



# 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CISANI Conference

*“From Wall Street to Main Street: Civic Engagement in Changing Times”*

New York City, NY | November 11-13, 2019



# WELCOME

Welcome to the **40th Anniversary CISANI Conference!**

We are excited that you have joined us in New York City to celebrate CISANI's 40th anniversary. You are joining friends and colleagues from around the United States and from around the world to look back on what has been accomplished and to look forward to what we will do together as Chinese social services organizations.

The 2019 conference theme is "**From Wall Street to Main Street: Civic Engagement in Changing Times.**" The Chinese community is being activated around the U.S. and in different countries, playing a key role in effecting change. From youth to seniors, Chinese communities are engaging on a range of issues, including Census 2020 and gentrification in the U.S. as well as democracy and sovereignty abroad. During this conference, we will explore how civic engagement is impacting Chinese social service organizations and the community members we serve.

CISANI stands for the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International and is a network of member agencies that serve Chinese communities. During these complicated times, having such a network is critical to ensuring that the persistent needs and emerging trends in our communities are meaningfully addressed.

We would like to thank the **Avery Tsui Foundation** for its continued sponsorship of the CISANI Conference. This conference would not be possible without the foundation's support. We would also like to thank the elected officials and community leaders who will be speaking during this year's conference. Most importantly, thank you for joining us at this pivotal time in history!

Sincerely,



Wayne Ho  
President & CEO  
Chinese-American Planning Council



## **CISANI (Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International)**

Formed in 1979, CISANI is a network of member organizations who addresses the evolving needs and challenges facing Chinese immigrants. Member organizations span across the United States, Canada, and Hong Kong. Each year, the CISANI Conference provides members with an opportunity to share ideas, resources, and best practices, while establishing friendships to enhance their programs to better help immigrants achieve their goals and dreams. Learn more about CISANI at [www.cisani.org](http://www.cisani.org).



## **CPC (Chinese-American Planning Council)**

As a founder of CISANI, CPC is the host of the 40th Anniversary Conference. 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. Today, CPC is the nation's largest Asian American social services organization, and we are the trusted partner to more than 60,000 individuals and families striving to achieve goals in their education, family, community, and career. Learn more about CPC at [www.cpc-nyc.org](http://www.cpc-nyc.org).

# AGENDA

<p><b>Monday, November 11, 2019</b>  <b>Location: Chung Pak Local Development Corp.</b>  <b>96 Baxter Street, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10013</b></p>	
2:00 – 6:00 PM	<b>Member Meeting (Closed Session)</b>
6:30 PM	<p><b>New York City Experience</b>  <b>Freedom Tower Tour and Dinner</b>            The Freedom Tower            One World Trade Center,            285 Fulton Street, New York, NY 10007</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, November 12, 2019</b>  <b>Location: Grand Street Settlement – Essex Crossing Community Center</b>  <b>175 Delancey Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10002</b></p>	
8:30 – 9:15 AM	<b>Registration and Breakfast</b>
9:15 – 10:00 AM	<p><b>Opening Session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome – Veronica Tsang, Board Chair, Chinese-American Planning Council (NYC)</li> <li>• Conference Overview – Wayne Ho, President &amp; CEO, Chinese-American Planning Council (NYC)</li> <li>• Keynote Address – Assembly Member Yuh-Line Niou</li> </ul>
10:00 – 11:15 AM	<p><b>Panel 1 – Civic Engagement</b>  <i>Panelists from around the U.S. and around the world will discuss how youth, millennials, and seniors are becoming actively engaged, looking back on what has been accomplished and looking forward to what still needs to be done.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Chen, Former Executive Director, Chinese-American Planning Council (NYC)</li> <li>• Jenny Wang QSM, Founder &amp; Executive Director of CNSST Foundation, formerly known as Chinese New Settlers Services Trust (New Zealand)</li> <li>• Bernie Wong, Former President and CEO, Chinese American Service League (Chicago)</li> <li>• Stephen Yau, Chief Executive, International Social Service Hong Kong</li> <li>• Moderator – Wayne Ho, President &amp; CEO, Chinese-American Planning Council (NYC)</li> </ul>
11:15 – 11:30 AM	<b>Break</b>

# AGENDA

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	<p><b>Panel 2 – Policy Implications</b> <i>Panelists from around the U.S. will discuss Census 2020 and its impacts on elections, voting, and redistricting among the Chinese American community in their cities. Panelists from around the world will explore the policy implications of democratic movements in their countries.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grace Chan, Executive Director, Coalition for Better Chinese American Community (Chicago)</li><li>• Vanessa Leung, Co-Executive Director, Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (NYC)</li><li>• Jerry Vattamala, Director, Democracy Program, Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (NYC)</li><li>• Moderator – Alice Wong, Chief of Staff, Chinese-American Planning Council (NYC)</li></ul>
12:45 – 2:00 PM	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>
2:00 – 3:15 PM	<p><b>Panel 3 – Service Implications</b> <i>Panelists will explore how Chinese social services organizations and communities are responding to progressive and conservative policymaking.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Charles Lai, Executive Director, Chung Pak Local Development Corp.</li><li>• Nicole Chan, Clinical Outpatient Supervisor, Chinatown Service Center (Los Angeles) and KMRB AM 1430 Los Angeles Talkshow Host</li><li>• Lilian Ma, Executive Director, Canadian Race Relations Foundation (Toronto)</li><li>• Thomas Yu, Co-Executive Director, Asian Americans for Equality (NYC)</li><li>• Moderator – Simon Chiew, Chief Strategy Officer, Chinese-American Planning Council (NYC)</li></ul>
3:15 – 3:30 PM	<p><b>Break</b></p>
3:30 – 4:00 PM	<p><b>Closing Session</b></p>
4:00 – 5:00 PM	<p><b>Tour of Essex Crossing Community Center</b> • Robert Cordero, Executive Director, Grand Street Settlement (NYC)</p>
6:00 PM	<p><b>Dinner Reception</b></p>

# AGENDA

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019**  
**Location: CPC Queens Community Center**  
**133-14 41st Avenue, Flushing, NY 11355**

8:00 – 9:00 AM	<b>Travel to Flushing, Queens</b>
9:00 – 9:45 AM	<b>Breakfast</b>
9:45 – 11:00 AM	<b>Tour of CPC Queens Community Center and Flushing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mitchel Wu, Director, Queens Community Services, Chinese-American Planning Council (NYC)</li><li>• Peter Cheng, Director, Nan Shan Senior Center, Chinese-American Planning Council (NYC)</li></ul>
11:15 AM – 12:30 PM	<b>Roundtable with Elected Officials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assembly Member Ronald Kim</li></ul>
12:30 – 2:00 PM	<b>Lunch and Closing</b>
2:00 – 3:00 PM	<b>Return to Chinatown, Manhattan</b>

## SPEAKER



Veronica Tsang serves as the Chair of the CPC Board of Directors. She is a respected community leader in the Chinese community. Veronica has served on the Advisory Board of the Chinese Advisory Council of the New York Hospital of Queens. She is also one of the founders of the Chinese Gift of Life, which provides free open-heart surgery in the U.S. to needy children from China with congenital heart disease. Veronica is the Executive Vice President, Chief Retail Administrator in charge of Retail Strategy and Retail Branch Business in the Western Regions for Cathay Bank.

# SPEAKER



Wayne Ho is the President and CEO of the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC), the nation's largest Asian American social services agency. He is responsible for leading this 54-year-old organization that promotes social and economic empowerment of over 60,000 Chinese American, immigrant, and low-income New Yorkers each year. CPC implements more than 50 programs at over 30 sites throughout New York City, including early childhood education, school-age care, youth services, workforce development, community services, and senior services. Under Wayne's leadership that started in 2017, CPC launched Advancing Our CommUNITY, its organization-wide strategy to expand services to address persistent needs and emerging trends and to improve leadership skills among staff and community members.

Previously, Wayne served as Chief Strategy and Program Officer for the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies (FPWA), an association of 200 community and faith-based member agencies aiming to promote upward mobility of underserved New Yorkers. From 2004-2013, he was the Executive Director of the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF), the nation's only pan-Asian children's advocacy organization.

Wayne has been recognized by the City and State in the inaugural Nonprofit Power 50 cohort in 2018 and as a 40 Under 40 New York City Rising Star in 2014. Wayne was one of 10 leaders invited to meet with President Obama during the White House's Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration in 2011.

Wayne serves on numerous boards, including the board of Coro New York Leadership Center and Partnership for After School Education, and is appointed to several New York City and State advisory boards. Wayne received his Bachelor of Arts from UC Berkeley and his Master in Public Policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.



## SPEAKER



Yuh-Line Niou has spent her career working on legislative and advocacy campaigns. In 2016, Yuh-Line was elected to serve the 65th Assembly District, representing the following lower Manhattan neighborhoods: the Lower East Side, Chinatown, South Street Seaport area, Financial District and Battery Park City.

Yuh-Line Niou began working on state policy issues while in college, eventually accepting a position with the Washington State House Health Committee Chair. While there, she helped develop policies to expand senior access to prescription medication, improve women's health care, and expand health coverage for low-income families. Yuh-Line then went on to work as an advocate and organizer on anti-poverty issues, where she helped build a broad coalition to fight predatory lending and assist low-income families build financial assets. She then served as Chief of Staff for New York State Assemblymember Ron Kim, where, under her leadership, the office assisted thousands of immigrants, small-business owners, teachers, seniors, workers, and students. She has drafted legislation to expand language access for immigrant communities, and has fought for more affordable housing and expanded services for seniors.

In the Assembly, Yuh-Line has continued her advocacy work around financial empowerment. She has pushed to improve financial protections for consumers, particularly for unbanked communities. On housing, Yuh-Line has worked to secure funding for New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) repairs, and has stood with tenant rights advocates for better housing regulations. Along with her colleagues, Yuh-Line helped form New York State's first ever Asian Pacific American Legislative Task Force, which will focus on advancing issues impacting New York's Asian American community.

Yuh-Line completed her Master's degree in Public Administration at CUNY Baruch College as part of the National Urban Fellowship program, where she worked on regional and international environmental issues. Yuh-Line lives in the Financial District, in lower Manhattan.

# SPEAKER



David S. Chen retired as the Executive Director of the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC) in 2015. During his tenure at CPC, Mr. Chen oversaw 50+ programs in childcare, home care, low-income housing, employment and training, youth, children and family services, client advocacy, translation, and senior citizen services, etc.

Mr. Chen was a member of the Mayor's Commission of Economic Opportunities and was a member of NYC's Charter Revision Commission 2004 and 2010. He is the founding Chairman of the Board of the Chung Pak Local Development Corporation and the Everlasting Pine Housing Development Fund Corp. He serves as Board Member of Chinatown Partnership LDC and many other not-for-profit organizations.

Mr. Chen holds a MPA in Public & Non-for-Profit Management, and MA in Social Service Administration, and a BA in Economics.



Jenny Wang – Founder and Executive Director – CNSST Foundation, formerly known as Chinese New Settlers Services Trust

Jenny is a social entrepreneur, who for over 20 years, has built a strong organization that provides a range of services to Asian migrants in Auckland.

In 1998, Jenny Wang helped found the CNSST Foundation, formerly known as Chinese New Settlers Service Trust (CNSST) in an Auckland garage with a group of recent migrant volunteers. Twenty years on, under Jenny's leadership, CNSST has grown into the largest ethnic and migrant community service provider in Auckland with 32 paid employees, more than one hundred contracted tutors and professionals and many volunteers. Today as Executive Director, Jenny oversees CNSST's provision of social services, education, and social housing for around 15,000 local Asian migrants each year. These services include social support and counselling services, help in finding employment, English language classes for new migrants, Chinese language classes, arts and marital arts classes for children, as well as social rental housing to local Asian seniors.

All of the services that CNSST provide are aimed towards helping migrants successfully settle in New Zealand and to help their children maintain connections to their cultural heritage. CNSST funds these activities through a mix of public funding, grants and payments for services.

In Dec 2018, a 4 level apartment building with 36 public housing units specifically designed for Asian seniors was opened in Panmure business centre. The apartments are now fully occupied by a total of 51 senior migrants who have multiple barriers to access to the local rental market.

The development was the result of a collaboration between CNSST Foundation, the Ministry of Social Development, and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, which provided \$5.27 million in capital funding from its Social Housing Fund.

## SPEAKER



Bernarda Wong, better known as “Bernie,” founded and was the first President of the Chinese American Service League (CASL). Under Bernie’s leadership, CASL grew from a one-person shop in 1979 with an annual budget of \$30,000 to \$13 million. She spearheaded the initiative to build a \$6.7 million Senior Housing facility as well as CASL’s adjacent facility, the \$9.2 million Kam L. Liu Building, a community service center that combined all of CASL’s disparate sites. Prior to CASL, Bernie served as Director of Social Services for a community center including a Head Start Day Care Program in a predominantly African American community.

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Bernie left Hong Kong alone at 18 years old for Sioux City, Iowa, where she earned a B.A. in Sociology from Briar Cliff College. This was followed by a Master’s Degree in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis. Bernie had the courage to gather a few friends and begin the difficult task of building the Chinese American Service League from the ground up in 1979.

Bernie chaired the Chicago Mayor’s Advisory Council on Asian Affairs and was the first Asian appointed to the Boards of United Way of Chicago and the Chicago Public Library. Currently, Bernie serves on committees including the National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA) Board, the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR) Board, and Council for the Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA). Bernie is also a founding member of Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI), and serves as an adviser on the Obama Foundation Inclusion Council.

Her awards include the 2016 and 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award from Briar Cliff College in Iowa and Washington University in St. Louis, respectively, the Jane Addams Making History Award for Distinction in Social Service from the Chicago History Museum, a “Remarkable Woman” by the Chicago Tribune as a “Remarkable Woman”, and the prestigious “Champion of Change” award from President Obama.

Bernie led CASL for 38 years, from the organization’s first year of operation to when she retired in December 2016. She continues to stay active in the Chinese and greater Chicago community through her work on her many boards and committees.

# SPEAKER



Mr. Stephen How Boa Yau, the Chief Executive of International Social Service Hong Kong Branch (ISS-HK) and the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordinator of International Social Service, was educated in China, Hong Kong and the United States of America. He has a Bachelor and Master Degree in Law, a Master Degree in Social Work and a Diploma in Executive Management.

Mr. Yau has more than 40 years of management experience. He serves on various committees and boards, including the Town Planning Board (Member), Steering Committee on Population Policy (Advisor), Wofoo Social Enterprises (Chairman), Institute of Social Service Development (Chairman), Social Service Professional Alliance of the Guangdong - Hong Kong Macau Greater Bay Area Limited (Chairman), Hong Kong Football Association Ltd (Director), etc. He had served at the Liquor Licensing Board (Chairman), Central Policy Unit, Elderly Commission, Betting and Lotteries Commission, Legal Aid Services Council, Council on Human Reproductive Technology, Post-Release Supervision Board, Energy Advisory Committee, Social Welfare Advisory Committee, etc. He was the District Councillor of Wanchai District from 2004 to 2011.

Mr. Yau has been a Justice of the Peace since 1997. He was awarded the Hong Kong Baha'i Award for Service to Humanity by the Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'i of Hong Kong in 1997, the Medal of Honour, the Bronze Bauhinia Star and the Silver Bauhinia Star by the Hong Kong SAR Government in 2001, 2006 and 2013 respectively, the Honorary University Fellowship by the Hong Kong Baptist University in 2008 and the "Top 10 Outstanding Social Workers of China 2014".

## SPEAKER



Grace Chan is Executive Director at the Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community, a coalition which unites the resources of member organizations to engage in civic education, issue advocacy, communications with policy makers, and community mobilization to empower Chinese American communities in Greater Chicago.

A native of Hong Kong, Grace is fluent in Cantonese, Mandarin, and English, and competent in several other languages. She has lived in Chicago for over 30 years and has held senior level positions in many diverse organizations including the University of Chicago, Illinois Department of Employment Security, LaSalle Bank, Chinese American Service League, SOS Children's Villages, Common Cause Illinois, and Indo-American Center. In these roles, she created numerous programs that focus on bringing communities together and amplifying the voices and influence of marginalized communities. She was one of the founders of the Chinatown Pro-Bono Legal Clinic, and also led a highly successful Census outreach program in Chinatown for Census 2010 through mobilizing high school youth, community residents, seniors, as well as community-based organization in sharing information and reducing traditional barriers such as Limited English Proficiency, immigration status, and lack of knowledge of U.S. government policies and structures.

Grace holds an MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management, a MA (with PhD coursework completed) in Linguistics from The University of Chicago, and a BA with double major in Linguistics and Sociology from The University of Chicago. She is a frequently sought after speaker on diversity issues, organizational development, demographics and language research, and innovative use of technology to support programs and community outreach.

# SPEAKER



Vanessa Leung joined the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF) as Co-Executive Director in April 2017. She has served the education community through her career, advocating on behalf of Asian Pacific American students and English Language Learners in New York City public schools. She was appointed by Mayor Bill de Blasio to the the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP) and has been Chair of the PEP since January 2014. She currently also sits on the Advisory Panel for the Brooke Astor Fund for New York City Education.

Prior to returning to CACF, for three years she was the Director of Member Initiatives at FPWA (formerly, the Federation for Protestant Welfare Agencies), where she was responsible for membership recruitment and engaging 200 community based and faith based member organizations, and worked with a team to provide professional development, grants, and other resources to support and strengthen nonprofits throughout the City.

While Deputy Director for CACF, she was responsible for the development of a pan-Asian children's advocacy agenda to improve policies, funding, and services for the Asian Pacific American community. As Education Policy and Program Coordinator of CACF, she authored Hidden in Plain View, a report detailing Asian and Pacific American students' needs, and worked alongside other advocates on the creation of Chancellor's Regulation A-663, mandating comprehensive interpretation and translation services, as well as the Dignity in All Schools Act which reduces bias-based harassment in schools.

Vanessa spearheaded a high school youth leadership project, the Asian American Student Advocacy Project (ASAP) that trains a diverse group of high school students to advocate for the needs of Asian Pacific American students. In 2007, she was named a member of the City Council's Middle School Task Force.

She holds a bachelor's degree from New York University and a master's degree from Columbia University's Teachers College. She also completed the Middle Management Program of the Institute for Not-for-Profit Management at the Graduate School of Business of Columbia University, the CORO New York Immigrant Civic Leadership Program, the CRE Leadership Caucus, and the 2017 American Express Leadership Academy 2.0 at the Aspen Institute. Vanessa currently lives with her husband and three sons on Staten Island.

## SPEAKER



Jerry Vattamala is the Director of the Democracy Program at the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF). Jerry has been a leader in collecting electoral data on and protecting Asian American voters, organizing AALDEF's National Asian American Exit Poll and Voter Protection Program which deployed over 600 volunteers in 14 states and Washington DC, to survey and protect over 8,000 Asian American voters on Election Day 2018. Jerry has also organized the Asian American community for redistricting, serving as AALDEF's lead attorney on New York's *Favors v. Cuomo* federal redistricting litigation, resulting in more Asian majority and influence districts at all legislative levels. Jerry has also testified on behalf of the Asian American community before the House Judiciary Committee and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and observes elections for compliance with state and federal voting laws across the country. Jerry litigates cases concerning violations of Sections 203 and 208 of the Voting Rights Act and regularly meets with Boards of Elections across the country to ensure full compliance with federal and local language assistance provisions and the Help America Vote Act. Jerry is also an Adjunct Professor of Law at New York Law School. Prior to joining AALDEF, Jerry worked as a commercial litigator at Proskauer Rose LLP. Jerry received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering from Binghamton University and is a graduate of Hofstra University School of Law.



## SPEAKER



Alice Wong is the Chief of Staff of the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC), and is responsible for ensuring the efficient and effective operation of executive affairs, management of all board of directors and governance matters, and oversight of affiliate relations and special projects. Most recently, Alice served as a Deputy Assistant Director for the Mayor's Office of Appointments. Previously, Alice was a Research and Public Policy Fellow at the Women's City Club, Deputy Senior Manager for the Family and Community Engagement Division at the New York City Department of Education, and Community Affairs Liaison at the Brooklyn Borough President's Office. She is a proud graduate of SUNY-New Paltz and NYU's Wagner School of Public Service.

## SPEAKER



Charles Lai is an accomplished leader with 40 years of entrepreneurial, executive, planning and managerial experience in the public and non-profit sectors. He is an innovator, strategic thinker, fund developer, problem solver, and interdisciplinary organizer. He co-founded a nationally recognized Chinese American museum (MOCA) and successfully led and implemented its \$15 million capital expansion.

Charlie is presently the Executive Director of Chung Pak Local Development Corporation, a building complex that houses 88 HUD-funded section 202 senior housing units; 2 community non-profit organizations; and 14 small businesses. Chung Pak seeks to enhance quality housing and other needed services for its elderly tenants, strengthen the community's non-profit service sector, and broaden its economic impact to the extended Chinatown area.

Charlie has executive leadership positions in a diverse range of disciplines. He has worked with the youth; the elderly; adult employment training and job placement; economic development; September 11 relief and recovery initiatives; the arts & culture; and governmental budgetary and policy work. Throughout his career, he has been consistent in his efforts to strengthen the assets and foundations of the Chinese American community organizations and institutions.

## SPEAKER



Nicole Chan is a Hong Kong native. Earning the Bachelor of Social Science from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, she received her Master of Social Work from San Diego State University. Nicole started her career as a Psychiatric / Medical Social Worker in 1989. She became a Psychotherapist in 1995. Nicole joined Chinatown Service Center in 2008. She handles various roles in the behavioral Health profession, including case manager, facilitator, consultant, supervisor and department director. What Nicole enjoys most is interaction with patients either directly or through supervision of her junior counselors. She has hosted a weekly radio talk show at KMRB AM 1430 since 2000. With these vast outreach efforts, Nicole has helped thousands through the years.

## SPEAKER



For the past thirty years, Dr. Lilian Ma has held senior positions within government and on a myriad of administrative agencies and tribunals, involving matters of immigration & refugee status, social justice, landlord and tenant issues, public education, race relations, human rights and health. A former Alternative Executive Chair of Social Justice Tribunals Ontario as well as former Associate Chair of the Landlord and Tenant Board, she is also a former Ontario Human Rights Commissioner and former Member of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada.

Dr. Ma's career in the public sector was preceded by a private law practice. A member of the Law Society of Ontario, she holds an LL.B degree from the University of Toronto, and was called to the Ontario Bar in 1994. Prior to that, Dr. Ma was a well-published research scientist in the drug and therapeutic biomedical research and material science field. A former National Research Council of Canada Scholar and post-doctoral Fellow, Dr. Ma holds a PhD degree in chemistry from Simon Fraser University. Her recent interest includes access to justice and the intersection of law and science, particularly in the decision-making process, as well as the science of racism and its linkage to systemic racism.

Dr. Ma has given much of her time and service to many professional, academic and community organizations relating to access to justice, racial equality, ethnocultural relations and women's rights. A founding Director and former National President of the Chinese Canadian National Council, she was also a founding Director and former National Secretary of the National Organization of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women of Canada, and a former Director of the Canadian Ethnocultural Council.

Dr. Ma has been recognized for her service and achievements with a number of awards, including a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers, Race Relations Award by the Urban Alliance on Race Relations, and the SOAR medal from the Society of Ontario Adjudicators and Regulators.

## SPEAKER



Thomas Yu, Co-Executive Director of Asian Americans for Equality, has played a leading role in the development of affordable housing in New York City for nearly two decades. Thomas has been directly responsible for the development of more than 400 units of low- to very-low income family housing in Chinatown, on Lower East Side and in Queens. These initiatives have injected \$65 million in public and private housing and infrastructure reinvestment into the community. Yu has also been responsible for AAFE's current development projects, including 500 affordable housing units and 80,000 square feet of community/commercial space now in at \$400 million pipeline. Thomas was recognized by Time Out New York as one of the up-and-coming new leaders in community activism, and received an Affordable Housing Finance Young Leader Award in 2008. This year, he was honored by Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer for outstanding contributions to the Asian American Pacific Islander community. Thomas served for many years as a member of Manhattan Community Board 3, where he was chairperson of the parks and landmarks committee. He was appointed by Mayor Bill de Blasio as a member of the citywide Hurricane Sandy Task Force. Thomas was the first co-chair of the Chinatown Working Group. He serves on the board of National CAPACD and the Hester Street Collaborative, among many other civic groups. Thomas received a Bachelor's Degree in Government from Harvard University and a Masters in Urban Planning from the NYU Wagner School of Public Service

## SPEAKER



Simon Chiew is the Chief Strategy Officer for the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC), where he is responsible for agency-wide initiatives such as strategic planning and key partnerships with internal and external stakeholders. This work includes professional development and capacity building for all board and staff to better connect social services to social change and better integrate diversity, equity and inclusion into our work. Before this role, Simon oversaw the Workforce Development Division, which includes an adult literacy program, various training programs and a Career Center. Prior to joining CPC, Simon spent 5 years teaching English as a Second Language in public and private schools in Japan.

Simon received his M.A. in Comparative Education from the Institute of Education, University College London in the United Kingdom and his B.A. in Economics from the University of Rochester in New York.

## SPEAKER



Robert Cordero has served as Executive Director Grand St. Settlement since 2015. With an operating budget that increased from \$15M to \$30M during the first four years of his tenure, Robert works to guide the growth of a historic settlement house in its next 100 years of service in the Lower East Side and throughout Brooklyn. He prods himself and others to think creatively about innovative solutions that amplify impact, all while remaining focused on Grand Street's mission, vision, culture and values in service to over 10,000 low income New Yorkers annually.

To date, he has restructured and strengthened Grand Street's administrative, finance, fundraising and advocacy functions, while dramatically expanding youth services and early childhood program serving the highest need families. He and his team launched a new social enterprise job training program, GrandLo Café, and intergenerational community center at Essex Crossing in the Lower East Side.

Robert got his start as a public school educator and community organizer in Chicago. He received the Joan H. Tisch Community Health Leadership Prize for outstanding work in the fields of health and harm reduction services in 2012, later completing the UCLA/Johnson & Johnson Health Care Executive Program at the Anderson School of Management as the former President and Chief Program Officer of BOOM!Health in the Bronx, New York.

In 2018, he completed the Greater New York executive leadership program and currently serves as a Trustee on the Board of the New York Foundation. Robert holds a master's degree (AM, 1997) from the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago.

Robert resides with his wife and three children in the Bronx.

## SPEAKER



Mitchel Wu is the Director of Queens Community Services for Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC). Mitchel is responsible for leading the implementation and growth of CPC's social services in Flushing and other Queens neighborhoods through CPC's Queens Community Services. CPC's Queens Community Services is located in at Queens Community Center, a 10-story, 31,000 square-foot, community hub. Intergenerational services include a new early childhood center and playground, youth services, college readiness, workforce development, adult literacy, immigration counseling, a senior center, and services to families with special needs.

Prior to joining CPC, Mitchel served a nearly nine-year tenure with The Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF), working with member agencies, young people, and parents to advocate for social change. As CACF's Director of Programs, he launched the Asian Pacific American Social Justice Leadership Institute, training staff of member agencies to address community needs through social change efforts at the city, state, and national levels. Since 2009, Mitchel worked with NYC public school parents and high school youth to build leadership skills, develop youth and parent led campaigns, and increase youth and parent engagement on the school and citywide levels. He also launched school based programs in high schools to improve college readiness by organizing English Language Learners, coordinating college readiness programs, and conducting professional development for school staff. Prior to CACF, Mitchel worked with a variety of programs to support immigrant, English Language Learner, and first-generation college students in California and New York.

Mitchel is also serving his third term as the NYC Public Advocate's appointee to the Citywide Council for English Language Learners, as President of the Council. Additionally, Mitchel is a lecturer at CUNY Hunter College in Asian American Studies.

A native of Queens, NY, Mitchel graduated from Cardozo High School and received his BA from SUNY Stony Brook and his Master of Arts in Ethnic Studies from San Francisco State University.



## SPEAKER



Peter Cheng is the Director of the CPC Nan Shan Senior Center. In addition, he teaches Public Administration at the Baruch College Marxe School of Public and International Affairs. Established in 1989 in downtown Flushing and funded by the NYC Department for the Aging, Nan Shan has 4,000 registered, active senior members and serves hundreds of elderly community members daily. The Center provides seniors ages 60+ with nutritious lunches, social/recreational activities, ESL classes, culture and art programs, education, health management, exercise classes, entitlements/benefits application assistance, as well as seminars covering a wide range of medical and nutritional issues.

Prior to joining CPC, Mr. Cheng served as Director of New Americans Opportunity Center at the Asian Americans for Equality, Executive Director of the Indochina Sino-American Community Center, and at the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation assisting with the revitalization of Chinatown after September 11. Mr. Cheng's experience covers senior services, youth programming, job training, economic development, public health improvement, refugee/post-disaster assistance, community-based participatory research, advocacy, and fundraising.

Furthermore, Mr. Cheng has always been active in the community. Civic positions he has held included Chairman of the Board and Founding Member, Chinatown Partnership Local Development Corporation; Steering Committee and Founding Member, NYC Elder Abuse Center; Founding Member, Chinatown Business Improvement District; Chairman of the Board, Four Seas Players; and President, Organization of Chinese Americans – NY Chapter.

# SPEAKER



New York State Assembly Member Ronald Kim (AM Kim) was re-elected to his third term as the representative of the 40th Assembly District in November, 2016. He is the first and only Korean-American ever elected to the New York State Legislature.

Since his election in 2012, AM Kim has stood firm in his message of striving to provide quality education for all students, securing funding for local schools, and supporting small businesses in the Flushing community. He has sponsored numerous bills, including: A.7642, which seeks to raise the age of criminal responsibility for certain crimes; A.8050, which would amend civil service law in relation to implementing a minority employment act within New York State; and A.6530, which seeks to secure equal access to health and human services for limited English speaking individuals.

In his first term, AM Kim made national and international news by mediating an issue between local businesses and senior citizens in the community seeking a social space in Flushing's crowded neighborhood. In his second term, AM Kim made national news once again by working with Governor Andrew Cuomo to implement long-term resolutions to regulate and reform the nail salon industry in New York City.

As an advocate for the diverse needs of his multicultural district, AM Kim also collaborated with Mayor Bill de Blasio, Congresswoman Grace Meng, and State Senator Daniel Squadron on legislation establishing the Asian Lunar New Year as a New York City school holiday.

AM Kim has continued to be an active advocate for his community, and currently sits on the following Committees: Education; Health; Social Services; Governmental Operations; Housing; Corporations, Authorities and Commissions. He is a member of the Black, Puerto Rican & Asian Legislative Caucus. In April 2015, he was appointed as the Chair of the Task Force on New Americans; in January 2017, he was appointed as the Secretary of Majority Conference.

Raised in Flushing, Queens, AM Kim earned his B.A. from Hamilton College, and a Masters in Public Administration from Baruch College. He currently lives in Flushing with his wife, Xilou Alison Tan, and his two daughters, Olive and Hazel.



GRACE MENG  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Washington, D.C. 20515

November 13, 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
c/o Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012

Dear Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to all gathered at the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference.

The Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI) was established in 1965, and has continuously strived to improve the lives of Chinese immigrants. Working with its member organizations, the CISANI network has helped immigrants overcome an evolving array of challenges and meet its goals both in New York and across the United States.

This year, the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CISANI Conference is focusing on civic engagement. Organizations that provide social services are a central pillar of our community, both educating and empowering immigrant groups. With organizations from around the world gathering to share their expertise, the CISANI Conference plays an important role in defending the interests of immigrant groups throughout our world.

Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful event and much continued success!



Sincerely,

Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

**CHAIRMAN**  
CIVIL SERVICE & PENSIONS  
**COMMITTEES**  
CODES  
CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES  
& COMMISSIONS  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
JUDICIARY  
LABOR  
NYC EDUCATION



**SENATOR**  
**ANDREW S. GOUNARDES**  
22<sup>ND</sup> SENATORIAL DISTRICT  
STATE OF NEW YORK

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November 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
c/o Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012



Dear Friends,

It is my honor to welcome you to the 40th Anniversary Conference of Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI). I am particularly delighted because the Chinese-American Planning Council, New York City, is the host of this year's conference. Please accept my warmest regards.

For four decades, CISANI has addressed the evolving needs and challenges facing Chinese immigrants through its network. I commend the member organizations that span across the United States and other countries for making significant impacts on their communities.

The 40th Anniversary CISANI Conference focuses on civic engagement, which is an important topic in the United States as we prepare for our election and the upcoming 2020 Census. Social services organizations play a critical role in educating and empowering immigrant communities to participate in our democratic process.

Thank you all for all that you do. I wish you the best for an inspiring conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew S. Gounardes'.

Andrew S. Gounardes  
New York State Senator

---

*Proud to represent the neighborhoods of Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Bath Beach, Bensonhurst, Gravesend, Homecrest, Manhattan Beach, Marine Park, Gerritsen Beach, as well as portions of Sheepshead Bay, Borough Park, and Midwood.*

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STATE  
SENATE



SENATOR JOHN C. LIU  
MAJORITY ASSISTANT WHIP  
11<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

CHAIRPERSON  
NYC EDUCATION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEES  
EDUCATION  
FINANCE  
BUDGET AND REVENUE  
TRANSPORTATION  
RULES  
ALCOHOLISM AND  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE

November 13, 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
c/o Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI)! I am delighted that because of our partner, Chinese-American Planning Council, New York City will be the host of this year's conference.

For 40 years, CISANI has addressed the evolving needs and challenges facing Chinese immigrants through its network. I commend the member organizations that span across the United States and other countries for making significant impacts on their communities. Through CISANI, member organizations have enhanced their services to better help immigrants to achieve their goals.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CISANI Conference focuses on civic engagement. During these times, this is an important theme not only in the United States but also in other countries. Social services organizations play a critical role in educating and empowering immigrant communities. Organizations from cities and countries like Los Angeles, Chicago, Hong Kong, Montreal, and New Zealand will meet and share their expertise, knowledge, and resources.

I wish you the best for an inspiring conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Liu".





THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY, 12247

**TOBY ANN STAVISKY**  
Senator, 16th District

**VICE CHAIRWOMAN  
MAJORITY CONFERENCE**



**CHAIRWOMAN**  
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**COMMITTEE MEMBER**  
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& WAGERING

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November 11, 2019

CISANI  
Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to congratulate you as you celebrate your Fortieth Anniversary and I am especially pleased that CPC is hosting the conference.

Since 1979, Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI) has enabled social services organizations from around the world to address the challenges facing Chinese immigrants. Through CISANI, member organizations can share their expertise, resources, and knowledge of best practices to better help immigrants pursue their dreams.

The theme of this year's conference is "*From Wall Street to Main Street: Civic Engagement in Changing Times*". Chinese communities in the United States and throughout the world are becoming more involved with civic engagement by taking action on the most pressing issues of our time. Through CISANI, organizations can determine how civic engagement can best impact the communities that they serve.

Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC), a founder of CISANI, was established in 1965. It has empowered Asian American, immigrant, and low-income communities in New York City by ensuring that they have equitable access to the resources and opportunities needed to thrive. Numerous individuals and families have been able to achieve their goals in education, family, community, and career, thanks to CPC's initiatives.

I wish you every measure of success as you continue your important work in the community, now and in the future.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,



PETER J. ABBATE, JR.  
Assemblyman 49<sup>th</sup> District  
Kings County

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY



CHAIRMAN  
Committee on  
Governmental Employees

CHAIRMAN  
Subcommittee on  
Safety in the Work Place

COMMITTEES  
Aging  
Banks  
Consumer Affairs & Protection  
Labor

November 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
c/o Chinese American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI)!

Much appreciation to Chinese-American Planning Council, New York City for hosting this year's conference.

For four decades, CISANI has addressed the growing needs and challenges facing Chinese immigrants through its array of resource. I applaud the many member organizations throughout the United States and other nations for making noteworthy opportunities available to the communities. Through CISANI, member organizations have enriched services to assist immigrants to achieve their many goals.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CISANI Conference focuses on the importance and value of civic engagement. This remains an important theme not only in the United States but throughout the world. Organizations from cities and countries like Los Angeles, Chicago, Hong Kong, Montreal, and New Zealand will meet and share their expertise, knowledge, and resources.

There remains no doubt that social services organizations play an essential critical role in educating and empowering immigrant communities.

I wish you the best for an inspiring conference.

Sincerely,

**Peter J. Abbate, Jr.**  
*Member of Assembly*

□ Room 839, Legislative Office Building, Albany, New York 12248, (518) 455-3053  
□ 6605 Fort Hamilton Parkway, Brooklyn, New York 11219, (718) 236-1764



RON KIM  
Member of Assembly  
District 40, Queens  
  
CHAIR  
Majority House Operations

## THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

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MEMBER  
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Asian Legislative Caucus  
  
New York State  
Assembly/Senate  
Puerto Rican/Hispanic  
Task Force

November 11, 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
133-14 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Flushing, NY 11355

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to be given this opportunity to welcome you to the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International's (CISANI) 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference. I hope you will join us tonight in celebrating this exemplary milestone for this essential pillar of social service organizations both in our country and around the world.

Since its inception in 1979, CISANI has become an invaluable resource for networking, participation, and organizational development among its members. The exemplary organizations that comprise it have served countless vulnerable community members seeking social, economic, or educational support. This annual conference represents a unique opportunity for community leaders from cities and countries as far as Los Angeles, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Utah, Chicago, Montreal, and New York to meet and share their experiences, knowledge, and wisdom. We are truly proud that, through the Chinese-American Planning Council, Inc., our community and city will serve as the host for this year's conference.

On behalf of the New York State Assembly, I commend the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International offer my best wishes for even greater future successes.

Sincerely,

Ron Kim  
Member of Assembly  
District 40, Queens





YUH-LINE NIOU  
Assemblymember 65<sup>th</sup> District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

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November 12, 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
c/o Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012

Dear Friends at the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International,

I am honored to extend my congratulations to the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International on the occasion of their 40th Anniversary Conference. As we gather to celebrate this event, I would like to recognize the success of the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International in creating a platform for service organizations across the globe.

The CISANI is comprised of a network of member organizations across the globe that work to address the evolving needs and challenges facing Chinese immigrants. CISANI provides member organizations and individuals with the opportunity to share ideas, resources, and best practices, allowing member organizations to achieve greater success.

Once again, I commend the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International for their years of dedication to the empowerment of Asian American, immigrant, and low income communities in New York City. I wish for the continued success of both the Chinese American Planning Council and the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International.

Sincerely,

Yuh-Line Niou  
Assemblymember, 65<sup>th</sup> District



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
**OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER**  
SCOTT M. STRINGER



November 11, 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
C/O Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to extend best wishes to all attending Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference.

For four decades, Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI) has done outstanding work to serve Asian and Chinese immigrants around the world. Founded by a group of friends from Chicago, New York, and San Francisco, CISANI has since grown as a global service organization. Members of CISANI are committed to providing invaluable assistance to immigrants, individuals, and families. This year's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference focuses on the importance of civic engagement and ways member groups can continue to empower immigrant communities. I am confident CISANI will continue to make a positive impact years to come.

Thank you to Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International for bringing us together to celebrate community and service. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Stringer  
New York City Comptroller

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**COREY JOHNSON**  
SPEAKER



THE COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
**CITY HALL**  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

TELEPHONE  
(212) 788-7210

November 11-13, 2019

Dear Friends:

As Speaker of the New York City Council, I am delighted to extend my personal greetings to all those attending the Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International's (CISANI) 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference!

Strengthening our social safety has been a key area of concern for me, and an area that I have continued to give my undivided attention. Therefore, I was very excited to learn about CISANI's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference.

This year's conference, the focus of which is on the importance of civic engagement, will go a long way toward bolstering the social service organizations that play such a critical role in educating and empowering immigrant communities here in New York and beyond.

Special thanks to the Chinese-American Planning Council for hosting this important event and for their tireless advocacy on behalf of our city's Chinese-American, immigrant, and low-income communities.

Here's wishing everyone a productive conference and continued success in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

**COREY JOHNSON**  
Speaker

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THE COUNCIL  
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**JUSTIN BRANNAN**  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
43<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT, BROOKLYN

**CHAIR**  
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PUBLIC SAFETY  
YOUTH SERVICES



November 11, 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
c/o Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012

Dear Friends,

I want to offer my warmest congratulations to Chinese Immigrant Services Agencies Network International (CISANI) and the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC) on the occasion of CISANI's 40<sup>th</sup> annual conference, which CPC is hosting. It is my honor to offer my greetings to this year's gathering.

I appreciate this year's conference's focus on civic engagement. It is necessary that we welcome all into the process of government, and that our communities are well-educated in ways to get involved. To that end, the idea of so many organizations from so many places sharing knowledge and tactics is exciting.

I am grateful for the important work CISANI's member organizations do every day. When organizations champion the needs of communities worldwide, their impact cannot be overstated. In celebration of that impact, it is my honor to ask that you accept my sincere congratulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J Brannan'.

市議員紀思庭  
Councilman Justin Brannan, 43<sup>rd</sup> District  
Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Bath Beach, Bensonhurst

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THE COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MARGARET S. CHIN**  
COUNCIL MEMBER, 1<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT, MANHATTAN

CHAIR  
AGING

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STANDARDS AND ETHICS  
YOUTH SERVICES

November 13, 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
c/o Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 40th Anniversary Conference of Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI)! I am delighted that because of Chinese-American Planning Council, New York City will be the host of this year's conference.

For 40 years, CISANI has addressed the evolving needs and challenges facing Chinese immigrants through its network. I commend the member organizations that span across the United States and other countries for making significant impacts on their communities. Through CISANI, member organizations have enhanced their services to better help immigrants to achieve their goals.

The 40th Anniversary CISANI Conference focuses on civic engagement. During these times, this is an important theme not only in the United States but also in other countries. Social services organizations play a critical role in educating and empowering immigrant communities. Organizations from cities and countries like Los Angeles, Chicago, Hong Kong, Montreal, and New Zealand will meet and share their expertise, knowledge, and resources.

I wish you the best for an inspiring conference and continued success in your vital work to assist the Chinese immigration community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Margaret S. Chin'.

Margaret S. Chin  
Council Member, District 1  
New York City Council

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**CARLINA RIVERA**  
COUNCIL MEMBER, 2<sup>nd</sup> DISTRICT  
CITY OF NEW YORK

November 11, 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
c/o Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012



Dear Friends,

***Congratulations on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of CISANI!***

I am particularly delighted that the Conference of Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International is hosted this year by Chinese-American Planning Council, a steadfast partner of mine in supporting and delivering services to immigrant communities in New York City.

For 40 years, CISANI has addressed the evolving needs and challenges facing Chinese immigrants through its network. Member organizations have used this event to share best practices, resulting in the enhancement of services and advocacy campaigns spanning continents.

This year, the CISANI Conference focuses on civic engagement. During these times, this is an important theme not only in the United States but also around the world. Social services organizations play a critical role in educating and empowering immigrant communities as they solidify their place in their adopted homes.

Wishing you a productive and successful event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carlina Rivera".

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THE COUNCIL  
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**MARK TREYGER**

COUNCIL MEMBER, 47<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT  
CO-CHAIR, BROOKLYN DELEGATION

**CHAIR**  
EDUCATION

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**SUB-COMMITTEES**  
LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITING, AND MARITIME USES

November 11, 2019

Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International  
c/o Chinese-American Planning Council  
150 Elizabeth Street  
New York, NY 10012



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to welcome you to the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of Chinese Immigrant Service Agencies Network International (CISANI)! This is an especially important edition of the conference because thanks to Chinese-American Planning Council, New York City is playing host this year.

For four decades, CISANI has provided critical assistance and services that helped Chinese immigrants throughout its network face a number of challenges. I commend all of the member organizations from across the United States and other countries for working to improve quality of life standards in countless communities.

It is appropriate that the focus of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CISANI Conference is civic engagement. It has never been more for civic engagement to play a greater role in the lives of residents, and social services organizations like the CISANI member organizations are crucial toward educating and empowering immigrant communities. Thank you again to CISANI member organizations for all of their work and dedication, and I wish everyone a successful conference experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Treyger".

Mark Treyger  
New York City Council Member, 47<sup>th</sup> District

## 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CISANI Conference

hosted by



**ADVANCING OUR**  
**COMMUNITY**