  
START A CIRCLE. CHANGE YOUR WORLD.

**AAPIP** ● ● ●  
**GIVING CIRCLES**

CALLING  
ALL  
DREAMERS  
AND  
DOERS.

How Giving Circles  
can help you change the world.  
Starting with where you live.

## WHO IS AAPIP?

AAPIP is a national membership and philanthropic organization dedicated to advancing philanthropy in Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities. AAPIP is helping ordinary, everyday people realize that they have the ability to be a powerful force for good in the place where they live. Right now, all across our country, like-minded people are taking part in a growing movement that is building resources in our communities. How? By forming a Giving Circle.



## WHAT'S A GIVING CIRCLE?

A Giving Circle is a small group of people who pool their resources to effect positive change. Giving Circles are a time-tested, culturally rooted and extremely personal way to encourage giving in our communities.

Communities around the world have long and deep traditions of supporting individuals, families, organizations, neighborhoods and communities. *Zakat* is the Islamic practice of charitable giving based on communal responsibility for the poor. *Giri* is the Japanese sense of obligation to support those who are less fortunate. It's a *huei* in Chinese, *tong-tine* in Cambodian, *hui* in Vietnamese, *geh* in Korean—any way you name it, it's a Giving Circle, where everyday people like you come together in living rooms, church basements or even the local bar to pool money together and then use it to empower others.

When you start a Giving Circle you'll discover how fulfilling and how much fun it can be to spend time with others who share your passion and sense of commitment to your community.

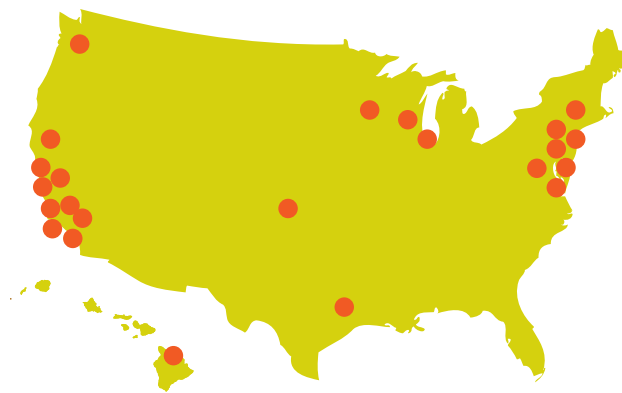
## YOU'VE STARTED A CIRCLE, NOW WHAT?

Your group has collected a pool of donations—several hundred dollars or several thousand. Now the good news:

AAPIP will provide a match for every dollar raised by your Giving Circle. You're ready to put the funds to work. Now for the fun part—deciding where your dollars will make a difference in the community.

**Giving Circles are making a difference in AAPI communities across the country in so many different ways.**

- **Confronting the prejudice that arose towards Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim and South Asian communities after 9/11 through the medium of theater in New York City**
- **Supporting AAPI youths, ages 13-21, who identify as LGBTQ in Washington DC**
- **Empowering victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse in the Hmong community in Milwaukee**



## JOIN A GROWING MOVEMENT

There are many Giving Circles all across the nation. The power of shared giving is growing. Be a part of it today! See a list of existing circles at [aapip.org/startacircle](http://aapip.org/startacircle)



Did you know that less than 0.4% of all foundation dollars go to our community?



## THE POWER OF SHARED GIVING

**Louisa Lee** is an educator, mother and founder of the *Pō'aha* Giving Circle which supports Native Hawaiian youths who seek academic excellence. Their grant to the *Ka'Umeke Kā'eo* school will allow a group of 8th graders to visit Washington, D.C.

*"Many of the students who will benefit from our grants have never been out of the State of Hawaii and a number of them have never left the island of Hawaii."*

*In addition to the knowledge they will gain about the American political system, they will also develop connections and relationships with other students throughout the nation and the world. They will be able to share their culture and learn how local issues that impact them may compare with their peers around the world. Furthermore, it will help them to become more global citizens and inspire them to think beyond their communities and to develop solutions to many of the challenges facing Hawaii."*

The *Pō'aha* Giving Circle is proving that through the power of shared giving, we really can change our world.