



Asian Task Force
Against Domestic Violence
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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Passing Down the Torch and Legacy

Atsuko Toko Fish, Chair of ATASK Welcomes New Chair Kija Kim

Feb. 6, 2009 - Boston, MA - The annual meeting for the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence held on Jan 29, 2009 bought upon a promising sense of hope for the new year, in conjunction with a sense of nostalgia and sadness; Atsuko Toko Fish, the chair of ATASK announced her retirement from the board after six dedicated years of service. She passed down the torch to Kija Kim, who served as the vice-chair of the board last year as well as being the co-chair for the Silk Road Gala, and has been with the agency since 2005.

Recently retiring as the President and CEO of Harvard Design and Mapping Company, Inc. (HDM) which she co-founded in 1988, Kija Kim commits herself to ATASK's efforts as the new chair. Her determination and hard work has earned her with multiple titles and awards such as the Woman-Owned Business Enterprise Award from the department of Transportation, Woman in Transportation Seminar (WTS) Woman of the Year, and one of the Top Ten Women in Technology (Enterprising Women). Having plethora of experience in the fields of professional business, entrepreneurship, and communications; and participating in numbers of civic affairs, Kim is well qualified to be Atsuko Fish's successor. "I have no doubt that Kija and the new board team will lead us to the next chapter of ATASK with new strategic direction and expected programs for Asian individuals and families who need our help." Atsuko Fish mentioned in her address during the annual meeting.

As retiring chair, Atsuko Fish spoke strongly about what it meant for her to "Choose hope over fearing change" in her final address to the board members and the agency: "There is no tolerance against any violence. Our mission is to protect human rights and justice for women and children who are helpless. It is time for ATASK to reach out the community to educate and prevent domestic violence more rigorously; it is the time to reinforce our excellent reputation and program; and it is time to strengthen the capacity and ability of our staff and services in developing a long term strategy to overcome the challenging situations and environment." As an official US citizen after living in this country for 25 years, in order to vote in this year's presidential election, Fish has been deeply inspired by President Obama and this New Year full of promising change. Her heartfelt words were passionate and full of conviction. At the end of her address which marked the culmination of her four years as Chair and six dedicated years of service, an emotionally moved Atsuko Fish was embraced by her husband Larry as the rest of the members broke in endless applause and a standing ovation. As a token of thanks, the ATASK staff purchased a chair in Fish's honor for the shelter's family room and the board and staff members have contributed towards the professional development fund.

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About the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence

Incorporated in 1992, the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK) is a non-profit organization that provides New England's only multilingual emergency shelter and support services for Asian survivors of domestic violence and their children. ATASK works to eliminate family violence and strengthen Asian families and communities. Its education and outreach initiatives benefit thousands of people each year, through an increased awareness of domestic violence, survivors' resources, and cultural competency.