It has been twenty years since I began at the Chinatown Y, and twenty-eight years since I first began as an employee of the YMCA of San Francisco. Yet the time has gone by so quickly. I was raised at the Y, and I have raised my children at the Y. And now, as the Associate Vice President of Operations and DIG/Equity, I am determined to ensure that future generations will have the opportunity to grow up at a Y that is inclusive and a safe place for everyone to belong.

Although I will still oversee the Chinatown Y from a distance, I am so grateful to pass the torch of leadership to Andy Chu as the new Executive Director of the Chinatown YMCA. Andy and I have worked side by side during my entire time at Chinatown. The team we have built is formidable and I know that the work will continue in good hands.

I share my gratitude with you as well, as donors, friends, aunts, and uncles. In the Chinese tradition, you have been my family, my elders who have guided and supported me, and shown me how to do “good work”. From you I have learned several important lessons: trust your community and your staff to know what they want and need; prove that your work is diligent, responsible, and impactful and donors, staff, and volunteers will answer the call to support; to be a good leader, you must listen and move out of the way.

I am blessed to have a career that is full of purpose and positive impact. I have gained and received so much from the Chinatown Y and will always be in service to this community. Thank you for your trust, your patience, and your unwavering support.

Warmly,

Kari Lee

A NOTE FROM ANDY CHU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am humbled and honored to be leading the Chinatown YMCA as the new Executive Director. I would like to acknowledge and thank Kari for serving as the Chinatown Y’s Executive Director for the past 18 years as well as a mentor and friend to myself.

For over 100 years, the Chinatown Y has played a role in the lives of so many people. We meet every single person where they are at by providing programs and resources for all stages of life. For this year’s annual report, we highlight four incredible individuals whose personal Y stories reflect the long-lasting impact of our services. Whether it is Kory who benefited from our youth programs as a child, Grant who volunteers his time at our food bank, or Edwin and Margaret who are committed to giving back to the API community, I hope their stories will encourage you to reflect on your own Y story, deepen your understanding about the Chinatown Y, and inspire you to continue supporting our work.

Warmly,

Andy Chu

THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY, WE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING:

- In-person afterschool programs for 630 students at six elementary school sites within the heart of Chinatown. Across all branches of the YMCA of San Francisco, over 8,000 youth received essential academic support.
- Tens of thousands of bags of food to ensure hundreds of Chinatown families did not go hungry each week. Through all the Y’s food pantry programs across the Bay Area, over 40 TONS of food was distributed.
- Financial assistance for 57% of our Chinatown YMCA members, with a total of $4M in financial assistance given to memberships across our 14 branches.

A NOTE FROM KARI LEE, ASSOCIATE VP OF OPERATIONS AND DIG/EQUITY

It has been twenty years since I began at the Chinatown Y, and twenty-eight years since I first began as an employee of the YMCA of San Francisco. Yet the time has gone by so quickly. I was raised at the Y, and I have raised my children at the Y. And now, as the Associate Vice President of Operations and DIG/Equity, I am determined to ensure that future generations will have the opportunity to grow up at a Y that is inclusive and a safe place for everyone to belong.

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Warmly,

Kari Lee

FINANCIALS

2021-2022 INCOME

- 58% Grants
- 15% Contributions and Events
- 14% Fee-Based Membership and Programs
- 7% Association Support
- 4% Other
- 2% Endowment

TOTAL $6,407,757

2021-2022 EXPENSES

- 50% Salaries
- 14% Benefits and Tax
- 11% Supplies and Services
- 11% Association Services
- 10% Facilities and Maintenance
- 3% Other
- 1% Finance Costs and Insurance

TOTAL $6,407,757

IN 2021-2022, YOU RAISED

- $434,355 for ANNUAL CAMPAIGN
- $331,700 from FOUNDATIONS
- OUR TOTAL ENDOWMENT: 3,314,307
What do you enjoy most about your role at the Y?

"The teens don’t see me as an authoritative figure, like their parents or teachers. I’m not here to force them to do anything. I’m here to listen, to share my own school experiences, and to help. Sometimes I’ll have the opportunity to work with a teen whom I’ve known since they were in middle school. Watching them grow and seeing glimpses of their adult selves, it becomes a learning experience for me, too."

– Kory Eastland

Kory Eastland is an example of someone who has become his best self at the Y. From his early childhood days as a summer camp participant with the Chinatown YMCA and now coming full circle as a full-time staff member, he wakes up every morning with intention and ready to work with our teens. But that wasn’t always the case. Kory grew up in the projects in Potrero Hill, Bayview, and Hunters Point where some mornings he was grateful just to wake up and see another day.

Before Kory was even 5 years old, he remembers someone trying to burn his house down. He remembers watching TV and hearing gun shots outside while everyone was yelling at him to take cover inside. He remembers seeing four bodies on the ground after the shooting was over. And he remembers his mom saying that they needed to get out of this violent environment.

When Kory was 6 years old, his family moved to the Ping Yuen housing complex. He remembers how quiet the complex was compared to his previous homes and how safe he felt playing outside in the yard where his mother, a single mom, could easily watch him and his 3 siblings. While the culture shock of his new neighborhood was real (he told his kindergarten teacher, “I’m moving to China!”), he quickly adjusted to his environment and enrolled in Summer Camp at the Chinatown YMCA. It was there that he met Jennifer Tam, his first Camp Counselor, and his love for the Y grew.

Kory lost his mother to cancer at the age of 8. While she was in and out of the hospital for chemotherapy treatments, Kory and his siblings shuffled from home to home, sometimes living with his mother, sometimes with his aunts and uncles. But they all made sure he made it to Y camp every summer during his elementary school years. And during the difficult times after his mother’s passing, a mentor from our Reach & Rise Mentoring Program was able to be there for Kory as a nurturing adult and someone he could talk to and rely on.

At the age of 18, Kory returned to the Y as a part-time staff member. After re-connecting with Jennifer Tam, she offered him a position as a Day Camp Counselor at the Chinatown YMCA, the very same camp that he attended as a young child. Since then, he has been an Afterschool Program Coordinator at John Yehall Chin Elementary School, the same school he attended in Chinatown, and is now our Teen Programs Coordinator. He is currently responsible for our Friday Night Homeroom program, the SOMANYDYNAMOS leadership program, the Teen Volunteer program, and so much more.

As a recent graduate of SF State, Kory is grateful to the Y for providing him with opportunities to discover himself both personally and professionally. He is excited to see the teen programming grow as well as for what the future holds for him.
HEALTHY LIVING SPOTLIGHT

GRANT GAINES – ACTIVE OLDER ADULT MEMBER & FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER

With programs ranging from swim lessons and martial arts classes for youth to Tai Chi and health workshops for adults, the Chinatown YMCA ensures that everyone at every age, including our most isolated families and seniors, has the supports they need to maintain a healthy and productive lifestyle. We believe that cost should never be a barrier for those in our community that are seeking resources to live healthier. Therefore, with subsidies provided through the generosity of our donors, we offer financial assistance for all our programs and memberships to keep the Y accessible for all.

Come by the Chinatown YMCA on any weekday and you will likely find GRANT GAINES with a smile on his face, a positive attitude, and a willingness to lend a hand.

“As always start your day with a good mental attitude and perspective. Smell the flowers, smell life, and smile every day.”

– Grant Gaines

FITNESS MEMBERSHIP

As an Active Older Adult member in his seventies, Grant has always prioritized his health and well-being. He started running marathons in his forties and has completed 30 marathons all over the U.S. He currently exercises at the Chinatown Y five times per week with a routine that combines both cardio on the treadmill and strength training on the weight machines. He loves the diversity of our community members and friendliness of our staff.

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER

Grant is also dedicated to seeing his community thrive as well. In 2019, Grant came to volunteer with our food pantry. Not only does Grant help to ensure over 235 households receive healthy food every week, he uses his 15+ years of Cantonese language experience to communicate and connect with our food pantry families on a deeper level. He also uses his former ESL instructor training to help newcomers improve their English skills.

COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR

When not at the Y, Grant continues his passion for uplifting community health as a Community Ambassador for the City of San Francisco in both the Chinatown and Richmond districts. As an Ambassador, he is responsible for building trust among merchants, preventing violence, and promoting socio-emotional well-being among marginalized populations including seniors, non-English speaking adults, and homeless persons. He hopes to one day be a professional Cantonese English interpreter in the fields of social work or medicine, and is currently working on his certification.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

When asked about what he loves about the Chinatown Y, Grant says that he enjoys seeing people of all ages and ethnicities getting along and being polite to each other. Living in the mid-Market/Tenderloin area, Grant often finds it challenging to meet like-minded individuals in his neighborhood. Knowing that a strong support group is important for his mental well-being, he is grateful for the many friendships he has formed at the Y. He feels connected to our community and appreciates all the kindness that surrounds him at the Chinatown Y.
Social responsibility for the Chinatown YMCA focuses on programs and services that support young people, support newcomers, and support diverse communities. Examples include the food pantry program through the SF-Marin Food Bank, the Service Connector program that gives low-income adults the opportunity to reach their goals in employment, education, and housing stability, and the Immigrant Support Center dedicated to monolingual Chinese speaking adults and seniors. Through programs such as these, the Y combats social inequality, heals wounds caused by ideological polarization, and alleviates the effects of growing economic divides.

“It is so important for us to give back to the Chinese community and especially to help Chinese immigrants who wish to have a better life for themselves and their families. Supporting the Tung Lok Early Childhood Learning Center is a dream come true for us. As in our own family, we appreciate the value of children being safe with opportunities to grow. We hope more families can reach their dreams, and having children thrive in Chinatown YMCA Early Childhood Learning Center is a big step in the right direction.”

– Edwin and Margaret on their personal journey and their hopes for the future.

THEIR STORY BEGINS at the Chinese Hospital in Chinatown where Edwin was born in 1933. Like many youths living in Chinatown at that time, Edwin grew up in a very small tenement, sleeping on a cot that would barely fit in their kitchen. With two hardworking parents, Edwin spent time at the Chinatown YMCA pool where he learned to swim. He attended public schools in San Francisco and financially supported himself through college where he achieved his bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from UC Berkeley. Like Edwin, Margaret also grew up experiencing hardships. Born in Shanghai and growing up during the 2nd Sino-Japanese War, Margaret came to the US to attend college, when she met Edwin. They married in 1959 and had two sons.

RACIAL EQUITY

Having experienced racial injustice throughout their lives and wanting their sons to grow up in a better, more equitable society, Edwin and Margaret decided to focus on uplifting the API community. Edwin became a founding director of the United Federal Savings and Loan Association in 1974, which focused on serving the banking needs of the Chinese and Asian communities. Margaret became a real estate broker in the early 1970s and was the first Chinese member of the San Francisco Women’s Council of Realtors, later becoming its President as well as a State Director of the California Real Estate Association. During this time, when it was extremely difficult for Chinese immigrant families to buy property outside of Chinatown, Margaret was instrumental in helping many families leave Chinatown to purchase their first homes in the Richmond and Sunset districts.

SOCIAL EQUITY

Since 2002, Edwin and Margaret have used proceeds from their family real estate business to establish the Edwin and Margaret Lee Foundation. Over the past two decades, they have supported the Chinese community through university scholarships for immigrants and first-generation college students of Chinese descent, contributions to fund the Old St. Mary’s Cathedral capital campaign, and most recently a $1M gift to support the Chinatown YMCA’s Tung Lok Early Childhood Learning Center. Thanks to their generosity toward achieving equity in early childhood education, 57 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers now have a safe and nurturing space to reach their highest potential and be successful in school.
CHINATOWN YMCA 2021 – 2022 CONTRIBUTIONS

We wish to acknowledge everyone who gave $1,000 or more through the Annual Giving Campaign, event sponsorships, and designated Major Gifts to support our programs between July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

INDIVIDUALS

$10,000 or more

Anonymous
Els and Benson Lam
Lynn Ogata

Hank T.D. Fong
Ford and Patricia Lee
Warren Tong

Thomas Horn
George and Debbie Lee
Ted and Ida Yen

William Kim and Bettye Mark
Mekin and Jeanette Lee
Harvey and Carrie Louie

$1,000 to $9,999

Eunice Song
James F. Hadduck
Tanya Lee Wong

Wing and Dorothy Lai
Edwin Shue
Herman Yan

Bryan Laver
Wendy Won

$1,000 to $4,999

Dale and Judith Bratton
Alicia Caroline Lee
Sara Packer

Michael and Pamela Caplen
Munson and Suzanne Kwok
Grant and Yvonne Poon

Martin Cases
Katherine Monica Lee and Benjamin Shen
Mary Russell and Adam Messinger

Becky Hui Chan
Palmer Lai
Chip and Kimberly Rich

Ernest K. Chen
Simon Lai
Michael and Karen Same

Fon (Islanda) Chen
Gabriel Loo
Bernard and Steffie Shek

June Cheung-Forrest and Ken Farmer
Brant Lee and Marie Curry
Hovia Shek

William and Gayle Chan
Elizabeth Hoosh Lee
Ronald and Penny Sue

Janet Cheng
Kari Lee and Stanley Dorais
Arline Chen Sullivan

Janet Chen
Keith and Karen Horimoto-Lee
Lawrence To

Ting-Loi [Joseph] Chen and Weishan Ng
Mark Lee and Jennifer Kim
Ray Yu Hoon Tong

Catherine Cheung
Six Kwan Lee and Joseph Don
Valentine Wallace

Maries Chin
Timothy and Elke Lee
Benson and Bernadine Mong

Cronkell and Leo Ching
Jeffrey and Karen Leong
Brian and Cindy Mong

Karen and Ronald Chiu
Joseph and Jennifer Leong Addiego
Germanna Q. Mong

Andy Chu
Michael Leong Ching and John Chiu
Henry and Lorraine Mong

John and Sandra Fewer
Jennifer Levy
Jewen Mong

Arron R. Fong
Liu S. Law
Jule Mong

Edwin and Priscilla Fong
Anne Ji
Melita Mong

Edna Fong
David Lin
Phaueng Mong

Stephen and Denise Gee
Glenn Louie
Peter and Sharon Mong

Amber Hill
Marjorie Louie
Rose H. Mong

Patricia Q. Hing
Kristen Lam
Meyahon and Yoonong Mong

Harley and Marion Hsueh
Patricia Lam
William Washington and Carolin Spence

Suzanne Horn
Aaron Lundberg
Paul Mythen

Barbara Hong
Jason War
Grace Y. Young

Deister and Mei-Mei Hong
Yue and Jean-Lock Man
May Lam Young

Sara Huang
Anthony and Sue Worner
Vincent Sing Yuen

Dennis and Susan Jang
Thomas and Donna Ng
Kimi Zhang

Eric Jea and Cecilia Leung
Helen Yip Ong

Tenens Jea and Marissa Chua
Cheryl Kwong

$5,000 to $9,999

Chinese Community Health Care Association
Lee Strauss Foundation
YMCA of the USA

Chinese Community Health Plan
Robert Joseph Louis Memorial Fund

Estate of Choy Kin Mock
in memory of Choy Kin Mock

HERITAGE CLUB

Anonymous (2)

Harry T.D. Fong
Rohard T. Fong

Douglass Fong
Alfred Gee* and Irene Gee*

Robert C. Gee
Stephen and Diane Lee

Allan Mark Hing,
in memory of Choy Kin Mock

Harley and Marian Hsueh
Rose H. Mong

Suzanne F. Hsin
Randall J. Hong*

Melin O.G. and Alice
Caroline Sue

Hoerner* and Eunice L. Jang

Mrs. Jeannette K. Kirk
William C. Kim and Bettye C. Mark

Chinese Chamber of Commerce of SF
Six Dar Investment Inc.

Chinese Sportsmen Club, Inc.
Invision Optometry

Crownvilles, Inc.
Lee, Wong & Leong Insurance Agency

First Chinese Baptist Church
Michael Evans

Hing Ng Charitable Trust
One Vassie

Hudson Pacific Properties
Perkins Coie Foundation

Edwin and Margaret Lee Foundation
SILICON VALLEY BANK FOUNDATION

San Francisco Giants
TRI-C Designs, Inc.

Yong Jang Family in Celebration of Elaine Jang’s 103rd birthday

Heritage Club
Chinese Community Health Plan

Foundations/organizations

$10,000 or more

Chinese Community Health Care Association
Lee Strauss Foundation
YMCA of the USA

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Robert Joseph Louis Memorial Fund

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Robert Joseph Louis Memorial Fund

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in memory of Choy Kin Mock

CREATE YOUR LEGACY WITH A GIFT TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND

By leaving a legacy commitment to the Chinatown YMCA’s Endowment Fund through a will, retirement plan, or other planned-giving arrangement, you ensure that we will continue to build healthy, sustainable, and equitable communities for generations to come. With your gift, not only will you support a cause that’s important to you, your assets will be put to work with our tax-efficient charitable strategies so that your generosity will extend well into the future.

To learn more about our Endowment Fund or how to join the Y’s Heritage Club, please contact Carol Wai Lundy, Director of Donor Relations and Major Gifts, at cwailundy@ymcasf.org or 415-990-7912.
BOARD OF MANAGERS

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CHINATOWN YMCA LEADERSHIP TEAM

ANDY CHU
Executive Director

KARI LEE
Associate Vice President of Operations & DIG/Equity

MONTICA LAI
Senior Director of Operations

MANDY LIU
Senior Director of Youth Programs

DENISE HUNG
Camp & Teen Director

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