



Chinese American Service League

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Dear Friends,

As the largest AAPI social service agency in the Midwest, we take it upon ourselves to provide services that improve the well-being of our clients and community. The needs of Chicago's AAPI community continue to go unmet by local and state leaders, so we at CASL continue to develop new programs and services to fill the gap. Today, we're proud to announce the launch of the Community Equity Research Center (CERC).

The CERC is the natural evolution of our ever-expanding suite of services. Its primary function is to infuse diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) strategies into CASL's DNA and amplify the voice of Chicago's AAPI community to ensure representation at the local and state level. Chicago's AAPI population continues to grow, therefore so do our unique needs. The CERC will work closely with our Center for Social Impact (CSI) on a more equitable, just, and inclusive future.

The CERC will be powered by Dr. Elizabeth Stigler, DEIA Officer, and Thomas Choi, Governmental Affairs and Advocacy Officer. These leaders will drive the CERC's DEIA initiatives both internally and externally, and they will amplify the voice of the AAPI community through governmental advocacy and policy-shaping. Both leaders are excellent additions to the CASL community and provide extensive expertise and critical connections.

The Center for Social Impact and Community Equity Research Center will work collaboratively to improve the well-being of our community and clients. The CSI will continue its function collecting and analyzing Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) data to identify inequities. The CERC will leverage these insights as proof points to encourage change, whether through more impactful DEIA strategies or advocating for laws and policies that address the community's unique needs.

We have seen first-hand how impactful our CSI-driven SDoH report has been on our ability to serve the community better. CASL's CERC will enhance our ability to improve the well-being of our clients and the communities we serve. By utilizing insights gathered from our communities, encouraging inclusivity, and increasing representation, the CERC can help CASL provide impactful change in our community.

Yours in service,

Paul Luu

CEO, Chinese American Service League