

NEW
BREATH
FOUNDATION

IMPACT REPORT 2020

LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

Happy New Breath!

New Breath Foundation (NBF) mobilizes resources to support Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) to heal, keep families together, and build movements that shift narratives and policies.

We take an active leadership role in fostering racial solidarity especially during these difficult and uncertain times. The disparate impacts of COVID-19 and the fight for racial justice on communities of color are unprecedented.

Thus, NBF and our partners shifted our 2020 agenda to rapidly respond to these emergent challenges. We prioritized the onslaught of COVID-19 impacts and the rise in racialized violence by working directly with NBF's impacted partner organizations.

This report highlights the timely and transformative work and the systems-level solutions NBF has developed in partnership with community leaders. Our grassroots partners and frontline leaders power movements that create durable change.

Report Overview:

- **COVID-19 and Racial Solidarity Response**
- **Issue Spotlight: Anti-Deportation**
- **Impact Story: Sok**
- **2020-2021 Priorities**
- **Partner Organizations**

I hope you find this report informative, and I look forward to your questions and feedback.

We can't do this work alone. NBF's vision is only made viable by innovative, powerful and supportive partners. Thank you for your support!

Breathin',



Eddy Zheng,
Founder and President



2020 SO FAR

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Currently and formerly incarcerated communities are among the most impacted by COVID-19. San Quentin has had 2,200 cases of COVID-19 and 25 deaths, out of a population of 3,260. The coronavirus has also hit post-incarceration and transitional homes in the Bay Area very hard.

In response to this and other COVID-19 related crises, NBF and our partners are ensuring the health and safety of our communities through direct payments, grassroots actions and donating supplies.

Insight Garden Program, NBF, and other partners donated much-needed soap to 2,700 incarcerated people in Central California Women's Facility, and NBF donated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to Asian Health Services in Oakland Chinatown.

NBF and our partners urgently called for the release of people detained and incarcerated to stop preventable deaths from COVID-19. We funded organizing campaigns for releases, pardons, and commutations for immuno-compromised individuals, women, trans folks, lifers, and people at risk of deportation. Led by grassroots organizations, NBF has supported protests, rallies, social media actions, petitions, phone call actions, and advocacy to release more people from

state prisons and jails who are at high risk for COVID-19. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) estimates that about 8,000 people were released by the end of August. It is a unique and unprecedented moment to advocate for the mass releases of incarcerated people on the basis of public health and decriminalization priorities and NBF will continue to play an integral role in this fight.

RACIAL SOLIDARITY

NBF President Eddy Zheng plays a critical role in bridging communities, especially Black, Asian, formerly incarcerated, immigrants, and refugees. Eddy's role includes speaking to the media (English and Chinese languages), exploring restorative justice methods as an alternative to incarceration, and building strong coalitions with community leaders, elected officials, and philanthropic leaders. As a trusted and outspoken champion for racial solidarity, Eddy has answered the calls of many community leaders for his assistance in creating innovative, systemic change. Eddy sits on the newly-formed SF Coalition for Community Safety and Justice to ensure public safety, culturally-competent victim services, and healing through systemic change and new programs.

NBF has drawn attention to the 800+ hate incidents related to COVID-19 targeting Asian Americans in California to date. We will continue to engage in community-led strategies for healing and racial solidarity.

SPOTLIGHT *on* ANTI-DEPORTATION

NBF RECOGNIZES THE NEED FOR A SYSTEMS-LEVEL APPROACH TO ANTI-DEPORTATION WORK. THUS, NBF AND ITS PARTNERS ARE DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE STATE AND TRANSNATIONAL MODELS TO STOP DEPORTATIONS AND CREATE PATHWAYS TO RETURN.

230

Impacted Persons at
Southeast Asian
Immigration Workshop

2

Returnees
#Right2Reunite

100

Requests for Records for
SEA Immigration
Workshop

115

Deportees Received
COVID-19 Relief

AWARENESS

1. Addressing shame/guilt
Community healing
Know your rights workshops

LEGAL

2. Commutations
Pardons
Grassroots campaigns

DEPORTEE SUPPORT

3. Transitions
Employment
Mental health
Covid relief
Housing/Government ID

FAMILY REUNIFICATION

4. Legal advocacy
Grassroots campaigns
Meeting with electeds
Funding flights

2020 IMPACT

Sok's

STORY



Last November, NBF coordinated a Listening Tour in Cambodia with intentionally selected partner organizations who could launch an innovative Right2Reunite solution.

We had heard stories of deportees (DPs) who would likely be able to return home. But we didn't expect to meet Sok Khoeun Loeun. Sok drove five hours to see us to share his story about opting out of ICE detention and self-deporting, leaving 3 children as a single father with his mom.

Sok held on to a glimmer of hope that he could return to the US.

When he heard Sok's story, attorney Anoop Prasad from Advancing Justice Asian Law Caucus worked quickly to get Sok's official records and discovered that he was not deportable. Sok was a US Citizen!

And within three months of our group's return to the US, Sok - after being in Cambodia for 5 years - was reunited with his US family.

SELECT ACTIVITIES	DETAILS	OUTCOMES
#Right2Reunite Partner Leads: APSC & Asian Law Caucus	Legal advocacy, grassroots campaigns for deported Cambodians to reunite with their families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two returnees this year • Campaigns for 4 others • Many more requesting assistance
Free Them All - Partner leads: APSC and Survived & Punished	COVID-19-related campaigns to release inmates and detainees to ensure their health & safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several coalitions emerged to ensure 24 releases from ICE • Many more need support
Listening Tour Phnom Penh, Cambodia Partners: APSC, Asian Law Caucus, New Breath Foundation and SEAFN	In November, NBF and a team of 5 people visited the deportee community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with over 50 deportees • Mental health is a top priority -launching a warmline • Reunited deportee with his family in January

2020-2021 PRIORITIES

1

Infrastructure Development

Still in our nascent developmental stages, NBF will continue to strengthen our internal infrastructure over the next 12 months through a number of projects, including:

- Board recruitment and development
- Strategic plan and theory of change
- Development of a communications and fundraising strategy
- Human Resources policies
- Refinement of staffing structure and
- Finance and accounting policy improvements

These six areas of infrastructure development will ensure NBF's mission and programs are protected and strengthened.

3

Transforming Philanthropy

NBF stands in the gap created by traditional philanthropy which has marginalized AAPI leadership and directed less than 1% of funding to our communities. We are also guided by our commitment to inspiring women, immigrants, refugees and the formerly incarcerated to lead. NBF values the lived experiences of impacted communities in solving problems. And we support organizations that create space for impacted people to lead.

2

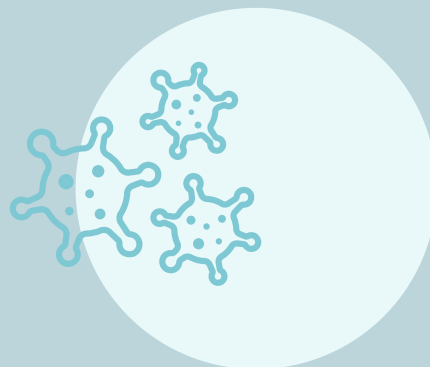
Grantmaking

NBF established three grants programs: Hope and Healing, Keep Families Together and Movement Building. We've launched our third round of grant making and will complete distributions before the end of October. The NBF team has engaged 13 community organizations for this cycle. NBF will make grants according to the following priorities.

- COVID-19 impacts on currently and formerly incarcerated communities
- Racial justice
- Anti-deportation
- Mental health of deportees
- Decarceration, alternatives to incarceration

Additionally, NBF will support community organizations that ensure the rights of monolingual Chinese families as they navigate the foster care system and reunite with their families.

At this time, NBF distributes grants by invitation only. With additional funding we will move to open requests for proposals.





OVER \$200,000

in grants to community organizations through 2020

Grantees & Partners

AAPI Women Lead
Asian Health Services
Asian Prisoner Support Committee
California Coalition for Women Prisoners
Central Law Group
Community Youth Center SF
Formerly Incarcerated Group Healing Together
Insight Garden Program
Khmer Vulnerability Aide Organization
Release MN8
Survived & Punished

"As a foundation with deep community roots, the New Breath Foundation intimately understands the power and impact of grassroots community organizations like Survived & Punished. NBF's generous support has allowed us to deepen our work to free criminalized survivors. We see NBF not just as a funder but also as a partner." - Survived & Punished