

# MANJUSHA P. KULKARNI

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## EXPERIENCE

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### **ASIAN PACIFIC POLICY AND PLANNING COUNCIL**, Los Angeles, California.

**Executive Director**, July 2017 – present.

Directs a nonprofit coalition made up of 40 member organizations that serve and represent the 1.5 million Asian Pacific Islanders (API) in Los Angeles County. Conducts policy advocacy on behalf of the coalition and works to strengthen capacity of staff of member organizations, increase public and private resources and uplift the voices of API community members and clients in the following ways:

- Co-Founded Stop AAPI Hate, the nation's leading aggregator of anti-Asian American hate incidents with Chinese for Affirmative Action and San Francisco State University, to record incidents reported by community members, provide analysis of the data and offer policy recommendations on local, state and federal levels, including the LA Mayor and City Council, Governor Gavin Newsom and the API Legislative Caucus, and the Biden Administration, U.S. Department of Justice, the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and the U.S. House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Right and Civil Liberties.
- Hosted inaugural AAPI Civic U with Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's Office, Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, and Pat Brown Institute, training 55 members of the AAPI community on LA City and County government, civic engagement and development of leadership capacity.
- Conducted trainings for A3PCON member organization staff and community members on topics such as "Standing Up and Speaking Out," "Know Your Rights for Immigrant Service Providers and Allies," and "Diversity in State Bar Leadership: Ensuring that Our Voices Are Heard."
- Coordinated "Power to the People" conference with UCLA Asian American Studies Department on issues impacting Southern California's Asia American and Pacific Islander communities and UCLA Asian American Studies Center in November 2019 and "AAPIs Thrive Together" regional summit with Asian Americans Advancing Justice-LA and AAPI Data to discuss opportunities to increase civic engagement and address community concerns involving immigration and access to health care and housing.
- Executed AAPI 100, a voter engagement effort to increase numbers of AAPIs participating in the June 2018 primary and November 2018 general election and provide education on state and local ballot measures.

### **SOUTH ASIAN NETWORK**, Artesia, California.

**Executive Director**, November 2010 – June 2016.

Led community-based organization dedicated to advancing the health, empowerment and solidarity of persons of South Asian origin in Southern California through its expertise in health and health care access, civil rights and violence prevention. Provide management of staff and programs as well as strategic planning, financial oversight and lead fundraising efforts for organization. Strengthened programming in all areas of SAN's work:

- Developed new initiatives including Covered CA enrollment assistance and patient navigation, comprehensive services for sexual assault survivors, one-on-one citizenship application assistance, and a South Asian women's leadership program.
- Secured national media attention for SAN in the PRI's *The World, Marketplace* and *Huffington Post* and the *LA Times*
- Raised over \$3 million for the organization, including two Department of Justice grants for over \$500,000 and approximately \$225,000 from five annual fundraising galas
- Established a Council of Advisors to augment leadership of the organization outside of the board of directors
- Held two successful Chalo! Bhago! Jeeyo! run-walks, raising approximately \$25,000
- Developed and executed two leadership development programs- SAYLS and SAWL
- Created new logo and branding materials, including brochure and biennial
- Ensured the provision of Hindi language ballots and Hindi-, Gujarati- and Bangla-speaking poll workers in Los Angeles County
- Recognized as a White House Champion of Change for work on the Affordable Care Act in April 2014

**NATIONAL HEALTH LAW PROGRAM**, Los Angeles, California.

**Senior Attorney**, February 2008 – November 2010, **Staff Attorney**, July 1999 - February 2008.

Engaged in legislative and administrative advocacy and provide training, technical assistance, and litigation support for health advocates and attorneys to improve access to quality health care for low-income individuals, people of color, children, the elderly and those with disabilities.

Provided leadership in the following ways:

- Ensured passage of SB 775 in California Assembly and Senate in 2006-08 legislative sessions through advocacy work that included drafting bill language and fact sheets, testifying at committee hearings, working with committee consultants and legislative staff and securing broad community support
- Authored the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of California HealthCare Foundation's *Guide to Medi-Cal Programs*
- Co-authored NHeLP's *Overview of the Medi-Cal Program* manual
- Provided substantive review of California HealthCare Foundation's *Guide to Health Programs*
- Provided detailed analysis of Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act
- Produced "Medi-Cal Basics" Web-based video training for new health advocates and attorneys
- Developed NHeLP messages on Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program for federal Medicaid advocacy work
- Participated in Health Consumer Alliance (HCA) Substantive Team activities, including drafting numerous issue briefs and consumer brochures, conducting trainings, providing technical assistance to Health Consumer Center advocates across the state, and performing legislative and administrative advocacy on health access issues
- Coordinated and led Advocates' Meeting with the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board Senior Staff to discuss improving low-income children's access to Healthy Families Program benefits

**OFFICE OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MONITOR**, Los Angeles, California.

**Director of Intake**, December 1997 - April 1999.

Designed and implemented comprehensive procedures for obtaining complaints of discrimination at firm responsible for monitoring the consent decrees in the Denny's race discrimination actions.

- Developed Intake Procedures Manual to guide staff on procedures for obtaining complaints of race discrimination
- Served as member of firm's management team
- Managed and supervised a staff of nine paralegals responsible for interviewing claimants

**Staff Attorney**, January 1996 - December 1997.

Prior to becoming Director of Intake, served as an attorney in the Investigations Department, participating in the following activities:

- Evaluated the legal sufficiency of discrimination claims
- Reviewed investigation reports to determine findings of discrimination
- Drafted memoranda of findings of discrimination

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## AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

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**Webby Award: Social Movement of the Year**, May 2021

**A100 (list of 100 most influential Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders)**, Gold House, May 2021

**12 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Who've Shaped Our Cities**, American Planning Association, May 2021

**Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Awardee**, California API Leg Caucus Award, May 2021

**Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 2021 R.I.S.E. Award**, City of Los Angeles, May 2021

**Honorable Delbert Earl Wong Service Award**, Southern California Chinese Lawyers Association, May 2021

**2021 API in Action Award**, CA Democratic Party API Caucus, April 2021

**White House Champion of Change**, April 2014

**Mentor**, Women's Policy Institute, 2007-08; **Fellow**, Women's Policy Institute, 2006-07

**Advocate Assistance Award**, Health Rights Hotline, 2007

**Above and Beyond Award**, Campaign for Real Teen Safety: No on Prop 85, 2007

**Public Service Award**, South Asian Bar Association of Southern California Public Interest Foundation, 2005

**Community Redress Award**, Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress, 2001

**Six Awesome Activists**, FEM Magazine (UCLA's Feminist Newsmagazine), Summer 2000 (featured in article)

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## LEADERSHIP ROLES IN THE COMMUNITY

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**LA Voice**, Board of Directors, January 2019-present.

**Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles**, Board of Directors, December 2016-April 2018.

**Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council**, Board of Directors, Vice President of Policy, June 2014-June 2017.

**UCLA Lab School**, Board of Advisors, Member, May 2012-August 2015.

**South Asian Network**, Board of Directors, Chair, 2008-2010; Member, April 2001-November 2010.

**The Growing Place Child Development Center**, Board of Directors, Chair, 2006-2008; Member, 2005-2009.

**Center for the Pacific-Asian Family**, Board of Directors, Member, 2001-2006.

**South Asian Women Activists of Los Angeles**, Co-Founder, 2001; Member, 2001-present.

**Campaign for Justice**, Pro Bono Attorney, Winter 1997-Fall 1999; represented *pro bono* class of Japanese Latin Americans who were abducted and interned by the United States government during World War II; secured apology and payment of damages from U.S. government.

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## TRAININGS / PRESENTATIONS

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Understanding Hate Against Asian Americans, **World Bank**, April 2021

Countering Hate Against Asian Americans, **Raben Group**, March 2021

Hate crimes against Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders triggered by COVID-19, **RAND Corporation**, March 2021

Stop Asian Hate, **KPMG**, March 2021

Fighting More than COVID-19: Addressing Pandemic-Fueled Hate, **USAID**, June 2020

Asian American Pacific Islander Hate Crime Prevention Forum, **LA City Attorney Forum**, May 2020

COVID-19 and Communities of Color, **Democratic Attorneys General Association**, April 2020 (Panelist)

COVID-19 and Rising Anti-Asian Racism, **OCA-GLA**, April 2020 (Panelist)

Confronting Xenophobia and Supporting Our Asian Community During COVID—19, **Mass General Hospital**, April 2020 (Panelist)

COVID-19 Hate: How Governments Can Respond, **Government Alliance on Race and Equity**, April 2020 (Panelist)

South Asian American Communities, Asian American Studies Department, **University of California at Los Angeles**, Fall 2019, Winter 2018, Spring 2017 (Lecturer)

Ethnic, Cultural and Gender Issues in America's Healthcare Systems, Asian American Studies Department, **University of California at Los Angeles**, Spring 2019, Spring 2018 (Lecturer)

API Mental Health, **University of California at Los Angeles**, May 2018 (Panelist)

Organizational Development, **API Policy Summit**, May 2018 (Panelist)

Working Toward a More Comprehensive and Inclusive Health Care System in Uncertain Political Times, **Advancing Justice Conference** April 2018 (Panelist)

Asian Pacific Islanders in Trump's America, **University of California at Los Angeles**, February 2018 (Moderator and Organizer)

Affordable Care Act and South Asian Health, **UCLA Community Health Sciences/Asian American Studies**, August 2016 (Guest Lecturer)

Tackling Islamophobia and Xenophobia in the Era of ISIS, Trump and San Bernardino, **Advancing Justice Conference**, March 2016 (Panel Organizer and Moderator)

Accessible Voter Information for Everyone, **Future of California Elections**, February 2016 (Panelist)

South Asians & Immigration, Racial Profiling and Hate Violence, **U.S. Congressional Briefing**, April 2015 (Panelist)

Developing South Asian Leaders, **National South Asian Summit**, April 2015 (Panel Organizer and Moderator)

Affordable Care Act Best Practices, **Advancing Justice Conference**, September 2014 (Panelist)

Improving the Road to ACA Coverage: Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Outreach and Enrollment Summit, **Action for Health Justice Summit**, September 2014 (Panelist)

Coverage of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders under the Affordable Care Act (Speaker), ***White House Champions of Change***, April 2014 (Panelist)

Affordable Care Act and South Asian Health, ***UCLA Community Health Sciences/Asian American Studies***, March 2014

Faith, Power and Social Justice, ***Advancing Justice Conference***, November 2013 (Moderator)

Executive Directors' Panel: What All EDs Should Know, ***LEAP Executive Directors' Leadership Program***, June 2013 (Speaker)

Potential Impact of Immigration Reform on South Asian Communities, ***U.S. Congressional Briefing***, April 2013 (Panelist)

South Asian Momentum, ***National South Asian Summit***, April 2013 (Plenary Panelist)

Impact of 9/11 on South Asian Communities, ***U.S. Congressional Briefing***, April 2013 (Panelist)

Ten Years Later: What's It Like to Be Muslim in America, ***KCRW's Which Way, LA?*** September 2011 (Panelist)

Ten Years After 9/11, ***KPFK's Uprising***, September 2011 (Interviewee)

Direct Impact in South Asian Communities, ***North American South Asian Bar Association Conference***, June 2011 (Speaker)

Organizations and Leadership in Transition: Tips and Strategies, ***National South Asian Summit***, April 2011 (Speaker)

Whole Person Leadership: Stepping Into the Light . . . Together, ***Center for Asian Pacific American Women's Whole Person Leadership Conference***, March 2011 (Plenary Panelist)

Strengthening the Medical Home, ***Child Health Policy Research Symposium***, March 2009 (Speaker)

Medical - Legal Issues in Child Health, ***Stanford University Law School and Medical School***, February 2009, November 2007, January 2007 (Guest Lecturer)

Participating in the Women's Policy Institute, ***Women's Funding Network Annual Conference: Leadership for a Changing World***, April 2008 (Speaker)

Grand Rounds for Pediatric Residents, ***Lucile Packard Children's Hospital***, August 2007 (Guest Lecturer)

Medicaid Basics, ***National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum Conference***, September 2006 (Presenter)

Child Advocacy: Skills for Effective Action (CHI 425 Course), ***UCLA School of Public Health***, Spring 2004, Spring 2003 (Co-Lecturer)

Medi-Cal Redesign and California Performance Review, **California Immigrant Policy Center** (formerly California Immigrant Welfare Collaborative) **Conference**, October 2004 (Plenary Speaker)

Improving Access to Oral Health Care, **National Oral Health Conference**, May 2004 (Speaker)

South Asian Women in the Law Panel, **National South Asian Bar Association First Annual Conference**, June 2004 (Moderator)

Substantive Legal Conference, **National Legal Aid and Defender Association**, 2007, 2006, 2004, 2001, 2000 (Presenter)

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## PUBLICATIONS

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S. Sadhwani and M. Kulkarni, From Discrimination To Mobilization: The Responsiveness Of Community-Based Organizations To Asian American And Pacific Islander Communities During The COVID-19 Pandemic In Southern California, *AAPI Nexus*, April 28, 2021, [Article: From Discrimination to Mobilization: The Responsiveness of Community-Based Organizations to Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Southern California – AAPI Nexus Journal.](#)

The America I Know Is Gone, *Duke Magazine*, August 2018, <http://dukemagazine.duke.edu/article/i-fear-that-the-america-i-know-is-gone>; reprinted in *India West*, October 12, 2018, [https://www.indiawest.com/blogs/i-fear-that-the-america-i-know-is-gone/article\\_30fead98-cda0-11e8-9623-dfcc3f348db7.html](https://www.indiawest.com/blogs/i-fear-that-the-america-i-know-is-gone/article_30fead98-cda0-11e8-9623-dfcc3f348db7.html).

It's Old-Fashioned Racism, Stupid: The Real Reason Roy Moore May Become Alabama's Next Senator, *Huffington Post*, December 2017, [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/its-ole-fashioned-racism-stupid-the-real-reason\\_us\\_5a2f5ed9e4b0bad787126fa3](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/its-ole-fashioned-racism-stupid-the-real-reason_us_5a2f5ed9e4b0bad787126fa3)

Getting Out the AAPI Vote: Can CA Learn Lessons From NJ? *AAPI Data*, November 2017 (AAPI Data Guest Blogger) [http://aapidata.com/blog/getting-out-the-aapi-vote-can-ca-learn-lessons-from-nj/?mc\\_cid=18bbf38808&mc\\_eid=c8fo50ca06](http://aapidata.com/blog/getting-out-the-aapi-vote-can-ca-learn-lessons-from-nj/?mc_cid=18bbf38808&mc_eid=c8fo50ca06)

History Repeats Itself: South Asians Once Again Not Welcome Here, *Huffington Post*, March 2017 (Huffington Post Blogger) <https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/58fefe27e4b06c83622e7007>

Korematsu, Trump and the Banality of Evil, *Huffington Post*, February 2017 (Huffington Post Blogger) [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/korematsu-trump-and-banal\\_b\\_14532498.html](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/korematsu-trump-and-banal_b_14532498.html)

How to Survive the Pre-Trump Holidays: Do's and Don'ts for the Next 43 Days, *Huffington Post*, December 2016 (Huffington Post Blogger) ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/how-to-survive-the-pre-tr\\_b\\_13518452.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/how-to-survive-the-pre-tr_b_13518452.html))

What We Learned on Election Night and What We Must Do Now, November 2016 (Huffington Post Blogger) ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/what-we-learned-on-electi\\_b\\_12878602.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/what-we-learned-on-electi_b_12878602.html))



Time to Stand Up to the Conservative Desi Uncle: What the National Asian American Survey Tells Us About the True South Asian American Vote, *Huffington Post*, October 2016 (Huffington Post Blogger)([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/time-to-stand-up-to-the-c\\_b\\_12446174.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/time-to-stand-up-to-the-c_b_12446174.html))

Where are We Fifteen Years After 9/11: A Look at a Decade and a Half of Backlash, *Huffington Post*, September 2016 (Huffington Post Blogger)( [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/where-are-we-fifteen-year\\_b\\_11960788.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/where-are-we-fifteen-year_b_11960788.html))

Indian Independence Day 2016: Let's Honor India's Freedom Fighters and America's Civil Rights Leaders by Raising Our Collective Voices, *Huffington Post*, August 2016 ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/indian-independence-day-201\\_b\\_11532248.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/indian-independence-day-201_b_11532248.html)) (Huffington Post Blogger)

Looking for Ways to Celebrate Asian Pacific Heritage Month? Bust the 'Model Minority' Myth and Push for Disaggregated AAPI Data, (Featured Blog Post) *Huffington Post*, May 2016 ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/looking-for-ways-to-celeb\\_b\\_9824846.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/looking-for-ways-to-celeb_b_9824846.html)) (Huffington Post Blogger)

Ensuring a Democratic Victory in 2016: Why Obama Should Nominate an Indian American for the U.S. Supreme Court, *Huffington Post*, February 2016 ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/assuring-a-democratic-vic\\_b\\_9237692.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manjusha-p-kulkarni/assuring-a-democratic-vic_b_9237692.html) ) (Huffington Post Blogger)

Pastor, M. and Kulkarni, M., Why Immigrant Integration Matters to Preventing Another San Bernardino Tragedy, *Huffington Post*, February 2016, ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manuel-pastor/why-immigrant-integration\\_b\\_9030824.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/manuel-pastor/why-immigrant-integration_b_9030824.html)) (Huffington Post Blogger)

Boyle, R., Kulkarni, M., and Wong, D., *Overview of the Medi-Cal Program*, 2008.

*Guide to Medi-Cal Programs*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, California HealthCare Foundation, 2006.

Wengrovitz, A. and Kulkarni, M., Strategies to Improve Medicaid Screening and Treatment for Lead Poisoning, *Clearinghouse Review*, May-June 2005.

Kulkarni, M., Fendell, S., and Berry, E., Public Health and Private Profit: A Witch's Brew, *Clearinghouse Review*, January-February 2002.

State Children's Health Insurance Program, *Poverty Law Manual for the New Lawyer*, 2002.

Managed Care's Impact on Lead Testing Rates of Medi-Cal Beneficiaries in Los Angeles County, December 2002.

Application of the Civil Liberties Act to Japanese Peruvians: Seeking Redress for Deportation and Internment Conducted by the U.S. Government during World War II, *Boston University Public Interest Law Journal*, Winter 1995.

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## EDUCATION

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BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Boston, MA.



Juris Doctor, May 1995.

**DUKE UNIVERSITY**, Durham, NC.

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, Certificate in Women's Studies, May 1991.

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## **OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

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**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**, Los Angeles, California.

**Law Clerk**, June - August 1994.

Conducted legal research on issues involving civil fraud prosecution, including the application of the Double Jeopardy Clause and Excessive Fines Clause to civil and administrative fines.

**MEXICAN AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND**, Los Angeles, California.

**Law Clerk**, May - June 1994. Developed

extensive arguments in a California appellate case involving the maintenance of in-state tuition for undocumented students at state universities.

**AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION**, Los Angeles, California.

**Law Clerk**, Summer 1993.

Prepared legal memoranda on constitutional issues involving the criminalization of homelessness, indigents' access to health care and redress of Japanese Peruvian internment victims and interviewed clients and witnesses.

**ALABAMA OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL**, Montgomery, Alabama.

**Intern**, September 1991 - August 1992.

Conducted legal research involving the defense of prison officials in 42 U.S.C. § 1983 suits brought by inmates at state facilities and prepared legal memoranda, with special reference to smoking bans in jails.

**SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER**, Montgomery, Alabama.

**Research Assistant**, Summer 1991.

Researched House and Senate Bills for a class action voting rights case and prepared legal memoranda based upon that research and data gathered from a historical survey of state judges.