

Japanese American Service Committee



1999-2000 Annual Report





YOU ARE OUR STRENGTH . . . AND YOU CAN DEPEND ON US.

For fifty-four consecutive years—from the period immediately following World War II through the dawn of the new millennium—the Japanese American Service Committee has worked to promote the family and community. Or perhaps, to reflect our current activities more accurately, we should say *communities*.

In the early years, resettlement was the primary focus of the JASC's operations: we helped establish homes for Japanese American citizens who came to Chicago upon their release from the wartime internment camps. Over the years, we broadened our purpose and scope to accommodate the developing concerns of our members. Today the JASC offers a wide array of programs and services.

At the beginning of the twenty-first century, we at the JASC work for visibility in the national arena to be more effective addressing local issues here at home. We work in partnership with agencies representing people from the entire spectrum of Asian nationalities to assist our own Japanese American members and friends. We work with many to serve you.



For fifty-four years the Japanese American Service Committee has worked to promote the family and community.

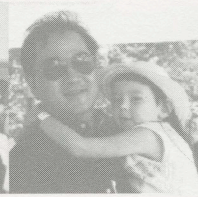
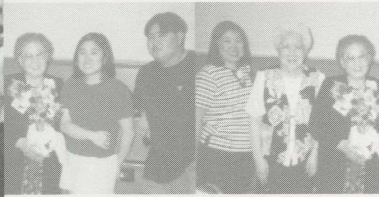
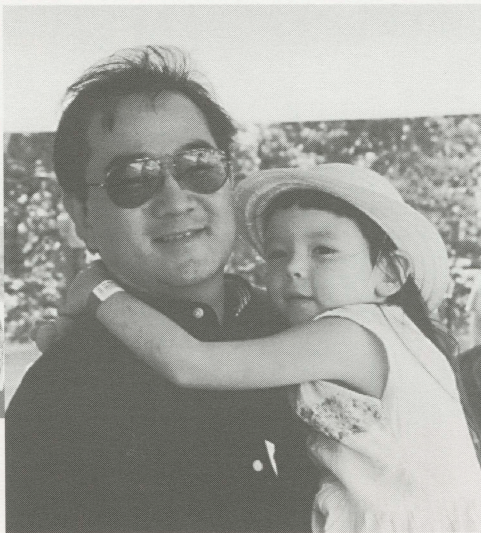
YOU CAN DEPEND ON US TO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF FAMILIES.

By offering a variety of cultural programs and classes, together with our core social services, the JASC serves families.

Through our Kodomo Matsuri activities, storytelling events, and the Tampopo-kai play group, we help to introduce children to the language and cultural traditions of Japan. Through our classes in traditional arts and crafts, we help their parents and grandparents keep in touch with their cultural roots. Through our Legacy Center archives and library and our sponsorship of the Intergenerational Dialogues series and other programs that address ethnic identity, we help all of our members and friends find and understand their places in society and history.

Our twice-a-year health screenings and year-round counseling services allow members and friends to provide for their personal health and peace of mind. And our home support services and adult day services help to preserve the intact family unit by giving elderly clients of all ethnic and religious backgrounds a way to live at home, either independently or with caregivers.

To offer the best possible level of elder care services, the JASC works with a number of agencies, among them the Chicago Department of Human Services—Asian American Seniors' Day, Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly, Asian American Health Coalition, Illinois Department on Aging, and National Asian Pacific Center on Aging.



*Through cultural programming and social services,
the JASC serves people of all ages
and ethnic backgrounds.*

YOU CAN DEPEND ON US TO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF THE NIKKEI COMMUNITY.

Lives change. People change. Communities change.

Fortunately, even though the Japanese American community is no longer clustered together, it still celebrates together, and the JASC frequently provides the occasion, as well as the venue. Market Day, the community picnic, Fuji Festival, and Holiday Delight are annual highlights of the calendar. The JASC's links with the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs/Chicago Neighborhood Tours, Illinois Arts Council, and Uptown Chamber of Commerce enhance the quality of these and other festive gatherings.

But celebrations alone cannot create a sense of unity and ethnic identity. Through our co-sponsorship of the annual Day of Remembrance and special events such as the "Children of the Camps" documentary screening and discussion, the JASC helps to provide a forum in which members of the community can reflect on and share the lessons of their collective experience.

To ensure that the JASC can continue to serve the human needs of its members and friends in the future, we launched the Nikkei Community Assessment project in the spring of 2000. Thanks to the participation of hundreds of people throughout the Chicagoland area, the JASC will gain an accurate picture of the community's current and future concerns about senior care. And to ensure that we do not forget the past, the JASC maintains the Legacy Center archives and library.



*"Japanese" neighborhoods no longer exist,
but we can sustain ties to the community
through the JASC.*

YOU CAN DEPEND ON US TO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF THE ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

Different cultures observe different holidays, but just about everyone celebrates the coming of the New Year. For years, the JASC has joined with the Asian American Coalition of Chicago to bring Lunar New Year festivities to the city and to honor the efforts and achievements of individual members of its various Asian communities.

In addition to celebrations, the JASC actively participates in projects that are of importance to the everyday life of the Asian community as a whole. During the spring of 2000, for example, the JASC helped to distribute flyers describing the perpetrator of a number of crimes that apparently targeted Asian women. These flyers were translated into several Asian languages and were mailed to ethnic businesses, community organizations, and religious organizations.

The JASC works in partnership with many other organizations serving the greater Asian population on the national, state, and local levels. Among them:

- Asian American Advisory Council to the Cook County State's Attorney
- Asian American Advisory Council to the State Comptroller
- Asian American Bar Association
- Asian American Institute—Community Leadership Council
- Chicago Japanese American Council
- City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations
- Illinois Asian American Hate Crime Network
- National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium



The JASC is an active participant in projects that are important to the everyday life of the Asian community as a whole.

YOU CAN DEPEND ON US TO REPRESENT OUR COMMUNITIES ON A NATIONAL SCALE.

Chicago's Japanese American community has traditionally been strong and active; nearly every Nikkei family in the US has direct or indirect links with Chicago and the JASC. But compared with other Asian American groups, the Japanese American community is relatively small in number, and it is shrinking. It is critical, therefore, that we develop nationwide networks to get our needs met. By sending representatives to regional and national conferences, the JASC has cultivated significant relationships with Asian organizations with nationwide focus and has made them aware of the specific concerns of Chicago's Japanese American population.

The JASC and our executive director, Jean Fujii, were recognized on a more far-reaching scale when Jean received the Consul General's Commendation through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Jean subsequently took an educational trip to Japan under the auspices of the Program for Japanese Descendants, also sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. These programs enabled the JASC to establish and strengthen communications with many relevant individuals and organizations in Japan.

So this is how the JASC has worked for you for fifty-four years, whether across the ocean, across the country, across the metro area, or within your home. We know that you are our strength. And you know that you can depend on us.



*Nearly every Japanese American family
in the US has a connection to Chicago
and the JASC.*

Dear Friends:



Lisa Sakai
PRESIDENT

They say that the third time's the charm, and FY 2000 certainly seemed charmed for the JASC. This was the third year for Executive Director Jean Fujiu and the first term for President Lisa Sakai. Lisa brought a warm and pragmatic approach to the position, determined to accomplish many long-standing and long-awaited goals.

As with the rest of the world, first we had to prepare for Y2K and the transition to the new millennium. In our case, preparation meant anticipating any eventuality both for the agency and for all of our clients. Happily, we all survived successfully.

Our 53rd year was definitely the year for establishing and expanding our cooperative events and programs with many Japanese, Japanese American, Asian American and non-Asian groups. Our community picnic was co-hosted by the JASC, Japanese American Citizens League-Chicago Chapter, Asian American Law Enforcement Association and Tohkon Judo Academy. According to the number of wristbands passed out, over 450 adults, youth, children and pets participated. Many dreamed of being discovered singing karaoke; the children lined up to bounce around in the Jumping Jack; and the Tohkon Judo Academy pulled the Asian American Law Enforcement team off their feet in a tug-o'-war competition.

Fuji Festival rode the wave of nostalgia. Pat Suzuki, from the original stage production of "Flower Drum Song," gave tribute to the love and support from her sister and father to follow her dream of performing. Their strong friendship brought a surprise visit from George Yoshida, author of "Reminiscing in Swingtime," which describes Japanese Americans in jazz.

Pat also introduced us to the violinist Mia Wu, whose family was so proud that she was giving back to the community that they flew in from the West Coast. We were also very successful, with a full house and net revenue far exceeding other Fuji Festivals of recent memory.

The charm extended to our two community festivals, Holiday Delight/Kodomo Matsuri and Market Day/Natsu Ichi Nisen. These show the heart of the community: Over 200 volunteers and over ten organizations worked hard to produce delicious, homestyle Japanese food, ethnic performances and unique, cultural activities for children. Only at the JASC can you find an Asian Santa Claus and our favorite Murasaki (purple) dinosaur. Thanks to Mike Tanimura, we now have twenty picture collages that show historical and current facets of the JASC.

The JASC took a more active role in coordinating the Nikkei community's participation in the Asian American Coalition's Lunar New Year Celebration and New Asian American Festival in Daley Plaza. Many were happy to join us in honoring Yutaka Kanemoto as the Japanese American Community Service awardee at the first event. He spent many years of his life quietly providing leadership in the Japanese Mutual Aid Society, which supplies such a crucial service to our community. He will be greatly missed.

Sadly, spring seems to have become a time for growing hate as well as flowers. Attacks on Asian-appearing women occurred through northern Chicago and the northern suburbs—allegedly the horrible work of one man. The JASC participated in the effort to educate the Asian American community towards greater safety and towards the end of these attacks. Led by the largely unrecognized efforts of JACL Midwest Director Bill Yoshino, the Illinois Asian American Hate Crime Network gained unfortunate but necessary experience working with the media, law enforcement and public officials. Bill still coordinates support in the courtroom for the family of Naoki Kamijima, allegedly slain as a victim of hate.

FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Jean Fujiu
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

On a more positive note, the Intergenerational Legacy Project co-sponsored by JASC and JACL brought unique programs to the community including the documentary film "Children of the Camps" with Dr. Satsuki Ina; presentations by Hideko Tamura Snyder, author of "One Sunny Day" and a survivor of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima; and our "Caring Is Preparing" series.

Did you know that our social service programs are considered a role model in ethnic programming for seniors? Our Adult Day Services (ADS) staff create a homey and fun atmosphere that keeps seniors connected socially and lively mentally. Our Home Support Services program is the sole ethnic provider of housekeeping services for Japanese and Japanese American seniors. Our Counseling program is one of the few settings supervised by a Licensed Clinical Social Worker where bilingual Japanese/English, social work, psychology and nursing interns can gain valuable experience.

With grants from the Retirement Research Foundation and BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois, we were able to launch the first extensive community assessment in twenty years. Thanks to our team of staff, community researchers, board members, focus group facilitators, consultants and other volunteers, we completed three focus groups and distributed over 2000 surveys. Sadly, one of our team, Jerry Okubo, a well-respected children's therapist, died unexpectedly before seeing completion of this project. One day we hope to fulfill his wish to make the JASC the place where the community members can receive support for even the most difficult challenges.

Other highlights of this charmed year include: Participation in the 2nd National Nikkei 2000 Conference in San Francisco; Sandra Yamate's receiving the coveted Jefferson Award for community service; Jean's receiving the first "Grassroots" commendation given by Consul General Mitoji Yabunaka and an unexpected and life-changing trip to Japan sponsored by Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We were able to connect regionally, nationally and internationally for the benefit of the Chicago Nikkei community—both American-born Japanese and Japanese citizens who are in the United States temporarily or permanently. In addition, we were able to provide for the years to come by awarding \$6,000 in scholarships to six community service-oriented high school graduates.

There is a strong future for the Nikkei community if we learn to work together both within and beyond its boundaries. You are our strength and you can depend on us—today, tomorrow and beyond.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Sakai". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Lisa Sakai
PRESIDENT

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jean M. Fujiu". The signature is bold and cursive.

Jean M. Fujiu
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends

Legacy Center (Archives and Library)

Archivist: Deborah Mieko King Burns



The purpose of the JASC Legacy Center is to appraise, collect, organize, describe, preserve, and make available for reference and research information resources from the Japanese American community in the six-county Chicago area. It houses the JASC archives and serves as a community repository for records and information resources about Japanese Americans

and Asian Americans. We provide reference services for our collections, can help you make connections with community members, will lend selected materials, or can refer you to other repositories. Our collections are available for use by appointment. All people are welcome.

Nikkei Community Assessment

Project Coordinator: Deborah Mieko King Burns

The JASC received a two-year grant from the Retirement Research Foundation to gather specific information about seniors and their caregivers. The JASC seeks to understand the extent of demographic and socioeconomic changes in the community and how these changes impact the community and the JASC's services and programs. Results of the entire project will be reported in the summer of 2001.

Cultural & Community Affairs

Coordinator: Sharon Harada

Assistant: Kay Kawaguchi



Cultural and Community Affairs offers cultural classes such as sumie (ink painting), calligraphy, ikebana (flower-arranging), the art of tea, kimekomi ningyo (Japanese doll-making), and other crafts. Ceramics,

taiko (Japanese drumming), tai chi, Japanese language and Japanese cooking classes are also offered. Educational programs on Medicare and long-term care coverage, twice-yearly health screening blood tests, and annual free flu shots are also part of the program as well as city-sponsored nutrition and "Volunteer Home Delivered Meals" services to the homebound elderly.

レガシー・センター(日系歴史資料室・図書室)

文書記録保管担当：デボラ・ミエコ・キング・バーンズ

JASCレガシー・センターの目的は、シカゴ周辺6郡の日系コミュニティの調査状況や歴史的資料を収集し評価して説明を加え、リサーチなど必要に応じて閲覧できるように、統系だてて保管することです。またJASCの史料室として、また広く日系およびアジア系コミュニティの記録や情報を保管する場所でもあります。希望に応じて、他のコミュニティ・メンバーへの橋渡しとして、収集資料の照会サービスや限られた資料の貸し出し、その他の機関や資料室の紹介もします。資料の閲覧などは、日時を予約して下さい。皆様のご利用を歓迎します。

日系コミュニティ・アセスメント

プロジェクト・コーディネーター：

デボラ・ミエコ・キング・バーンズ

JASCは、リタイアメント・リサーチ財団から、高齢者とその介護者の情報を収集するために、二年分の補助金を受けました。JASCはコミュニティの人口統計や社会経済上の状況の変化を把握し、これらの変化がコミュニティやJASCのプログラムおよびサービスに及ぼす影響を調査しました。このプロジェクトの全ての調査結果は2001年の夏には発表できる予定です。

文化／コミュニティ関連事業

コーディネーター：シャロン・原田

アシスタント：川口 加代子

文化／コミュニティ関連部門では、墨絵、生け花、茶道、木目込み人形、陶芸、和太鼓、太極拳、日本語和食料理教室、その他手工芸などのカルチャー・クラスを開いています。また春、秋年2回のヘルス・スクリーニング(血液検査)、メディケアや長期介護保険に関するセミナー、その他の教養セミナーを開いています。シカゴ市老齢局と協力して、秋にはシニアのためにインフルエンザの予防接種を行うほか、センターではゴールデン・ダイナース(シニアのための昼食サービス)が月曜から金曜まで毎日午前11時半から12時半までオープンしており、食事の準備ができないシニアのためにボランティア・ホーム・デリバリー・ミールなどのアレンジもしています。

Adult Day Services

Supervisor: Melba Ristow, RN



Adult Day Services is a program that allows the elderly a chance to become involved in a host of different activities, ranging from field trips and ceramic classes to exercise sessions and so forth. Participants are able to maintain

and improve their physical, mental, and emotional health through these activities, as well as interact with other elders and JASC staff. We provide a light breakfast, full lunch, and afternoon snack. Daily transportation is also available.

Casework & Counseling

Social Worker: Rina Murao, LCSW



This service aids people of all different ages in achieving an adequate psychological, emotional, and social life. The JASC Counselor speaks both fluent Japanese and English, and is therefore able to assist

with a range of issues such as intergenerational relationships, language and cross-cultural difficulties, financial issues, and health issues. All counseling sessions are completely confidential. Information about and referral services to other community resources, as well as case management, is also available.

Home Support Services

Supervisor: Helen Nakayama



Home Support Services is designed to maintain and enhance independent living for the elderly. The program offers an array of practical services that enable the individual to remain in the supportive

environment of their home and familiar surroundings. We offer supervised support and care for frail older adults. Services may include: housekeeping tasks and laundry, shopping, escort service, preparation of meals (includes special diet), nutritional assistance, bathing, grooming and personal care. Private clients accepted, based upon worker availability.

アダルト・デイ・サービス

コーディネーター：メルバ・リストウ、RN

アダルト・デイ・サービスは高齢者に、フィールド・トリップや陶芸、体操などのバラエティーに富んだプログラムに参加する機会を与えます。これらのアクティビティ、あるいはクライアント仲間やスタッフとのふれあいを通して、参加者は心身の健康を維持し心豊かに日常を送ることができます。このプログラムの中には、軽い朝食、ランチ、そして午後のスナックが含まれており、制限区域内の自宅とセンター間の送迎も可能です。

カウンセリング及びケース・ワーク

ソーシャル・ワーカー：村尾 利奈、LCSW, CADC

このサービスは年齢に関係無く、精神的な問題を抱えている人、情緒不安定、あるいは社会生活を営む上で支障を感じておられる人のために、問題解決の道を探すお手伝いをします。JASCのカウンセラーは、日英バイリンガルで、世代の違いから起こる問題、言葉や文化の違い、経済上や健康上の諸問題など幅広いケースに適切なアドバイスができます。カウンセリング・セッションの内容など、全てのプライバシーは守られます。また他のコミュニティ機関やケース・マネジメントへの照会も致します。

ホーム・サポート・サービス

スーパーバイザー：ヘレン・中山

ホーム・サポート・サービスは、高齢者ができるだけ独立した日常生活を維持し、その質を高めてゆけるよう、お手伝いします。このプログラムは、個人が自宅あるいは住み慣れた環境での生活を続けてゆけるようサポートし、かつ実用的なサービスを提供しています。身体の不自由な高齢者のために配慮されたサービスとして、掃除、洗濯、買物、通院などの付添いや食事の準備(特殊なダイエットを含む)、栄養や健康維持のための助言、入浴や身仕度の介助などがあり、スケジュールに空きがあれば、プライベートのクライアントの要望にも応じます。

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Masaru Nambu Internship Fund

A summer internship program has been designed for a high school or college student to gain experience in the social service field. No donations were received in FY 2000. However, donations will be gratefully accepted to continue this worthwhile fund.

If we have inadvertently omitted your name from any list, please call the JASC office and let us know. Thank you.

The 2000 JASC Membership List can now be found in the Member Services & Programs Book.

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Harada, M/M Yoshiro
Harada, M/M Yoshiro
Harada, M/M Yoshiro
Harada, M/M Yoshiro

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Yutaka Kanemoto
Jennie Matsunaga
Saki Agemura
Ei (Sakae) Takehara
Yutaka Kanemoto
Marie Nishioka
Marie Nishioka
Tokuhide Nakamoto
Tokuhide Nakamoto
Goji Tashiro
Dr. Thomas A. Fujibayashi
Goji (James) Tashiro
Marie Nishioka
Masako Tatsumi
Goji Tashiro
Tokuhide Nakamoto
Mitsugi Kawamoto
Mitsugi Kawamoto
Ei (Sakae) Takehara
Yutaka Kanemoto
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Tokuhide Nakamoto
Marie Nishioka
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Ei (Sakae) Takehara
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Marie Nishioka
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 Yutaka Kanemoto
 Rei Omori
 Tokuhide Nakamoto
 Tokuhide Nakamoto
 Yutaka Kanemoto
 Ei (Sakae) Takehara
 Ei (Sakae) Takehara
 Tokuhide Nakamoto
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This FY 2000 annual report covers the time period July 1, 1999, to June 30, 2000.

JASC CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Condensed Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2000.

Support and Revenue:

PUBLIC SUPPORT

Contributions	\$ 203,046	
United Way Allocation	76,147	
Membership	43,235	
Special Events (net)	70,591	\$ 393,019

GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES SUPPORT

183,612

REVENUE

Program Fees	88,467	
Activity Fees	22,186	
Interest & Dividend Income	93,143	203,796
Total revenue		<u>780,427</u>

Expenses:

PROGRAM SERVICES

528,514

SUPPORT SERVICES

239,695

Total expenses

768,209

Excess of Support and Revenue over Expenses

12,218

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Graduate Law Student, University of Chicago

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Social Worker – Retired

Carol Yoshino

Office Manager, Edgewater Rehabilitation Associates

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Hiroko Smith-Sasaki, Toshiko Yoshida

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Assistant Kay Kawaguchi

Ceramics Instructor Janette Koga

Archivist & Community Assessment

Project Coordinator Deborah Mieko King Burns

Nutrition Howard Yahiro, Sandra Kim

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The mission of the Japanese American Service Committee is to enhance the quality of life of the Japanese American community by providing social services; by opening up access to human services in the larger community through communication, collaboration, and coordination with appropriate agencies and organizations; and by increasing public understanding of minorities and their needs and contributions to the larger society.

A nonprofit social service agency, founded August 30, 1946, the Japanese American Service Committee serves the aged, families, and individuals in the Japanese American, other Asian, and non-Asian communities in Chicago and suburbs.

Japanese American Service Committee does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act; the U.S. Civil Rights Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; the Age Discrimination Act; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act; and the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions. If you feel you have been discriminated against, you have a right to file a complaint. For information, contact the JASC at 773.275.0097.



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Chicago, Illinois
60640

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773.275.0097

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773.275.0958

e-mail
jasc@iols.net