



Call for Asian Giving Circle Advisory Board and Committee Member Nominations

As part of its new strategic plan, **Asian Giving Circle (AGC) is seeking nominations** for individuals in the Chicago region **to join its Advisory Board and committees** beginning in June 2026.

The AGC Advisory Board will be responsible for implementing AGC's new strategic plan, with the goal of **increasing AGC's annual giving by 1.5x, distributing \$250,000 annually to AAPI-serving nonprofits**, and maintaining a community of at least **400 active AGC members by 2029**.

Apply here: [AGC Advisory Board and Committee member nomination form](#)

What is AGC?

Nearly 25 years ago, a group of visionary AAPI leaders in Chicago created Asian Giving Circle as a way for individuals to come together to amplify collective giving as a community. Since its founding in 2002, AGC has granted more than **\$1.12 million to 62 AAPI-serving nonprofits, activated over 400 individuals** as philanthropists, and helped **inspire more than 50 AAPI-focused giving circles** across the country.

Our Vision:

We envision **thriving AAPI communities** in the Chicago region that are **fully resourced, boldly visible**, and **powerfully self-determined**.

Our Mission:

AGC **mobilizes the collective power** of AAPI community members, allies, and supporters to **strengthen AAPI communities in the Chicago region**.

Our Core Values:

- **Bold Action:** We challenge the status quo, take risks, and advance justice with creativity and courage
- **Collective Learning:** We embrace curiosity, reflection, and collective learning as pathways to individual and shared growth
- **Collaborative Spirit:** We work in partnership with members, grant partners, and communities because we know we are stronger together
- **Equitable Power:** We center underrepresented voices, honor the wisdom and diversity of AAPI communities, and share power through trust and flexible support
- **Transformative Giving:** We believe that giving, whether through time, talent, or treasure, is a powerful act that uplifts communities and transforms each of us

About the Advisory Board

For the past two years, with the input of key stakeholders and community partners, AGC has worked to develop a strategic plan to fully unlock the power of community giving in support of thriving AAPI communities.

AGC has long been a volunteer-led initiative housed at The Chicago Community Trust. To support building the capacity of AGC to fully execute its strategic plan, we are standing up and operationalizing a more robust Advisory Board.

The Advisory Board is the governing body of AGC, providing its strategic and operational direction. It will be made up of 9 members total:

- Co-Chairs (2)
- Vice Chair
- Board Governance Lead
- Marketing Lead
- Grantmaking Committee Co-Chairs (2)
- Fundraising and Membership Committee Co-Chairs (2)

In addition to the Advisory Board, there will be two active AGC committees:

- Grantmaking Committee
Ensure AGC's grantmaking effectively supports AAPI-serving organizations and reflects community needs.
- Fundraising and Membership Committee
Develop and execute on AGC's overall fundraising strategy and strengthen and grow AGC's membership and foster meaningful engagement.

The Advisory Board and its work will be supported primarily by the Trust's full-time affinity funds staff members, in partnership with the broader Philanthropic Services team at the Trust.

Open Roles

We are seeking to fill the following roles on the Advisory Board:

- **Board Governance Lead (1 position)**
Responsibilities include developing a leadership pipeline, creating and maintaining an Advisory Board skills matrix, identifying and recruiting new Board members, and ensuring AGC's policies, processes, and term limits are followed.
- **Marketing Lead (1 position)**
Responsibilities include developing AGC's communications and marketing strategy by refreshing AGC's brand identity, sharing AGC's impact, and ensuring AGC's visibility in key spaces and on key issues.

- **Grantmaking Co-Chair (2 positions)**

Responsibilities include leading the grantmaking committee to ensure AGC's annual grant process effectively supports AAPI-serving organizations and reflects community needs.

- **Fundraising Co-Chair (1 position)**

Responsibilities include working with the membership co-chair to lead the fundraising and membership committee to ensure AGC's financial sustainability by driving fundraising efforts, cultivating institutional funders, exploring long-term fundraising strategies, and expanding the member base.

In addition, we are seeking committee members to fill the Grantmaking Committee and Fundraising and Membership Committee.

Advisory Board Member Expectations

As we launch AGC's first Advisory Board and start putting our strategic plan into action, Advisory Board members may experience a more intensive workload in the early stages while we build our foundational systems together. This will naturally level off as those structures take shape.

In general, Advisory Board members can expect to:

- Commit to a 3-year term, renewable once per role, beginning in June 2026.
- Assist in carrying out the mission, vision, and strategic plan of AGC.
- Fulfill the responsibilities listed for each role (see above).
- Attend and participate in bi-monthly 90-minute Advisory Board meetings, starting in June 2026 (see schedule below).
- *For grantmaking co-chairs and fundraising co-chairs:* Lead monthly committee meetings.
- Disclose any conflicts of interest and abstain from voting on any action item relating to the conflict.
- Remain members in good standing by making a minimum \$250 annual contribution to AGC.
- Attend regular AGC events such as the annual meeting.
- Represent AGC at relevant stakeholder gatherings.
- Be supported by the Trust's full-time affinity funds staff team, in partnership with the broader Philanthropic Services team at the Trust.

Committee Member Expectations

In addition to filling Advisory Board leadership roles, AGC is welcoming members who are interested in joining the Fundraising and Membership Committee or the Grantmaking Committee. Committee members may experience a more intensive workload in the early stages while we build our foundational systems together. This will naturally level off as those structures take shape.

In general, committee members can expect to:

- Support their committee co-chairs to advance the committee responsibilities listed above.

- Assist in carrying out the mission, vision, and strategic plan of AGC.
- Attend monthly committee meetings.
- Additional time may be needed to fulfill committee work (ex: Meeting with prospective members, reviewing grant applications, site visits, etc.)
- Disclose any conflicts of interest and abstain from voting on any action item relating to the conflict.
- Attend AGC events and relevant stakeholder gatherings as time allows.
- Be supported by the Trust's full-time affinity funds staff team, in partnership with the broader Philanthropic Services team at the Trust.

Criteria for selection

AGC is seeking candidates that meet any of the following criteria:

- Demonstrated commitment to AAPI communities in the Chicago region.
- Knowledge and understanding of issues affecting AAPI communities in the Chicago region.
- Experience and skills in key areas including grantmaking, fundraising, governance, project management, and/or marketing.

Our goal is to form an Advisory Board and committees that are informed by and responsive to the diversity of experiences within AAPI communities in the Chicago region. The initial Advisory Board and committee members will be selected by the current AGC Leadership team.

Timeline and process

- April 16, 2026: [AGC Annual Meeting](#)
- April 17, 2026: [Advisory Board and Committee member nomination form opens](#)
- May 10, 2026: Nomination form deadline
- Mid-May through early June 2026: Nomination review. The review process may include a short interview with AGC Leadership team members.
- Mid-June 2026: Candidate notification.

2026 AGC Advisory Board meeting calendar

Advisory Board meetings will be held virtually.

- Friday June 26, 9 – 10:30 AM
- Friday August 28, 9 – 10:30 AM
- Friday October 30, 9 – 10:30 AM
- Friday December 4, 9 – 10:30 AM

Contact

Please reach out to us at agc@cct.org with any questions.