

## Korean American Community Foundation Newsletter - December 2011



Dollar a Day For Our Neigh

### Message From Executive Director

Dear Friends,

At a time of increased attention and debate about the growing chasm between the poor and the wealthy in this country, KACF is an example of how philanthropy can help to bridge the economic divide and ensure greater resources are reaching the most vulnerable in our community. And while philanthropy is not the only answer, it can play a critical role in filling gaps and catalyzing creative solutions that contribute to strengthening our economic foundation. It's exciting to see how we are investing together to strengthen our community, and we thank you for your continued partnership.

With warmest wishes for Happy Holidays!

Best regards,

Kyung B. Yoon  
Executive Director

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### 2011 Annual Gala: A Resounding Success



A big thanks to friends and supporters who came together to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our gra  
partners and leaders in the Korean American community at KACF's Annual Gala on October 19! With more than

guests in attendance, the Gala raised a record \$1 million to support KACF's work to improve lives and transform communities.



The evening's highlights included the recognition of year's Corporate Honoree, Higgin Kim, CEO of Seoul-based Byucksan Engineering, who spoke about philanthropic leadership. The Keynote Speaker, U.S. Assistant Secretary for Health, Dr. Howard K. ... inspired everyone in the room to seek out ways to go back to the community. Jason Lee, a program partner of the KACF grantee partner Minkwon Center for Community Action, captivated the audience with his personal story about volunteerism and his personal commitment to the passage of the Dream Act because he saw how it could help his own friend and hundreds of thousands of young people to have greater opportunity to become contributors to this country.

KACF President Tony W. Lee said, "The Gala was the culmination of a lot of hard work by many people. This was a collective effort that is extraordinary, but the fact that our community is the ultimate beneficiary makes it truly rewarding."

KACF Executive Director Kyung B. Yoon said, "For the first time, we raised more than \$1 million at our Gala. These funds will be directed to community-based organizations that are in the frontlines addressing the needs of our community. In this economy, this is an incredible achievement for KACF, an organization that is only nine years old, and a testament to the generous potential of the Korean American community to be a philanthropic force."

To view more photos from the Gala, please [click here](#)

## Town Hall with Mayor Bloomberg: An Unprecedented Step for Korean Americans in NYC



KACF hosted a Town Hall Meeting with the New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and City Commissioners with the Korean American community on Wednesday, October 26 at Flushing Library in Queens, NY. This was a milestone event for the community, reflecting the growing presence and influence of Korean Americans. Korean civic groups, business owners, and local Flushing residents filled the 200-seat auditorium to capacity, and in a Q&A format, individuals/organizations had an opportunity to address their concerns. Kevin Kim, the 2009 Democratic nominee for City Council in the 19th District and KACF Board member, emceed the event.



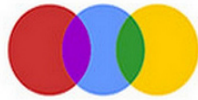
The first question to the Mayor from the Korean American Association of Greater New York (KAAGNY) dealt with Korean restaurants being unfairly penalized because the Department of Health's regulations do not take into consideration the particular storage needs of ethnic food such as kimchi. Mayor Bloomberg, who apparently enjoys kimchi, asked the Health Commissioner to revisit and properly address this issue. Among the other questioners were KACF grantee partners: Korean Community Services, Korean American Family Service Center and MinKwon Center which asked the Mayor about City funding for Korean non-profit mental health programs and language access.

The Town Hall was a significant first step for the Korean American community to raise their issues and engage in dialogue with the New York City Mayor and his Commissioners. KACF thanks everyone who attended and encourages all supporters to continue to be a part of elevating the voice of Korean America.

## 2011 KACF Grantee Partner: Breast Treatment Task Force

Launched in 2000, The Breast Treatment Task Force (BTTF) offers breast cancer screening, education, diagnostic follow up, and breast cancer treatment to uninsured, underinsured, and underserved communities in New York City.

In 2011, KACF began supporting BTTF's work to increase breast cancer awareness and prevention in the Korean American community through a series of coordinated and tailored community based screening and outreach activities. According to the 2005 NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Community Survey, the Korean American community has the highest uninsured and the lowest mammography screening rates in comparison to all other ethnic groups in the Un



BREAST TREATMENT TASK FORCE

States, despite the fact that breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among Korean American women. Financial ins is one barrier to care but there are a number of other inter-conner challenges including language, awareness, immigration status, fe lack of knowledge of the US medical/health system, among other



BTTF, in partnerships with KACF grantee partners such as the Korean Community Services and the American Society Eastern Division Asian Initiatives, coordinates free neighborhood screening days for Korean women. If are any unusual findings, BTTF arranges follow-up appointments and helps the women through the diagnostic process. In the event they need cancer treatments, BTTF's partnerships with hospitals helps to ensure that the receive quality cancer treatment for free.

To learn more about BTTF, please visit: [www.breasttreatment.org](http://www.breasttreatment.org)

## Learn about KACF's 2012 Grant Application on December 16

KACF will host its annual information session to explain grant application guidelines and the Community Grants application process on **Friday, December 16, 2011 at 10AM at Haynes & Boone** (30 Rockefeller Plaza, 26th I which is generously providing space for the event. All organizations interested in learning more about the upcor 2012 grant cycle are highly encouraged to attend.

KACF will consider organizations that are working in five program areas - Economic Security, Health, Safety, S Empowerment and Youth Empowerment - and prioritizes organizations that help individuals and families to mov towards self-sufficiency.

To participate in the information session, please RSVP to Brennan Gang, Program Officer, at [brennan@kacfny](mailto:brennan@kacfny) December 14. RSVP is required.

***The 2012 Community Grants application will be available on the KACF website starting on December 15 deadline to submit is February 15, 2012.***

## KACF Steering Committee Presents: *Korean American Identity - Past, Present & Future*



**Thursday, December 15, 2011  
7pm - 9pm  
DiMenna Center - Benzaquen Hall  
450 W 37th St.**

The KACF Steering Committee (SC) will host its second Public Education event on December 15, 2011 at 7pm to celebrate our Korean American heritage and identity. In partnership with one of KACF grantee partners, [KoreanAmericanStory.org](http://KoreanAmericanStory.org), SC will discuss what it means to be a Korean American - looking back at our immigrant history, reflecting on who we are today, and exploring the changing faces of the Korean American community.

Hope you can join this lively discussion!

Space is limited. To RSVP or for more information, please email [rsvp@kacfny.org](mailto:rsvp@kacfny.org) or 212.300.2144.

*Formed in 2005, SC is comprised of young working professionals in New York City with a deep passion for their community. Its mission is to foster a commitment to philanthropy and volunteerism among young Korean Americans to create positive social change.*

## Congratulations to Team KACF!



Thank you to 23 incredible men and women who represented Team KACF in this year's NYC Marathon on Nov 6th and collectively raised more than \$85,000 for KACF! After months of training, fundraising, and preparing for day, our runners pounded the pavement over 26.2 miles throughout all five boroughs and helped to raise aware

and support for KACF and our work in the community. A big thanks to all those who came to the Pre-Marathon generously sponsored by Kangsuh Restaurant, and to those who showed support along the Marathon route and Team KACF Cheering Zone on 1st Avenue at Mile 18. A special thanks to SC Member Ann Joo who led the Marathon initiative!



If you are interested in running the 2012 NYC Marathon, please email [nycmarathon@kacfny.org](mailto:nycmarathon@kacfny.org).

## Congratulations to KACF Board Member Jim Wohn!

KACF Board member Jim Wohn, Senior Vice President of Capital One Bank, was honored by the [Korean Community Services](#) for his community service and philanthropic leadership at the KCS 38th Annual Benefit Dinner on November 17th. Many from the KACF family came out to support and applaud him for this well-deserved honor. Congratulations Jim!



## Community Events

### Town Hall with AARP



According to an AARP study, two-thirds of Asian American seniors in New York receive Social Security income for their households. Yet, for many Asians who are entitled to benefits, language differences,

Asian American Journalists Association in collaboration with AARP presents a town hall featuring experts and community leaders to talk about how to get better, effective help for seniors before it's too late. You can learn about benefits they need and about new benefits you didn't know they were entitled to, to live a high-quality life in their golden years. The event is hosted by NYU's A/P/A

### Event Information

**Event:** Town Hall with AARP  
**Date & Time:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 @ 7:00PM  
(Meet & Greet with Refreshment @ 6:30PM, Wine & Hors d'oeuvre Reception @ 8:30PM)  
**Where:** NYU Lipton Hall  
108 W 3rd Street  
(between Sullivan Street & MacDougal Street)

cultural issues and lack of program awareness present barriers to these benefits.

Institute and a reception with refreshments will follow the town hall.

**Info:** RSVP to Todd Witke at [twitke@aarp.org](mailto:twitke@aarp.org) or 212.407.3

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