



## About the Cherry Blossom Giving Circle

The Cherry Blossom Giving Circle is a volunteer collective of individuals committed to creating positive social change in the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities of the Washington Metropolitan Area. Representing diverse cultures, professional backgrounds, perspectives, and interests, we join to pool our resources and leverage them to give back to API-serving nonprofits in the area - ultimately leading to positive change in the area's underserved API communities.

### What is a Giving Circle?

A giving circle is formed when individuals come together and pool their dollars, decide together where to donate their collective contributions, and learn together about their community and philanthropy.

### Join the Giving Circle

Become an inaugural member of the Cherry Blossom Giving Circle, the DC area's first Asian American giving circle, by making an annual individual tax-deductible commitment of **\$250**.

One hundred percent of the money you commit will be given directly to nonprofit organizations (grantees) selected by Giving Circle members.

***Join before January 1, 2010, and Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP) will provide a 25% contribution match!***

To join, go to [dsgivingcircle.wordpress.com/register](http://dsgivingcircle.wordpress.com/register).

### Why Join?

Giving circle membership provides you with a unique opportunity to develop skills and become more connected in the community by:

- Engaging in a formal giving process
- Networking with other local professionals who care about API communities
- Learning more about local API organizations and issues
- Accessing volunteer opportunities
- Knowing your contribution and involvement will make a significant impact!

**For more information, visit [dsgivingcircle.wordpress.com](http://dsgivingcircle.wordpress.com) or email [dsgivingcircle@gmail.com](mailto:dsgivingcircle@gmail.com).**

### Did you know?

In DC as of 2007:

- APIs represented 3.37% of documented DC population (we know there are more, undocumented)
- 9.4% of API families fell below poverty rate. 5.4% of youth under 18 lived in poverty, and 1/4<sup>th</sup> of seniors 65 and older live in poverty
- For those 25 and older, 12.5% graduated high school or equivalent, compared to 21.4% for DC average
- There are no full social service organizations for API communities

Nationally:

- APIs account for roughly 6% of total US population, but only approx. 0.4% of all funding goes to API nonprofits