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SOUTH BAY FIRST THURSDAYS JOINS FORCES WITH AACI

(San Jose, CA) – South Bay First Thursdays announced today that it has become a program of Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI).

South Bay First Thursdays is a volunteer-run group whose mission is to foster a sense of community and understanding through educational events focused on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. They host a monthly dinner series directed toward early-to-mid career Asian and Pacific Islander professionals who are interested in supporting community activities and discussing issues that affect Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. South Bay First Thursdays provides a forum for networking, shared learning among peers, and community service opportunities.

Founded in 1973, AACI is the largest community-based organization focused on the health, mental health, and well-being of Asian Americans in Santa Clara County.

“We’re excited about joining forces with AACI,” said Tamon Norimoto, one of the organizers of South Bay First Thursdays. “We look forward to continuing to provide high-quality programs that engage young Asian American professionals, with the backing of an established nonprofit organization like AACI.”

South Bay First Thursdays and AACI have been in conversations for about a year. The missions of the two organizations align, and leaders of both groups felt that a partnership would be mutually beneficial.

“AACI is passionate about developing the next generation of Asian American community leaders in Silicon Valley,” said Michele Lew, President and CEO of AACI. “We have great respect for South Bay First Thursdays and are eager to work with the organizers on civic engagement.”

“South Bay First Thursdays will retain our name, identity, and core programs,” noted Ellen Lin, another South Bay First Thursdays organizer. “Having AACI as a ‘parent’ will help us with fundraising and program administration.”

For more information about AACI and South Bay First Thursdays, please contact Kathleen Cordova at (408) 975-2730 or visit www.aaci.org.

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