New generations of independent, fulfilled individuals centered in their strengths and committed to social responsibility.
DEAR FRIENDS,

Project: VISION is proud to share the accomplishments of our students and our organization as we completed our tenth year of service! With the help of dedicated staff, volunteers, and supporters, we served more students than ever, strengthened our programs, and continued driving organizational growth.

This year, we served 115 students in grades 6 to 12, providing youth with core programs focused on helping them LEARN, SERVE, and LEAD. With added space to the Youth Center, for the first time this year, we also offered service 6 days per week so that we were able to engage all students at least once per week to deepen our program’s impact.

After school tutoring and college readiness programs helped many graduating eighth graders reach selective high schools with college preparatory programs, and all of our graduating seniors enrolled in college this fall. While these educational supports continued to help our students strive toward their academic goals, service and leadership programs empowered youth to engage in their communities, be positive examples for their peers, and prepare for the workforce. Student participation in community service, youth-led projects, and career readiness activities was higher than ever before and helped to enrich students’ experiences at PV.

As an organization this year, we focused on capacity building through expanding community outreach and strengthening our staff. These efforts resulted in the creation of an Associate Board, which engages our community’s young professionals. Also, new support from the United Way and Exelon Corporation’s Stay in School Initiative allowed PV to significantly expand our program staff to ensure high quality programming.

The future is bright as we head into another school year, and we look forward to continuing to provide the guidance and support that each of our youth need to achieve their goals and dreams. We again thank you- our generous community of supporters, donors, and volunteers- for your continued support and encouragement!

Sincerely,

Krystle Goh Kim
Chair of the Board
Karen Chiu
Executive Director

Project: VISION is a nonprofit organization with a mission to provide youth of Chicago’s Chinatown and Bridgeport communities with tools for educational, personal, and civic development.

Educational development means fostering success at school, building effective learning skills, and encouraging appreciation for learning and knowledge. We offer after school homework tutoring, college workshops, and ACT prep classes.
Community service is an integral part of positive youth development. Project: Youth Initiative aims to foster a sense of social responsibility in youth by building awareness, fostering positive attitudes, and providing meaningful service opportunities.

Personal development means building each youth’s strengths and interests, and fostering confidence and positive attitudes. Youth find mentors in our staff, while recreational activities and career development programs help build leadership skills.

ANNIE, GRADE 8

“Project: VISION taught me how to prioritize my academics and plan for the future.

NELSON, GRADE 8

“PV helped me meet my goal of getting straight A’s in school. I feel confident about my path to college and future successes.”
our background

Project: VISION was an idea conceived by a group of young professionals, students, and volunteers who saw a need for community youth to have a place to call their own. In fall 2004, with the help of a few volunteers and borrowed space from the Chicago Public Library and Valentine Boys and Girls Club in Bridgeport, Project: VISION piloted its first tutoring program. Since then, our programs have continued to be provided free to families and have reached over 400 youth.

our students

youth between the ages of 12 and 21 from Chinatown, Bridgeport, and surrounding neighborhoods

- 85% Chinese American reflects the demographics of the area
- 95% are enrolled in Chicago Public Schools
- 85% from lower income families*
- 90% from first generation immigrant families
- 70% would be the first in their families to attend college

*Project: VISION students surveyed in 2013-2014 school year
our purpose in this community

Asian American students are often associated with the “model minority” stereotype, and thus our community is often overlooked as one that is in need of social services, especially for our youth. The truth is that every community has an underserved population, and we are no exception.

In fact, community youth face many socio-economic barriers to academic success. At neighborhood schools, over 80% of students are from low-income households, and 30% are limited English learners. PV’s goal is to provide these students with support, prevent them from falling behind, and to ensure that they reach high school and college successfully.

Furthermore, youth often do not have access to social and emotional supports and personal development opportunities they need to succeed. After school can be a vulnerable time according to the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS): 53% of 8th graders in Chinatown report having no adult supervision more than three days each week. One in three youths participates in no activities outside of school, and almost 70% believe their activities make little to no difference. IYS results also indicate that youth recognize problems such as crime, bullying, and substance abuse are prevalent in the community. Taken together, these factors all put youth at risk to engage in risky behaviors.

PV programs help keep youth safe while providing a place where youth can engage in positive activities and work with strong role models who can help keep them focused on a positive path. Ultimately, we hope to nurture a generation of well-rounded, socially responsible future leaders who can continue to build our community.

what difference has PV made in my life?

Project: VISION brought people together. . . a great program for helping students like me succeed.

HONGJIA, GRADE 8

why is PV important for youth like me and for the community?

PV not only helped me improve my grades and get ready for college, but I have also had the chance to make new friends outside of my school. I want to use my knowledge to help students improve their education. I feel a duty to contribute because PV helped me succeed.

JENA, PV GRADUATE

Project: VISION gave me opportunities to give back to the community and helped me fulfill my academic goals.

HONGJIA, GRADE 8
Project: VISION is filled with tutors who are willing to help enrich our minds, help us develop social skills, and prepare us for the future.
With the help of my tutors, I feel more prepared and confident.

During the 2013-2014 school year...

The After School Homework Tutoring Program assisted 115 youths in grades 6 - 12. We work to help students achieve their academic potentials by encouraging them to take an active role in their education and nurturing appreciation for learning.

Each student received an average of 4 hours of tutoring each week.

- 100% were promoted to the next grade on time.
- 95% maintained C-average or above grades.
- 81% made an improvement by at least one letter grade in a core class.
- 76% of students met at least one personal academic goal.

Project: College Bound helped prepare 42 of our students for the future. Each student participated in at least 2 college readiness activities including an ACT prep course, essay writing, financial aid, and resume workshops as well as college panels and visits. 100% of our high school seniors were accepted and plan to attend college in fall 2014.
Project: VISION strives to help youth understand the importance of volunteerism and realize that they can make an impact with community service. According to the Illinois Youth Survey, 24% of community youth participate in service or volunteer activities. At Project: VISION, 93 youth (77%) engaged in service this year, collectively earning over 1,280 service learning hours.

Some of our service projects included:

- Distributing groceries to the elderly at Bridgeport’s Benton House food pantry
- Making lunch for women in transition at Deborah’s Place
- Helping to clean animal shelter facilities at PAWS Chicago

"Project: VISION provides opportunities for me to help the community and become a better citizen."
My most memorable service experience was at Deborah’s Place, where we packed and served lunches to women at the shelter while learning about hunger and homelessness. We learned that people become homeless for different reasons as the women shared their stories and experiences with us. It made us realize there are many things we often take for granted.

The women were so grateful for a simple sandwich and just our company. I learned that helping others is about spreading positivity and providing support. This project helped me realize why it’s important to help those in need and that I can give back to the community in a meaningful way.

KASSI, GRADE 7
At Project: VISION, being a leader means taking opportunities to learn and gain experiences that foster personal growth, build character, and nurture positive attitudes. PV youth also learn to make good life choices and become active citizens who are prepared for the future.

By helping youth develop strengths, interests, and leadership skills, our programs aim to engage youth and empower them to become positive examples for their peers and help make positive changes in their community.

This year, 47 high school students participated in at least one leadership program:

- Teen Advisory Panel was a collaborative initiative with partner Asian Health Coalition. Youth created digital stories related to alcohol and tobacco use to build awareness and help prevent youth substance abuse.
- Project: Healthy Minds engaged youth in learning and writing about mental health. Participants created a blog to help build awareness about important issues like stress, bullying, and mental illness among their peers.
- Project: LEAD is a career readiness and professional development program provided in collaboration with Exelon’s Stay in School initiative. Four PV students were selected and completed summer internships.
“The program has helped me see how important education is for a successful and lasting career.”

PROJECT: VISION STUDENT, GRADE 12

This year, 47 high school students participated in at least one project. Youth created digital stories to use to build awareness and help prevent youth substance abuse in the community.

Project: Healthy Minds engaged youth in learning and writing about mental health. Participants created a blog to help build awareness about important issues such as stress, bullying, and mental illness among their peers.

Project: LEAD is a career readiness and professional development program provided in collaboration with Exelon’s Stay in School initiative. Four PV students were selected and completed summer internships.

“Project: LEAD & the Exelon Stay in School Initiative offered me a great opportunity to work hard, achieve my goals, and learn to be successful for the future with skills I learned in résumé building workshops and mock job interviews. Even though I was one of the youngest in the program, I was able to dig deep and achieve something I would never have thought I could: earning and working for my first paid internship at BUILD Chicago, where I worked with adult mentors to help plan and organize agency events.”

LAUREN, GRADE 10
thank you!

Project: VISION’s beginnings were made possible by the generosity of those who gave their time and resources. Today, our volunteers, donors and funders, and community partners continue to provide invaluable support for our work. We thank them all for their generous commitments and contributions to our organization and, more importantly, our youths’ futures.

board of directors

Krystle Goh Kim*
Chair of the Board

Alicia Samp*
Treasurer

Cynthia Poon*
Secretary

Megan Calma

Kirsten Chan

associate board

Elizabeth Kusek

Vincent Kwan

Mee Wai Lam

Lauren Lawshe*

Vicki Rousis*

Gabriel Wong

Raymond Chen

King Leung

Carmen Mei

Victoria Ng

Ashish Shah

*Executive Committee

Lead staff

Executive Director
Karen Chiu

Program Coordinator
Sandy Moy Kaehler

Development Coordinator
Sandy Guan

Program Assistant
Victoria Ng

partners

Asian Health Coalition
Chicago Taiwanese American Professionals
Chinatown 5K
Communities in Schools of Chicago
DePaul University Career Center
Illinois Institute of Technology

corporate/ foundation contributors

Adobe
Ahjoomah’s Apron
Asian Health Coalition
Asian Giving Circle
Best Buy
BMO Harris
BP America
Cathay Bank Foundation
Chinatown Parking Lot Corporation
Discover Financial Services
Exelon Corporation
Funding Factory
JCCC Foundation
Kirkland & Ellis
Kraft
Lisa’s Herbal
OP4G
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ABT
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Adler Planetarium
Alicia Samp
AMC Theaters
Apartments.com
Bottle & Bottega
Cabot Cheese
Carrie Ann Schumacher
Chicago Bears
Chicago Chocolate Tours
Chicago Cubs
Chicago Food Planet Food Tours
Chicago White Sox
Costco
Crown Imports
Design Cloud
dinelamic Group
Disney World Resort
Douglas J Salons, Spas and Aveda Institute
East Bank Club
Elite Island Resorts
Fabio Viviani
Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation
Grant Wu
Green Mountain Coffee
Heather Vogt
Johnny Mei
Karen Tam
Koi Evantson
La Madia
Laugh Factory Chicago
Lin Chiu
Lou Malnati’s
Maple Rowe
Mary Yu, Rodan & Fields Independent Consultant
Museum of Science and Industry
Music Box Theatre
Mr. Submarine
Outerwall
Pastoral Artisan
Pier 39
Pimprov
PRSPR Apparel
Ronald Leung
Rich Medina, Jr.
Reform Chicago
ReMarked Salon
Richard Blais
Rockit Ranch Productions
Second City
Shaved Ice Distributors
Shedd Aquarium
Sprinkles Cupcakes
Sweet Thyme Soaps
Sweetly Ever After
Table Fifty-Two
Vanille Patisserie
Vincent Kwan
Zero Degrees Karaoke Bar

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Jie Song
Peter Tong
Giau Truong
Liz Wieland
Gabriel Wong
Meng Wu
Sha Zhang
Lei Zhao
## Statement of Financial Position

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>58,367</td>
<td>42,131</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions Receivable</td>
<td>4,517</td>
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<td>Refundable lease deposit</td>
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<td>Prepaid Insurance</td>
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<td>Prepaid Programming Expense</td>
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<td>Prepaid Fundraising Expense</td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>67,083</td>
<td>47,030</td>
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### Liabilities

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Accounts Payable</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
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### Net Assets

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
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<td>Unrestricted</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>67,083</td>
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### Revenues and Other Support

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<th>Source</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<td>Contributions*</td>
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<td>Fundraising Events</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Contributed services</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenues and Support</strong></td>
<td>159,325</td>
<td>89,391</td>
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### Expenses

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
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<td>Support Services</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Management/General</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>139,284</td>
<td>56,675</td>
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### 2014 Revenues and Other Support

- Contributions (18%)
- Grants (63%)
- Fundraising events (17%)
- Contributed services (1%)
- Other income (1%)

### 2014 Expenses

- Programs (84%)
- Fundraising (12%)
- Management (4%)
we look forward to

Strengthening our programs by...

▪ implementing a Scholars Program to ensure high school students engage in diverse experiences in academics, community service, and leadership opportunities.

▪ continuing partnerships such as Exelon Corporation’s Stay in School Initiative to bring career readiness and internship opportunities to our students.

▪ growing, training, and retaining a qualified and dedicated program staff.

Growing organizational capacity by...

▪ strengthening our Board of Directors with new members who bring diverse skills, expertise, and enthusiasm to the organization.

▪ growing our Associate Board of young professionals who can help spread awareness and expand PV’s network of supporters.

▪ renewing board committees to actively implement capacity-building measures identified in the organization’s strategic plan.

▪ continuing to develop and carry out a sustainable fundraising strategy that is based on diverse sources.
Project: VISION, Inc.
MONDAYS THRU FRIDAYS 3PM TO 7PM | SATURDAYS 10AM TO 1PM

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