

title**Advocacy Mobilizers****organization****Asian Counseling and Referral Service****context**

The 45 year old mission of Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS) is rooted in social justice. Our vision is to create culturally-competent and linguistically-accessible mental health care that is holistic and resonates with Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities. In partnership with the Civic Engagement Team, service-learning students will work to uplift the voices of AAPI community. This ensures that AAPI community members are driving the narrative on the issues that matter to them and speaking to policy makers.

work description

From its inception ACRS has been a leader in advocating for the rights of immigrants, refugees, low-income, and limited English speaking people with an emphasis on Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities. This service learning will give students the opportunity to contribute to one of our largest days of advocacy, Asian Pacific American Legislative Day. Since 1996, ACRS has played a critical role in coordinating this effort which activates over 1,000 AAPI community members across the state. Students will support this day of action by learning how to organize and mobilize communities, pass legislation, connect to elected officials, and create accessible advocacy efforts. As an advocacy mobilizer we hope that you will walk away from this service learning with the following:

- A foundation for social justice work rooted in immigrant, refugee, and limited English speaking communities
- Deep knowledge on community-based advocacy and how to pass legislation
- Gain organizing skills to create grassroots advocacy
- Ability to assess the efficacy of community-based advocacy efforts on policy makers

impact

ACRS believes that historically disenfranchised communities must be at the forefront of advocacy that most deeply impacts their lived experience. Service-learning students will work through the three stages of advocacy (prep, action, and assessment) to support these voices.

location

ACRS
3639 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way South
Seattle, Washington 98144

alt. transportation

ACRS is located at 3639 Martin Luther King Jr. Way South, Seattle, WA 98144. Parking is limited so we encourage students to take the Link Light Rail and exit at Mt. Baker Station. From Mt. Baker walk South on Martin Luther King Jr. Way for 7 min to reach our agency. Bus route 106 also stops right in front of our agency.

ideal number

10 students

requirements

Must commit for 6 months
Other paperwork: ACRS Volunteer Application

skills needed

Interested students are encouraged to have the following skills:

- Interest in learning how racial inequities impact health outcomes
- Desire to deepen organizing skills
- Openness to work with limited-English speaking community members
- Willingness to create a positive advocacy experience for community members
- Ability to attend all service learning sessions and APA Legislative Day