

Impact Report 2023





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2023 was a banner year for the Tsuha Foundation. We made significant changes that renewed our commitment to anti-poverty grantmaking and helped us work in a more streamlined, focused way.

After welcoming a new board member and giving a heartfelt thanks to three board members who stepped down after ten years of service, our board established focus areas within the mission of poverty reduction: systemic change, transformative relationships, and support of the Asian American Pacific Islander community.

We were honored to spend time in person with many grantees this year. We produced video content for Circles USA; visited Nomi Network's rehabilitation center for survivors of human trafficking; met with Congress members in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with Bread for the World; attended the annual gatherings of both World Impact and Walk With Me; served as a judge at an entrepreneurial pitch competition hosted by National ACE Foundation; gave an inspirational talk for lower-income students at a summer camp in Hawaii; and volunteered directly with kids participating in Catholic Big Brothers Big Sisters.

In 2024, we will kick off our multi-year, unrestricted grant process, and we look forward to deepening our partnership with grantees.

About the Foundation

We support organizations

breaking the cycle of poverty

through systemic change, transformative relationships, and AAPI advocacy.





Our Impact

In 2023, the Tsuha Foundation invested a total of \$825,500 in 14 different nonprofit organizations that are making a difference in our world. Some of these funds are part of multi-year grants, and some are for much shorter time periods; some grants are for specific strategic purposes, and some are unrestricted grants.

In 2023, the Tsuha Foundation made a commitment to the concept of trust-based philanthropy and plans to move more grantees to multi-year, unrestricted grants.

In addition to facilitating grants, board members are personally committed to reducing poverty, whether through personal donations, volunteering, or serving on other boards.

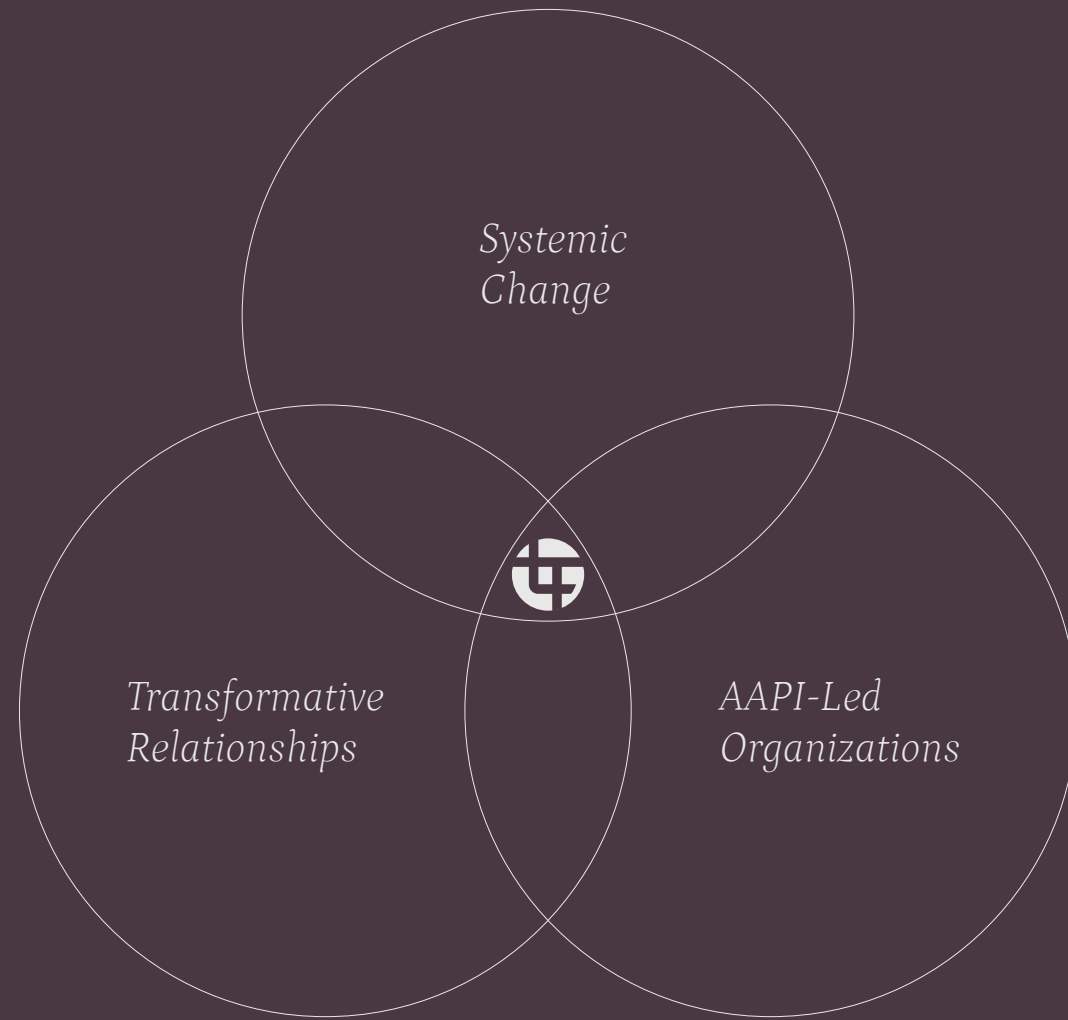
2023 AMOUNT INVESTED

\$825,000



14

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
GLOBALLY



THREE FOCUS AREAS

Poverty Reduction

Systemic Change

Systemic change is aimed beyond providing food, clothing, and shelter. It enables people in poverty and others in their communities to engage in the identification of the root causes of poverty and to create strategies to change those structures that keep people in poverty.

Transformative Relationships

Transformative relationships encourage people, whether in group gatherings or one-on-one friendships, to make progress toward life goals and financial independence, to live in closer alignment with their values, and to find greater purpose and meaning in the community.

AAPI-Led Organizations

We support Asian American and Pacific Islander organizations that seek to reduce poverty and advocate for greater cultural literacy when it comes to the history and vibrance of Asian communities.

Our Grantees



Bread for the World Institute

Circles USA

Wallin Educational Partners

World Impact

Memphis Teacher Residency

San Diego Rescue Mission: Walk with Me

National ACE Foundation

APIA Scholars

Tsuha Global Fellows

Nomi Network

PUEO

Catholic Big Brothers Big Sisters

Cru Southern California and Arizona Advocacy Fund



Bread for the World Institute

WASHINGTON D.C.

An investment from the Tsuha Foundation allowed this group to better advocate for those experiencing hunger and food insecurity in the United States and abroad, particularly in areas with food shortages due to poverty, war and political conflict. Two areas of advocacy, research, and education are the U.S. Farm Bill and GusNIP program, which helps low-income Americans have increased access to fresh produce.

Bread for the World Institute's nonpartisan legislative analysis has been a trusted resource on Capitol Hill for 50 years.

bread.org



One in 10 people around the world goes to bed hungry at night. One in four children under age 5 is severely malnourished. For nearly five decades, Bread has advocated for government policies and programs that will end hunger for good, in the U.S. and around the world.

Circles USA

ALBUQUERQUE, NM (HEADQUARTERS)
80 CHAPTERS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

Systemic change often requires transforming attitudes about poverty, and a 2023 investment in Circles USA helped showcase the work of Circles chapters and educate people about the difficulty of transitioning off public assistance programs. Thanks in part to the Tsuha Foundation's financial support of an enhanced marketing and communication plan, five new chapters joined Circles USA this year. Circles USA is committed to helping families exit poverty, removing barriers that keep people in poverty, and strengthening communities.

circlesusa.org



Circles USA participants achieve a 30% increase in income after six months and a 76% increase in income after 18 months. Participants continue to increase their income—even after the 18-month period.





Wallin Educational Partners

MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Expanding access to higher education in Minnesota is the goal of Wallin Educational Partners, and a 2023 grant from the Tsuha Foundation helped fund Wallin's largest class of participants: 361 students. For more than three decades this nonprofit has focused on systemic change through education — providing individualized mentoring and scholarships to students enrolled in 2- and 4-year degree programs. More than 75% of participants are first-generation graduates, and a substantial number of students come from underrepresented communities. Tsuha funds also supported a mental health component that was added to the program after the Covid pandemic.

wallinpartners.org

Of the 6000 scholars served, 76% are first generation and 91% students of color.

Wallin Scholars have a 91% college graduation rate vs. 62% national average.



World Impact

LOS ANGELES, CA & CINCINNATI, OH

World Impact equips Christian leaders within the under-resourced communities where they live and serve. The Tsuha Foundation supports World Impact's view that oppression is something people live in, not something that defines them. Grants in 2023 from the Tsuha Foundation supported church planting in urban areas, seminary courses for incarcerated people, and training for church leaders to minister well to the formerly incarcerated. One unique aspect of World Impact's work is its Trauma Healing program, which helps leaders provide healing groups in their communities.

worldimpact.org



95% of church leaders are not trained for formal ministry. World Impact has spent 50 years providing church leaders with accessible, affordable, and effective training to establish healthy churches in poor communities.





Memphis Teacher Residency

MEMPHIS, TN

MTR is tackling a specific systemic problem: Memphis' elementary students were receiving a substandard public education. MTR stepped in to provide the city's high-need schools with effective elementary teachers. Tsuha funds in 2023 supported MTR Summer Camp, which has two goals: to reduce elementary students' learning loss over the summer and to provide practical work experience for college students who are interested in becoming elementary school teachers.

memphistr.org



Out of 42 teacher preparation programs in the state with complete results, Memphis Teacher Residency has been among the top two programs for each of the last five years.

San Diego Rescue Mission: Walk with Me

SAN DIEGO, CA

The San Diego Rescue Mission's Walk with Me program reduced poverty in San Diego through one-on-one transformative relationships between housed and unhoused people. Tsuha Foundation funds went toward paying the salaries of staff who facilitated this program. In late 2023, after success in helping unhoused people build friendships and move into transitional or permanent housing, Walk With Me was consolidated into ongoing, permanent outreach programs within the San Diego Rescue Mission.

sdrescue.org/walk-with-me-friends



“Walk With Me” pairs volunteers to walk alongside a man, woman or family enrolled in the San Diego Rescue Mission’s 12-month Mission Academy program.



National ACE Foundation

WASHINGTON D.C.

After Wally Tsuha created the Tsuha Foundation, one of the first organizations he supported was the National ACE Foundation. This organization supports entrepreneurs similar to Mr. Tsuha, who came from a low-income background and started a small business as a means to financial success. Thanks to ongoing funding from the Tsuha Foundation, the ACE Foundation represents over 100 AAPI-focused chambers of commerce across the United States and participated in six economic summits with the White House Initiative on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders.

nationalace.org



National ACE has provided over 500 grants to minority small business owners through the AAPISTRONG Fund.



APIA Scholars

WASHINGTON D.C.

APIA (Asian Pacific-Island American) Scholars is the largest organization providing scholarships to low-income APIA students in the United States. In addition to supporting scholarships, Tsuha Foundation funding helped APIA offer additional career development opportunities, mentoring, and mental health support.

apiascholars.org



Since 2003, APIA Scholars has supported 7200 scholars, 65% of whom are first generation and 70% of whom live below or at the poverty line. Scholarship amounts range from \$2,500 one-year awards to \$20,000 multi-year awards.





Tsuha Global Fellows

WORLDWIDE

Tsuha Global Fellows is an international project that was started and is sustained by the Tsuha Foundation. Launched in 2020, it's a partnership between Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU) and the University of Western Australia. It supports eight fellows who have dreamed up projects that are aligned with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and helps them complete these projects with networking, mentoring and research assistance along the way. The projects are in four general areas: international law, assessing the economic impact of nonprofit work, the intersection of climate science and social justice, and empowering women toward leadership in low-income communities.



Tsuha Global Fellows come from Bhutan, Bangladesh, Phillipines, South Africa, Seychelles, Nigeria, Ghana and Tanzania.

NOMI Network

DALLAS, TX & CAMBODIA

The Nomi Network fights human trafficking on two levels – where it often begins in South Asia and an area where there’s an opportunity to end it and heal from it: Dallas, Texas. In 2023, Tsuha funding was used to support 50 women in Nomi’s workforce development program in Cambodia. This 8-12 month program offers life skills and business skills to create more job opportunities so women are less susceptible to exploitation. Participants have experienced a 65% increase in household income.

nominetwork.org



The Nomi Network’s impact extends to over 20,000 women and girls directly served since 2012 in India, Cambodia, and the U.S.



PUEO is challenging the traditional approach to conservation with a dynamic, data-driven method using AI models fueled by real-time sighting and survey data that offer accurate predictions about the population size, range, and other vital statistics of native species.



PUEO

HONOLULU, HAWAII

Tsuha Foundation funding provided transportation and hot lunches for a 5-week academic and Hawaiian arts summer camp that serves low-income middle school and high school students. Many of the participating students earn credit toward graduation, the program boasts a 93% attendance rate, and 80% of participants complete all seven years of the program. PUEO's motto is "Kulia e loa'a ka na'auao," or "Strive to obtain wisdom."

pueo.org



Catholic Big Brothers Big Sisters

LOS ANGELES, CA

In 2023, the Tsuha Foundation continued its support for Catholic Big Brothers Big Sisters, which provides one-on-one mentoring and group therapy to youth of color from low-income, single-parent households in Los Angeles County. About 50% of youth served are in foster care or have an incarcerated family member.

catholicbigbrothers.org



Each year CBBBS serves approximately 300 young people with one-to-one mentoring and provides additional services to their families.





Cru Southern California and Arizona Advocacy Fund

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA & ARIZONA

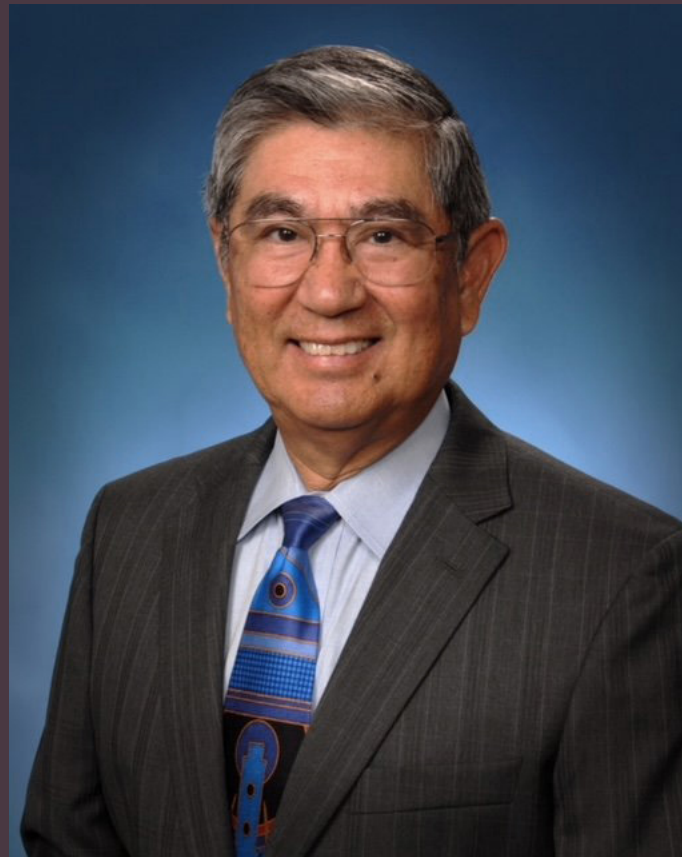
The Tsuha Foundation provided seed funding in 2023 for a specific effort within the international Cru college ministry to attract and retain leaders of color in Southern California and Arizona. In these regions, the cost of living is high and there are cultural barriers to fundraising. The advocacy fund enabled 11 (8 BIPOC) staff to report on time to their teams this fall. These 11 staff represent nearly 25% of all Cru campus staff in Southern California and Arizona.

cru.org

Given its success so far in supporting BIPOC leaders in the Southwest U.S., the Advocacy Fund hopes to expand into a nationwide effort.



A Special Thank You



Wally Tsuha

Wally Tsuha stepped down as Board Chair at the close of 2023. We are deeply grateful for his leadership and vision over the past eleven years.

Wally grew up in a low-income family in Hawaii. Through hard work and dedication, he built an electronics and engineering company that provided jobs for many people in southeast Michigan. Proceeds from the sale of this company allowed him to start the Tsuha Foundation in 2012, with a mission to reduce poverty and provide opportunities for those in need.

The Foundation's early grants provided relief funding for food insecurity and poverty-related crises. Over time, the grantmaking focus shifted toward addressing the root causes of poverty and creating longer-term impact. Wally's spirit of generosity and vision for a better world have guided the foundation since 2012 and will continue to do so.

The Foundation extends its deepest appreciation to Wally for his many years of dedication. His legacy will transform lives for generations.





TSUHA FOUNDATION

tsuhafoundation.org