

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) protects human health and the environment.

BUILDING ON EPA'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **SUPPORTING AA AND NHPI COMMUNITIES DURING NATIONAL EMERGENCIES:** EPA provided technical assistance and support for local Vietnamese leaders and communities following Hurricane Ida in September 2021 and continued to offer emergency preparedness in response to natural disasters.
- **INVESTING IN THE CAPACITY OF AA AND NHPI COMMUNITIES:** EPA has a long partnership with MQVN CDC in New Orleans and provided a grant to support efforts to transition fisherfolk impacted by the BP oil spill into farming. In December 2021, EPA provided a direct award of \$500,000 to assist farmworkers through MQVN CDC. In FY 2021, EPA's Beyond Translation Initiative supported engagement, education, and outreach with the Vietnamese community in Region 6.
- **FOSTERING BELONGING AND INCLUSION AT EPA:** EPA further strengthened its "emPower Hour Series" which focuses on empowering AA and NHPI employees by fostering a sense of community at EPA, enhancing professional and leadership development, and elevating the needs and concerns of the growing number of AA and NHPIs at the agency.

PRIORITY PROGRAM GOALS FOR THE ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITIES

Per Executive Order 14031, EPA has identified three high-priority goals that will span the next two years. These goals will advance equity, justice, and opportunity for AA and NHPI communities.

GOAL 1

Remove barriers and promote career opportunities for AA and NHPIs at EPA: EPA will work to remove barriers and create opportunities for AA and NHPI public servants across the agency by, among other things, improving agency-wide awareness of hiring data; identifying barriers; providing training and coaching to AA and NHPI employees, leaders, and allies; and creating a pipeline of AA and NHPI future employees by developing and renewing existing memoranda of understanding with AA and NHPI-serving organizations.

GOAL 2

Address systemic discrimination and anti-Asian hate against AA and NHPIs: EPA is committed to supporting AA and NHPI employees and addressing employee concerns about anti-Asian bullying. EPA is communicating with senior leadership to educate them on anti-Asian bullying and its impact as the agency returns to in-person work. In addition, EPA will continue to have agency-wide listening sessions, focused conversations, and training and tools to address anti-Asian bullying. EPA will also tailor training and outreach to be inclusive of the wide variety of AA and NHPI languages and cultural differences.

GOAL 3

Ensure AA and NHPI communities are empowered and equitably served by federal opportunities and resources: EPA will develop a partnership with Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs) to create an educational pipeline of AA and NHPI students and recent graduates. EPA will also work with AA and NHPI organizations to provide technical assistance to ensure better access to federal grant and contracting opportunities.