



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 19, 2024

TO: Mary Cavanagh, Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor and Economic Opportunity/MEDC
William Snyder, Chair, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor and Economic Opportunity

FROM: Poppy Hernandez, Executive Director
Office of Global Michigan
Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

SUBJECT: Pursuant to Section 951 of PA 119 of 2023
Commission Activities FY 2023 Report to the Legislature

Attached is the Commission Activities FY23 Report to the Legislature, prepared by the Office of Global Michigan, pursuant to Section 951 of PA 119 of 2023. The information was collected from the Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs, Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, and the Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan.

Should you have any questions regarding this report or need additional information please contact Jayshona Hicks, LEO Director of Legislative Affairs at Hicksj15@michigan.gov or (248) 200-9134.

cc: Members, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on LEO/MEDC
Members, House Appropriations Subcommittee on LEO
Jen Flood, State Budget Director
Kathryn Summers, Senate Fiscal Agency
Mary Ann Cleary, House Fiscal Agency
Senate and House Policy Staff

Commission Activities
FY 2023 Report to the Legislature

(Pursuant to Section 951 of PA 119 of 2023)

January 02, 2024

Prepared by

The Office of Global Michigan

Reporting Period: October 1, 2022, through September 30, 20

Summary:

Public Act 119 of 2023 section 951 requires the following:

Sec. 951. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the office of global Michigan is to coordinate with the Asian Pacific American affairs commission, the Commission on Middle Eastern American affairs, and the Hispanic/Latino commission of Michigan to produce a report by January 31. The report shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Total number of people with whom each commission directly interacts through programming.
- (b) Total number of public events that each commission conducted.
- (c) Description of the activities that the commissions initiated to promote cooperation between the commissions.
- (d) Total number of meetings that each commission held with foreign diplomats.
- (e) Programmatic costs of each commission

Required Information:

- (a) Total number of people with whom each commission directly interacts through programing.*
 - a. HLCOM – Approximately 13,244
 - b. MAPAAC – Approximately 3,000
 - c. CMEAA – Approximately 2,000
- (b) Total number of public events that each commission conducted.*
 - a. HLCOM – (35) 6 meetings, 25 Sponsored events with community partners, and 4 HLCOM events
 - b. MAPAAC – (22) 4 meetings, 2 events, and an additional 16 sponsored events with its partners
 - c. CMEAA – (8) 4 meetings, 2 events, and an additional 2 sponsored events with its partners
- (c) Description of the activities that the commission initiated to promote cooperation between the commissions.*
 - a. All three commissions participate in the following:
 - i. All commissions convening was aimed at fostering collaboration for future programing.
 - ii. Quarterly engagement meetings between the Executive Office of the Governor and the Commissions to help structure the narrative around partnership and participation.
 - iii. Commissions collaborated on crafting joint statements addressing significant events, including the tragic MSU shooting and advocating against hate in Michigan.
 - iv. Commissions collectively worked on establishing legislative priorities.
 - v. Recurring Stakeholder meetings with UIA and MSHDA to provide feedback for programmatic rollout.
- (d) Total number of meetings each commission held with foreign diplomats.*
 - a. HLCOM – 5
 - b. MAPAAC – 1
 - c. CMEAA – 0
- (e) Programmatic costs of each commission (GF/GP funds)*
 - a. HLCOM - \$96,626.82
 - b. MAPAAC - \$90,086
 - c. CMEAA – \$90,871.34

2023 Annual Report

Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan

The annual reports for the Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs (CMEAA), Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC), and Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan (HLCOM) showcase impactful engagement, collaborations, and programmatic initiatives aimed at fostering community connections, cultural appreciation, and advancing the interests of Middle Eastern, Asian Pacific American (APA), and Hispanic Latino communities across Michigan in FY 2023.

Commission	Total number of people with whom each commission directly interacts through programming:	Total number of public events that each commission conducted.	Total number of meetings that each commission held with foreign diplomats	Programmatic costs of each commission
CMEAA	2000	(8) 4 meetings, 2 events, and an additional 2 sponsored events with its partners	0	\$90,871.34
MAPAAC	3000	(22) 4 meetings, 2 events, and an additional 16 sponsored events with its partners	1	\$90,086
HLCOM	13,244	(35) 6 meetings, 25 Sponsored events with community partners, and 4 HLCOM events	5	\$96,626.82

Commission of Middle Eastern American Affairs (CMEAA) - 2023 Annual Report

Direct Interactions and Programming: CMEAA directly interacted with approximately 2,000 individuals through various programming activities throughout the year. A noteworthy initiative was the launch of the podcast series, "Wujud," by The Arab American Heritage Council. This series, translating to "existence" or "presence" in Arabic, focused on amplifying the voices and experiences of local Arab Americans in Flint and across the state. CMEAA also took pride in supporting the Dearborn Symphony's annual children's concert, benefiting approximately 1500 4th graders. Recognizing the importance of incorporating Arab American culture into programming, especially with an estimated 85% of Dearborn's students having Arab descent, CMEAA sponsored initiatives to foster cultural understanding. Moreover, the commission strategically expanded Arab American Cultural Programming in Mid-Michigan through a partnership with Alma College, resulting in the launch of a new Arabic language program. Recognizing education as a powerful tool against discrimination, CMEAA embedded two events—a concert and a lecture—into a larger, annual cultural-exchange program.

Public Events and Meetings: CMEAA conducted a total of 6 public events and meetings in 2023, including four Commission Meetings, an exclusive gathering at the Governor's residence, and an event dedicated to fostering connections between Middle Eastern American community members and legislators during the annual legislative advocacy day.

Cooperation and Collaboration: Throughout the year, CMEAA took active steps to promote cooperation between commissions. Commissioners participated in cross-commission events, strengthening ties with HLCOM and MAPAAC, and vice versa. A pivotal moment was the highly attended All Commissioner Convening in Lansing last March, facilitating increased engagement and interaction among commissioners. There were also quarterly engagement meetings between the Executive Office of the Governor and the ethnic Commissions, that helped structure the narrative around partnership and participation.

Meetings with Foreign Diplomats: CMEAA did not hold any meetings with foreign diplomats during the reporting period.

Programmatic Costs: The programmatic costs for CMEAA in 2023 amounted to \$90,871.34.

This included expenditures for Heritage month celebrations (\$3,801.34), sponsorship for the podcast launch (\$10,000), and sponsorships allocated in FY23 to organizations like the National Arab Orchestra, Chaldean Community Foundation, AALF, Alma College, and ACC (to be realized in FY24).

Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC) - 2023 Annual Report

Direct Interactions and Programming: In the past year, the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC) has made a significant impact by directly engaging with approximately 3,000 individuals through a diverse range of programming activities. MAPAAC sponsored and collaborated on various events, showcasing its commitment to promoting Asian Pacific American (APA) culture and fostering community connections. Some noteworthy activities supported by MAPAAC include the American Citizens for Justice Film Festival, which commemorated Vincent Chin, and the Annual Korean Festival organized by the Korean American Cultural Community Center of MI. Additionally, MAPAAC collaborated with organizations such as the MI Sikh Collaborative for a Women's Retreat and the HMONG Women's Association for their Annual HMONG Multicultural Event. APIAVOTE-MI received sponsorship from MAPAAC for initiatives like the Winter Food Drive, Spring Food Drive, and Back to School Backpack Drive, contributing to community welfare. The Council of Asian Pacific Americans hosted an Annual CAPA Cultural Event, while Peerbagh organized a Book Festival recognizing APA literature and culture. Other collaborative efforts included the Asian Indian Women's Association's International Women's Day Conference, the Philippine American Community Center's Cultural Program for PACCM Sunday School, and the Thai American Association of MI's Cultural Heritage Program and Thai Community Food Festival. MAPAAC also supported the Grand Rapids Asian Festival Organization's Asian Festival and Hype Athletics' Annual Asian Night Festival in Dearborn. In partnership with Neutral Zone, MAPAAC contributed to the Neutral Zone Asian Teens Retreat, a student-led recreational program aimed at promoting APA culture among APA teens. These initiatives collectively highlight MAPAAC's dedication to fostering cultural appreciation, community engagement, and social impact throughout the state of Michigan.

Public Events and Meetings: MAPAAC organized four commission meetings on the following dates: March 10, May 12, June 14, and September 22. In addition to these key meetings, the commission successfully hosted its annual Leaders' Appreciation Dinner in September, providing a platform to recognize and celebrate leaders within the community. Furthermore, an impactful Education Resource Workshop was conducted in July, contributing to the

commission's commitment to educational initiatives. Highlighting the commission's extensive engagement, a total of 14 additional events were sponsored throughout the year, showcasing MAPAAC's dedication to fostering meaningful connections and initiatives within the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. This multifaceted approach to programming underscores MAPAAC's commitment to addressing a diverse range of interests and needs within its constituency.

Cooperation and Collaboration: In March, the commission organized an all-ethnic commission convening aimed at fostering collaboration for future programming and activities. During this gathering, commissions collaborated on crafting joint statements addressing significant events, including the tragic MSU shooting and advocating against hate in Michigan. Additionally, the commissions collectively worked on establishing legislative priorities, notably contributing to the advancement of the DriveSafe bill. This collaborative effort reflects the commission's commitment to unity, shared advocacy, and impactful engagement across various ethnic communities.

Meetings with Foreign Diplomats: The Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission played host to a notable event in May at the Philippine American Community Center in Southfield, Michigan. The distinguished guests for the occasion were U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai and Canadian Minister Mary Ng. The event, co-hosted by MAPAAC and APIA Vote-Michigan, garnered substantial attendance. Adding to the significance of the event, Priya Mann from WDIV Local 4 News, Detroit, served as a special guest moderator. Mann's adept facilitation set the stage for a unique opportunity, enabling the community to engage in a meaningful dialogue with two of the most influential leaders in North American trade. The event provided valuable insights into the issues affecting the Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, while Tai and Ng shared their vision for a more inclusive and equitable future. Mann's exceptional moderation contributed to making the event a success and fostering an environment conducive to learning and dialogue.

Programmatic Costs: The programmatic costs for MAPAAC in 2023 amounted to **\$90,086**. This includes \$74,500 in partner sponsorships.

Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan (HLCOM) - 2023 Annual Report

Direct Interactions and Programming: HLCOM directly interacted with approximately 13,244 individuals through various programming opportunities throughout the year. In FY 2023, the commission sponsored twenty-four diverse community organizations, supporting events ranging from annual welcome gatherings for migrant seasonal farmworkers to literacy nights at Spanish language immersion elementary schools. Notable events included the Fiesta Mexicana by the Mexican Heritage Association and the Fiesta Colombiana by Code on Wheels. Moreover, the commission supported initiatives aimed at increasing the Latinx vote (LCLAA of Greater Lansing) and enhancing leadership education/opportunities in the Latinx community (Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute). This year marked a special collaboration with Michigan State University, where the commission, in partnership with the College of Liberal Arts and the Chicano Latino Studies Program, sponsored the presentation of Ballet Nepantla's "Mystica" at the Wharton Center for Performing Arts. This unique event attracted approximately 1000 spectators statewide, celebrating the rich folkloric traditions of Mexican, Indigenous, and Afro-Caribbean enclaves. Annual Hispanic Heritage Event in Kalamazoo, attracting 350 guests

Public Events and Meetings: (35) 6 public meetings, 29 sponsored events

Cooperation and Collaboration: Annual Commission Convening in March 2024; Three collective meetings with the Executive Office of the Governor; Recurring Stakeholder meetings with UIA and MSHDA to provide feedback for programmatic rollout.

Meetings with Foreign Diplomats: Five Meetings (4 with Mexican Consulate and 1 with Cuban Ambassador to Canada)

Programmatic Costs: The HLCOM is pleased to present an overview of the effective utilization of allocated programmatic funds for FY 2023 to the esteemed Legislature and Executive Office of the Governor. Throughout the fiscal year, the commission demonstrated a commitment to fostering community engagement and advancing the interests of the Latinx community.

A key initiative involved extending opportunities to community-based organizations through mini-grant community sponsorships. Utilizing a competitive process, applicants submitted sponsorship requests via a meticulously designed online form. These requests underwent thorough scrutiny by two committees before being presented to the full commission for approval. In FY 2023, the commission sponsored twenty-four diverse community organizations, supporting events ranging from annual welcome gatherings for migrant seasonal farmworkers to literacy nights at Spanish language immersion elementary schools. Notable events included the Fiesta Mexicana by the Mexican Heritage Association and the Fiesta Colombiana by Code on Wheels. Moreover, the commission supported initiatives aimed at increasing the Latinx vote (LCLAA of Greater Lansing) and enhancing leadership education/opportunities in the Latinx community (Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute). The total funds allocated for these 24 sponsorships amounted to \$21,450.

This year marked a special collaboration with Michigan State University, where the commission, in partnership with the College of Liberal Arts and the Chicano Latino Studies Program, sponsored the presentation of Ballet Nepantla's "Mystica" at the Wharton Center for Performing Arts. This unique event attracted approximately 1000 spectators statewide, celebrating the rich folkloric traditions of Mexican, Indigenous, and Afro-Caribbean enclaves. Notably, this sponsorship, a one-time event, was made possible by a surplus of funds due to the absence of a contracted employee for several months. The total cost for this special event was \$19,000.

In addressing the educational disparities in Latinx post-secondary graduation rates in Michigan, the commission annually sponsors students through initiatives such as the Nuestro Futuro Scholarship. Thirteen students received scholarships totaling \$13,000, and two students were sponsored to present their research at conferences, amounting to \$720. Additionally, the HLCOM hosted a Statewide Post-Secondary Graduation Ceremony in 2023, recognizing the accomplishments of Latinx students, with a total cost of \$2,710.

Operational expenditures in 2023 included \$4317.82 on office supplies, memberships, marketing materials, and awards. The commission allocated \$35,429 for two contracted employees who played a pivotal role in coordinating HLCOM events, programming, and processing LEO forms. This amount was notably less than the originally budgeted sum, as there was a gap in contracting personnel for several months.

The commission organized six meetings across the state, drawing wide public attendance, and a successful Annual Hispanic Heritage Event in Kalamazoo, attracting 350 guests. The latter

was funded entirely through private sponsorships/donations made to the HLCOM, aligning with stipulations outlined in the legislative mandate establishing the commission.

Excluding telecommunications, FTE salary and benefits, travel, and LEO executive cost allocations, the total programmatic costs for 2023 amounted to \$96,626.82. The commission remains dedicated to its mission of advocating for and uplifting the Latinx community, demonstrating transparency and responsible fiscal stewardship in its endeavors.
