Working with API Immigrant Survivors: Current Challenges and Advocacy Strategies
Panelists

- Shirley Luo (she/her), Resource Center Coordinator, Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence
- Sara Wee (she/her), Director of Research & Programs, Center for Survivor Agency & Justice
- Guest Speaker; Laura Flores Bachman (she/her), Senior Legal Counsel, ASISTA
- Moderator: Jillian Jin, Pro Bono Remote Volunteer Project Coordinator, Pro Bono Net
Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence

A national resource center on domestic violence, sexual violence, trafficking, and other forms of gender-based violence in Asian/Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities (AAPI)

Our mission is to disrupt gender-based violence, which causes physical, sexual, emotional, spiritual and economic harm within AAPI communities throughout the U.S. and its territories.

api-gbv.org
“Asians and Pacific Islanders”
AAPI Ethnic Diversity

Central Asia · Afghani (Afghanistan) · Mongolian (Mongolia) · Turkmen (Turkmenistan) · East Asia · Chinese (China) · Japanese (Japan) · Korean (Korea) · Taiwanese (Taiwan) · Tibetan (Tibet) · Pacific Islands · Carolinian (Caroline Islands) · Chamorro (Mariana Islands, Guam) · Chuukese (Federated States of Micronesia) · Fijian (Fiji) · Kosraean (Kosrae, Caroline Islands, Nauru) · Marshallese (Marshall Islands) · Native Hawaiian (United States) · Palauan (Republic of Palau) · Pohnpeian (Pohnpei) · Refaluwasch (Caroline Islands) · Samoan (American Samoa/Samoan Islands) · Tahitians (Tahiti) · Tokelauan (Tokelau) · Tongan (Tonga) · Yapese (Federated States of Micronesia) · South Asia · Bhojpuri (Nepal) · Bangladeshi/Bengali (Bangladesh, India) · Bhutanese (Bhutan) · Indian (India) · Maldivans/Dhivehi (Maldives) · Nepali (Nepal) · Pakistani (Pakistan) · Punjabi (India, Pakistan) · Sinhala (Sri Lanka) · Tamil (Sri Lanka, India) · Southeast Asia · Burmese (Burma/Myanmar) · Cambodian/Khmer/Mon (Cambodia) · Chin (Burma/Myanmar) · Filipino (Philippines) · Hmong (China, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand) · Indonesian (Indonesia) · Karen (Burma/Myanmar) · Laotian (Laos) · Malaysian/Malay (Malaysia) · Mien (Laos, Thailand) · Thai (Thailand) · Vietnamese/Kinh (Vietnam) · West Asia/Middle East · Iranian/Persian (Iran) · Iraqi (Iraq) · Jordanian (Jordan) · Kuwaiti (Kuwait) · Lebanese (Lebanon) · Mandaean (Iran, Iraq, Syria) · Palestinian (Palestine) · Saudi Arabian (Saudi Arabia) · Syrian (Syria) · Turkish (Turkey) · Yemeni (Yemen)
AAPI Linguistic Diversity

Arabic (Middle East, North Africa) · Assamese (India) · Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesia) · Bahasa · Malaysia/Malay (Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore) · Bangla/Bengali (Bangladesh, India) · Bhojpuri (Nepal, India) · Bhutanese ( Bhutan) · Burmese (Burma/Myanmar) · Cantonese (China) · Carolinian (Pacific Islands) · Cebuano (Philippines) · Chamorro (Pacific Islands) · Chin (Burma/Myanmar) · Chuukese (Pacific Islands) · Dari (Afghanistan) · Farsi/Persian (Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan) · Fijian (Pacific Islands) · Filipino/Tagalog (Philippines) · Fujian (China) · Fuzhou (China) · Gujarati (India) · Hawaiian/’Ōlelo Hawai‘i (Hawai‘i, USA) · Hindi (India) · Hmong/Mong (Thailand, Laos, China) · Hokkien (China) · Ilocano (Philippines) · Japanese (Japan) · Javanese (Indonesia) · Kannada (India) · Kapampangan (Philippines) · Karen (Burma/Myanmar) · Karenni (Burma/Myanmar) · Kashmiri (India) · Kazakh (Kazakhstan) · Khmer (Cambodia) · Konkani (India) · Korean (Korean) · Kurdish (Iran, Turkey) · Kutchi (India, Pakistan) · Lao (Laos) · Malayalam (India) · Mandarin/Guoyu (China) · Marathi (India) · Marshallese/Ebon (Pacific Islands) · Marwari (India) · Mien (Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, China) · Mon (Burma/Myanmar, Thailand) · Mongolian/Khalkha Mongol (Mongolia) · Nepali (Nepal) · Odia (India) · Palauan (Pacific Islands) · Pashto (Afghanistan, Pakistan) · Pohnpeian (Pacific Islands) · Pothohari (Pakistan) · Punjabi (India, Pakistan) · Pwo Karen (Burma/Myanmar) · Rohingya (Burma/Myanmar) · Samoan (Pacific Islands) · Saraiki (Pakistan) · Shanghainese (China) · Sindhi (India) · Sinhala (Sri Lanka) · Tai Dam/Black Tai (Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, China) · Taishanese/Toisanese (China) · Taiwanese (China, Taiwan) · Tamil (India, Sri Lanka) · Telugu (India) · Teochew/Chiu Chow (China) · Thai (Thailand) · Tibetan (Tibet) · Tongan (Pacific Islands) · Urdu (India, Pakistan) · Uzbek (Uzbekistan) · Vietnamese (Vietnam) · Visayan (Philippines)
Racial Wealth Snapshot:
Asian Americans and the Racial Wealth Divide (NCRC)
AAPI Barriers (communities)

- Historical trauma, past violence and negative experiences with help-seeking impact how survivors reach out for support
- Communities contribute to silencing, shaming, blaming, and rigid gender norms and expectations
- Many AAPI survivors live with in-laws or extended family who contribute to the abuse or condone it
- Lack of safe spaces for AAPI LGBTQ survivors

“Yes, men are like gold and women are like cottons and flowers.”
— Cambodian parent

Relationship Violence in Five Los Angeles Asian American Communities (AP3Con)
AAPI Barriers (systems)

- Lack of widespread training with systems like CJ, CPS, means lack of understanding of dynamics such as spiritual abuse
- Public benefits come with strings or requirements
- Complex systems and processes often involve contact with multiple entities, large amounts of paperwork, and are difficult to navigate
- Lack of trust of law enforcement and other systems dissuades survivors from reporting
- Programs are facing large turnover rates, with staff feeling burnt out, overworked, and isolated
Immigration status as a tool of abuse

- Abusers threaten to report survivor to immigration enforcement or to get them deported, often without their children.
- Even if the survivor is not in violation, abusers can keep them in the dark in order to leverage the fear.
- To maintain financial control, abusers prevent survivors from opening bank accounts, developing financial literacy, establishing credit, learning English and job skills, claim benefit in survivors’ name, etc.
- Abusers restrict access to passports and other documents, and prevent survivors from proceeding through the immigration system.
Immigrant Survivors Fear Reporting Violence

76.25% of advocates report that immigrant survivors have concerns about contacting police.

52% of advocates worked with immigrant survivors who dropped civil or criminal cases because they were fearful to continue with their cases.

3 out of 4 advocates report that immigrant survivors have concerns about going to court for a matter related to the abuser/offender.

May 2019 Advocate & Legal Services Findings: Immigrant Survivors Fear Reporting Violence
COVID-Related Challenges

- Applications stuck in limbo with long wait periods means individuals are out of work for longer
- Many survivors are single mothers whose immigration status is tied to employment have lost, or fear losing employment
- Survivors are increasingly isolated from family, religious community, and support systems
- Abusers exploit fear of COVID to prevent contact from social services, healthcare, etc
- Anti-Asian rhetoric and spike in violent incidents against Asian individuals adds to trauma and fear
Limited English Proficiency

![Bar Chart]

**Percentage Limited English Proficiency**

- All AAPI: 34%
- Vietnamese: 50%
- Korean: 46%
- Cambodian: 40%
- Chinese: 40%
- Hmong: 38%
- Filipino: 24%
- Japanese: 22%
- Indian: 20%
- Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander: 15%

*Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates (2013-2017)*
Ms. Macareno, in an interview and a federal lawsuit, said she tried to tell the police that her husband had pushed her down, but instead of taking him to jail, the responding officers arrested her and carried her barefoot and badly bruised to the 120th Precinct station house.

She was charged with obstruction of governmental administration, according to the legal complaint, after pleading with the officers for an interpreter. The arresting officer said she had prevented him from writing his report, her lawyer said.

With little understanding of English or her rights, and in a hurry to return to her 7-year-old son, she pleaded guilty in criminal court to a lesser charge of disorderly conduct and was released.
Mission:
The Center for Survivor Agency and Justice promotes advocacy approaches that remove systemic barriers, enhance organizational responses, and improve professional practices to meet the self-defined needs of domestic and sexual violence survivors.

Vision:
The Center for Survivor Agency and Justice envisions a world where all people have equal access to physical safety, economic security, and human dignity.
Access to Justice for Survivors Project

Consumer Rights for Domestic & Sexual Violence Survivors Initiative

Racial and Economic Equity of Domestic & Sexual Violence Survivors Project

Accounting for Economic Security: An Atlas for Direct Service Providers

CSAJ Key Projects
Same storm, but not all in the same boat

[Image: Different sized boats, from canoes and dinghies to ocean liners on large ocean waves]
For survivors, it looks like…

Payday lenders are eight times as concentrated in communities of color

Immigrant communities are the targets of fraud and deceptive schemes

Rural areas may be unbanked or without credit

Older adults: scams, abusive caregivers, fixed income

Disabilities: underemployed, underpaid, undervalued

Trafficking: new forms of debt
Online survey of direct service providers working with domestic violence and/or sexual assault survivors in the U.S.
Purpose of the Survey

To gauge the economic challenges survivors and service organizations face as a result of COVID-19

Provide data for programs to identify top individual and systems advocacy needs

Support future national policy efforts and programmatic funding
In partnership with...

Luz Marquez Benbow
Founder #IamNegrx

Lisalyn Jacobs, steering committee member of The National Task Force to End Sexual & Domestic Violence
In partnership with...

ALSO (Allied Local Services Organization)
NCLC (National Consumer Law Center)
Anti-Violence Project
Casa de Esperanza
Women of Color Network, Inc.
Michigan State University
Luz Marquez Benbow
Prosperity Now

Indiana Legal Services, Inc.
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
Lisalyn Jacobs
Vera Institute of Justice
Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence
Center for Survivor Agency & Justice
The Legal Aid Society, and Caminar Latino
1. Survivors’ economic challenges
   - Money/Resources
   - Health
   - Child
   - Legal & Systems
   - Differential effects

2. Organizational challenges

3. Recommendations for change
Time 1 (T1): March to May

Time 2 (T2): June - September

[Image: Bar chart illustrating COVID-19 cases overtime, between March 2020 and Feb 2021. March-May and June-Sept are highlighted to correspond with the two surveys time period.] Source: New York Times
Time 1 (T1): March to May

Time 2 (T2): June - September

NEW CASES

[Images: Two U.S. maps with states filled from yellow to red based on NEW cases in Time 1 and Time 2 (red meaning higher case rate).] Source data: CDC, United States COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by State over Time
Time 1: March to May
608 service providers serving a total of 34,664 survivors

Time 2: June - September
227 service providers serving a total of 32,272 survivors
Time 1: March to May

Time 2: June - September

[Images: Two U.S. maps with states filled from white to blue based on the total number of survey respondents in that state at Time 1 and Time 2 (blue meaning more responses).]
Time 1: March to May

- Deaf Advocacy Org.: 4%
- Culturally or population specific DV/SA Org.: 15%
- Mainstream DV/SA Org.: 25%
- Disability Rights Org.: 10%
- Legal Services: 44%
- Other (e.g., Trafficking, human services): 2%

Time 2: June - September

- Deaf Advocacy Org.: 4%
- Culturally or population specific DV/SA Org.: 13%
- Mainstream DV/SA Org.: 25%
- Disability Rights Org.: 4%
- Legal Services: 53%
- Trafficking Org.: 2%
### Time 1: March to May

### Time 2: June - September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Organization</th>
<th>Percent of Respondents (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Time 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainstream DV/SA Organization</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culturally of population-specific DV/SA organization</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Service</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability rights organization</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaf advocacy organization</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (e.g. trafficking, human services)</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Survivors’ Economic Challenges: Key Findings
No energy or time for systems barriers

“People with informal employment, no immigration status...or dismissed because of their race/ethnicity have **far less opportunities to focus on health**, prevention, pursuit of economic stability or even socializing because they are too busy **putting out fires**. Bureaucracy and high barrier systems/services make it hard for them to access anything or attempt to gain power in their situation through court services and such.

**There is no energy or time for it.**”
Almost all advocates surveyed said survivors were facing economic challenges due to COVID-19.

T1: March - May
98%

T2: June - September
99%

[Image: Two pie charts illustrating survey respondents working with survivors facing economic challenges. 98% in Time 1, 99% in Time 2]
Most advocates were working with survivors facing money/resource, health, child, or legal/systems challenges (which increased over time)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>T1</th>
<th>T2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money/Resources</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal &amp; Systems</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE on survey method limitations: The change over time might reflect differences in who completed the survey at T1 and who completed it at T2.

IMAGE: Line chart, showing change in four categories between T1 & T2 - data table on next slide
Most advocates were working with survivors facing money/resource, health, child, or legal/systems challenges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Challenge</th>
<th>Percent of Respondents (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Time 1</td>
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</table>

NOTE on survey method limitations:
The change over time might reflect differences in who completed the survey at T1 and who completed it at T2.
Top 5 Challenges, Overall
Survivors face a multitude of economic challenges

- Lost income due to job loss, fewer hours, or less demand for service / product
  - Time 1: March - May: 85%
  - Time 2: June – Sept: 96%

- Can’t afford to pay bills
  - Time 1: March - May: 88%
  - Time 2: June – Sept: 94%

- Fear or uncertainty around kids going back to school
  - Time 1: March - May: 91%
  - Time 2: June – Sept: 91%

- Finding childcare so that they can go to work (remote or in person)
  - Time 1: March - May: 68%
  - Time 2: June – Sept: 88%

- Trouble getting enough food
  - Time 1: March - May: 79%
  - Time 2: June – Sept: 87%
## Top 5 Challenges at T2

*With comparisons at T1, as available*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Challenge</th>
<th>Percent of Respondents (%)</th>
<th>Time 1</th>
<th>Time 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lost income due to job loss, fewer hours, or less demand for service / product</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can’t afford to pay bills</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fear or uncertainty around kids going back to school</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding childcare so that they can go to work (remote or in person)</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td></td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble getting enough food</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td></td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Differential Impact

71% said survivors face different pandemic-related economic challenges based on their identity factors.
### T2: Top Challenges based on community served

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>General Population</th>
<th>Immigrant Communities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lost income due to job loss, fewer hours, or less demand for services</td>
<td>99.00%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble getting enough food</td>
<td>87.00%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can’t afford to pay bills</td>
<td>97.00%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble social distancing</td>
<td>78.00%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fear of seeking help for abuse or COVID-19 due to identity</td>
<td>71.00%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
T1: Top money-related challenges based on community served

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>General Population</th>
<th>Immigrant Communities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can’t afford to pay bills</td>
<td>87.00%</td>
<td>94.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost income due to job loss, fewer hours, or less demand for services</td>
<td>86.00%</td>
<td>88.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble getting enough food</td>
<td>80.00%</td>
<td>88.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of transportation to work or to meet basic needs</td>
<td>66.00%</td>
<td>83.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble keeping to getting public benefits</td>
<td>66.00%</td>
<td>80.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Economic Challenges Facing Survivors of DV/SA During Covid-19: Closer Look at Immigrant Communities
Health Challenges

Survivors faced risk to health inside and outside the home
Immigrant and survivors of color face added risks to health, safety, and well-being due to discrimination.

At T1, 43% said survivors experienced increased acts of *racism, xenophobia, and discrimination*. At T2, 71% said survivors feared of seeking help for COVID-19 or abuse due to immigration status, race, or other identity factor.
Money/Resource Challenges
Advocates work with survivors facing lost income, difficulty meeting basic needs, and getting financial relief.
Survivors shared with advocates concerns about lost income, meeting basic needs, and getting relief

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<tr>
<td>Trouble getting enough food</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty applying for or getting unemployment benefits</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concern about getting a stimulus check or the correct amount of money</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble keeping or applying for public benefits</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Changing Money-Related challenges based on population served

T2: Top 5 challenges reported by those working with immigrant communities
- Lost income
- Trouble getting enough food
- Can't afford to pay bills
- Trouble getting public benefits
- Eviction or threatened eviction

T2: Top 5 challenges reported by those working with general population
- Lost income
- Trouble getting enough food
- Can't afford to pay bills
- Trouble getting unemployment
- Trouble getting a stimulus check
"Access to resources during COVID - 19 is the most challenging issue for API monolingual immigrants that we serve. The available resources communicated are in English and not available in other languages especially API languages. By the time that API communities receive the information, those [resources] have already been taken or ran out. In addition to this, the 'safer at home' order...prevents them from seeking help or leaving their abusive partners when home is not safe for them."
Survivors face **housing instability**

At T1, **53%** said landlords/creditors were inflexible with **payments**

At T2, **82%** said survivors faced **eviction** or threats of eviction
Survivors are overrepresented in “essential worker” industries with **few/no employee protections or benefits**, and face multiple forms of economic exploitation.

At T2, **67%** said employers weren’t offering **paid or unpaid leave**.

At T2, **36%** said survivors were getting **scammed or defrauded**.
“Our immigrant clients are struggling to remain employed and safe. They frequently have less choices when looking at employment if undocumented and so are not in a position to advocate for their own health and safety in an employment setting.”
Link between Child & Legal/Systems Challenges

[Image: Clipart of a woman and two children playing, all wearing masks. Source: Boston Children’s Hospital]
Trouble accessing court and trouble getting child support were related

“Survivors [are] waiting on child support cases that have been delayed. In the meantime they are not getting the money they need to raise their kids.”

“We need courts to re-open for child support matters; these have been considered ‘non-essential’ but child support should be considered an emergency issue.”
As the school year began, more survivors were talking with advocates about child-related concerns.

- Finding childcare so that they can work, remotely or outside the home: 52%, 68%, 69%, 88%
- Access to the internet etc for kids’ schooling: 72%, 84%, 81%, 84%
- Sharing custody/visitation exchanges with an abusive partner: 69%, 69%
- Enforcing child support payments: 69%
As the school year began, more survivors were talking with advocates about child-related concerns.

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<td>81%</td>
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<td>Enforcing child support payments</td>
<td></td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>69%</td>
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Systems’ policies and practices in response to COVID-19 presented difficulties for survivors

- Trouble accessing court for safety or financial relief: 79% in T2 vs. 76% in T1
- Police response to abuse is inconsistent or inadequate: 69% in T2 vs. 62% in T1
- Lack of or inadequate notification of partners release from custody: 52% in T2 vs. 41% in T1
- Being threatened with deportation or immigration: 54% in T2 vs. 28% in T1
Systems’ policies and practices in response to COVID-19 presented difficulties for survivors.

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<td>Being threatened with deportation or immigration</td>
<td>28%</td>
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Why Survivors Had Trouble Accessing Court

- Courts are closed or have reduced hours: 83%
- Survivor can’t access remote/virtual court hearings: 70%
- Inability to have counsel or advocate accompaniment, either in-person or virtual: 51%
- Court not considering survivors’ cases as “emergency”: 42%
- Lack of language access for court proceedings (in person or virtual): 33%
- Courts not able or refusing to implement virtual methods for hearing cases: 23%
## Why Survivors Had Trouble Accessing Court

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Challenge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courts are closed or have reduced hours</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survivor can’t access remote/virtual court hearings</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inability to have counsel or advocate accompaniment, either in-person or virtual</td>
<td>51%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Court not considering survivors’ cases as “emergency”</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<td>Courts not able or refusing to implement virtual methods for hearing cases</td>
<td>23%</td>
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What can you do?
Promising & Innovative Practices

“Domestic violence advocates are perfectly situated to meet this moment. This is what we do.”

“The grassroots organizing that’s occurred is incredible.”

“We don’t want to go back. Survivors will shape the ‘new normal.’”
Advocates/Attorneys can...

- Review intake, selection & eligibility guidelines
- Use this moment to start having the economic conversation with survivors (understand their values, identify financial goals, help access resources)
- Partner, partner, partner! meal provision, food pantry, rental subsidies, tenant rights, computer/internet access
- Think outside the box:
  - Employment attorneys can help navigate unemployment insurance systems, train advocacy programs, reach out to state dept of labor (not just wait to help with appeals)
  - Low Income Taxpayer Clinics can now help with filing, assist programs with accessing stimulus checks
  - Consumer lawyers can help programs prepare for debt collections cases (what can advocates do? What proactive work can be done?)
  - All lawyers/legal services can advocate for courts to prioritize language access/translation, remote hearings, encourage advocate accompaniment, and amplify needs expressed by immigrant advocates, survivors, and communities

Programs can...

- Get creative & offer flexibility with your program funds (legal fees, food supplies, technology)
- Familiarize yourself with your state’s policies and guidelines around COVID-19
- Build & Use Partnerships to identify and expand access to essential resources
- Institutionalize & normalize advocate self-care
- Educate funders & policy makers about the economic impact of COVID-19 - USE THIS DATA!
More on self care (collective care) for orgs...

- Conduct regular org climate surveys
- Ask for upwards feedback as well
- Make time to unpack
- Find or make opportunities to network and collaborate
- Don’t put the burden of “self care” on staff!

Leadership always throws around words like “don’t forget to practice self care!” How am I supposed to do that when I’m working my own job and two other peoples’ jobs, and it’s just crisis to crisis?
Resources

- **Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Survivors, Data Dashboard**
  - Updates coming soon!
- **Recommendations for Practice & Policy: Supporting LGBTQ+, Immigrant, & Communities of Color**
- **Starting the Economic Conversation: An Advocacy Guide**
  - other CSAJ economic and consumer legal webinars [HERE](#)
- **DV & Economic Impact Payments (Stimulus Check) Flyer** ([English](#) | [Spanish](#))
- **Relationship Violence in Five Los Angeles Asian American Communities: Intergenerational Risk and Strengthening Factors** (AP3Con)
- **How COVID-19 & Systemic Responses Impact AAPI Survivors** (API-GBV)
- **AA and NHPI In-Language Resources for COVID-19** (APIAHF)
Impact
Litigation
Policy & Advocacy
Legal Training & Technical Assistance
Practice Advisories

www.asistahelp.org
Immigration Protections during COVID

- COVID has increased barriers to status, especially for matters involving US consulates abroad
- COVID has caused delays in customer service channels
- Egregious processing delays means that the add’l vulnerabilities survivors face due to COVID are not efficiently addressed

ASISTA Recommendations to USCIS

Alliance for Immigrant Survivors Legislative Recommendations:
Questions

Questions?

(Use the chat box on the right of your screen to ask questions.)
Join Us!

Join a community of over 9,000 advocates dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights of immigrants in the United States.

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