

# Westchester County Asian American Advisory Board

## AAPI Community Needs Assessment

### LANGUAGE ACCESS

Language acts as a barrier toward utilizing publicly available programs and services.

Cited concerns:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More than 1 in 4 of the AAPI population in Westchester (<b>26.1%</b>) speak English less than “very well.”</li><li>• <b>31%</b> of senior respondents to the AAAB survey cited “lack of programs or services in my native language” as one of the most challenging aspects of life in Westchester.</li><li>• <b>52%</b> of senior respondents to the AAAB survey cited “lack of language assistance” as a barrier to utilization of publicly available programs and services.</li><li>• Language acts as a barrier in communicating with medical practitioners.</li></ul>
Participants’ Recommendations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More information and guidance on how to use local resources—e.g. library system.</li><li>• After school programs.</li><li>• More books in Asian languages in the libraries.</li><li>• Flyers and bulletins for seniors in places they frequent, in multiple languages.</li></ul>
What's going well:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In the senior buildings in Mt. Vernon and Yonkers, management worked with the Office of Aging in Yonkers and was able to develop a pilot program of door to door vaccinations for vulnerable populations.</li><li>• The Municipal Housing Authority of the City of Yonkers (MHACY), which owns or manages 18 properties comprising 26 buildings with over 1700 housing units, now translates its housing applications into Korean, as well as Spanish. As a result of these Korean translations, some of these buildings have large and vibrant Korean senior communities.</li></ul>