

Asian Americans for Community Involvement Proposed Health Clinic Expansion

AACI is the largest community-based organization focused on the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans in Santa Clara County. Our mission is to improve the quality of life in our community, focusing on Asian Pacific Americans. Founded in 1973, AACI provides mental health and primary care health services, health education, substance abuse treatment, a center for survivors of torture, a shelter for women and children who are domestic violence victims, a senior center, after-school youth programs, and English and citizenship classes. In addition, we serve as an advocate on issues of social justice and issues impacting the Asian Pacific American community. We have an active board of 13 members and a multi-lingual staff of over 100 individuals.

AACI's primary care health clinic opened in June 2000 at the AACI building at 2400 Moorpark Avenue, San Jose, CA 95128. This community clinic currently supports approximately 5,600 patient visits per year. Clinic staff see patients of all ages and speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, and some Indian dialects in addition to English. Many patients are low-income Asian immigrants who do not speak English. We see patients regardless of their ability to pay.

In 2002, AACI expanded its clinics from two to five exam rooms to meet patient demand. Our current waiting time for new patients to get an appointment is approximately three to four months, indicating that there continues to be strong demand for the clinic.

Now, in 2006, the clinic has reached its capacity in terms of space, and we are looking at doubling the size of the clinic in order to better meet current and future demand. We would like to expand on our existing space to create a clinic with 10 exam rooms and additional space for records, administration, and medication. If optimally utilized, the expansion would increase patient visits from 5,600 per year to 12,000 per year.

Currently, the AACI health clinic receives \$150,000 per year in county funding. We are requesting one-time county support of \$350,000 to support expansion of the health clinic. This amount would cover our estimated costs of construction and equipment.

For more information, please contact Michele Lew, AACI President and CEO, at 408-975-2730, ext. 103 or michele.lew@aaci.org.

Thank you for your consideration.