



One Hundred Nineteenth Congress
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 16, 2025

Mr. Wayne Ho
President and Chief Executive Officer
Chinese-American Planning Council
45 Suffolk Street
New York, NY 10002

Dear Mr. Ho:

The Committee on Homeland Security (Committee) is investigating the potential use of federal funds by non-government organizations (NGOs) to facilitate illegal immigration. On April 3, 2025, the Oversight Project released an undercover video of the Chinese-American Planning Council (CPC) purportedly conducting a “training” session on how to “evade” federal immigration enforcement efforts.¹ Since 2022, CPC was awarded \$1,453,070.20 in U.S. taxpayer-funded federal grants during the Biden-Harris Administration. Public records indicate that CPC received at least \$925,929.69 of the total awarded amount.² The Committee is deeply concerned that CPC and other NGOs that receive taxpayer dollars may be advising or training illegal aliens on strategies to avoid cooperation with immigration officials.

In the undercover video, Ms. Carlyn Cowen, CPC’s Chief Policy and Public Affairs Officer, is seen explaining strategies for avoiding and potentially impeding immigration officials during a seminar in New York.³ Ms. Cowen advises her audience, among other suggestions, that “hardening your physical space,” is a priority in preparing for potential encounters with immigration officials. Similarly, Ms. Janice Northia, a Community Engagement Manager from the New York Immigration Coalition, explained to the audience how to identify and minimize contact with immigration officials.⁴

¹ @ItsYourGov, X (Apr. 3, 2025, 9:55 AM), <https://x.com/ItsYourGov/status/1907794060141609216>.

² *Chinese-American Planning Council Inc.*, USASPENDING.ORG, <https://www.usaspending.gov/search/?hash=a4012806fd3e7975504c82ea6ae16b80> (Last visited Apr. 7, 2025).

³ Oversight, *supra* note 1.

⁴ Oversight Project, *supra* note 1.

Approximately fifty-five percent of CPC's revenue comes from federal and state government grants.⁵ While CPC was awarded more than \$1.4 million in direct federal grants from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) since 2022,⁶ CPC may have received additional federal funding awarded through New York. For example, between June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2023, CPC received at least \$4,754,187.00 in HHS-funded awards passed through various programs operated by New York and the City of New York.⁷

Moreover, since 2020, New York received over \$123 million in Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).⁸ Additionally, FEMA allocated and distributed \$59,302,125.07 to the City of New York for FY2024 through its Shelter and Services Program (SSP)-Allocated program⁹ and \$22,169,838.00 to the City of New York for FY2024 through its SSP-Competitive program.¹⁰

New York has received substantial federal funding related to services for illegal aliens released by federal immigration officers. While CPC has an apparent interest in assisting illegal aliens in avoiding federal immigration enforcement, it is unclear whether any of its publicly reported government funding originated from the EFSP or SSP programs. The Committee, therefore, seeks a full accounting of federal funds awarded to CPC either directly or indirectly to ensure compliance with federal law.

In recent years, CPC reported significant revenue levels, especially since 2021. For example, from fiscal years 2011 to 2016, CPC reported an average revenue of approximately \$21.8 million. From fiscal years 2017 to 2020, CPC reported an average revenue of about \$30.9 million. In fiscal year 2021, however, CPC reported a revenue of about \$50.1 million, which then nearly doubled to \$97.4 million in fiscal year 2022.¹¹ Meanwhile, leading up to 2021, CPC advocated for "clemency and parole to all [illegal] immigrants"¹² and supported an organization dedicated to abolishing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.¹³

⁵ *Chinese American Planning Council Inc*, PROPUBLICA, <https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/organizations/136202692/202401359349305260/full> (last visited Apr. 8, 2025);

⁶ Recipient Profile, Chinese-American Planning Council Inc, USASPENDING, <https://www.usaspending.gov/recipient/c4d16369-3863-5ce4-cc6c-eaeddc95928-C/all>.

⁷ *Chinese-American Planning Council, Inc. and Affiliates Consolidated Financial Statements (Together with Independent Auditor's Report), Years Ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, 26-27, available at* https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/display_audit/2023-06-GSAFAC-0000031380 (last visited Apr. 8, 2025).

⁸ *State Award History*, Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program, <https://www.efsp.unitedway.org/efsp/website/websiteContents/index.cfm?template=fundedLROAwardByPhase.cfm> (last visited Apr. 10, 2025).

⁹ *Shelter and Services Program – Allocated FY24 Awards*, FED. EMERGENCY MGMT. AGENCY, <https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/shelter-services-program/fy24-awards/ssp-a> (last visited Apr. 8, 2025).

¹⁰ *Shelter and Services Program – Competitive FY24 Awards*, FED. EMERGENCY MGMT. AGENCY, <https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/shelter-services-program/fy24-awards/ssp-c> (last visited Apr. 8, 2025).

¹¹ *Chinese American Planning Council Inc*, PROPUBLICA, <https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/organizations/136202692>.

¹² @CPC_NYC, X (Nov. 2, 2020, 12:05 PM), <https://x.com/ItsYourGov/status/1907794060141609216>.

¹³ @CPC_NYC, X (Nov. 2, 2020, 11:51 AM), <https://x.com/ItsYourGov/status/1907794060141609216>.

To aid the Committee with its investigation into the potential use of federal funds by NGOs to facilitate illegal immigration, please provide the following documents and information as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 30, 2025:

1. Copies of all materials, including, but not limited to, notes, electronic presentations, flyers, and pamphlets that any representative of CPC used to prepare for and present during the March 8, 2025 seminar “How Community Groups & Faith Leaders Can Protect Immigrant New Yorkers;”
2. Copies of all materials, including, but not limited to, notes, electronic presentations, flyers, and pamphlets that any representative of CPC used to prepare for and present during any immigration-related seminar, from November 4, 2024 to the present;
3. All documents and communications, including but not limited to, e-mails and text messages, referring or relating to CPC’s participation in any immigration-related seminar, from November 4, 2024 to the present;
4. Copies of all federal grant applications submitted by or on behalf of CPC, CPC Home Attendant Program, Inc., and CPC Tenant and Building Services, Inc., from January 20, 2021 to the present;
5. Copies of all justification documents submitted by CPC, CPC Home Attendant Program, Inc., and CPC Tenant and Building Services, Inc., to the federal government during any grant award period, from January 20, 2021 to the present;
6. Copies of all applications submitted by or on behalf of CPC, CPC Home Attendant Program, Inc., and CPC Tenant and Building Services, Inc., for sub-grants for federal government grants awarded to the state of New York or the City of New York, from January 20, 2021 to the present;
7. A document sufficient to describe all expenditures made by CPC, CPC Home Attendant Program, Inc., and CPC Tenant and Building Services, Inc., using funds from federal government grants awarded directly to CPC, CPC Home Attendant Program, Inc., or CPC Tenant and Building Services, Inc. from January 20, 2021 to the present;
8. A document sufficient to describe all expenditures made by CPC, CPC Home Attendant Program, Inc., and CPC Tenant and Building Services, Inc., using funds from sub-grants for federal government grants awarded to the state of New York or the City of New York, from January 20, 2021 to the present;
9. A document sufficient to describe all recipients of financial support as a sub-grantee or partner organization from CPC, CPC Home Attendant Program, Inc., and CPC Tenant and Building Services, Inc., funded through grants from the state of New York or the City of New York which originated with the federal government and the corresponding dates of receipt and amounts, from January 20, 2021 to the present;

10. A document sufficient to list all political appointees in the Biden-Harris Administration who engaged in discussions with CPC referring or relating to federal funding for any CPC activity, from January 20, 2021 to the present; and
11. All documents and communications, including but not limited to, e-mails and text messages, referring or relating to any potential foreign funding sources for CPC, CPC Planning Council Home Attendant Program, Inc., and CPC Tenant and Building Services, Inc., from January 20, 2021 to the present.

An attachment contains instructions for responding to this request. Please contact the Committee on Homeland Security Majority staff at (202) 226-8417 with any questions about this request.

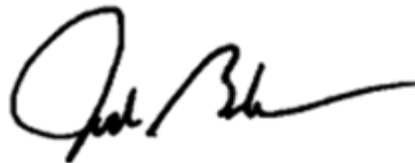
Per Rule X of the U.S House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security is the principal committee of jurisdiction for overall homeland security policy, and has special oversight functions of “all Government activities relating to homeland security, including the interaction of all departments and agencies with the Department of Homeland Security.”

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



MARK E. GREEN, M.D.
Chairman



JOSH BRECHEEN
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight,
Investigations, and Accountability

Encl.

cc: The Honorable Bennie Thompson, Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security

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The Honorable Shri Thanedar, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations,
and Accountability