

Dear Friends,

As 2022 comes to close, we feel extremely grateful to you for standing by us in this journey to build the grassroots leadership of low-income immigrant women workers and youths.

The recent rise of attacks on Asian Americans and women's rights made us feel vulnerable and upset, but your support has encouraged us to continue educating ourselves and advocating for our rights. In particular, the crumbling down of a 50-year legal precedent by five conservative Justices taught us that we should continue fight to protect the rights of all marginalized people – more than ever.

During this year at AIWA, we educated ourselves about the **roots of racism, history of anti-Asian violence, and a need for Asian/Black solidarity** by organizing peer training and workshops conducted by AIWA seasoned grassroots leaders.

In our **Workplace Literacy (English) classes**, we practiced English expressions to protect ourselves against anti-Asian attacks, deal with medical emergency situations, and ask for bilingual support at our workplaces, as well as to navigate daily lives in the environment that is unfriendly to those who have limited English skills.



AIWA youth workshop



AIWA youths at a justice for fast-food restaurant workers rally

Despite many obstacles due to the pandemic, **AIWA youth** leaders successfully prepared and conducted in-person meetings and workshops with a new cohort, discussing sources of structural problems and how to empower communities.

Further, AIWA youths participated in rallies and events in solidarity with workers and other Asian American Pacific Islander community groups.

We, **homecare workers**, also continued challenging and demanding Alameda County In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) to institute a Chinese “hotline” for its Chinese speaking employees, whose number reaches several thousands.

When we call IHSS to ask questions relating our employment or health insurance, we have no way to talk with a IHSS staff directly in Chinese. In most times, we waited for an interpretation service but then we found our answers or concerns unresolved because the interpreter did not work at IHSS and had no knowledge to respond to our questions.

Looking back, our vigorous campaign in 2016 compelled IHSS to create information sheets and training in Chinese, which have benefited both Chinese speaking workers and clients. Now, **we want to continue organize ourselves for IHSS to institute a Chinese hotline**. But we also **need your support** to win, preserve, and broaden the workers’ rights!

Today, online communications became necessary to navigate our daily lives and advocate for our rights, but disparity in digital literacy is wider than ever and immigrant women are still left behind. Besides, expediency matters more than finding solutions to address the root causes and developing grassroots leadership for the long haul.

AIWA’s mission to develop grassroots leadership takes a long-term investment in our communities. It is an uphill battle, but it is the journey that is necessary for fundamental social changes.

With your generosity and encouragement, immigrant grassroots leaders at AIWA have been able to and will continue to outreach, learn, educate, advocate, demand, and fight, so that immigrant women, youth, and families can have voices for own rights and in solidarity with others in this journey toward creating a just and inclusive society.

Thank you so much and Happy Holidays to you!



AIWA Homecare Committee member Zoom meeting

In solidarity,

AIWA Homecare Worker Committee Members