



For Immediate Release  
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## NAVASA will hold 2003 National Conference in Orange County, California

### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Tucson Intl Alliance of Refugee Community  
Tucson, AZ

Vietnamese Volunteers of Arizona  
Glendale, AZ

Asian Pacific Residential Treatment Program  
Los Angeles, CA

Economic & Employment Development Ctr.  
Los Angeles, CA

Unified Vietnamese Community Council  
Los Angeles, CA

Cambodian Family  
Santa Ana, CA

Southeast Asian Community Center  
San Francisco, CA

Immigrant Resettlement & Cultural Center  
San Jose, CA

Vietnamese Voluntary Foundation  
San Jose, CA

Nguyen Ba Hoc Cultural Center  
Westminster, CA

Vietnamese Mutual Assistance Assoc. of CT  
Hartford, CT

Vietnamese Association of Illinois  
Chicago, IL

Vietnamese Mutual Association  
Wichita, KS

Wichita Indochinese Center  
Wichita, KS

Vietnamese American Civic Association  
Boston, MA

Office of Social Concern  
Springfield, MA

Springfield Vietnamese American Civic Assoc.  
Springfield, MA

Maryland Vietnamese Mutual Association  
Wheaton, MD

Center for Asian Pacific Islanders  
Minneapolis, MN

Center for Asian Pacific Islanders  
Minneapolis, MN

Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association  
Rochester, MN

Vietnamese Social Services of Minnesota  
St. Paul, MN

Southeast Asian Refugee Community Home  
Minneapolis, MN

Montagnard Dega Association  
Greensboro, NC

Vietnamese American Cultural Organization  
New York, NY

Asian American Community Services Assoc.  
Tulsa, OK

Vietnamese American Association  
Oklahoma City, OK

Housing & Employment Development  
Houston, TX

Vietnamese Friendship Association  
Seattle, WA

**Washington D.C.**—The National Alliance of Vietnamese American Service Agencies (NAVASA) today announces its annual National Conference to be held in Orange County, California at the Doubletree Hotel Anaheim from July 24 to 26, 2003. This year's conference is NAVASA's sixth year convening its affiliate members and the general public to attend the two-days events filled with training workshops and a young leaders' recognition banquet.

This year event is co-hosted by the Economic & Employment Development Center (EEDC) and the Nguyen Ba Hoc Cultural Center (NBHCC), two of NAVASA's local affiliates headquartered in Southern California. Despite the natural limited resources as a community-based organization, "EEDC will proudly contribute staff's time and effort in planning this year conference with the cooperation of faith based community organizations to serve our community", expressed Mr. Phuc Thai, EEDC Executive Director. Chairman of NBHCC, Mr. Linh Nguyen stated, "NBHCC believes in community empowerment through collaboration and mutual assistance. We look forward to working together and learning from each other, to make this year conference successful and beneficial to all participants".

The theme for 2003 conference is "Capacity Building: In-depth Technical Assistance". This is an extension of last year's theme ("Capacity Building") because as a national advocacy agency, NAVASA will continue responding to the critical needs on the growth, strengthening, and survival of Vietnamese mutual assistance associations (MAAs) across the country. Chairman/CEO of NAVASA, Mr. Duc Hong Duong, said, "Participants will learn from national experts—from the basic of starting and operating a non-profit organization to the techniques of grant writing and the complex task of fiscal management and grant reporting compliance". The conference entails three components. The two-day program will include training workshops for community-based (CBOs) and faith-based organizations (FBOs) and leadership development for young Vietnamese-Americans. "We expect that the participants will gain the practical know-how to strengthen their organizations and better serve their communities in time of shrinking resources", Mr. Duong added.

As part of the leadership component, NAVASA will launch the [National Young Community Leaders Recognition](#) (NYCLR). Young Vietnamese Americans who have been empowering and developing their communities will be nationally recognized at the Conference Reception. To make the NYCLR a success, NAVASA encourages friends and members of the Vietnamese community to help disseminate the application package.

For further information on conference and NYCLR application, please visit our website at [www.navasa.org](http://www.navasa.org) and/or contact Thanh Tran at [thanh.tran@navasa.org](mailto:thanh.tran@navasa.org) or (301) 587-2781.

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