



## Chinese-American Planning Council

### Policy and Advocacy Priorities- New York State FY23-24

Founded in 1965, CPC is a social services organization that creates positive social change. We empower Asian American, immigrant, and low-income communities in New York City by ensuring they have equitable access to the resources and opportunities needed to thrive.

**Human Services:** Through our human services programming, CPC is the trusted partner to more than 80,000 individuals and families striving to achieve goals in their education, family, community and career. CPC supports:

- **Fully fund human services agencies:** ensure that as essential services, nonprofits receive a yearly contract rate increase, [increase wages and ensure liveable wages](#) through raising the wage floor (Just Pay campaign), and provide hazard pay to human services staff.
- **Invest \$66.5 million in AAPI organizations** to address anti-Asian violence and meet community needs
- **Enhance the Settlement House Program** from \$2.45 million to \$5 million.
- **Early Childhood Education:** Establish a new fund for localities to serve all income-eligible families, use Economic Development Funds to support childcare programs, expand the Child Care Tax Credit, allocate \$5 million to Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) to provide additional training.
- **Child Welfare:** Restore the Open-Ended Preventive/Protective Services State-funded portion to 65/35; invest \$17 million to raise wages for foster care workers.
- **Universal Child Care:** Pass the Universal Child Care Act ([S7595/A8623](#)) to ensure that all children, regardless of ages or type of setting, have quality care and pass the Early Learning Child Care Act ([S7615/A8625](#)) that would not only enrich the minds of children ages three and under but provide the necessary funding and resources to child care facilities to ensure they are supported.
- **Adult Literacy:** \$7.8 million for Adult Literacy Education (ALE) to keep programs whole. Invest \$15.6 million in FY23 to support the new ALE Stabilization and Enhancement Fund to fully fund, stabilize, and enhance ALE programs by increasing the rate per student which would allow providers to better serve the over 5,600 New Yorkers enrolled in state-funded ALE programs. Invest \$32 million in FY24 to phase in new students at an increased rate per student. Invest \$10 Million in Family Literacy programs
- **Senior services:** invest \$13.5 million in the home-delivered “meals on wheels” program.

CPC is a member of the following human services coalitions and organizations and endorses their platforms: Human Services Council (HSC), Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF) United Neighborhood Houses (UNH), Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA), Day Care Council of New York (DCCNY), Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies (COFCCA), New York City Coalition for Adult Literacy (NYCCAL) and Live On New York.

**Immigrant Justice:** At a time when immigrant New Yorkers increasingly need legal services for immigration, housing and employment, it is critical to ensure access to information, resources and counsel. In New York City, 20% of all active immigration court cases are Chinese. Simultaneously, low-income,

immigrant communities and communities of color experience an unfair share of profiling, surveillance, and punitive fines and fees, leading to unjust arrests and over-incarceration. CPC supports:

- **Invest in community-based legal services:** enhancing the Liberty Defense Fund, enhancing the Office of New American Opportunity Centers funding and reinstating the ESOL gateway model.
- **Passing the Access to Representation Act ([S81A/A1961](#))** to establish a right to counsel in immigration court proceedings.
- **Expanding the Excluded Workers Fund: establish a permanent alternative to unemployment** for undocumented New Yorkers through the “Excluded No More” Legislation.
- **Passing the Street Vendor Formalization Bill ([S1175A/A5081A](#)):** formalize and decriminalize the street vending industry by removing the currently insurmountable barrier to entry to the industry so that vendors may obtain permits to operate their business in accordance to the law.
- Pass bills to end the harms of the criminal legal and immigration system including: New York for All ([S.3076/A.2328](#)), Treatment not Jail ([S2881A/A8524A](#)), Stop Violence in the Sex Trades ([S3075/A849](#)), Fair and Timely Parole ([S7514/A4231](#)), Elder Parole ([S15/A3475](#)), Clean Slate Act ([S1553C/A6399A](#)), Dignity Not Detention ([S7373/A7099A](#)), End Predatory Court Fees ([S3979C/A2348B](#))

CPC is a member of the Justice Roadmap coalition, the Fund Excluded Workers Coalition, and the New York Immigration Coalition and endorses their platforms.

**Healthcare and Care:** Inequitable access to healthcare is a key issue in our communities, where one in five Asian Americans is uninsured, and many more are underinsured. CPC supports measures to expand coverage and services in the short term, while calling for universal guaranteed healthcare. CPC supports:

- **Passing the New York Health Act ([A6058/S5474](#)):** establish a universal, publicly financed single pay health plan to provide comprehensive health coverage for all New Yorkers regardless of age, immigration status, or financial status.
- Meeting urgent health needs through **expanding the Essential Plan** to cover undocumented New Yorkers (**Coverage For All: [A880/S1572](#)**) and the **End Medical Debt bills ([A7363/S6522](#), [A3470B/S2521B](#) and [A8441](#))**.
- Increase wages and ensure **livable wages for home care workers (Fair Pay for Home Care: [S5374A/A6329](#))** and establishing dignified working schedules for home care workers through replacing **24-hour live in shifts with 12-hour split shifts ([A3145A/S359A](#))**, fully funding Medicaid to eliminate the home care shortage, ensure good wages and working conditions for home care workers, and ensure adequate and dignified care for all who need it.
- **Preserving and expanding Medicaid services and funding** by removing the Medicaid Cap ([A226/S5255](#)) and **increasing funding for safety net hospitals and programs ([A6883/S5954](#))**.

CPC is a member of the Caring Majority Coalition, the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Association of New York (CDPAANYS), Healthcare for All New York (HCFANY), and the Medicaid Advocacy Strategy Group (Medicaid Matters) and endorses their platforms.

**Housing & Mobility:** Communities of color are disproportionately affected by transportation deserts, ADA inaccessible stations, and disrupted public transportation, while simultaneously burdened with fare hikes that rise faster than wages and punitive fare evasion policing that criminalizes working class New Yorkers.

- Pass Good Cause Eviction ([A05573/S03082](#)) and extend the Eviction Moratorium for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Create a statewide rental assistance program through the **Housing Access Voucher Program** that includes undocumented New Yorkers ([A3701A/S2804B](#))
- **Allow 421-A to expire** in 2022 to create new streams of revenue for housing



# ADVANCING OUR COMMUNITY

- Full fund the **Housing Our Neighbors with Dignity Act (HONDA)**
- Investing \$10 million to **provide service coordination in senior affordable housing services**

CPC is a member of Housing Justice for All and Riders Alliance and endorses their platforms

**Economic Equity:** Asian Americans experience the highest poverty rate of any racial and ethnic group in New York City. CPC supports measures to promote the economic empowerment of our community members, ensure access to banking, and freedom from debt and predatory lending. CPC also supports raising revenues to fully fund the needs of people of color, immigrants and low-income New Yorkers, requiring wealthy New Yorkers to pay their fair share and creating a more equitable State:

- **Invest in our New York:** pass six revenue raising bills to ensure that vital programs and services are fully funded and ensure the ultra-wealthy and corporations are contributing their fair share.
- **Removing the 2% self-imposed global spending cap.**
- **Passing the Inclusive Value Ledger**, a peer-to-peer savings and payments platform that would create direct, digital access to tax credits, benefits and public programs ([A3138/S6073](#)).

CPC is a member of the Invest in Our New York coalition, Invest in Skills coalition, and One Fair Wage coalition and supports their platforms.

**Representation for Marginalized Communities:** Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) experience disparities in wealth, health, and education, which are not captured through State data that aggregates ethnic subgroups. There is an urgent need for quality, disaggregated data, not just for AAPIs but for all marginalized communities. For example the LGBTQ community, which cuts across all New York State racial, ethnic, and economic groups, also is not captured in State data. Low-income voters and voters from marginalized communities also face barriers to building political power because of antiquated voter policies and Board of Elections systems. To democratize all levels of government and provide better representation for marginalized New Yorkers, CPC calls for:

- **Comprehensive Board of Elections reform**
- **Fair redistricting** that includes the voices of marginalized communities, immigrant communities, and communities currently incarcerated. CPC is a partner organization advising the Unity Maps coalition.

CPC is a member of the Let NY Vote coalition and the APA Voice coalition and supports their platforms, including restoration of parolee voting rights.