



AMERICAN PAKISTANI
ADVOCACY GROUP

"Building Bridges to Empower Communities"

Engage.Empower.Elevate

NEWSLETTER VOLUME 2

January 2021

Looking Forward to a Prosperous 2021

Happy New Year from The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) team! We wish you and your loved ones happiness, joy and success this year.

The past year has changed the landscape of the world in numerous ways. It has ravaged economies, dealt catastrophic damage to community infrastructures as well as individuals themselves. It is safe to say that, 2020 was a difficult year for everyone; however, we have witnessed something remarkable as well. That is the strength of community, the power of grassroots movements, and that local community leaders and organizations can have a massive impact in their communities. We witnessed massive collaboration and teamwork demonstrated this year; volunteers, elected officials, first responders and business owners working synergistically to assist one another through this tumultuous time. In doing this, we have come out stronger and more powerful. We will continue to rebuild our towns, city, states, and country even better than before. We will build a better world with more and equal opportunities for everyone.

The APAG team worked day and night during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and assisted the community throughout New York State. We will continue our social welfare work, while we keep advocating for the betterment of our community. We can reflect positively on the many changes that have taken place this year for our community through APAG, and we remain committed to keep working to Engage, Empower and Elevate our community.

APAG will keep playing its role by constantly engaging with City, State and Federal institutions and officials. APAG has made great strides to achieve a seat on the political table for the Pakistani American community and has ensured our voices are heard, and then turned into action.

We thank you for being part of the journey so far, we thank you for your assistance in allowing us to do what we love, and we thank you for helping us help our communities.

To live and prosper!

Best wishes,

APAG Team



American Pakistani Advocacy Group: “Redefining Pakistani American”

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) is an organization that seeks to increase awareness and representation of our communities at the city, state, and federal levels; both, through the sponsorship and promotion of policies. It is our mission to assist in bridging the gap between east and west, between Pakistani and American in order to recognize the significance or cultural heritage that Pakistani Americans have contributed via their diaspora.

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) aims to serve the South-Asian community residing in the United States of America. APAG is based out of New York City which is home to one of the largest Pakistani immigrant communities in America. The goal of APAG is to change the narrative surrounding Pakistani Americans in the United States. Additionally, APAG recognizes the imperative duty to serve our community, especially those in need. APAG has developed a variety of vehicles aligned with their goal of changing the narrative surrounding Pakistani Americans. Most recently, we have hastily mobilized to serve the Pakistani Community in New York during the outbreak of the COVID Pandemic. As such, APAG was the first South Asian organization in New York City to take the initiative on COVID-19 pandemic and started providing free groceries delivery to individuals and families in need.

Additionally, the American Pakistan Advocacy Group (APAG) has conducted food drives, hosted community resources events, professional seminars, political forums, interfaith vigils, rally's and round table discussion with elected officials and legislative work that effects Muslim / Pakistani Americans.



AMERICAN PAKISTANI ADVOCACY GROUP (APAG) 2020 Year in Review

January 2020

Queens Borough President Forum

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) co-organized the Queens Borough President Forum along with Community Alliance Group (CAG). There was a wonderful turnout by the South Asian community as they listened to the candidates speak on their platform and their vision. It is imperative for us as citizens of our local communities to be actively engaged in local politics. We must listen to the respective candidates and learn what the candidates stand for so that we as a community can make a better decision when electing officials to represent us. Care must be taken in appointing officials that do not serve the needs of the community in which they are elected.



Queens is the most diverse county in the country, and it needs diverse representation in the borough. APAG believes that the next Queens Borough President must be a leader in the fight for racial, social and economic justice. Candidates who attended the forum included Councilman Costa Constantinides, former Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley, Dannel Maio, Anthony Miranda, former Assistant DA Jim Quinn and Councilman Donovan Richards.

Our City Our Vote Legislation

APAG along with 40 additional organizations proposed a legislation that would amend the City Charter to permit lawfully present residents (green card holders) and those with work authorizations to vote in municipal elections. This bill will give almost one million New Yorkers right to vote. They legally live here, work here, go to school here, and are raising families here; yet, despite paying billions of dollars in taxes, they have no say in the direction of our city. This is an inalienable right that must be granted to any constituent. We must remember that our country was founded in the principle, "No taxation without representation!" The "Our City, Our Vote" bill presents an opportunity to right that wrong to create a more inclusive 21st century democracy that works for every New Yorker. We would like to offer our sincerest gratitude to Councilmember Ydanis and The New York Immigration Coalition for leading the fight to expand Voting Rights.



March 2020

Meet and Greet with Donovan Richards for Queens Borough President

American Pakistani Advocacy Group organized a meet and greet with Council Member Donovan Richards who was a Candidate for Queens Borough President. He spoke about the importance of transparency and accountability in the office of borough president. We discussed greater fiscal budgeting and allocation of funds for minority groups, allocation of empty and vacant lands for community resources, expanding halal options for school lunches across the city and the creation of more jobs for the upcoming generations. Furthermore, he assured us there will be more 'like us' in the office. "We need to make sure the departments are more diverse. I need our commissioners to be Muslims, we need true representation at the top."

He has pledged his full commitment to support the Pakistani and Muslim community and to stand shoulder to shoulder with us on all of our issues.



APAG hosted US Department of State Officials

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group hosted the US Department of State Officials who will be going to Pakistan this summer on their respective assignments in Islamabad and Karachi. We introduced them to the "Little Pakistan", a community of Pakistanis based in Brooklyn on Coney Island Avenue.

This was an unofficial trip to New York City during their Urdu training session in Washington DC. The purpose of the trip was to meet with various individuals and organizations to better understand the bilateral relations in the areas of youth engagement, trade, and cultural exchanges.



They visited Makki Masjid Muslim Community Center which is a monolith and paragon in the cultural history of the Pakistani diaspora. Additionally, they met a substantial amount of local business owners to understand the needs and circumstances of our community by engaging with primary sources.

APAG will keep continue to build bridges between the best practices of USA and Pakistan.

APAG COVID-19 Community Outreach Efforts

COVID-19 has caused debilitating damage to both medical and transportation infrastructure to low-income communities. As such, many families were left in need of essential supplies and groceries throughout the duration of the pandemic. Additionally, groups such as the elderly, a high risk demographic, were unable to leave their house due to risk factors.

APAG and its members and volunteers could not sit idly knowing the financial and physical distress that rapidly plagued their community. Despite the hazardous conditions that plagued New York City, and these times of idleness and uncertainty, APAG decidedly took action.

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) team has tremendously risen to the challenge of helping elderly, disable and those facing financial distress during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, APAG engaged in, several relief efforts including programs such as: APAG's "Essential Groceries Drive", which provide free groceries to people in needs.

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) started distributing food bags to those in need for all five boroughs, Long Island and upstate New York.

We want to serve the underrepresented community and provide what is needed for a sustainable living. In 2020 APAG managed to deliver and distribute over 10,000+ grocery packages sufficient for 60,000 people throughout the five boroughs of NYC, Long Island and upstate New York while observing social distancing. Each bag contains at least 14 items and can last a family for a month. APAG hope to maintain their momentum and continue to distribute packages to help as many people as they can.

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) recognized the issues impacting their local community and immediately organized and assembled a solution. They began distributing food packages containing 14 essential items such as flour, rice, bread, etc. to various groups such as the: elderly, disabled and those facing financial distress. The food package is made for a family of six and to last for at least one month. APAG was one of the first organization in New York City to take the initiative and start helping individuals and families in need. Also, for Ramadan APAG complied a special package for Muslim families going through hardship and delivered that packages at people's doorsteps.

- APAG was the first to provide hot meals to first responders in Elmhurst, then expanded to all five boroughs
- APAG was the first to have a live virtual webinar with state, city, and local elected officials to demand and organize their resources for public assistance
- APAG provided essential groceries (1 bag lasting for a month) with their own funding.
- APAG supplied essential bags for those observing Ramadan.
- APAG had series of townhalls with city and state officials, including DAs office with updated public assistance.
- APAG promises to continue assisting those in need and provide halal meals too.



APAG provided free lunch to all First Responders

This initiative provided a free hot meal to all individuals on the frontlines of this pandemic . APAG salutes those who are working day and night to help flatten the curve, whether they be doctors, nurses, firefighters, police officers, paramedics they will receive a free meal from one of the participating locations. Utilizing local restaurant partnerships, APAG has developed a network of restaurants in Queens, Brooklyn, Bronx, Nassau and Suffolk that aided in providing these hot meals..In 2020 alone, APAG has provided 5,000+ meals to first responders as a gesture of gratitude.



**AMERICAN PAKISTANI
ADVOCACY GROUP**

Coronavirus COVID-19 Outreach

FREE LUNCH FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

**POLICE OFFICERS
FIREFIGHTERS
EMT STAFF**

**DOCTORS
NURSES
PARAMEDICS**

Providing Free Lunch Takeout for First Responders

SERVING LUNCH EVERYDAY FROM 12:00PM TO 2:00PM
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

BROOKLYN LOCATION: MASHALLAH 2004 BATH AVE BROOKLYN, NY 11214	QUEENS LOCATION: DERA RESTAURANT 72-09 BROADWAY JACKSON HEIGHTS, NY 11372	BRONX LOCATION: CHANDNI CHOWK 2570 BRONXWOOD AVE BRONX, NY 10469
		
NASSAU LOCATION: SUBWAY 1685 GRAND AVE BALDWIN, NY 11510	SUFFOLK LOCATION: SUBWAY 67 E MAIN STREET EAST ISLIP, NY 11730	
		

For More Info Contact Us:

Ali Rashid 646.981.3829	Chaudhry Naveed 646.645.6538	Amin Ghani 917.642.5548	Faisal Rashid 646.591.8327
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833-321-APAG | INFO@APAGUSA.ORG | APAGUSA.ORG

 /APAGUSA

Coronavirus COVID-19 Outreach

FREE LUNCH FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

POLICE OFFICERS, FIREFIGHTERS, EMT STAFF, DOCTORS, NURSES, PARAMEDICS



**AMERICAN PAKISTANI
ADVOCACY GROUP**

Providing Free Lunch Takeout for First Responders with Valid Work ID

Starting March 26, 2020
Until Further Notice
Serving Lunch Everyday
From 12:00PM to 2:00PM
Location: Dera Restaurant
72-09 Broadway
Jackson Heights, NY 11372

For More Info Contact Us:

833-321-APAG
INFO@APAGUSA.ORG
APAGUSA.ORG

 /APAGUSA



The genesis of this endeavour originated from the notion that COVID-19 has been an unpredictable and unprecedented disease in our lifetime. As global citizens it is our duty to respect and honor the service of the individuals facing this disease on the frontlines. As such, the American Pakistani Advocacy Group provided free lunch to all First Responders EVERYDAY from 12:00-2:00pm in five different location in New York City and Long Island. It is our responsibility to look after the people helping keep us and our families safe.

April 2020

APAG Ramadan Grocery Distribution



AMERICAN PAKISTANI
ADVOCACY GROUP

Coronavirus COVID-19 Outreach
RAMADAN ESSENTIALS

As the holy month of Ramadan approaches, it is imperative that we seek to help those in need. As such, the American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) will continue to distribute FREE Ramadan grocery essential packages to the elderly, disabled, and those facing financial distress in these unprecedented times.

ESSENTIAL GROCERY ITEMS FOR A FAMILY OF SIX THAT CAN LAST A MONTH

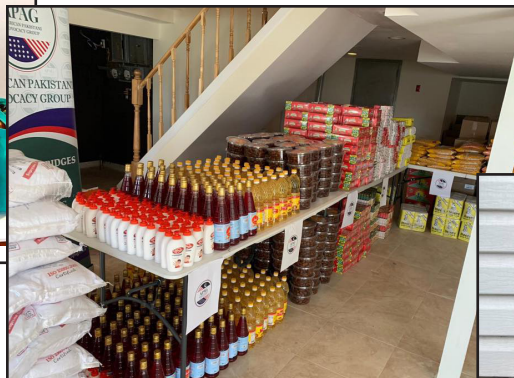
- 20 LB ATTA
- 10 LB RICE
- 5 LB WHITE CHANNA
- 4 LB MASOOR DAAL
- 4 LB CHANA DAAL
- 5 LB BESAN
- TEA BAGS
- GALLON OIL
- DATES
- ROOH AFZAH
- 1 BOTTLE LIQUID SOAP
- 4 SHAN MASALA BOXES

IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW IS IN NEED PLEASE CONTACT US:

833-321-APAG | INFO@APAGUSA.ORG | APAGUSA.ORG

 /APAGUSA

During Ramadan the American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) continued to distribute grocery packages to elderly, disabled and those facing financial distress in these unprecedented times. As the whole New York continues to be in lockdown because of Coronavirus, APAG will keep providing groceries to people and families in needs. It is imperative that we recognize our duty to serve our community especially those in need. APAG provided more than 2,000 ramadan groceries package to people and families in needs.




APAG Delivering Fresh Cooked Meals to First Responders

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) members delivered fresh cooked meals to First Responders at FDNY EMS Station 27 and thanked the whole staff for everything they do to keep us safe. As global citizens, it is our duty to respect and honor the service of the individuals facing this disease on the frontlines. It is our responsibility to look after the people helping keep us and our families safe. APAG will stand with our heroes who are fighting for us.



APAG hosting a virtual town hall on Ramadan & COVID 19

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) hosted a special virtual town hall on Ramadan & COVID 19 with senior elected officials & guests on Facebook Live. The guestlist included Assemblymember David Weprin, Senator John Liu, Councilmember Donovan Richards, and the Consul General of Pakistan in NY Hon. Ayesha Ali. The goal of this town hall was to provide individuals with valuable knowledge as to the city, state, and federal programs available for individuals and businesses during these turbulent times. As well as offering guidance on how to navigate Ramadan while being respectful of social distancing. There was also a Q&A that allowed individuals to ask questions to elected officials and others.



AMERICAN PAKISTANI
ADVOCACY GROUP

APAG VIRTUAL TOWN HALL
RAMADAN & COVID-19
DISCUSSION




WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS & GUESTS

SPEAKERS

Hon. Ayesha Ali
Consul General of Pakistan (NY)
David Weprin
NYS Assembly Member
Jhon Liu
NYS Senator
Donovan Richards
NYC Council Member
Farrah Mozawalla
Nassau County Office of Asian
American Affairs

LIVE ON:
Facebook.com/apagusa

Thursday,
April 23rd
at 8:00 PM

   /APAGUSA



May 2020

APAG Continuous Food Distribution During COVID-19

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) continues to provide Grocery Packages to the people in need in this unprecedented times in Long Island, NYC and Upstate New York since the beginning of Coronavirus. APAG was the first South Asian / Pakistani organization to start delivering groceries in New York and it's great to see we have motivated so many others.



Assembly member David Weprin at APAG COVID-19 Food distribution

APAG - American Pakistani Advocacy Group is doing great work during coronavirus pandemic. Glad to partner with them for their food distribution event this week.



Council member Donovan Richards at APAG COVID-19 Food distribution

Council Member Donovan Richards came out and joined us in our COVID-19 Food Distribution efforts. He was quoted saying, "Thank you to the APAG - American Pakistani Advocacy Group for your commitment to addressing food insecurity in Queens. Proud to continue to see volunteer-led organizations stepping up when it counts for our communities."



Brooklyn Borough President at APAG COVID-19 Food distribution

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams came out and joined us in our COVID-19 Food Distribution efforts. He was quoted saying, "The work done by APAG serving the community at the time of need is beyond grateful."



APAG Discussion on COVID19 with Law Enforcement and Legal System

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) hosted a Town Hall discussing Safety and Legal Rights during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Some of the speakers included Queens Borough District Attorney Melinda Katz, Suffolk County Police Department Deputy Commissioner Risco Mention-Lewis, New York Police Department Deputy Chief Joseph Gulotta and several other respected guests. All the speakers and guests congratulated and expressed their gratitude towards APAG's community efforts since the lockdown. Speakers discussed resources available from their offices, including masks distribution and other essential items. They encouraged us to notify our communities that many hate crimes go unrecorded and to not hesitate to reach out for assistance.



APAG provided fresh meals to the NYCD Desi Society

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) sponsored meals from Bakewell restaurant to serve the NYCD Desi Society members who are essential workers.





APAG members participated in Nassau County Executive Laura Curran Food Drive

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) members participated in Nassau County Executive Laura Curran food drive in partnership with Island Harvest to provide groceries to those in need. It was amazing to see many different community organizations working together to pack and distribute groceries. Over 1,000 both dry and perishable items bags were distributed to people who walked in or came via drive-thru. It was a wonderfully collaborative and team work effort and that's what giving back is all about. Also, thanks to Nassau County Asian American Affairs and Nassau County Police Department for coordinating this effort.



APAG continues efforts of Food Distribution in New York City, Long Island and Upstate

The APAG team continued their work, day and night during the COVID-19 pandemic and assisted the community throughout New York State.



June 2020

APAG City Agencies Townhall Series I

American Pakistani Advocacy Group's Townhall Series to provide information about resources, assistance and services available to communities via NYC Mayor City Agencies. Agencies who participated included NYC Mayors Community Affairs Unit, NYC Human Right, NYC Mayors Office of Immigrant Affairs and NYC Office of the Prevention of Hate Crimes.

Agenda

- American Pakistani Advocacy Group Intro
Ali Rashid | President
- NYC Mayor's Community Affairs Unit
Mamadou Sire Bah | Senior Community Liaison
Rohan Narine | Senior Liaison
- NYC Commission on Human Rights
Kajori Chaudhuri | LMSW Assistant Commissioner,
Community Relations Bureau
- NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes
Hassan Naveed | Deputy Executive Director
- NYC Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs
Aj Yusuf | Neighborhood Organizer
- Q&A

AMERICAN PAKISTANI ADVOCACY GROUP
INVITES YOU TO
CITY AGENCIES TOWNHALL SERIES 1
Know your rights, find out what resources, assistance and services are available now.
LIVE ON:
Facebook.com/apagusa
Thursday, June 11th, 2020
at 6:00 PM
BRING YOUR QUESTIONS
CITY AGENCIES

Participants: Ali Rashid, Rohan N., Hassan Naveed, kchaudhuri, Ajeyo Yusuf (Mayor's Off...), Choudry Naveed anwar, Sahar Khan, zoom

July 2020

APAG City Agencies Townhall Series II

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) City Agencies Townhall Series II to provide information about resources, assistance and services available to communities via NYC Mayor City Agencies. Agencies participated NYC Taxi & Limousine Commission, NYC Small Business Services, NYC Health & Hospitals and Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence.

Agenda

- American Pakistani Advocacy Group Intro
Ali Rashid | President
- NYC Taxi & Limousine Commission
Malcolm Cain | Director of Inclusion & External Affairs
- NYC Small Business Services
Emily Ma | Outreach Specialist
- NYC Health & Hospitals
Andrew Wallach | Ambulatory Care Chief
- NYC Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender Based Violence
Tessa Arozqueta | Director of Outreach
- Q&A

AMERICAN PAKISTANI ADVOCACY GROUP
INVITES YOU TO
CITY AGENCIES TOWNHALL SERIES II
Know your rights, find out what resources, assistance and services are available now.
LIVE ON:
Facebook.com/apagusa
Thursday, July 16th, 2020
at 6:00 PM
BRING YOUR QUESTIONS
CITY AGENCIES

Participants: Ali Rashid, Emily Ma, Malcolm Cain, Andrew Wallach, Sahar Khan, Sara Pervaz, Amin Ghani, Robina Naz, Tessa Arozqueta, zoom

APAG PPE Distribution

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) distributed 40,000 masks along with gloves and hand sanitizer.



APAG PPE Distribution and Census 2020 Outreach - Queens

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) team was hard at work in Jackson Heights, Diversity Plaza on Sunday. APAG distributed thousands of masks and hand sanitizers to the community and helped facilitate registration for the 2020 Census. The Census Mobile Questionnaire Assistance (MQA) organizers reported that this was their most successful registration community event in Queens, to date! We are so thankful for their effort and grateful for progress.



August 2020

APAG distributing masks at Islamic Center of Long Island (ICLI)

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) community face mask and hand sanitizers distribution effort continued. APAG team members distributed masks at the Islamic Center of Long Island (ICLI).

Thank you to Senator Kevin Thomas for generously providing hand sanitizers for distribution.

A very special thanks to ICLI board member Dr. Isma Habib Chaudhry and ICLI President Habeeb Ahmed for coordinating with us. These two remarkable community leaders are an absolute pleasure to work with. We look forward to continue serving the community with you.



APAG PPE Distribution along with Census 2020 Sign Ups on August 14 - Brooklyn

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) team continued their efforts to educate and empower the community in Brooklyn on August 14th, during Pakistan Day celebrations. APAG distributed masks and green bandanas to the community and helped facilitate successful registration for the 2020 Census. The Census Mobile Questionnaire Assistance (MQA) organizers reported that this was one their most successful registration community events in Brooklyn. We are so thankful for their efforts and grateful for progress.



APAG Backpack and School Supplies Giveaway

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG), in collaboration with ICNA Relief and Kingsland Properties conducted a Back to School Drive in Jamaica, Queens. We distributed free backpacks, school supplies and toys to children. We also had the MQA team conducting Census 2020 sign ups.

We had a huge turnout where kids from the community were able to get what they needed for the upcoming school year and we were able to sign up 100s of families for the Census 2020. Thanks to all APAG members and volunteers who participated in this noble cause.

Special thanks to Queens Borough President Elect Donovan Richards and Assemblymember David Weprin for attending and distributing backpacks and school supplies.



September 2020

APAG Distribution of PPE's to house of Worships

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) is continuing its community outreach efforts by distributing masks in mosques, churches, synagogues, and schools. APAG distributed masks at Madina Masjid in Manhattan, Mishkolz Yigal Yaakov Shul Synagogue in Brooklyn and New Canaan Pentecostal Church in Queens. While Community Outreach Director Sahar Khan distributed masks at Razi School in Queens. Also, many other house of worships and interfaith centers were provided free masks by APAG.

APAG's conception is rooted in the understanding that we have an obligation to assist and uplift humanity. Holding true to these ideals, APAG assists everyday regardless of race, religion and culture. APAG aims to be a bridge that helps eliminate prejudices and unites people under one banner.





APAG Back to School Backpacks and Supplies - Nassau



The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG), in collaboration with the Nassau County Executive Laura Curran and ICNA Relief conducted a Back to School drive at the Nassau County Executive building. Backpacks, school supplies, masks and Census 2020 information were distributed. The event was well organized by Nassau County Asian American Affairs, Nassau County Office of Minority Affairs and Nassau County Office of Hispanic Affairs.

APAG Food Distribution, Census 2020 and Voter Registration Community Outreach Event - Brooklyn

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) along with Councilmember Chaim Deutsch conducted a Census 2020 outreach event in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn while distributing grocery bags and masks to community. The 2020 Census will determine congressional representation, inform hundreds of billions in federal funding every year, and provide data that will impact communities for the next decade.



APAG Food Distribution, Census 2020 and Voter Registration Community Outreach Event - Queens

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) along with Community Alliance Group (CAG) and Office of the Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams conducted a Census 2020 outreach event in Jamaica, Queens. We distributed dinner boxes and PPE to community while providing valuable information about Census 2020 to the community. Also, important bilingual Census related materials were provided in various languages to help community assist in Census.



APAG Food Distribution, Census 2020 and Voter Registration Community Outreach Event - Queens

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) conducted a food distribution, Census 2020 and voter registration community outreach event in Richmond Hill, Queens. Over 300 community members were served with food. APAG will continue to assist communities in need and make sure communities get counted, while making sure everyone is registered to vote. Special Thanks to Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, Assemblymember David Weprin, Councilmember Adrienne Adams and Democratic Assembly Nominee Jennifer Rajkumar for attending and distributing the food.



October 2020

APAG Voter Registration drive

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) along with Queens County Women's Bar Association and CAG conducted a Voter Registration drive at Darus Salam Masjid on Friday. Voting is one of the most impactful things you can do for yourself and your community. This year's election goes beyond who will be our president. Your vote is your voice on issues affecting housing, education, employment, healthcare and many more important issues. Help make a difference in your community. Tell your family, friends and acquaintances to make sure they are registered to vote and then make sure they vote.



November 2020

APAG Bipartisan Discussion on the 2020 Presidential Election

APAG conducted a Bipartisan Discussion on the 2020 Presidential Election that included community representation from both Democrats and Republicans to provide community with information, facts and knowledge so they can decide which candidates policies are better suited from them.

Format

Ali Rashid - Moderator
President - APAG

Rao Kamran Ali
President - PAKPAC

Tahir Javed
Muslims for Biden

Sajid Tara
Muslim Voices for Trump

Ather Trimzi
Pakistanis for Biden

Saba Ahmed
Republican Muslim Coalition

Sara Pervez
APAG Director

Q&A



APAG Advocacy for Our City Our Vote legislation

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) continued to advocate for Our City Our Vote legislation that would amend the City Charter to permit lawfully present residents, green card holder and those with work authorizations to vote in municipal elections.

America was built by Immigrants and New York City is the city of the immigrants and democracy should be inclusive and reflective of the people who call it home.

This bill is about making democracy better and American Pakistani Advocacy Group is proud to be a coalition partner and fully support this bill. Let's get it done! #OurCityOurVote

The New York Immigration Coalition United Neighborhood Houses Ydanis Rodriguez Jimmy Van Bramer



APAG Thanksgiving Food Drive

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, the APAG team distributed fresh turkey, food packages and PPE to the Queens community in Hollis. The response by the community was overwhelming which serves as yet another reminder that food insecurity is still relevant during the pandemic. We are so grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the community.

Our food packages consisted of fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, bread, rice, atta and other non perishable items.

A special thanks to Queens Borough President Donnavan Richards, State Senator John Liu and Assemblymember Khaleel Anderson for joining us to distribute food and PPE.



December 2020

APAG Holiday Toy & Food Drive

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) shared holiday cheers and blessings with the community. The APAG team gathered to spread some holiday joy and support the community during these unprecedented times.

Through our holiday drive, APAG was able to distribute grocery packages including rice, eggs, yogurt, fresh fruit and vegetables. In addition, we gifted children with holiday toys and candies. The Santa brought smiles and cheer to kids faces. We hope that this helped to spread some holiday cheer!

Many individuals and families are still struggling and are unable to enjoy this holiday season as they normally do. Special thanks to Queens Borough President Donovan Richards and Assembly member David Weprin for joining us and showing APAG support.



APAG 2020 Awards and Recognition

Pakistan Foreign Minister Honor's List

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) is honored to have been awarded and included in the Pakistan Foreign Minister's Honors list as a result of our substantial and progressive community service work while combating the COVID-19 pandemic in New York.

The Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi hosted a zoom meeting on August 13th honoring all honorees from around the world. This was all possible because of the wonderful APAG members and volunteers who worked day and night to assist the community in the most challenging time. We at APAG are immensely proud of this achievement and will continue to use our platform to engage, enhance, and elevate our community!



APAG received citation from NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio

Since its inception, APAG has worked tirelessly to serve the underserved. With a focus on the COVID pandemic this year, the need has been immense. This year alone, APAG has conducted several food drives, distributed PPE, conducted voter and census registration efforts, in conjunction with other agencies, and delivered food and Ramadan packages to those in need.

Our service to our communities was commended by the city. We are honored to receive a City of New York Certificate of Recognition from Mayor Bill de Blasio. It is with great honor and gratitude that we accept this recognition for all of our efforts and dedication to serve the community. APAG would like to give our sincere thanks to the board, our members, the community and all of our supporters –you make APAG what we are! We look forward to continuing serving community needs.



APAG received citation from Nassau County Executive Laura Curran

The American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) was awarded with a citation from Nassau County Executive Laura Curran for their community work.



APAG members received citation from Assemblymember David Weprin

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) members were awarded citations for their extraordinary community service by Assemblymember David Weprin.



APAG members received citation from Councilmember Chaim Deutsch

APAG members were awarded citation from Councilmember Chaim Deutsch for exceptional service to community.



APAG members received citation from State Senator John Liu

APAG board members received citation from State Senator John Liu for community service.



2020 Power of Diversity, Asian Top 100 Power List

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) President, Ali Rashid was included in City and State NY 2020 Power of Diversity: Asian Too 100 Power List. The most influential Asian Americans in New York politics and policy.

United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo appreciate the efforts of American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) work during the on COVID19 pandemic.

USA State Department appreciate the efforts of American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) work during the on COVID19 pandemic.



Secretary Pompeo @SecP... · 5/3/20 ...
The U.S.-#Pakistan relationship is built on a solid foundation of friendship and shared values. This has been evident in our support for one another during the #COVID19 pandemic. Glad to see the grassroots support for communities happening in both nations.
[#partners4prosperity](#)



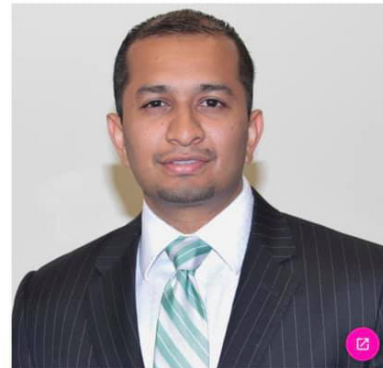
American Pakistani Ad... · 4/28/20

APAG has delivered 1,000+ groceries packages to elderly, disabled & financial distress families in New York. APAG was the first South Asian organization to start delivering groceries in NY to people in needs & we have motivated so many others. Let's keep assisting our communities



86. Ali Rashid

President, American Pakistani Advocacy Group



Submitted

Ali Rashid has developed the APAG into one of the most visible political advocacy organizations serving Pakistani Americans in New York City. Rashid's organization hosted a Queens District Attorney forum to engage voters ahead of the 2019 race. Most recently, the group launched the Essential Groceries Drive, which provides free groceries to residents in need, and advocated for the immigrant municipal voting bill currently being deliberated by the City Council.



State_SCA @State_SCA · 4/7/20

Great to see #PakistaniAmericans eagerly serving communities in the US and #Pakistan during the #COVID19 crisis by providing food assistance in the US, supporting healthcare professionals in Pakistan, and raising awareness online. AGW



American Pakistani Adv... · 3/31/20

American Pakistani Advocacy Group is providing free meals to our heroic #FirstResponders who are fighting for us against #COVID19. It's our little part to do something for greater good. #PakistaniAmericans want to serve our communities in this tough times. @FDNY @ForeignOfficePk





COVID-19 Hero's Award by Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams

American Pakistani Advocacy Group (APAG) President, Ali Rashid, along with others trailblazers were honored by Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams as COVID-19 Hero's. Citations were provided to individuals and organizations for their outstanding outreach and support to the residents of NYC during the COVID-19 pandemic.



United States Embassy Pakistan appreciates APAG community outreach services



U.S. Embassy Pakistan

April 13, 2020

Pakistani-Americans are doing what they can to help their community respond to #COVID19. Thanks to the APAG - American Pakistani Advocacy Group, which is providing daily free meals to heroic first responders who are fighting against #COVID.

Photo Credit: APAG

#Coronavirus #USPAK #USEmbassyISB #USInPAK #COVID2019 #PakistanisInUSA



U.S. Embassy Pakistan

November 27, 2020

Great to see the wonderful volunteerism of the Pakistani diaspora in the United States on Thanksgiving day! #USPAK #giveback



APAG - American Pakistani Advocacy Group

November 26, 2020

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, the APAG team distributed fresh turkey, food packages and PPE to the Queens community in Hollis. The response by the community wa... See More



We will love to hear your feedback.
Contact Us Today

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Join Us, Work with Us, Collaborate with Us.



**AMERICAN PAKISTANI
ADVOCACY GROUP**