

Friend:

Last winter a group of young Asians -- Chinese and Japanese sansei and others -- established a storefront on Amsterdam Avenue and 90th Street, New York City. This drop-in center is called "Chickens Come Home to Roost."

Since its opening, these young men and women -- mostly college and high school students -- have conducted free classes in Japanese history, Japanese language, and Chinese language (Cantonese), as well as a media workshop. Other programs and activities are now being planned, i. e. a class in Chinese history and the possible operation of a rice co-op.

Significantly, these concerned young people have been relating to the local community -- composed for the most part of Puerto Ricans and Dominicans. They -- the storefronters -- have become a positive force by helping and supporting the residents especially in the area of housing.

A recent incident will cite their sense of community responsibility. Several weeks ago the apartment of a respected Latin neighborhood leader and his family caught fire. Immediately after the storefronters received word of the disaster they rushed to the burnt-out premises where they spent three-to-four days removing debris and cleaning and scraping the walls and ceiling of the gutted apartment. In addition, the young Asians contributed food, clothing and other basic needs to replace what had been destroyed in the fire. This is community involvement at its best.

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The storefronters have the energy, motivation and talent to "do their thing." Since most of them are students, however, they lack the financial resources necessary to initiate special projects -- one of which is set forth on the attached sheet.

This meaningful effort offers each of us an unusual opportunity to provide the funds needed for publishing the storefront's first edition of the newspaper which will link Asian Americans on the East Coast with their brothers and sisters throughout the country.

Your support is earnestly solicited.

Please make checks payable to William Kochiyama, 545 West 126th Street, Apt. 3B, New York, New York 10027. Each gift will be acknowledged by the storefront.

Cordially,

BILL
William Kochiyama

May 10, 1971

NEWSPAPER PROPOSAL

Chickens Come Home to Roost, the Asian American Center, is planning to publish a newspaper beginning this June (1971). Many people have felt the need for an ongoing Center project to bring together the Asians who have been stopping by the storefront, and it was felt that a newspaper would be a good choice. Not only would it be educational in terms of articles, a newspaper would require coordination, teamwork and Asian ingenuity.

The storefront newspaper will not be organizational, in the sense that it would reflect certain well-defined political lines. Articles will be solicited from Asians outside of as well as inside the group. The only guidelines for articles would be the already existing position statement of the CCHTR Storefront, which is general enough to appeal to a wide range of Asians. As a media directed at Asians, the newspaper is meant to keep Asians informed about what is happening to Asians on the East Coast, and to educate ourselves about this experience so that we may better deal with it.

The Storefront needs funds with which to cover the initial costs of the first issue planned for June. The estimated cost breakdown is as follows:

Printer

8-page paper	2000 copies	\$90.00
(black and white)		

Typesetter

8-page paper	50.00
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<u>Layout Materials</u>	30.00
(paper, dry set lettering, etc.)	

Total	<u>\$170.00</u>
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All labor for this project will be donated by people from the storefront.

We would greatly appreciate any financial assistance you could give us in launching our newspaper.

Thank you.

Terry DeFoo
Terry DeFoo