



# APEN

ASIAN PACIFIC  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
NETWORK

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-DIRECTORS



At the beginning of 2023, we decided we were going to do something different this year.

Instead of focusing our energy on big external campaigns, we were going to dig deep with our membership, articulating **a vision for the future rooted in our members' lived experiences** and building the infrastructure we need to make that vision real.

That's exactly what we did. In Oakland, Richmond, and Los Angeles, APEN held a series of community visioning workshops with our Asian immigrant and refugee members, developing a shared vision for a Just Transition for California. Thanks to the support of people like you, we were able to expand our organizing to Southern California, opening up a new office in Wilmington and recruiting our very first APEN LA members. We also trained 41 new member leaders throughout the state – including **20 new youth leaders!** – and onboarded 11 new full-time staff.

To support our growing membership and staff, we have devoted countless hours to upgrading our infrastructure, from how we track member information to how we hire and onboard new staff. These investments will be crucial as APEN expands our organizing and takes on big campaigns in the years to come.

**Even as we focused on our members and infrastructure, the world demanded our attention – and time and time again, our members turned out in 2023 to demand solutions that put working-class communities of color first.**

When Chevron's toxic flaring and oil spills put our families at risk in Richmond, our members quickly mobilized in response to demand accountability. When our members – who include many Arab and Muslim youth and their families – were outraged to see our tax dollars being sent to fund genocide in Palestine, we mobilized thousands of people to help pass a solidarity resolution in Richmond and demand a permanent ceasefire.

APEN built on earlier legislative victories by working with allies to secure **funding for a new resilience center in Chinatown**. Our members helped pass a People’s Budget in Oakland, and we held healing circles and town halls to engage the community around alternative approaches to public safety.



In 2023, we dug deep with our members and focused on building and strengthening our base. **Next year, we’re taking the fight to the fossil fuel industry.**

2024 is going to be a big year for APEN, and our new systems will be put to the test. From Richmond to Wilmington, we are taking the fight to Big Oil, turning out at the ballot box and beyond to demand a better future for our families.

We are so glad to have people like you standing with us. **Thank you.**

*Christine Cordero and Vivian Yi Huang*  
*Co-Directors, APEN*



## OUR VOICES

“*I’m really excited to have APEN in Wilmington.*

*This work is really important and having grown up here, we definitely need to do more to address the issue of pollution and the refineries. Being Asian there aren’t any organizations that are organizing us around environmental justice issues.”*

– Precious Molina, APEN LA Member





# MOVEMENT VICTORIES

- Launched our new **Los Angeles organizing project**, recruiting 15 new members and holding our first APEN LA academy in addition to community outreach events throughout the year
- Won new investments in community resilience in our neighborhoods: secured **\$9.25 million** for a new community resilience center at Lincoln Rec in Chinatown and helped implement installation of solar on **affordable housing** at St. Mary's Gardens in Oakland
- Acted swiftly to **stand in solidarity** with the Palestinian struggle, organizing a youth vigil, helping to pass a historic solidarity resolution in Richmond that inspired many other cities to follow suit, organizing other environmental groups to take action and leading political education across our membership
- Organized our community at town halls and city council meetings to pass a **People's Budget** in Oakland, and led healing circles and storytelling projects to explore restorative approaches to public safety
- Unveiled new **community-designed murals** highlighting Asian immigrant and refugee stories at our offices in Richmond and Los Angeles



Photo Credit: Nyi Tun

# OUR VOICES



“*Since becoming an APEN member, I have actively participated in so many activities and fallen deeply in love with this organization that advocates for Asian immigrant voices, wins grassroots policies, and builds a just and equitable environment.*”

—Lily Zhu, APEN Chinatown Leader



“*We hope to stay here [in Richmond]. It’s our home and where we raised our families. One of my children was born right here, in Richmond. I’ve had my garden here.*

*We want to continue to live here. We want it to be better, safe for our grandchildren.”*

– Chanh Toommaly, aunt of APEN youth leaders Ashley and Alida Phuthama

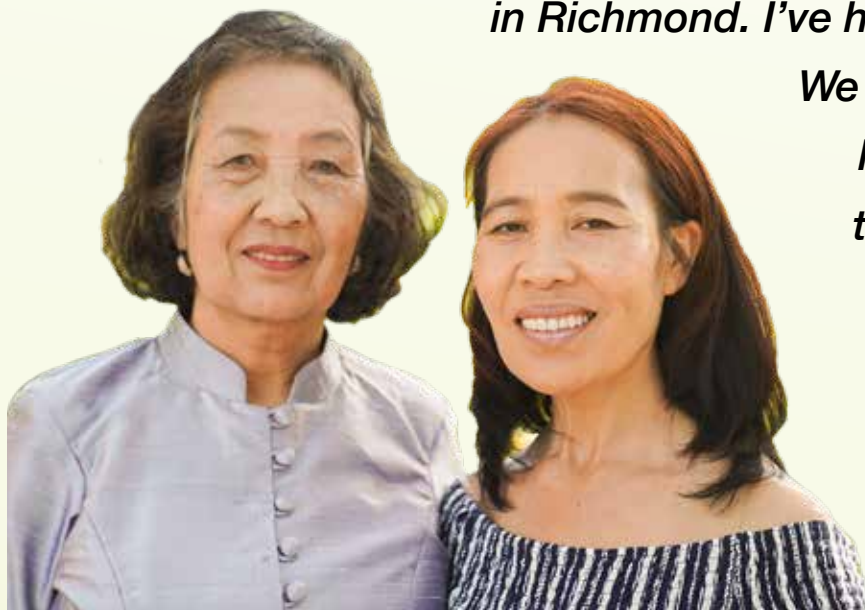


Photo Credit: Denny Khampanthong

# BY THE NUMBERS



**41**

41 new member leaders trained in APEN Academy leadership development programs



**70**

10 community visioning workshops including over 70 community members in Oakland, Richmond, and Los Angeles



**2,700**

Knocked on 2,700 doors in Los Angeles and called 3,500 voters in the San Gabriel Valley to talk to them about environmental justice issues in their neighborhoods



**2,500**

Over 2,500 people joined us in taking action by emailing or calling their elected officials

Photo Credit: Joyce Xi @joycexiphotography

Photo Credit: Nvi Tun

# IN THE NEWS

## [“Solar power to the people: California program brings clean energy to Oakland” –The Guardian](#)

*“Once only accessible to the well-off, solar power is making inroads to low-income households thanks to federal and state programs.”*

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## [“Youth Lead Pro-Palestine Vigil at Unity Park” –Richmond Pulse](#)

*“We really wanted to do something here for our youth and community that live in Richmond so that our young people can come to the vigil and feel connected and safe.”*

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## [“Hundreds of hazardous sites in California are at risk of flooding as sea level rises, study finds” –CNN](#)

*“What this report really reinforces is that the oil refineries that bring sickness and death into our homes are also fueling the flames of climate change.”*

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## [“Youth community center in Richmond, California, becomes a ‘resilience hub’” –Yale Climate Connections](#)

*“As climate change brings increasingly extreme storms, heat waves, and wildfires, more people will need a place to go for support or to stay safe.”*

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## [“Popular California climate program lets polluters keep harming vulnerable communities” –CalMatters](#)

*“On top of rising rents and limited access to high-paying jobs and healthy food, pollution from the refinery is making people sick. Chevron continues to put their profits over people and health through dangerous flaring, oil spills and pollution.”*





# THANK YOU

Our grassroots organizing is only possible because of the generous support of people like you. Below are just a few of our generous financial supporters this year.

## FUNDERS

11th Hour Project  
AAPI Civic Engagement Fund  
AAPIs for Civic Empowerment Education Fund  
Ascent Environmental  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice: Asian Law Caucus  
Asian Health Services  
Bay Area Council  
Bezos Earth Fund  
California Environmental Justice Alliance  
Chorus Foundation  
Climate Justice Alliance  
Climate Ride  
ClimateWorks Foundation  
CSAA Insurance Group  
Edwin M. Lee Community Fund  
Emergent Fund  
Energy Foundation  
Evelyn & Walter Haas, Jr. Fund  
Frank and Karen Geefay Foundation  
Hammond Climate Solutions  
Hidden Leaf Foundation  
Highlands 3:23 Fund via ImpactAssets  
Institute for Sustainable Communities  
James & Gretchen Sandler  
Just Fund Combined Impact Fund  
Kaiser Permanente of Northern California

Kano Family Fund  
Kataly Foundation Chrysalis Fund  
Leveler Foundation  
Libra Foundation  
Lorraine and Victor Honig Fund for Social Change  
Manzanita Foundation  
Marin Community Foundation  
Mariposa Fund  
Marisla Foundation  
Movement Strategy Center  
Moving Money, Making Change Fund at RSF Social Finance  
Patagonia  
Progressive Multiplier Fund  
Resources Legacy Fund  
S.H. Cowell Foundation  
Satterberg Foundation  
Scherman Foundation  
Select Equity Group Foundation  
Skyline Foundation  
Surdna Foundation  
The California Endowment  
The California Wellness Foundation  
The East Bay Community Foundation  
The Greenlining Institute  
The Passiflora Fund at Schwab Charitable  
The Quiet Fund  
The Richard and Marlene Millikan Fund

The Rodgers Family Foundation  
The San Francisco Foundation  
The Solutions Project  
Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock  
Urban Habitat  
Windward Fund to Build Grassroots Power  
Winifred & Harry B Allen Foundation  
Winky Foundation  
Yield Giving  
Zoom Cares Fund

## MAJOR DONORS

Allistair Mallillin and Lily Jacobson  
Ann Harvey and Francesca Cunningham  
Biher and Kuoshin Chi  
Brianna Beighle  
Emily Morningstar  
Jaeheon Yi  
Jean Zhao  
Matthew Raimi  
Millie Wong  
Naomi Sobel  
Roger Kim  
Ronald Chang  
Sarah Ruiz-Grossman  
Sonia Miller Phouthavong  
Tianchang He



# 2022 AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

## Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2022 (With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2021)

<b>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>		
<b>SUPPORT</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Foundation and corporate grants	5,902,526	5,750,681
Individual contributions	-	5,182,381
Government	140,529	88,155
In kind support - goods	2,930	4,720
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>6,045,985</b>	<b>11,025,937</b>

<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Consulting and contract revenue	505,240	414,802
Interest and dividends	47,614	3,108
Other	5,119	679
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>557,973</b>	<b>418,589</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Program	6,096,310	3,533,157
Management and general	517,191	391,301
Fundraising	551,611	485,665
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>7,165,112</b>	<b>4,410,123</b>

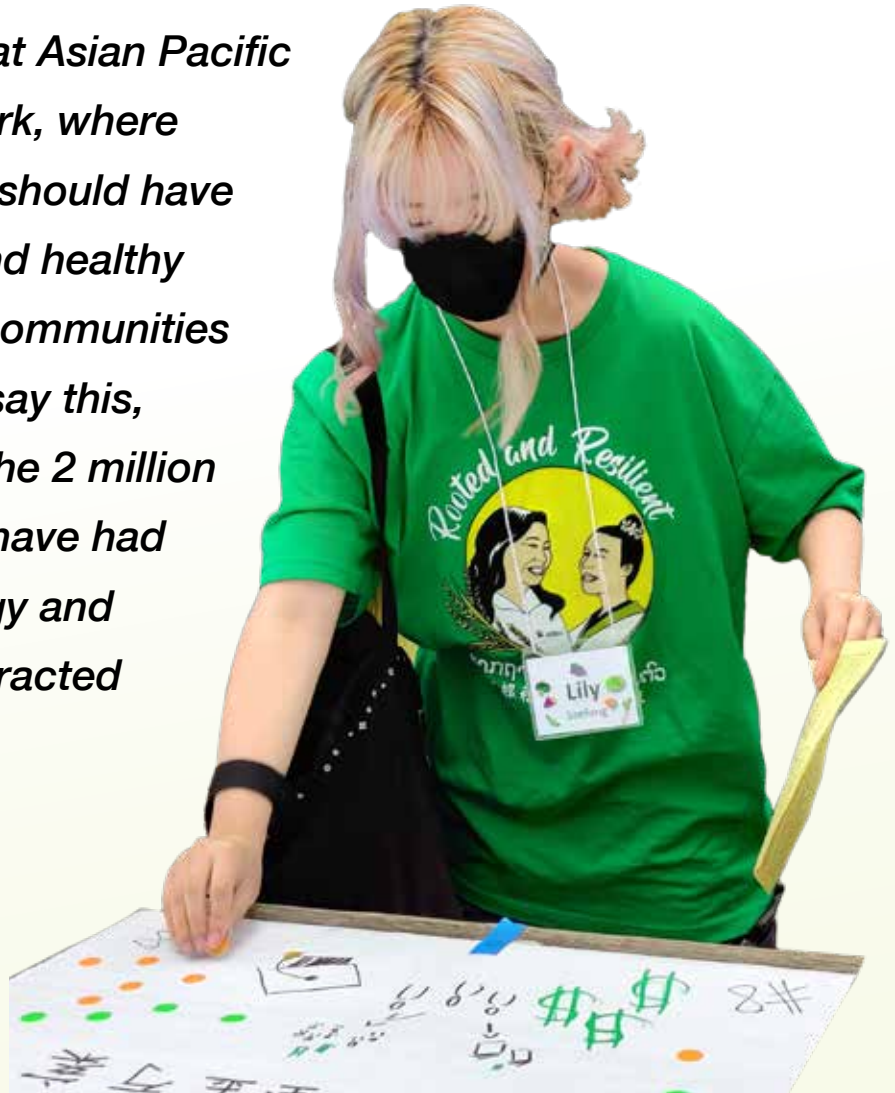
Change in Net Assets	(832,855)	7,034,403
Net Assets, beginning of year	12,110,604	5,076,201
<b>Net Assets, end of year</b>	<b>11,277,749</b>	<b>12,110,604</b>



# OUR VOICES

“ I’m a youth leader at Asian Pacific Environmental Network, where we believe all people should have the right to a clean and healthy environment, where communities can thrive. When we say this, we’re also including the 2 million people in Gaza, who have had their resources, energy and water sovereignty extracted by Israel.”

— Lily Saefong



# GIVE



2024 is going to be a big year for APEN. From the Bay Area to Los Angeles, we're taking the fight to Big Oil – and we need your support. Donate now to help us fight for environmental justice in 2024 at [apen.us/give](https://apen.us/give).



Photo Credit: Nyi Tun



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