



## 2010-2011 Bylaws

### **Article I. Mission / Purpose**

South Asian Giving Circle ("SAGC") serves to promote local South Asian giving and raise awareness of important causes within the community. SAGC's goal is to raise and donate pooled resources to support philanthropies, community services and social change organizations that are relevant to the South Asian community

#### **Section 1.01 Goals**

SAGC's goals are to:

- (a) Make a difference within the local Bay Area South Asian Community
- (b) Encourage community and involvement amongst local South Asians
- (c) Educate and increase awareness of local needs
- (d) Promote efficient and active philanthropy
- (e) Build a network of individuals working together for positive change

### **Article II. Name**

Our giving circle is titled South Asian Giving Circle.

### **Article III. Sponsor / Partner**

SAGC is currently being hosted by Asian Americans / Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy ("AAPIP").

AAPIP is providing financial contributions (a matching grant of up to \$25,000) and will also assist in some administrative duties related to account management and grant making.

AAPIP will provide this support for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.

### **Article IV. Membership**

Membership for SAGC is open to anyone with the time and interest to join. Members are asked to contribute either, or both, time and donations. There are two types of membership in SAGC:

- (a) Service Membership – Members who donate their time and talents to accomplish the mission of SAGC
- (b) Voting Membership – Members who contribute \$10 or more per fundraising cycle to SAGC, and who may participate in the voting process outlined in Article VI

Members' contributions and support of SAGC will be guided by the Leadership Committee.

## **Article V. Organizational Structure**

SAGC consists of its membership and is guided by a core Leadership Committee.

SAGC is comprised of Members, who support SAGC activities financial and in kind, by volunteering time and other services. Members can also serve as donors to the organization, and provide financial contributions to our pooled funds.

The Leadership Committee handles administrative functions and strategic tasks related to SAGC, ensuring that SAGC is able to meet its fundraising and grant making goals. The Committee coordinates SAGC's partnership with AAPIP. The Committee also manages outreach to prospective grantees and partners, among other responsibilities. This Committee is headed by the SAGC Director.

### **Section 5.01 Leadership Committee**

Participation on the Leadership Committee is open to Members with a demonstrated interest and time commitment to the organization.

- (a) No formal election process is currently required to become part of the Leadership Committee. Participation is subject to sitting Leadership Committee decision.
- (b) Committee members are committed to fundraise a minimum of \$500 each Grantee year
- (c) Board Members assume specific responsibilities, along with their general responsibilities to SAGC, including:
  - a. Grantee Management
  - b. Fundraising & Sponsorships
  - c. Marketing & Promotion
  - d. Organizational Development & Strategic Partnerships (including AAPIP relationship management)
  - e. IT & Communications Management

## **Article VI. Voting**

### **Section 6.01 Donations**

Each individual who donates a minimum of \$10 to SAGC will be eligible to vote in the grant selection process. Voting will be distributed by donation amount as follows:

- (a) Every individual who donates \$10-\$50 will receive at least one vote in the voting process
- (b) Voting will be weighted to reflect larger donations, by granting 1 vote for every additional \$50 donated by an individual, but capped at 5 votes to enable fair representation for smaller contributions
- (c) Voting will be weighted based on an individual's aggregate contributions in a fundraising cycle so as to accommodate multiple donations

**Section 6.02 Voting Procedure**

Voting will begin approximately 2 weeks after the end of the Grant submission deadline. Each eligible voting member will have access to relevant materials about each potential Grant recipient, along with a voting ballot. Each individual is free to distribute their total voting shares as they please amongst up to three (3) potential Grant recipients.

Voting will be administered jointly by the SAGC Board and AAPIP. All final award decisions must be approved both by the Board and by AAPIP.

Once the Voting Deadline has passed, all of the votes will be tallied and the net SAGC Funds will be distributed to up to the top three (3) organizations. Donations will be allocated by the Board, to be ratified by AAPIP, based on grantee need and with guidance and prioritization from membership votes.

**Article VII. Criteria for Awarding Grants**

Grantee organizations must meet the following criteria:

- (a) Organization must be an official non-profit tax-exempt organization pursuant to IRS Section 501(c)3
- (b) Organization must be based locally within the San Francisco Bay Area and must have at least 50% of their operations dedicated towards a South Asian cause
  - a. Approval process falls under SAGC Board Member Governance decisions
- (c) Once SAGC votes have been tallied and finalized, AAPIP holds the ultimate funding decision
- (d) Where possible, organizations should be secular or propose secular projects for funding