

# 2008



## a n n u a l   r e p o r t

*CISC helps Chinese and other Asian immigrants make the transition to a new life while keeping later generations in touch with the rich heritage of their homelands. For its client base, it offers the broadest available set of social, family, employment, education, and cultural programs in King County.*

*Founded in 1972 by student volunteers to meet the needs of Chinese immigrants, particularly seniors, CISC has grown to become one of the area's largest and most effective providers of referral and direct services to bilingual/bicultural individuals and families. In 2008, nearly 12,000 people took advantage of programs that ease and enrich the lives of youth, parents, and elders in the years immediately following immigration and well beyond.*



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f 206-624-5634  
cisc-seattle.org  
M-F 8:30 am-5:00 pm

message from *Alaric Bien*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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2008 was a busy year at CISC. In line with our strategic plan, we continued to respond to needs in our changing community by developing services outside the city of Seattle, and bringing them to where new immigrants now live and work.

We added our sixth and seventh play and learn groups serving the Kirkland Hmong community, and Redmond as well. Eastside Chinese, Vietnamese, Indian, Latino and Russian families are served through the Eastside Cultural Navigator Program, in close collaboration with Eastside Refugee and Immigrant Coalition partner agencies. In the South End, seniors can now participate in CISC activities at the Kent Senior Activity Center, reducing the need to spend hours on the bus getting to and from Seattle.

At our International Family Center – Seattle, we doubled the capacity of our after school program with academic bilingual academic assistance, family support, and bicultural identity development for Chinese and Vietnamese youth. We also partnered with a number of other community organizations to increase civic participation, voter engagement and education in Seattle and beyond.

One of the key challenges we face, even more significant this year, is how we communicate with our supporters effectively. Over the last several months, it has become clear to us that we need to do a better job of articulating what exactly CISC is, what we do, and why the organization is deserving of support.

To this end, we worked with volunteers through the Taproot Foundation to look at our brand strategy and key messages. They helped us develop better ways of communicating the essence of CISC to the public. In a nutshell, “CISC helps Asian immigrants make the transition to a new life while keeping later generations in touch with their rich heritage.”

We also tapped into volunteer expertise through the Executive Development Institute to create a planned giving program and materials. These are just a few of the examples of the more than 5,000 donated volunteer hours we received in 2008, helping us to be able to more with less.

Finally, I was excited to be chosen to participate in a cross cultural exchange program between the US and Belgium examining immigrant integration issues, services, and best practices. Travelling to Belgium twice and hosting our Belgian counterparts here once in Seattle, we learned a great deal, not only from each other, but about ourselves. Despite all the challenges we face on a day to day basis, we now can say with confidence and pride that CISC’s services are truly world class!

*Generous donors like you sustain our programs and services.  
Help ensure that no one is turned away by contributing online  
through [cisc-seattle.org](http://cisc-seattle.org), [networkforgood.org](http://networkforgood.org) or [justgive.org](http://justgive.org).*

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*meets the last Wednesday of the month at  
5:30 pm at CISC unless otherwise noted.*

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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

## ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	353,343	229,285
Accounts Receivable	238,626	217,413
Prepaid Expenses	35,815	33,565
Unemployment Compensation Trust	37,852	47,600
Pledges Receivable	30,009	35,987
Certificates of Deposit	11,070	10,620
Marketable Equity Securities	1,790	1,758
Property and Equipment	262,749	313,666
	<b>971,254</b>	<b>877,894</b>

## LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	382,850	269,536
Net Assets Unrestricted	560,928	545,917
Net Assets Temporarily restricted	27,476	62,441
	<b>971,254</b>	<b>877,894</b>

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

## REVENUE

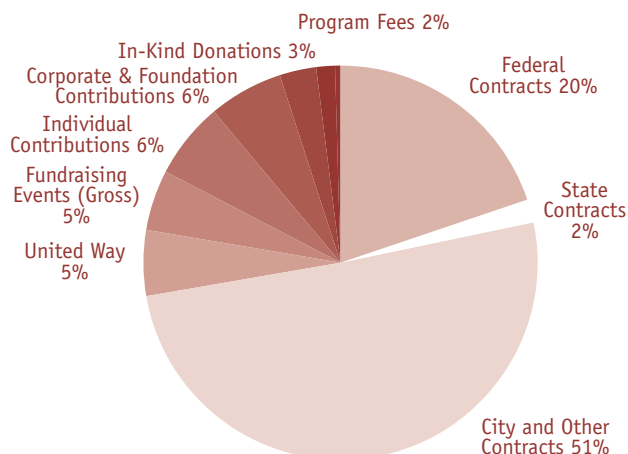
Contributions		
Unrestricted	138,904	102,037
Restricted	40,000	80,163
In-Kind Donations	66,688	37,198
Contracts	1,603,678	1,396,683
United Way	119,492	129,382
Fundraising (Gross)	205,952	180,269
Program Fees	34,074	32,728
Interest	2,775	13,302
Miscellaneous	7,095	5,907
	<b>2,218,658</b>	<b>1,977,669</b>

## EXPENSES

Programs		
Family & Youth	624,446	579,216
Elderly	1,041,426	970,582
Employment	14,069	25,073
Computer	31,888	44,357
Literacy	125,263	106,289
Crime Victims Assistance	97,065	88,001
Management & General	170,102	341,771
Fundraising	134,353	136,202
	<b>2,238,612</b>	<b>2,291,491</b>

## DEFICIT OF OPERATING

REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	(19,954)	(313,822)
Net Realized & Unrealized Gains (Losses)		
on Marketable Equity Securities	0	(3,623)
Capital Campaign Contributions (Net)	0	(16,049)
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(19,954)</b>	<b>(333,494)</b>

**REVENUE BY SOURCE**

## The Road to Citizenship

When Mr. Nianzheng Guan and Mrs. Qihao Zhou began ESL classes at CISC, they were intimidated by the idea of learning a new language. It seemed impossibly difficult to acquire the needed English skills so they pushed the idea of becoming U.S. citizens to the back of their minds.

But, with the help of CISC teachers and volunteers, they improved quickly. With this boost in confidence, they took citizenship classes and got CISC's help to apply for the USCIS Naturalization Test.

On test day, they were nervous but excited about the possibility of becoming U.S. citizens. They passed

on their first try and went straight to CISC to share the good news. Like others before them, they encouraged the newest clients, showing that becoming a citizen was not just a dream.



## CISC BY THE NUMBERS

### **Immigrant Transition Programs**

*that help non-English speakers understand and navigate American culture*

Over 6,000 individuals received comprehensive information and assistance services in Mandarin, Cantonese, Toisanese, Taiwanese, Hakka, Shanghainese, Fukienese, Chiu Chow, Hainanese, Vietnamese, Hindi, Gujarati, Spanish, Russian and English at five sites around King County.

More than 375 people participated in crime prevention education workshops and received crime victim's assistance, including domestic violence services. Many of these individuals would not have sought recourse through the justice system without CISC's intervention.

Nearly 350 students took English as a Second Language and naturalization classes, with 90 becoming new American citizens. Immigrants who become US citizens have more and better employment opportunities, have access to more services, and are more engaged in their community.

### **Family Programs** *with multigenerational impact*

Bilingual Mandarin/English preschool helps prepare youngsters for success in kindergarten. Teachers report that all 16 of our graduates met all the state criteria for school readiness by the time they entered school in September.

Informal play and learn groups are held weekly across King County in various languages and dialects. 250 preschool children and their caregivers participated in these groups where caregivers discover how to help their children learn through play.

Older children and youth participate in our after school and summer youth programs. 80 youth aged 6-17 received academic assistance, one on one tutoring, and took part in activities for bilingual/bicultural identity development. This program also works intensely with parents and teachers. In addition, more than 75 families participated in bilingual parent education and family counseling services.

Over 6,000 individuals received family support services, including help for those caring for their elderly relatives at home. At our International Family Center-Seattle, 1,000 families received help through 17,250 individual visits during the year.

### **Employment and Technology Programs** *to prepare adults and youth for success*

CISC helped 240 limited English speaking individuals through pre-employment, placement, and job retention services. We also served 400 people from youth to senior citizens with multilingual computer training.

Newly immigrated teenagers learned basic computer skills and worked on career planning. Working aged adults improved their word processing, spreadsheet and database applications. Workshops on desktop publishing and financial accounting focused on entrepreneurs and small businesses.

### **Elder Programs** *that promote health, independence, fellowship, and lifelong learning*

875 seniors received services either in their own homes or at one of nine different sites across King County. Case management services to help them continue living independently, health monitoring, recreational activities, social gatherings, and education help keep our elderly neighbors health, active and engaged in their community. Our oldest client turned 108 this year and is still going strong.

### **Cultural Programs** *that strengthen the bonds of family and community*

Hundreds and hundreds of individuals participated in arts classes and exhibitions, Mandarin and Cantonese classes, and celebrations of traditional Chinese and other Asian and American festivals.



## Overcoming Despair

*Nailya Minigulova arrived in the US with multiple medical problems which prevented her from finding a job. With no medical insurance, she was in a difficult situation. In addition, her young son was unable to attend school due to severe speech and vision difficulties.*

*She contacted a Russian Cultural Navigator at CISC. He filled out DSHS' change-of-circumstances form, enabling Nailya and her son to receive medical coupons and referrals to specialists. Nailya received free surgery from the Virginia Mason Medical Center, and CISC found a pediatric specialist for her son. The boy received vision therapy, and to the delight of his parents, CISC helped him enroll in a school for special needs children.*

*In the meantime, Nailya looks forward to further improving both her and her son's health. She has found new hope and now sees great prospects for the future.*

# donors

Thanks to all our donors who contributed in 2008.

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## Adjusting

Shortly after moving to Seattle 10 years ago, Mr. Kao Peng's doctor informed him that he would likely develop dementia. In order to keep his mind and body active, Mr. Peng participates in the many activities offered in Kirkland by CISC's Eastside program. These include ESL classes, health group and Tai Chi.



Mr. Peng appreciates the feeling of community at CISC. Being greeted by friendly, familiar faces that speak his native language helps him keep up his memory. His wife also accompanies him and gives him as much assistance as she can. Adjusting his lifestyle to the onset of dementia has been a challenge, but he knows he is not alone in the struggle.

Kiet Ly  
Kenneth &  
Michelle Ma  
Marina Ma  
Peter Ma  
Pui Lin Ma  
Ren Ma  
Roy Ma  
Zhen Jiang Ma  
Li Hua Ma Tan  
Shui Lan Ma-  
Leung  
Sau King Ma-Yu  
Nhung & Trieu  
Mach  
Deyang Mai  
Rui Ying Mai  
Aric & Janne  
Mak  
Choi Mak  
Robert & Dahlia  
Mak

Mee Sum  
Rui Mei  
Su Mei Mei  
Merchants  
Parking  
Joyce Miyasato  
Lirong Mo  
Nancy Moffett  
Don Morgan  
Xuhua Mu  
Mulvanny G2  
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Gene Liang Ng  
Kock Point Ng

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Organization  
of Chinese  
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Pacific Herb &  
Grocery Inc  
Pacific  
Northwest  
Homes  
Kenneth & Julie  
Pai  
Lawrence &  
Adwina Pang  
Jonathan &  
Lingyun Parati

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Gwen Riley  
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Michael Robins  
Floyd & Judy  
Rogers  
Toby Rogers  
Jiebing Rong  
Saigon Beauty  
Salon  
Seng Chye Saw  
Arthur Schneider  
Seattle  
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Seattle  
Foundation  
Seattle  
Taiwanese  
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Victor & Linda  
Taggart  
Hung Tam  
Jesse & Lilly  
Tam  
Wai Ying Tam  
Ying Choi Tam  
Yuet Kiu Tam  
Yuk Sim Tam Yee  
Ai-Ming Tan  
Fredrick &  
Margaret Tan  
Gazel Tan  
Jin Hui Tan  
LeeChan Tan  
Andy Tang  
Anh Tang  
David & Daphne  
Tang  
Foon-Cheong  
Tang

Steven Ujioka  
Janet Ung  
United  
Commerical  
Bank  
Geoffrey Urbina  
John Urbina  
Maarten Van  
Dantzich  
Milton Vasquez  
Van Vong  
Hao Pho Voong  
Ha T Vuong  
Thomas Walker  
May Wan  
Li Wang  
Tim Wang  
Tina Wang  
Vincent & Tina  
Wang  
Xian Chen Wang  
Yalei Wang

Jian Wu  
Mei Fang Wu  
Min Ye Wu  
Rong Chao Wu  
Shiao-Yen Wu  
Shuo-Jen Wu  
Wei Wu  
Yelan Wu  
Yuen Fong Wu  
Zhong Fu Wu  
Huanrong Xiang  
Yu Xia Xie  
Jin Tao Xiong  
Fu H Xu  
Mei Ying Xu  
Mu Xu  
Sun Juan Xu  
Yong Ci Xu  
Hao Xue

Lian Wang Zeng  
Xin M Zeng  
Xing Wen Zeng  
Yan Juan Zeng  
Zhiyu Zeng  
Feng Cai Zhang  
Li Kun Zhang  
Huanming Zhao  
Rui Lan Zhao  
Chun Zhi Zhen  
Jun Yuan Zhen  
Wu Su Zhen  
Zhuo Qu Zhen  
Pei Wei Zheng  
Songkuan & Qiu  
Huan Zheng  
Xiulian Zheng  
Gen Cui Zhou  
Lei Zhou  
Ruifang Zhou  
Shaozhi Zhou  
Zhuo Qing Zhou  
Hui Qi Zhou-  
Guan  
Rachel Zhu