



## **2011-2012 AAFE Community Development Training Fellowship**

The **Community Development Training Fellowship** organized by Asian Americans for Equality (AAFE) is an opportunity for **recent high school graduates and college students** interested in urban planning, sustainable development, public policy, community organizing, and related fields to gain in-depth experience with comprehensive community development. The Fellowship focuses on community development issues in Asian American communities in New York City, such as affordable housing, small business development, transportation, civil rights, policy advocacy, and environmental sustainability.

Participants learn about the field of community development in a collaborative environment that focuses on building their capacity, and deepening their knowledge through grassroots participation. The Fellowship will integrate a series of **Training Workshops** and a **Service-Learning Internship**. For 2011-2012, the Fellowship will focus on four key areas:

1. Environmental Sustainability
2. Transportation Equity
3. Organizing and Civic Engagement
4. Youth and Education

The Fellowship is unpaid; however, AAFE can work with participants enrolled in college to arrange for course credit through their university.

## **Learning Objectives**

1. Gain knowledge related to best practices in comprehensive community development;
2. Learn about the intersection of community development strategies in diverse Asian American communities;
3. Build skills for community engagement, organizing and effective communication.

## **Training Workshops**

The Training Workshops will expose Fellows to a variety of community development topics that affect Asian Americans and neighborhoods throughout New York City. Conducted in a seminar format, the workshops will integrate concepts with case studies and presentations from leading practitioners in the community development field.

- Community Engagement and Organizing
- Public Policy and Legislative Advocacy
- Zoning and Land Use
- Housing Policy and Services
- Youth Development and Education
- Transportation Equity
- Local Economic Development
- Environmental Sustainability
- Open Space and Parks
- Physical Planning and Urban Design

## **Service-Learning Internship**

The Service-Learning Internship is an opportunity for participants to apply the skills and community development knowledge they have gained from the Training Workshops in a workplace environment where they will be leading an independent project or supporting existing programs. The internship will run concurrently with the Training Workshops.



## Asian Americans for Equality

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Fellowship participants will be matched with a community development organization to complete the 14 week internship. The service-learning Fellows will undertake will involve a range of community development topics, and can apply a number of various strategies. However, every project will include a community engagement component, be action-oriented, and be rooted in a local neighborhood. Internships are a commitment of 15 hours per week for the duration of the Fellowship.

## **Fellowship Schedule**

The Community Development Training Fellowship will take place over 8 months, October 2011 through May 2012. The Training Workshops will consist of 8 weekly 3-hour workshops during a set time based on the availability of selected Fellows.

The Training Workshops will begin by October 3, 2011, and conclude on December 9, 2011. The Service-Learning Internships will begin by January 30, 2012, and conclude by May 4, 2012. The specific weekly schedule for the Service Learning Internships will be determined between the organization and Fellow.

## **Eligibility & Application Process**

The Fellowship is open to all **recent high school graduates and college students** in the New York metropolitan area who have an interest in and commitment to community development. While prior experience working within an Asian American community and the ability to speak an Asian language are preferred, these are not required from applicants. The Fellowship requires a significant time commitment of up to 15 hours per week for the 8-month period. Interested applicants should seriously consider this time commitment before applying.

All interested applicants need to submit (1) the on-line Application Form and (2) a Resume via email to [douglas\\_le@aafe.org](mailto:douglas_le@aafe.org) **no later than September 16, 2011, at 5 PM.** Click here for the [On-Line Application Form](#)

If you have any questions regarding the Fellowship or application process, contact Douglas Nam Le at [douglas\\_le@aafe.org](mailto:douglas_le@aafe.org) or 212-979-8381 ext. 103. All applicants will be notified about their participation by September 28, 2011.

## **About Asian Americans for Equality (AAFE)**

Founded in 1974 to advocate for equal opportunities for Asian Americans, immigrants and low-income New Yorkers, AAFE (<http://www.aafe.org>) has evolved into a nationally recognized community development and social services organization that serves New York City's nearly one million residents of Asian descent with programs that encompass the organization's comprehensive approach to community development, including: affordable housing development, small business assistance, homeownership service to emerging communities, housing and social services, and legal services. Our client base is multi-ethnic and multi-cultural, representing all five boroughs of New York City.

AAFE's mission is to advance the rights of Asian Americans and all those in need through advocacy and access in civil rights, immigrant assistance, social services, affordable housing, and economic development; to empower our communities through research and publishing that embody our issues and concerns; and to foster understanding and unity among diverse communities through building coalitions and forming collaborations.