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First Community Foundation for Chinese Americans to Launch in San Francisco Bay Area

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – On February 28, the Chinese American Community Foundation officially launches to serve the Bay Area philanthropic community. It will be the first community foundation in the United States specializing in Chinese American donors and projects.

The launch is accompanied by two events in the Bay Area: a luncheon in downtown San Francisco on February 28 and a reception in Silicon Valley on March 5.

Though this will mark the official launch of the Foundation, Dr. Rolland Lowe and David Lei, co-founders and philanthropists, have been working with donors and community leaders for the past decade to create and strengthen a Chinese American network. “We wanted to build a community of Chinese American donors that share our vision in giving back. We believe this platform will allow us to engage more people and inspire the next generation to be involved in philanthropy,” says Dr. Lowe.

The Foundation’s signature events have included Non-profit Executive Director luncheons in San Francisco and Silicon Valley, which convene local non-profit leaders to share best practices and discuss the needs of the Chinese American community. “The luncheons have been a great venue for us to learn more about what the nonprofits are doing and for them to share successes and opportunities. The Chinese American Community Foundation will continue to invest in this type of community-building among the non-profits,” says David Lei.

Future activity includes a study of philanthropic motivations and giving patterns of Chinese Americans in partnership with Silicon Valley Community Foundation. “While there are many anecdotal stories of who gives and why they give, we want to dig deeper and produce data to further understand the needs of Chinese American donors,” says Buck Gee.
The Chinese American Community Foundation’s founding board includes Dr. Rolland Lowe, former trustee of The San Francisco Foundation; David Lei, Chinese Performing Arts Foundation; Buck Gee, Co-Chair of the Donor Advisory Council at Silicon Valley Community Foundation; Emily Leung, community activist; and Hanson Li Managing Director of HinaGroup. Their shared experiences in community organizing and non-profit boards was instrumental in erecting the Chinese American Community Foundation as a platform to bridge non-profits requiring assistance in sustaining their work and educating donors about needs in the Chinese American community.

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About the Chinese American Community Foundation 華人社區基金會
The Chinese American Community Foundation is committed to building a healthy, vibrant and engaged Chinese American community. The Foundation supports initiatives that promote philanthropy, volunteerism, and the creation of a donor community that advances innovative solutions to challenging problems. Drawing on the experiences of community and business leaders, the Foundation collaborates with private and public partners to support the growth of a permanent fund that engages donors to strengthen the Chinese American community and the Bay Area community-based organizations that serve them.