**GC 101**

**CIRCLE OF CHANGE**

Among other things, our circle funds the California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative, a group that is providing free surgical masks and health information to nail salon workers who toil daily surrounded by toxic fumes and little ventilation.

**LA API GIVING CIRCLE**

We formed the L.A. Giving Circle to help foster multicultural understanding in our Southern California community. We realized that no Asian American parent says “I want my child to be a doctor, a lawyer or a Hip Hop Artist.” And we thought: why not? An after school hip-hop program is a terrific way to foster multicultural understanding. We funded Sessions LA last year and it has proven to be a wildly successful way to encourage creativity and personal expression in the youth of our community.

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**RED ENVELOPE GIVING CIRCLE**

We chose the name “The Red Envelope” Giving Circle because a red envelope is a symbol that represents a long tradition of culture of mutual aid and community. Our Red Envelope Giving Circle was formed to continue and contribute to history. It aspires to build a legacy for and to chart a way for the LGBTQ community.

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**Issues that are important to you aren’t being funded. You can change that. Form a circle, change your world.**

**What’s a Giving Circle?**

Giving Circles are a culturally rooted and extremely personal way to encourage giving in our communities. A Giving Circle is a small group of people who pool their resources to effect positive change. They are a fun, social way to bring about change in the place where you live.

**How does a circle start?**

Friends, neighbors, family, co-workers: they gather in their living room, sometimes in a restaurant. They meet. They eat. (Our Circles seem to eat and laugh a lot.) They choose a wrong to right. They pool their resources and make a plan to go about being a force for good in their community.

**What kind of things are Giving Circles accomplishing?**

Right now, all across our nation, dreamers and doers in Giving Circles are providing scholarships, fostering racial harmony, promoting creativity, aiding immigrants, preserving cultural heritage and empowering Women.

**How AAPIP will help you start a circle and reach your goal?**

You are not alone—we can show you how to get started and help you organize your circle. We will provide seed money to help you with your start up costs. AAPIP.org will also match a percentage of your individual donations and amplify your Circle’s contributions.

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Go to [aapip.org/startacircle](http://aapip.org/startacircle) or email givingcircles@aapip.org and start to make your world a better place.
A few examples of how existing Giving Circles are changing their world.

**ASIAN WOMEN GIVING CIRCLE**
Our New York City circle funds Asian American women who use the tools of ART to accomplish their ACTIVISM. We fund documentary filmmakers, theater groups, spoken word artists, community based organizations and other artists who are creating amazing work about bullying, honor killings, sex trafficking, domestic workers, and queer rights. We are a circle of eclectic, awesome, creative, gutsy, courageous, change making activists. Join us!

**CA DREAM GIVING CIRCLE**
Our mission is to support and encourage the dreams of Korean immigrants. We’ve raised and distributed over $30,000 for scholarships to undocumented Korean American college students. This year, our goal is to exceed our auspicious start and assist many more undocumented students to reach their dream.

**CHERRY BLOSSOM GIVING CIRCLE**
Our Cherry Blossom Giving Circle exists to support Asian and Pacific Islander communities throughout the DC metropolitan area. We support organizations that provide social and legal services to local youth, to the elderly and to women who have experienced domestic violence.

**VIV NCAUS GIVING CIRCLE**
We formed the Viv Ncaus Giving Circle in Milwaukee to support Hmong women who were murdered by their partners/husbands, and then victimized a second time when they were blamed for their own deaths, therefore performing proper last rites and burial becomes no one’s responsibility. The members of our circle felt someone needed to aid these women in their final journey of life and to work further to find a way to end this horrible injustice.

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