



ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITIES FOCUS ON TURNING OUT THE VOTE

Final GOTV Weekend before November 6

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2 November 2012

CONTACT

EunSook Lee

(213) 453-4378 | EunSookLee@nationalcapacd.org

Washington, DC — The National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development (National CAPACD) is working with local communities throughout the U.S. on the final GOTV weekend before November 6. In critical races from coast to coast, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders will be making their voices heard and could be the deciding votes this Election Day.

“This final GOTV weekend is our last chance to remind AAPIs that they have to turn out to the polls said National CAPACD Executive Director, Lisa Hasegawa, who will be phone banking in Virginia.

“We will be aggressively working to increase turnout in Florida,” said Joy Bruce President and Chair from the National Alliance to Nurture the Aged and the Youth. “Unless we vote, we will not have a voice, and we will continue to be an invisible minority.”

“We will be reaching out to Vietnamese American voters and passing out voter education materials. Our volunteers have already reached 2,600 households this week — and we found AAPIs who were incredibly appreciative that bilingual volunteers were reaching out to them,” said Nancy Nguyen, Branch Manager of Boat People SOS of in Pennsylvania.

Some of the AAPI outreach work this weekend includes:

- Annandale, VA – The National Korean American Service & Education Consortium will be phone banking to Korean American voters and in Virginia and hold a voter education workshop at a local Korean church.
- Boston, MA – Viet Aid will be door knocking and phone banking to Vietnamese American voters this Friday and reaching out to the churches on Sunday.
- Chicago and surrounding suburbs, IL – The Korean American Resource and Cultural Center will be assisting voters with the voting machine in Schaumburg, making reminder calls to 5,000 voters and door knocking at senior housing complexes.

- Chicago, IL – Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community volunteers will be door knocking to Chinese American voters in the Chinatown area and holding a rally with other community groups on Election Day.
- Delaware Valley, PA – Boat People SOS will be organizing canvassing to Vietnamese American voters and passing out voter education materials.
- Fresno, CA – Stone Soup will be holding a voter education forum for Hmong American voters at California State University at Fresno.
- Honolulu, HI – Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement will be organizing sign waving through key areas in Oahu.
- Los Angeles, CA – Korean Resource Center volunteers will be door knocking and phone banking to Korean American voters in Los Angeles and Orange County and holding an election-related rally on Friday.
- Los Angeles, CA – Thai CDC will conducting voter education workshops on Saturday at a senior housing complex and a local church as well as phone banking to Thai American voters.
- Oakland, CA – Filipino Advocates for Justice will be holding an educational at Paddy’s Café in Union City and canvassing after the event, as well as phone banking Filipino American voters in Oakland.
- Orange County, CA – The Orange County Asian Pacific American Community Alliance’s senior and youth volunteers will be calling voters and reminding them to vote until Election Day.
- Miami, FL – The National Alliance to Nurture the Aged and the Youth will be mailing out flyers, taking out ads in local ethnic papers and phone banking to voters.



- Sacramento – The Southeast Asia Resource and Action Center will be phone banking and canvassing Hmong American voters.

“We are deeply concerned about the 2 million AAPIs living in poverty, the high rate of uninsured AAPIs and the vital need to provide government social safety net programs,” said Hasegawa. “As an organization that was founded with the mission to create neighborhoods of

hope and opportunity, we believe that community building and revitalization is best achieved through activities including the full civic participation of all our communities.”

“Our partners in the east coast are also confronted with the incredible challenge of supporting families in the wake of Hurricane Sandy while also ensuring that those who want to vote, can vote,” said Hasegawa. “A large majority of AAPIs are limited English Proficient and that means they rely on both ethnic media and community groups—such as our partners—for vital information such as where they can get relief services and whether their polling place has changed.”

About National CAPACD

The National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development (National CAPACD) was founded in 1999 with the mission to be a powerful voice for the unique community development needs of AAPI communities and to strengthen the capacity of community-based organizations to create neighborhoods of hope and opportunity.

About the Project

This year, National CAPACD launched the Civic Engagement project with a core set of local community-based organizations to mobilize Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders around the country to vote. CAPACD partners are also participating in the Home for Good campaign, a joint effort between National CAPACD and other national organizations to raise awareness and mobilize grassroots community members around housing policy issues.

For more information, visit our website [here](#) and follow us on Twitter: [@CAPACD](#).

###