

What's Happening at APF: A Message from the Executive Director

I am excited to share with our readers the stories of our community's resolve in support of APF's mission. Across the U.S., Pakistani-American leaders are proving the critical role of the diaspora in strengthening ties between the two nations and advancing development efforts in Pakistan.

Our talented youth leadership is building connectivity with the ease and speed of technology in new and innovative ways. Thanks to young leaders, our community is registering to vote in record numbers to ensure everyone counts in November. Regardless of political affiliation, civic engagement is a resounding celebration of one of the great exercises of our great democracy.

It has also been my pleasure to share APF's mission at community events throughout the country in the previous month. Discussions with community leaders in APPNA, OPEN and others are uncovering newfound opportunities for collaboration in public, private and civic partnerships in the U.S. and Pakistan. Some of these exciting community events are highlighted in the Community Connection section. A growing sense of the potential of the diaspora and allies to collaborate through an inclusive, non-partisan and secular platform is building tremendous momentum.

It is especially exciting to witness the role of women in shaping APF's mission at multiple levels. Women leaders, including BOD members Shazia and Vanessa, are driving critical thought leadership at the national level. I draw your attention to Vanessa O'Brien, APF's recent BOD confirmation, in the leadership in Action series. National and regional women leaders, across the US, in cities like Houston, San Jose, New York and Chicago, are building community capacity through partnership.

With Fall in the air and the November elections a few weeks away, it is a great time for us to demonstrate our collective contribution to building safe and prosperous communities everywhere. I look forward to working with you in APF's commitment to a vibrant and engaged Pakistani-American diaspora.



Amber Jamil
APF Executive Director

Leadership in Action

Vanessa O'Brien

Vanessa was the Managing Director of a financial service consultancy focused on developing market entry strategies, building strategic alliances and purchasing credit portfolios until the global recession hit in 2009. The unfavorable business environment led her to re-evaluate her short-term goals while a chance encounter and twist of fate led her towards the goal of summiting Mt Everest - despite her never having walked in a pair of crampons, worn a harness... [Read More](#)

