Dear Friends,

Happy Year of the Rabbit! On behalf of our team at CISC, we wish you a healthy and joyous year ahead.

Throughout this year, CISC will continue to make a positive difference for immigrant communities in King County. We will serve the community through more than 20 programs for families, youth, and seniors and are launching a new location in Renton to house our South King County Family Resource Center.

Each day at CISC, our team of 130 bilingual staff demonstrates their compassion and commitment to empowering immigrants and their family members who speak Cantonese, Mandarin, Russian, Vietnamese, Spanish, Ukrainian, and English by:

- **Improving lives:** We enable families and seniors to navigate and access vital services that support their health and well-being.
- **Bringing joy:** In-person and virtual programs for seniors, parents, caregivers, and youth promote social connections and lifelong learning.
- **Strengthening community:** We work closely with our partners in the community and elected officials to respond to urgent and emerging needs and advocate for policies and resources to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion. We are also continuing our efforts to address hate and bias as part of the Coalition Against Hate & Bias.

In this time of celebration, community, and joy, we have been jolted by the sudden and devastating news of the tragedies in California. We send our love to Monterey Park and Half Moon Bay, the victims’ loved ones, and everyone impacted by the tragedies. We stand in solidarity with the communities across the country who continue to show up for, protect, and honor one another.

As always, I am available to meet in person or virtually to hear your feedback about CISC’s mission to serve the community.

Best,

Michael Itti
Executive Director
Sunshine Garden Lunar New Year Celebration

Fifty seniors attended in person and 20 joined via zoom for the Sunshine Garden's event to ring in the Lunar New Year on Friday, Jan. 20. The celebration included many performances, lucky draws, and many fun activities. We were glad to have the Northwest Association for Performing Arts and UW Chinese Cultural Association join us to perform Peking Opera and many traditional Chinese dances.

Seniors appreciated the Chinese calligraphy teacher for writing ‘Fai Chun’ with new year greeting words and enjoyed the Chinese art and crafts taught by a senior volunteer. Many enjoyed taking pictures with the god of Wealth. We also passed out lucky red envelopes and traditional rice cakes.

CISC at Tết in Seattle Health Fair

Our Healthcare Access and Outreach, Family Caregiver Support, and Community Living Connections teams including two Vietnamese-speaking staff provided community health resources and information during the two day Tết in Seattle health fair Jan. 14-15 at the Seattle Center.

The Tết Festival celebrates the cultural roots of Vietnamese Americans through the celebration of Tết, the Vietnamese Lunar New Year, with exciting programs including games, food, live entertainment, lion dance, and cultural village.

Lunar New Year Celebration at our new Renton office

Sixty families including two hundred Chinese and Vietnamese clients from our early childhood education and South King Family Center programs participated in our Lunar New Year Celebration on Jan. 25 in our new Renton office. The event started with a lion dance followed by cultural performances, games, and arts and crafts. Children received a goodie bag filled with treats, red envelopes, and a Lunar New Year Card.

CISC is addressing Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)

Our team members have been reflecting on how we address social determinants of health (SDoH) through our programs and services. SDoHs are the "non-medical factors that influence health outcomes" according to the World Health Organization. Factors such as English proficiency, neighborhood safety, housing, food access,
discrimination, and more impact health outcomes. Understanding how these factors influence health can lead to developing and implementing more effective health promotion programs and policies.

To advance equity, CISC advocates for resources and policies to develop programs centered around the social, emotional, cognitive, physical, cultural, and linguistic needs of the people we serve for every person to have optimal health and well-being.

Donate to CISC

Thank you and be well!

CISC Team

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