



Boston Chinatown
Neighborhood Center
波士頓華埠社區中心

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021



Photos by Lee-Daniel Tran

About BCNC

Since 1969, Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC) has been a vital presence in Greater Boston and beyond. Our mission is to empower Asians and new immigrants to build healthy families, achieve greater economic success, and contribute to thriving communities.

BCNC believes that families have enormous potential to thrive, and that when immigrants can participate fully in society and create their own success stories, all of society benefits.

Restore & Empower

Since the start of the pandemic, racism brought fear and harassment to Asians; job loss in the restaurant, retail, and hospitality industries hurt immigrant families; and high levels of stress led to the increased need for mental health support services.

With your support, this year we aim to restore safety and security and empower every child, youth, and adult we serve with the skills and resources they need to face the challenges of today.



Photos by Lee-Daniel Tran

Responding to COVID-19

August 2020



Photo by Staff

September 2020



Photo by Staff



Photo by Lee-Daniel Tran

March 2021



Photo by Staff

April 2021



Photo by Staff

May 2021



Photo by L.B.Read Photography

Organized ***We Love Boston Chinatown*** Clean-Up with City of Boston and community partners.

Continued hybrid programs including new full-day, in-person learning hub for children. Youth leaders urged school leadership to address anti-Asian sentiment.

Extended ***Experience Chinatown*** to a ***month-long*** festival with public art installations and performances.

Funded by Social Equity Access Fund, Shlomo Fund, and Trefler Foundation and partnered with Asian Community Development Corporation (ACDC) and Chinese Progressive Association (CPA) to distribute **\$114,000** to families in vouchers from **18** family-owned businesses.

Hosted **2** vaccine clinics with Tai Tung Pharmacy that administered **180** doses and reached **4,467** people through outreach and **2** vaccine info sessions in partnership with ACDC, CPA, and Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS).

Launched **100** installations of Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya's ***We Are More*** public art in Boston and Quincy.

Distributed financial assistance to **371** families through BCNC's membership in the Massachusetts Immigrant Collaborative.

BCNC Portrait: Min

Min lost her retail job just after immigrating to the U.S, when her workplace closed due to COVID-19.

Back in China, Min had been a medical professional. Immigrating to the US was difficult and affected her confidence.

“I felt really upset. I couldn’t speak English. I couldn’t open my mouth to talk to people.”

This is when she found out about BCNC. At BCNC, the Adult Education English classes gave Min a space to practice her speaking and listening skills.

“BCNC does more than just teach English,” Min shares. “BCNC teachers check in at every step.”

Her teachers guided her through her job search, and even helped her schedule a COVID-19 vaccine appointment. They encouraged her to apply for an outreach position assisting Chinatown residents.

Now Min is working as a Family Connector at BCNC, where she helps new immigrants adjust to life in the US.

Through a partnership with BCNC and Interfaith Social Services, Min currently provides interpretation and support services at a food pantry in Quincy. In her role, she helps others register for the COVID-19 vaccine, apply for food stamps, and access other public benefits.

Because of her personal experiences, she understands the difficulties new immigrants and families face when accessing basic services. Min is currently studying to get a Medical Interpreter license.

“BCNC has given me an opportunity to improve my English skills, and a platform to make a difference in the Asian community.”



35% of participants are South Shore residents.



Photo by Lee-Daniel Tran

BCNC Portrait: Sarah

“I would describe BCNC as a really big pillar.”

Coming from a low-income working family, Sarah attended BCNC’s preschool childcare and after school programs. In high school, she became involved with BCNC youth programs, where she quickly rose as a leader for her community.

When the pandemic brought fear, racism, and harassment to the Asian community in Chinatown, Sarah and her peers stepped up in response. With the support of BCNC staff, Sarah and fellow youth leaders wrote a letter to their schools urging them to condemn anti-Asian racism and support Asian students.

The letter led to media reports, meetings with school leaders, and an anti-Asian racism forum, a platform to educate her peers about Asian American history and a space for students to process their thoughts and emotions.

“I knew other students didn’t have anyone else to talk to about the pandemic, they didn’t have a space like BCNC to go to. That’s why I wanted to organize something for them.”

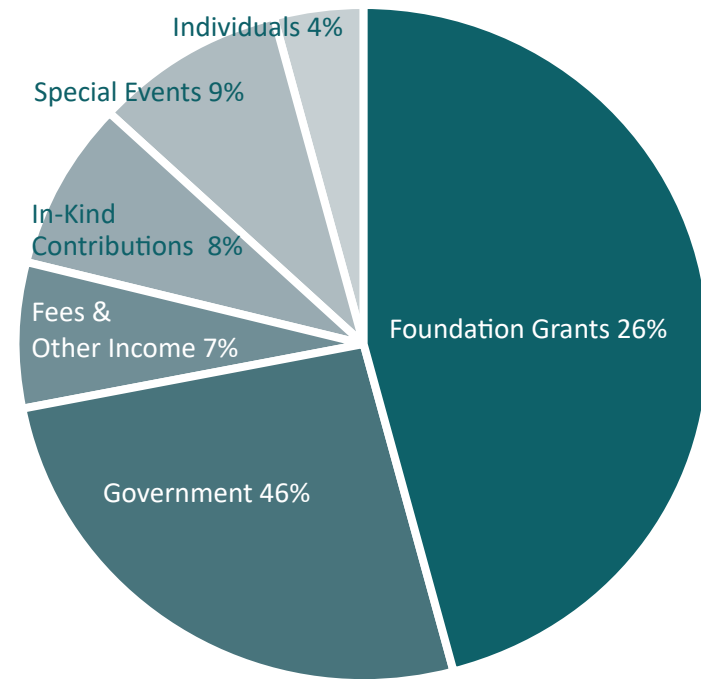
After her high school graduation, Sarah worked as a teen staff at Pao Arts Center and helped curate performers for Experience Chinatown, a month-long arts festival. Her favorite part of the festival was seeing people come together to celebrate the talented artists, after a long year of isolation and fear. For her efforts in community organizing and combating racism, Sarah was awarded a John Hancock Freedom 529 MLK Scholars Scholarship towards her studies at Boston University.

“BCNC is a pillar because they are always there. I know they’re here to help people like me and I can lean back on them when my own foundation is not sturdy.”

Financial Highlights

Fiscal Year 2021

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021



Revenue & Support

Government	\$3,930,388
Foundation Grants*	\$2,206,194
Fees & Other Income	\$614,503
In-kind Contributions	\$659,745
Special Events	\$756,236
Individuals	\$309,263

Total **\$8,476,329**

*\$769,000 from Paycheck Protection Program and \$460,000 from one-time COVID-19 related grants

Operating Expenses

Programs	
Children & Youth	\$2,956,219
Adults & Families	\$1,965,084
Pao Arts Center	\$480,647

Administrative and Support	
Fundraising	\$435,866
General & Administrative	\$1,079,997

Total **\$6,917,813**

Change in Net Assets: \$1,558,516

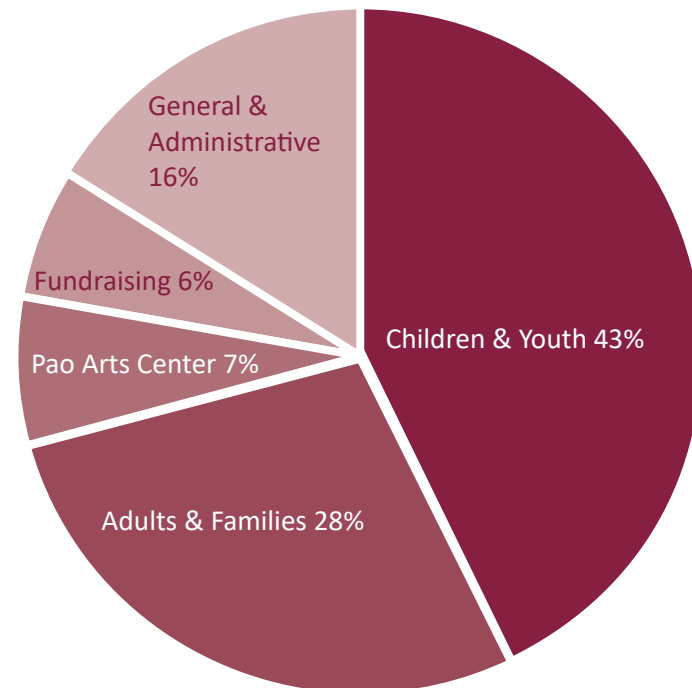


Photo by Lee-Daniel Tran

247 children received in-person childcare, education, and arts enrichment

120 youth served with leadership development, college access, and job training

389 adult immigrants trained with English, workforce skills, and career advice

216 immigrant parents received parent education, trainings, case management, and counseling

1,039 immigrant parents gained health, financial, and parenting resources

10,774 engaged through public art, online exhibits, classes, and workshops



Front and back cover photos by Lee-Daniel Tran

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