Atlanta, GA, November 25, 2013 — The Asian American Legal Advocacy Center, Inc. (AALAC) was recently awarded $25,000 from The Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta to support AALAC’s Vote for Our Future campaign.

This is the first year the Community Foundation has offered a Civic Engagement Fund. The grant will support AALAC’s work in increasing the civic participation of Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Asian-ethnic refugees (AAPIs) in Georgia. According to the latest Census, AAPIs are the fastest growing electorate in the country. And Georgia has one of the fastest growing AAPI populations in the country.

“Our Vote for Our Future campaign is designed to help New Americans be fully represented at every level and integrate them into the democratic process,” said Helen Ho AALAC’s Executive Director. “We are honored to be recognized for our civic engagement strategies in the South and excited to partner with The Community Foundation,” said Ho. In 2012 AALAC helped to register more than 1,400 new voters, led 82+ voter registration drives, and increased voter turn-out in targeted precincts by as much as 30 percent. This year AALAC focused on turning out the vote for key municipal elections and raised awareness on the importance of these races. A historic five AAPIs ran for local office this year with two winning, including the first Vietnamese-American woman ever to hold elected office in Georgia.

“The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta is extremely pleased to offer this grant to AALAC,” said Kathy Palumbo, Director of Community Partnerships at The Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta. “The importance of active civic engagement – particularly voting – is key to healthier, better communities for all of us. AALAC is clear about its mission, is a remarkable steward of its finances and has talented leadership.”

About Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta (formerly Asian American Legal Advocacy Center or AALAC) is the first non-profit law center dedicated to Asian immigrants and refugees (“Asian Americans”) in the Southeast.

Our goal is to engage, educate and empower under-represented Asian Americans to greater civic participation.

We are one of five independent organizations that make up the national Asian Americans Advancing Justice. Together with our affiliates in Chicago, DC, Los Angeles and San Francisco, we bring more than 100 years of collective experience in addressing the civil rights issues faced by Asian Americans and other vulnerable and underserved communities. Visit www.advancingjustice-atlanta.org.