



Past, Present, and Future of the Community Center

I am the new executive director, Joomi Kim. As we leave 2015 behind us and welcome 2016, here is hoping that all of your plans and wishes turn out well.

33 years ago, this organization was founded by Taeyoung Lee, the first Korean woman to become a lawyer. Since then, due to the unsung dedication of countless volunteers, board members, and directors, the Korean Community Service Center has become what it is today, an important institution in the immigrant community.

With this legacy, we have some big plans going forward. We aim to increase our services and availability of counselors in each area, particularly in the field of mental health. In addition, we aim to start a counseling and 1 on 1 mentoring program for second generation youth. We especially want to strengthen our longstanding youth leadership conference program. In doing so, we aim to help second generation young people prepare for their future, work towards their dreams and strive for greatness.

Our most important work is by being a friend to the elderly, the poverty stricken, the physically disabled, and those marginalized by society. We support each other and share our hopes and dreams. Our doors are always open. Whether you wait, or seek us out, we will always be at your side.

Executive Director Joomi Kim

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Korean Community Center Activities

2015		
Aug. 3~5	Youth Leadership Camp	• 11/01/2015~01/30/2016
Aug. 16th	KCSC Volunteer Dinner	Free ACA consultation
Oct. 3rd	Medicare Orientation	• Every Thursday: Free welfare
Oct. 17th	Church Health Fair	consultation
Oct. 21st	Ballot Party	• Second and fourth Saturdays:
Oct. 24th	Free flu shots	Free legal counsel
Nov. 3rd	Mom is a counselor 1	• Third and Fourth Tuesdays:
Nov. 12th	Elder abuse prevention research	Free ACA consultation
Nov. 14th	United Presbyterian Church of Seattle Health Fair	• Outreach at least once per month
Nov. 16th	Mom is a counselor 2	• Immigration applications
Nov. 20th	Mom is a counselor 3	• Residency applications
Dec. 5th	Immigration Day	• Family Counseling

Wherever we are in the world, we are Korean voters!!

Final day for registration for the 20th Legislative election of Korea is **February 13th**



"Every country gets the government it deserves"
(Alexis de Tocqueville)

Consul Eunha Kim advocates for voting rights because she wants to protect the ability of overseas Koreans to demonstrate their love for their country and keeping the right to influence its government is a particularly good opportunity. In order to realize this, we need to understand how much of the electorate is represented by overseas voters.

- ◆ Who can register: Korean citizens over the age of 19 (born before April 14, 1997)
- ◆ Election period: March 30th~April 4th
- ◆ Register online: <https://ova.nec.go.kr>
- ◆ Email: ovseattle@mofa.go.kr
- ◆ Register by mail: 2033 6th Ave #1125 Seattle, WA 98121
- ◆ Tel: (206) 441-1011 x4

"Abstention isn't neutral, it is tacit agreement"

Free citizenship day

One America, in cooperation with KCSC and KAC-WA held a free citizenship application workshop at ACRS at 10AM on December 15th, 2015. With a 1PM cutoff for new arrivals, this day lasted until 5PM. Even on a foul, rainy day, many people came throughout the morning for help with their immigration forms. To make sure the day ran smoothly, we had the help of 12 immigration lawyers, 12 paralegals, 13 interpreters, and 16 other volunteers.

To encourage and ease the participation in society of the local Korean community, KCSC plans to continue working on these immigration days.

- <Qualifications for Immigration>
- Over 18 years of age
 - 5 years as a permanent resident (3 years if married to a US citizen)
 - Have spent at least 2 and a half of the last 5 years within the United States (1 and a half in the last 3 years if married to a US citizen) and during that time, not had more than one year at a time outside of the US. (If married to a US citizen, you must not have spent more than one of the last 3 years outside of the United States)
 - Applicants who brought proof of receipt of SSI, food stamps, TANF, or Medicaid were exempt from the application fee.

"Become a citizen"

Youth Leadership Camp

KCSC held its 17th conference on integration together with the youth leadership camp from Aug. 3rd to 5th, 2015. Participants ranged from 9th to 12th grade and focused on "goals, adventure, and how to contribute to society."

The camp emphasized acting as leaders in creating a bridge between the Korean community and mainstream American society. We also learned about choosing a college and about college life. One previous participant in the 12th grade said, "This is a place where I can find my identity. Even without too much of an introduction, we can easily make friends. I find it difficult to explain how I feel about this place. We can be who we are."

Another student said "2 nights and 3 days is rather short. My grandmother made me apply for this camp and at first I resented her, but now I am grateful."

"This camp also handles the difficulties that parents face. After seeing how much it had changed my daughter last year, this year, I sent my son and daughter together." Said a Highland School District teacher while recommending the camp to other parents.

America is a melting pot, where different races and cultures mingle to create one nation. Our youth are part of America and it is important that they receive all the benefits. But it is also important for them to be able to have their own community and to support each other.

Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

Rights

- Voting in elections.
- Family gets priority status for visas.
- Children born outside of the United States are still US citizens
- The privilege of traveling abroad with a US passport and of receiving help from the US government.
- Can hold a job in the federal government.
- Can stand for election into public office.
- The privilege of patriotic displays

Responsibilities

- Renounce loyalties to other countries.
- Swear loyalty to the United States
- Defend the constitution and the laws of the United States.
- In case of an emergency, work for the good of the country.
- Register to vote and participate in politics.
- Serve on a jury.
- Respect that the United States is a multicultural society and home to many different races, cultures, religions, and other groups.

Obamacare Orientation

November to January, we worked with a specialist to help our community sign up for health insurance and to answer any questions about the healthcare exchange.

Due to the Obamacare ACA, passed in 2010, health insurance is required for all citizens and residents of the USA. You can apply on the healthcare exchange at www.wahealthplanfinder.org.

- You can sign up regardless of residency, social security status, or age. Any issues should be discussed with an insurance counselor.

ACA signup ended in January, but it may still be possible to sign up if you move between states, lose coverage, or if there is a birth or death in the family. We will be available to answer questions each Tuesday.

- You can sign up for Washington Apple Care at any time.
- IDs and proof of income are required.
- Fines for not getting insurance are as follows: Adults: \$695, Children: \$347.50, Families: the higher of \$2,085 or 2.5% of the family income.

Our wishes

Gilsu Kim (New board director of KCSC)

For the last 30 years, the Korean Community Service Center of Seattle has helped many Korean residents, especially those who are isolated or urgently in need of help. The various welfare services offered have helped immigrants lead a happy life. We are deeply grateful for all of the hard work and sacrifice of our volunteers

that allowed us to accomplish this. Going forward, KCSC will continue to work on the basics while simultaneously increasing access to more specialized fields. As a representative of the Korean Immigrant minority in Seattle, we will defend our human rights and our rights as American residents while serving the welfare of the next generation.

Basic Food / SNAP Program

The most fundamental aid programs that we have at KCSC are those related to food stamps. We help with applications and renewals.

Qualifications for receiving food stamps

- Be a citizen
- Be a resident for more than 5 years
- If a full-time student, work for more than 20 hours per week, or have a child under 5 years old
- Have a monthly income lower than that indicated in the chart

# household members	Monthly Income
1	\$1945
2	\$2622
3	\$3299
4	\$3975

Other scenarios will be considered on a case by case basis, so if you have any questions, please contact KCSC.

Beautiful Korean, How much Do you know?

How about we take some time to consider some Korean phrases?

꽃잠(ggot-cham, Flower Ggot-cham is an old word for 'wedding night').
꽃국(ggot-guk, flower soup)
The clear liquid that is the first stage of brewing alcohol

꽃물(ggot-mul, flower water)
Thick, waterless broth
나비잠(nabi-cham, butterfly sleep)

When a young child sleeps with arms above the head.

다슴(dason)
passionate love
도담도담(dodam-dodam)
Idealistic childhood

Psychology column

Gyeonghui Lee, (KCSC psychology expert, education scholar)

When you ask a good question, you prompt your conversation partner to think and search for an answer. In doing so, you help develop your relationships. In addition, the question will display your respect for your partner. When you pay attention, you can better understand your partner's motivations. "Yes" or "no" questions are closed questions. Open questions are allow for explorations and free form answers

When your children come home late, "Why are you so late?" is a closed question. Questions such as, "When you come home so late without calling, I get worried." or "Did something happen?" are more open. Closed questions include information already, but open questions allow for less defensiveness and more open discussion. Try using open questions with your friends and family, and you will experience closer connection.



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KCSC Membership Application

We wish to grow in partnership with our neighbors. We are waiting for our wonderful backers to join us.

\$25/year(), \$50/year(), \$100/year(), other amount()

- Full Name: _____
- E-mail: _____
- Phone Number: _____

If you join or membership, you will receive our newsletter.

President's Volunteer Service Award



"Congratulations and welcome KCSC to the team! We are pleased to let you know that you have been approved as an official organization for The President's Volunteer Service Award."

Beginning in December 2015, volunteers at KCSC have been eligible for receiving an award. The PVSA is recognition from the government and a thank you from the president for important volunteer service in America. We hope that this award will inspire our immigrant community to step up and work toward much needed changes in our society.

This award is awarded in Gold, Silver, and Bronze based on how many hours you volunteer. Over 4000 earns the lifetime achievement award.

Who can receive the award

- Citizens and permanent residents of the USA
- Volunteer enough hours for 12 month or lifetime award
- Court mandated community service does not qualify
- Volunteer for Certified organization
- Volunteer for a legal entity within the United States or US territories

	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Age 5~10	29-49hrs	50-74hrs	75+hrs
Age 11~15	50-74hrs	75-99hrs	100+hrs
Age 16~25	100-174hrs	175-249hrs	250+hrs
26&older	100-249hrs	250-499hrs	500+hrs
Lifetime prize is for 4000+ hours			

The Korean Community Service Center is waiting for dedicated volunteers to step up..

- ❖ People with video or computer skills
- ❖ Volunteers to help mentor 7th~12th graders in both school work and life skills.
- ❖ Interpreters
- ❖ Social Workers
- ❖ We also accept help from retirees.

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"Congratulations to KCSC for your first newsletter,
 For the happiness and health of Washington's Korean community
 thank you for your leadership.

We hope that KCSC will continue to develop

and provide meaningful support to many people.

