

## Krystal C. K. Ka'ai

(b)(6)

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), Washington, D.C. August 2011 – Present**

*Executive Director (September 2013-Present); Acting Executive Director (June 2013-August 2013); Policy Advisor (August 2012-June 2013); Assistant Coordinator (August 2011-August 2012)*

- Develop, lead, and implement the legislative agenda, communications, and outreach strategy for a bicameral congressional caucus composed of over 70 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, including multiple House and Senate committee and caucus chairs. Advance Rep. Judy Chu's actions as chair of the caucus and work closely with her personal office staff to execute joint priorities.
- Coordinate internal caucus priorities with over 200 congressional staff liaisons and manage external communication and engagement with House and Senate leadership, congressional committees, and the Congressional Black Caucus, Hispanic Caucus, Native American Caucus, Progressive Caucus, Blue Dog Coalition, New Democrat Coalition, and LGBT Equality Caucus.
- Engage with the White House and federal agencies to advance key policy priorities on behalf of the caucus, including working with the Biden-Harris administration to advance racial equity initiatives, COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts, and immigration reform.
- Manage the caucus' budget and supervise the work of both full-time and part-time employees and legislative fellows and interns, including interviewing, hiring, training, and conducting performance reviews.
- Advise the Chairwoman and caucus members on a broad range of policy issues impacting the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community including health care, appropriations, immigration, education, civil rights, economic development, labor, housing, and foreign policy; advocate for greater diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts with both the federal government and external stakeholders.
- Plan weekly Member-level caucus meetings, briefings, and events; draft, edit, and approve briefing memoranda, hearing questions, letters, press releases, speeches, talking points, social media content, op-eds, and statements on behalf of the Chairwoman and the caucus.
- Serve as the principal liaison to engage with state and local elected officials, as well as corporate and non-profit stakeholder groups, on CAPAC's legislative and policy priorities.
- Direct an annual recruitment program that has increased the caucus' membership by 153% during my tenure.

#### **ASPIRE PAC (formerly CAPAC Leadership PAC), Washington, D.C. June 2013 – Present**

- Organize and prepare AAPI Members of Congress for meetings with Presidential candidates, as well as the heads of the DNC, DCCC, DSCC, and DNCC. Work closely with ASPIRE PAC Chairwoman Rep. Grace Meng and her team to coordinate the PAC's priorities, identify fundraising targets, and set political strategy to engage AAPI voters and candidates.
- Advise on policy content and approve press releases, social media posts, and letters on behalf of ASPIRE PAC.
- Engage with congressional candidates and facilitate the endorsement process, which has helped to increase AAPI representation in Congress by 54% over the past seven years.
- Liaise with presidential and congressional campaigns to coordinate the PAC's involvement in activities and events, including a virtual AAPI bus tour for the Biden-Harris campaign.

#### **United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C. June 2011 – July 2011**

*Committee Intern, Chairman Daniel K. Akaka*

- Prepared materials for committee hearings, roundtables, and briefings; drafted memoranda and hearing questions for the Majority Staff Director, Policy Director, and committee staff. Assisted with legislative research and analyses pertaining to federal Indian policy and American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian affairs.

**State of Hawai'i, Office of Hawaiian Affairs D.C. Bureau, Washington, D.C. Sept. 2010 – June 2011**  
*Legislative and Research Fellow*

- Advised DC Bureau Chief on policy matters relating to Native Hawaiian federal recognition, education, economic development, and health care; tracked federal legislation, conducted research, and drafted memoranda and policy recommendations; worked with congressional offices, Obama Administration officials, state elected officials, and national advocacy organizations on Native Hawaiian issues.

**National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, Washington, D.C. November 2010 – May 2011**  
*Program Associate*

- Managed the organization's fundraising database and performed routine analysis, calculations, and data processing for internal fundraising reports; helped Executive Director organize Board meetings, plan events, draft letters, and maintain correspondence with community stakeholders and donors.

**KHON2 News, Honolulu, HI July 2009 – August 2009**  
*News Intern*

- Shadowed reporters and managed daily newsroom duties such as monitoring stories, scheduling interviews, logging tapes, selecting and editing footage for news packages, and drafting scripts for on-air use.

## **CAMPAIGN EXPERIENCE**

**Biden for President Volunteer May 2020 – November 2020**

- Founding Member of the Biden-Harris Asian American and Pacific Islander Kitchen Cabinet; Advisory Committee Member of Japanese Americans for Biden; Member of AAPI Hill Staff for Biden.

**Hillary for America Volunteer January 2016 – November 2016**

- Member of Hillary Clinton's Asian American and Pacific Islander Leadership Council. Helped to organize Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders for Hillary national launch event.

**2012 Democratic National Convention Volunteer August 2012 – September 2012**

- Assisted DNC Director of Asian American and Pacific Islander Outreach organize and run official DNC AAPI Caucus meetings; compiled and updated AAPI surrogate, delegate, and ethnic media contact lists; recruited, trained, and managed volunteers to assist with meetings and other events.

**Hawaii Democratic Coordinated Campaign Volunteer October 2012 – November 2012**

- Assisted coordinated campaign efforts for the Hawaii Democratic Party; supported regional field operations to support Barack Obama for President, Mazie Hirono for Senate, Colleen Hanabusa and Tulsi Gabbard for Congress, and Democratic candidates down the ballot.

## **AFFILIATIONS**

- **Congressional Asian Pacific American Staff Association, Washington, D.C.**  
*Advisory Board Member (May 2020 – Present); Professional Development Co-Chair (2017-2019); House Vice President (2015-2017)*
- **Kamehameha Schools Alumni Association – East Coast Chapter, Washington, D.C.**  
*Member (2010-Present); Board of Directors (2012-2016)*

## **EDUCATION**

**Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA May 2010**  
B.A. with Honors in Political Science; Minors in English and Business

**American University, Washington, D.C. Summer 2009**  
Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) Program