



## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **2016 Ohio Asian American and Pacific Islander Legislative Day**

Columbus, Ohio – Members of the Ohio Asian American Health Coalition (OAAHC) and Ohio Asian American and Pacific Islander Advisory Council (OAAPIAC) will come together for the annual Ohio Asian American and Pacific Islander Legislative Day at the State Capital in Columbus, Ohio, where a large crowd is expected. This year the Ohio Asian American and Pacific Islander Legislative Day will take place on Tuesday, October 4, 2016 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm, with a reception immediately following.

More information about OAAPI Legislative Day is available on the [Ohio Asian American Health Coalition website](#). The Ohio Asian American and Pacific Islander Legislative Day, now in its sixth year, provides opportunities for participants to learn about current issues impacting the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, engage with leaders from across the state, and meet with Ohio's Representatives and Senators addressing issues that affect our community.

Currently, Ohio is home to over 286,000 AAPI residents (73% increase from 2000), and with over 50,195 AAPIs living in Franklin County. The largest AAPI ethnic groups in Ohio include: Indian (81,000), Chinese (59,000), Filipino (26,000), Korean (22,000), Japanese (20,000), and Vietnamese (18,000). Ohio is also home to a significant AAPI refugee populations including Laotian, Cambodian, Burmese, and Bhutanese-Nepali ethnic groups.

The Ohio Asian American and Pacific Islander Advisory Council was established by the Ohio Governor John R. Kasich in 2007, with the mission of promoting Asian American Pacific Islander rights and well-being through education and mobilization of stakeholders including AAPI communities, government agencies, and the Ohio society in general. The council members

include Michael Byun, Tom Chung, Vi Huynh, Ronald Katsuyama, Yung-Chen Lu, Cora Munoz, Rebecca Nelson, Bounthanh Phommasthit, and Radhika Reddy.

The Ohio Asian American Health Coalition was established in 2002, with the goal of supporting health initiatives of member organizations, promoting research and education to address health disparities, and advocating for improved access to personalized, culturally and linguistically competent healthcare. It is made up of 8 member organizations including the Asian-American Community Service Council (Columbus), Asian American Community Services (Columbus), Asian American Council (Dayton), Asian Community Alliance (Cincinnati), Asian Festival Corporation (Columbus), Asian Services In Action (Akron/Cleveland), Chinese Association of Greater Toledo, and the Laotian Mutual Assistance Association. The executive director is Manju Sankarappa,

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