

DEVELOPMENTS FROM EBALDC

NOTES FROM THE (INTERIM) CEO'S DESK



Dear Friends,
I can't believe it's fall already, with the return of warm, sunny days and kids back in school! As I write to you, we have just observed another Mid-Autumn Festival, celebrating the connection of friends and family through sharing a meal and the sweetness of mooncakes (especially those from one of our excellent Chinese bakeries

in Oakland Chinatown). I am reflecting on the warmth of all those who came out—friends, colleagues, partners, residents, and supporters of all stripes-- to Preservation Park on September 7th to celebrate 48 years of EBALDC's vision for affordable housing and locally-owned and community-serving businesses and nonprofits. In a time of regional economic and political challenges and change, I hope we can continue to grow our relationship with you, our EBALDC supporters and friends. To that end, welcome to our new Developments from EBALDC quarterly update!

Cheers,
Lina



Did you know that the beloved civil rights leader Yuri Kochiyama once lived at the San Pablo Hotel?



*Presentation of the Oakland Heritage Alliance plaque
I-r Ener Chiu (EBALDC staff), Vicki Shu (EBALDC staff), Samuel Kevy (Asm. Mia Bonta), César Macías (Cong Barbara Lee), Ted Dang (EBALDC Board), Supervisor Lena Tam, Council President Nikki Fortunato Bas, Leslie Francis (EBALDC Board), Agnes Ubalde (EBALDC Board), Beth Rosales (EBALDC Board), Mary Harper (Oakland Heritage Alliance Board)*

Asian Resource Center Building Celebrates 100 Years

EBALDC recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Asian Resource Center building—a milestone reflecting the EBALDC founders' early vision of a center for Asian community-serving nonprofits with commercial spaces that would also reflect the community's needs. Complete with a lion dance set to the rhythmic sounds of drums, cymbals, and gong and Chinatown flavors (custard tarts, spring rolls, BBQ pork puffs, and milk tea), the celebration included guided tours of the Asian American Elder Voices exhibit, and a plaque dedication commemorating the historic significance of the ARC. All on hand, Oakland's elected officials, were entertained by EBALDC co-founder Ted Dang's storytelling around the founding of EBALDC as well as the history of the building at the corner of Eighth and Harrison streets

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Spotlight on Lion's Pride: Q & A with Kevin Celeridad, Youth Programs Co-Manager



Q: What is the Lion's Pride Program?

A: In 2011, EBALDC staff developed our Lion's Pride Youth Program when they saw other youth providers come in and out of our community without a solid commitment to resident or youth engagement. Now in 2023, we have a program that is highly regarded by parents, the students, and their schools. Program staff focus on building rapport with the families and work with them on academic or wellness goals for their children.

Q: Who are your students?

A: The students in the program—residents at the EBALDC-run Lion Creek Crossings complex—are a diverse mix of primarily Middle Eastern, Latinx, and African American origin.

Q: What's your favorite thing about your job?

A: Getting to know the kids, seeing them grow and succeed, and seeing them get comfortable with sharing themselves.

Q: What's the most challenging part of your job?

A: The trauma that our kids experience sometimes on a day-to-day basis that they have gotten used to—trauma over things like gun violence and harassment and bullying. You can tell sometimes a kid is upset about something but that's not what it's about.

EBALDC's Lion Creek Crossings, located in East Oakland's Havenscourt neighborhood, provides 567 affordable homes for families and seniors, as well as public housing.

Save the Date:

- Giving Tuesday: November 28, 2023
- Lunar New Year Celebration: February 2024
- 49th Annual Gala Celebration: September 5, 2024



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Year
Campaign



VITA is Gearing Up for 2023 Tax Season

EBALDC's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program provides free tax preparation services for community members. In the 2022 tax season, our VITA program returned over \$1.8 million dollars to low-to middle-income community members. 103 dedicated volunteers supported the free preparation of 1,318 tax returns through their collective contribution of 3500 volunteer hours. We are gearing up for the 2023 tax season and are looking for volunteers. If you or anyone you know might be interested in volunteering for VITA, please email volunteer@ebaldc.org. Roles include intake specialists, tax preparers, translator, and admin support. If you are looking to learn new skills, work directly with clients, and have a real impact in your community, please be in touch. No experience is necessary.



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