

Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts (SEACMA) Narrative: Community Investment Plan (CIP)

In February 2023, SEACMA welcomed Tuyet Tran to the Executive Director position. The Board of Directors was expanded in 2023 to include additional leaders from the community. Additionally, the Board and SEACMA leadership began the Strategic Planning process.

As a result of this reorganization, growth, and planning, SEACMA is refining the Community Improvement Plan for 2024 and beyond. As an organization, SEACMA has a re-focused service area and is in the process of refining the organization's programs, with a focus on economic development, healthy aging, and starting a social enterprise.

Section 1: Community or Constituency(ies) to be Served by the Organization

Service Area

Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts (SEACMA) primarily operates in Greater Worcester, Massachusetts; however, SEACMA does offer support to Asian individuals and families in 10 area towns (listed below) where there are no culturally responsive organizations which specifically provide support to Southeast Asians, of which the agency is aware (see attached Service Area Map). The service area has been refocused to ensure diligent and focused program and service provision; however, SEACMA does not turn away anyone who seeks services and supports.

Service Area List: Auburn, Boylston, Fitchburg, Framingham, Holden, Leicester, Leominster, Shrewsbury, West Boylston, Worcester

Constituency(ies) to be Served: Population, Demographics, and Geographic Characteristics

Located 40 miles west of Boston, the City of Worcester is a Gateway City with a population of 205,319.¹ As the second most populous city in New England, Worcester has many strengths, as well as significant and unique areas of need. Worcester is a relatively young city, with approximately 20% of the population under the age of 18. The median age is 34.6 years. The City is diverse; 64.7% White, 12.7% African American, 6.8% Asian, 23.9% Hispanic and Latino, 9.8% from two or more races or other. In Worcester, 21.9% of individuals are foreign born. "Worcester is the largest resettlement community in Massachusetts, with 21% of all new arrival refugees/asylees in Massachusetts being placed in Worcester in FY2014."² In August 2023, Governor Healy declared a state of emergency in the Commonwealth to support the increase in migrants.³

The median household income in Worcester is approximately \$63,011 (per capita income, \$33,592); \$95,505 in Massachusetts. Approximately one-third of households in Worcester are female headed. Family Economic Risk Factors:

¹ US Census (2022). Note: unless otherwise stated, all information is sourced from the US Census, 2022.

² Greater Worcester Community Health Assessment (2015).

³ <https://www.mass.gov/news/governor-healey-declares-state-of-emergency-calls-for-support-for-newly-arriving-migrant-families>

- 19.5% of families live below the poverty line in Worcester
 - 11.6% of families with children below the age of 18 live in poverty
 - 11.3% of families with children under 5 live in poverty
 - The majority (58%) of the population in Worcester rents their housing⁴
 - 52.3% of renters pay more than 30% of their income on rent and utilities; an indicator of economic distress
 - 24.9% of renters pay more than 50% of their income on rent and utilities
 - 17.2% received food stamps/SNAP assistance in 2021
- 648 households/2,278 individuals were experiencing homelessness at the time of the 2023 Point in Time Homeless Count⁵

While Worcester is home to a number of colleges and universities, the education attainment level of its residents is overall lower than that of the Commonwealth. As a percentage of the population 25 and older, 15.3% Worcester residents had less than a high school degree while 30.2% had a bachelor's degree or higher; compared to Massachusetts which had 9.2% and 43.7% respectively.⁶

Situated within Central Massachusetts, Worcester is the largest city in New England for refugee resettlement and has one of the largest immigrant populations in the Commonwealth. There are approximately 36,000 foreign-born individuals from Asia residing in Worcester; 54.1% are naturalized citizens. The majority of SEACMA's clients are English Language Learners (ELL) of Vietnamese, Nepali (Bhutan, Nepal), Cambodian, Burmese (Karen, Kareni, Rohingya), or Laotian descent. SEACMA also serves clients from Afghanistan, as well as other newcomers. SEACMA is a welcoming place for new refugees and welcomes new groups as they come to the area. Some clients lack reading proficiency in both English and their home language.

SEACMA intake data indicates that 90% of SEACMA clients are low-income (60% of the estimated median state income) and many face food and dire housing insecurity. With low-income backgrounds, limited English proficiency, and the challenges of assimilating into mainstream society, clients come to SEACMA as a first resort. Many clients are multi-generational families, with elders, adults, youth, and children living in the same household. They are immigrants of the first, second, or third generation who find it difficult to obtain resources and who live in crowded conditions on the South and East sides of Worcester with extended family members.

Section 2: Involvement of Community Residents and Stakeholders

SEACMA was awarded certification as a Community Development Corporation (CDC) in January 2021. SEACMA developed an initial Community Investment Plan (CIP) in 2021; in 2024, SEACMA revised the CIP. This updated Community Investment Plan has been developed and approved by SEACMA's Board of Directors, who are community residents and stakeholders, for implementation as of January 2024. Of SEACMA's board members, 80% have

⁴ US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (2020).

⁵ Worcester Point in Time Homeless Count (2023).

⁶ US Census, (2020).

multiple years of experience in assisting immigrants and refugees; and 75% are community leaders. The Board of Directors, with input by residents, stakeholders, and SEACMA leadership, has been the driving force behind the initiation of, and planning for, the Community Investment Plan.

In February 2023, SEACMA welcomed Tuyet Tran, MSW, LICSW, as Executive Director. Ms. Tran is one of the founding members of SEACMA. Ms. Tran has a long history with SEACMA as a board member, former Executive Director, and supporter. Ms. Tran has 30+ years of clinical experience in providing culturally responsive behavioral health care and providing innovative clinical and care coordination models that support mental wellbeing. Ms. Tran has guided the organization through a refinement of programs. Ms. Tran and the Board are engaged in the creation of a Strategic Plan for the organization (anticipated launch fall 2024).

Over the past year, SEACMA's Board of Directors has expanded; the Board has been revising and reassigning Board Committees. As a part of this process, SEACMA's Executive Director and Board of Directors will stand up a Community Advisory Committee which will monitor and implement the Community Investment Plan. The committee will be comprised of Board members, community residents, and stakeholders; there will be a minimum of 7 committee members. The committee will guide the organization as members; set priorities for property acquisition and development; partner with the organization to address neighborhood issues; and drive the setting of priorities from the CIP plan. The committee will meet quarterly; minutes will be maintained for each meeting and shared with the Board.

This CIP plan is devised in accordance with SEACMA's mission: to assist the Southeast Asian population of Central Massachusetts, and others, to successfully integrate, thrive, and become contributing citizens while maintaining their unique cultural heritage. As a cultural steward, an essential part of the mission is leveraging SEACMA's values-driven influence and cultural expertise to advance social justice, equity, and understanding to shape the American narrative through the Southeast Asian immigrant and refugee experience. Expanding economic opportunities and cultural preservation are both a large part of SEACMA's mission in serving residents of Greater Worcester. SEACMA provides holistic and culturally responsive services by supporting the economic, social, emotional, and cultural education development for the Southeast Asian community, as well as all who come to SEACMA. Across all programs, SEACMA's multi-lingual staff advocate for and serve approximately 1,200 individuals and families annually through several programs to access healthcare, housing, youth/elder programs, economic development, civic engagement, cultural preservation, and more.

Section 3: Plan Goals

For more than two decades, SEACMA has provided essential services to immigrants, refugees, and low-income residents from Southeast Asia in Central Massachusetts. An organization which is highly responsive to the needs of the community, SEACMA has expanded program offerings, geographic reach, and the demographic profile to reach and meet the needs of more individuals, families, and elders in need. SEACMA pursues its mission by:

- Providing job training and assistance within career pathways while advocating for each individual's success.
- Bridging the gap between the Asian-speaking communities and the community at large.

- Supporting the academic, economic, social, and cultural needs of those who seek it.
- Promoting and embracing the cultural heritage of the different Southeast Asian cultures represented in Central Massachusetts.
- Promoting economic development for immigrant, refugee, and asylee communities within Central Massachusetts.

Goal #1: Economic Development

Promote economic development for immigrant, refugee, and asylees communities within Central Massachusetts.

SEACMA promotes economic development through programs and initiatives that develop an effective workforce, increases stability in the community, and develops the infrastructure of the community. SEACMA is embarking on a planning process for a social enterprise which will engage community members in urban agriculture.

Bridge the gap between Asian speaking communities and the community at large.

Language and cultural barriers, as well as lack of knowledge about small business regulations, contribute to many individuals and families who had successful businesses in their home country working in low-wage and/or seasonal jobs in restaurants or factories in Worcester. There is reason to believe that some members of the community work in exploitative conditions and sometimes are victims of trafficking. SEACMA promotes economic development, including business assistance and development. SEACMA provides technical and monetary (grants and loans) assistance to entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Provide job training and assistance within career pathways, while advocating for each individual's success.

Steady, gainful employment with a clear career pathway is an important step to stability for individuals, families, and the community as a whole. SEACMA will support the availability of employment opportunities which offer a clear career pathway within the community. SEACMA will support individuals to acquire the skills necessary to perform the positions that are available. Further, SEACMA will support skill acquisition, network development, and job placement for youth.

Goal #2: Individual and Family Empowerment and Equity

Promote equity by improving the academic, economic, social, health, and cultural outcomes of those who seek it.

SEACMA promotes equity for the community through academic achievement, economic success, and social and cultural promotion. SEACMA recognizes that the community will be successful and robust only when its members can achieve equity. SEACMA promotes the development of members of the community, to include building the economic capacity, mobility, and stability of low-income community members (e.g., homeownership assistance, financial education, foreclosure prevention, Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), and savings programs).

Promote and embrace the cultural heritage of the different Southeast Asian cultures represented in Central Massachusetts.

Over 20 years of experience and assessment has reinforced to SEACMA that many of SEACMA's clients, who are by and large immigrants, refugees, and asylees, have brought to their new home in Central Massachusetts traditional high-level skills that have been mostly lost in the US. These skills include tailoring, fine sewing, weaving, precious metalsmithing, lacquering, embroidering, and wood carving. SEACMA will support the preservation of these artisan skills, as well as traditional dance, foodways, stories, and other cultural and artistic activities.

Goal #3: Community Investment

Explore long-term interventions and investments which holistically support the economic- and comprehensive health of the community.

SEACMA is actively exploring opportunity-lead real estate development projects in the low-income neighborhood(s) with high populations of Southeast Asian, low-income, underserved, and underrepresented residents. Development projects would ideally be mixed use, and could include: small business incubator, to include a professional/commercial community kitchen which would give community members a space to start-up cultural food businesses; workspace for artisanal handicraft creation; and entrepreneur and small business start-up space. SEACMA may host some its offices or programs in this space. Further, SEACMA would consider space that could be rented to small businesses and/or a gym for youth mentorship could be included in this property development project. The property could also include multi-generational housing. Multi-generational housing would encourage the caring of elders and children within those housed there.

Section 4: Activities to be Undertaken

SEACMA relies on its multi-cultural and multi-lingual staff, dedicated volunteers, and many private, public, and municipal partners throughout the City, region, and Commonwealth to support community members and promote their economic health and growth. SEACMA seeks to utilize best practices in all services areas.

Activity Area #1: Economic Development

Promote economic development for immigrant, refugee, and asylees communities within Central Massachusetts.

SEACMA will foster a social enterprise which employs community members to grow mushrooms, herbs, vegetables, and microgreens for distribution to community members in need.

- Grow mushrooms for distribution to community members for food security, hiring community members to implement the full program.
- Develop and implement a full plan for the social enterprise, expanding to herbs, vegetables, and microgreens.
- Market and sell excess produce to area restaurants and specialty grocery stores; profits will support the organization.

Bridge the gap between Asian speaking communities and the community at large.

SEACMA will promote economic health, economic participation, and entrepreneurship by providing business translation, technical assistance services, loan services, and incubators;

supporting economic development; and providing outreach and connection to public, private, and municipal partners for economic development.

- SEACMA will seek out and distribute information regarding economic participation, entrepreneurship, business opportunities, etc., from public, private, and municipal sources for the benefit of the community.
- SEACMA will offer translation and technical assistance services.
- SEACMA will offer small business loans to qualified applicants.
- SEACMA will make connections and serve as a bridge between community members and private, public, and municipal bodies for the purpose of promoting the economic health of the community at large. Organizations include the Small Business Administration, Center for Women and Enterprise, etc.
- SEACMA will plan to provide small business incubator and start-up opportunities to community members, if space allows.
- SEACMA provides timely support to business owners and their staff in response to external changes and pressures.
- SEACMA provides entrepreneurs and small business owners with grants and loans to grow their business.
- SEACMA mobilizes the small business owners in the community to provide support in times of need (e.g., donation and distribution of personal protective equipment and food, etc.).

Provide job training and assistance within career pathways, while advocating for each individual's success.

SEACMA will support low- and moderate-income individuals to assess career interests, strengths, needs, and goals; chart a career pathway; complete job training, to include hard and soft skills; and pursue employment.

- SEACMA conducts outreach to identify, recruit, and educate community members about career support and training opportunities. SEACMA disseminates information to community members who are English Language Learners in Greater Worcester and Central Massachusetts through gatherings, celebrations, and festivals.
- SEACMA provides career skill assessments which assess career interests, strengths, needs, and goals; SEACMA documents individuals' progress as they chart a career pathway.
- SEACMA supports individuals as they develop their job skills, to include hard and soft skills, through training and education.
- SEACMA supports individuals as they pursue long-term employment, with a clear career pathway.
- SEACMA encourages small businesses to hire community members for sustainable jobs.
- SEACMA supports individuals as they file for unemployment insurance in the event they lose their position.

Activity Area #2: Individual and Family Empowerment and Equity

Promote equity by improving the academic, economic, social, health, and cultural outcomes of those who seek it.

SEACMA will promote equity by improving the academic, economic, social, and cultural outcomes of those who seek it.

- Direct and Referral Services: SEACMA staff answer questions regarding access to education, healthcare, careers, entrepreneurship, and tax and voting information. SEACMA promotes and provides opportunities for civic engagement. SEACMA supports individuals as they seek citizenship. SEACMA dispenses critical information in a timely manner, from health and safety information; to census and voter information; to information about opportunities for financial relief; and more.
- Education: SEACMA offers English as Second Language (ESL) courses, academic tutoring, family literacy support, Vietnamese as Second Language (VSL)
- Social and Cultural programs: SEACMA promotes youth's healthy activities, academic success, and community leadership through Youth Effect. SEACMA promotes food security through the Cultural Urban Garden Project and the hot meal and CSA delivery program. SEACMA promotes healthy aging-in-place for community elders. SEACMA supports the celebration of Southeast Asian culture through numerous cultural events, open to the community.
- Emergent Community Issues: SEACMA is highly responsive to the changing needs of the community and initiates new or revised programs when needed.

Promote and embrace the cultural heritage of the different Southeast Asian cultures represented in Central Massachusetts.

The preservation and celebration of cultural heritage and arts is fundamental to a thriving Southeast Asian community in Worcester, as well as the community at large.

- SEACMA will provide support the preservation and presentation of traditional arts, crafts, dance, etc.
- SEACMA showcases cultural heritage through festivals, celebrations, and gatherings which are open to the community and the public.
- SEACMA provides lessons in traditional dance and encourages the preservation of traditional foodways through recipe preservation and communal meals.
- SEACMA will explore formalizing cultural preservation practices through the formation of a school(s) for dance and other arts.
- Artisans are encouraged to participate in the economic development activities offered by SEACMA.

Activity Area #3: Community Investment

Explore long-term interventions and investments which holistically support the economic- and comprehensive health of the community.

SEACMA will identify, purchase, and renovate a property in a neighborhood with a high number of Southeast Asian, low-income, underserved, and underrepresented residents. SEACMA will design and create a mixed-use space which meets the needs of the neighborhood and promotes holistic community health.

- SEACMA will identify and purchase a suitable property.
- SEACMA will plan and complete needed renovations.
- SEACMA will plan and open the building as it is usable.

Section 5: How Success will be Measured and/or Evaluated

Evaluation Area #1: Economic Development

Promote economic development for immigrant, refugee, and asylees communities within Central Massachusetts.

- Pounds of produce grown/distributed
- Number of community members employed

Bridge the gap between Asian speaking communities and the community at large.

- Small business owners attend business-related education/training sessions
- Small business owners receiving technical assistance
- Small business grants/loans distributed
- Small business owners connected to private, public, or governmental bodies for business promotion

Provide job training and assistance within career pathways, while advocating for each individual's success.

- Individuals Employed

Evaluation Area: Individual and Family Empowerment and Equity

Promote equity by improving the academic, economic, social, health, and cultural outcomes of those who seek it.

- Individuals receiving Direct and Referral assistance
- Individuals receiving English as Second Language (ESL)
- Individuals participating in Youth Effect

Promote and embrace the cultural heritage of the different Southeast Asian cultures represented in Central Massachusetts.

- Festivals
- Festival attendance (total)

Evaluation Area #3: Community Investment

Explore long-term interventions and investments which holistically support the economic- and comprehensive health of the community.

SEACMA will:

- Identify and purchase an appropriate property
- Plan and complete necessary renovation
- Open building

Section 6: Collaborative Efforts to Support Implementation

For over 20 years, SEACMA has helped connect more than 10,000 low- and moderate-income residents to local employers for stable jobs through partnerships with local government, organizations, universities, businesses, and corporations, such as: TJMaxx, FedEx, College of the Holy Cross, Clark University, City of Worcester, Quinsigamond Community College, etc.

SEACMA has collaborated with low- and moderate-income residents since 2016, in collaboration with Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC), to start local businesses (e.g., Pho Sure Restaurant, Kai Sushi Grill and Bar, etc.). This continued through the COVID-19

pandemic. SEACMA has supported the start-up a number of businesses, both during and following the pandemic, and has distributed grants and loans to small business owners to support growth.

SEACMA collaborates with Open Sky on workforce development and training care navigators. This program primarily focuses on preparing immigrants and refugees to become care navigators in the fields of health and behavioral health.

SEACMA collaborates with Worcester Public Schools to advocate for better education and employment opportunities for low- and moderate-income youth in Worcester.

SEACMA is also in partnership with local health care providers such as Family Health Center, UMASS Memorial, Community Health Link, Worcester RISE for Health, Center for Health Impact, Massachusetts Health Care for All, National Council on Aging, and Worcester Senior Center to support low- and moderate-income communities to maintain quality healthcare and access to health information.

SEACMA is supported by the Barr Foundation through the Power of Culture program in cultural preservation efforts. SEACMA partners with Health Resources in Action to implement the Healthy Aging program.

Section 7: Integration of Activities/Consistency with Community Strategy and Vision

SEACMA's Vision for the Future

SEACMA will complete and implement a strategic plan which will support the economic growth and development of the community. SEACMA will grow the social enterprise the organization is embarking on, increasing the quantity produce grown and distributed. This enterprise will provide food security for community members, employment opportunities, and income to support the organization. This enterprise will serve as an anchor of economic development for the community. SEACMA will be a cultural home for the community, as well. The organization will work with artisans and other community members to preserve cultural heritage, teach others, and share with the community. SEACMA will support small business growth and the well-being of community members.

SEACMA will plan to be an incubator for artisans (e.g., chefs, handicrafts, etc.) (when space allows), small businesses, and entrepreneurs. SEACMA will be an incubator for community leadership, economic and business leadership, civic engagement, social justice, and health equity.

Consistency of CIP with Other Neighborhood, Community or Regional Plans

Neighborhood and City-Level Plans:

Greater Worcester Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP): SEACMA's CIP is in alignment with the Greater Worcester CHIP's one goal of health equity, and the four principles: invest first in the community; empower, listen to, and respect community voice; eliminate gaps

between services; and honor trauma-informed approaches to care with equal measure to resilience approaches to care.

City of Worcester Consolidated and Action Plan: SEACMA's CIP is consistent with the City of Worcester's plans and goals for housing and community development. This consistency is seen both with the City of Worcester Five-Year Consolidated Plan, as well as its sub-plans (e.g., Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Housing Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Worcester Lead Abatement Program (WLAP)). SEACMA supports the City's goals and has complementary goals for housing production and economic opportunity.

City of Worcester Housing Strategy Recommendations: SEACMA's goals align with the Housing First Coordinating Council 2019 Annual Report. SEACMA supports the goals of ending chronic homelessness through the creation of housing stock, participating in a continuum of care, and working with community partners to support the housing first agenda.

Worcester Redevelopment Authority: SEACMA's goals align with the City of Worcester's Downtown Urban Revitalization Plan, 2016, as well as any subsequent revitalization plans for the City.

Regional or State-Level Designations or Plans:

Worcester as a Gateway City: The City of Worcester, formally designated as a Gateway City by the Commonwealth, acts as an economic anchor for the region. SEACMA is eager to continue to participate in the economic development of the City. SEACMA maintains a number of positive partnerships that advance the economic development of the community, the City and the region.

Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission: SEACMA's CIP aligns with the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission's Regional Housing Planning Initiative. SEACMA promotes fair and adequate housing for individuals and families in Worcester.

Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice: SEACMA is committed to supporting the proactive provision of fair housing in the Commonwealth, region and the City.

Section 8: Financial Strategy

As a trusted cultural broker and community-based agency since 1999, leveraging this program will greatly help our financial strategy as described below. (See 2024 Organization Budget and Statement of Financial Position Attached.)

- Working closely with the City of Worcester to identify a parcel of land or building owned by the city for community development purpose. SEACMA's Executive Director has been meeting with Peter Dunn, Worcester City Chief Development Officer, who has been very supportive and strongly suggested for SEACMA to set up a presence in the highly low-income Asian/immigrants/refugee- populated neighborhoods.
- Peter Dunn confirms opportunities to apply for CDBG for this project.

- Raising funding from business and philanthropists who will appreciate the CIP incentives.
- Renting space to small businesses and social support organizations.
- A membership gym for the community youth and young adults, if there is space available.
- Applying for economic development and job creation grants with state and federal to help with employment and job-readiness training.
- SEACMA has met with Jack Foley and will be meeting with area CDCs for additional advice and best practices. SEACMA will meet with representatives of the Asian Community Development Corporation for advice and best practices.

Section 9: History, Track Record, and Sustainable Development

History and Track Record

For more than two decades, SEACMA has provided essential services to immigrants, refugees, and low-income residents from Southeast Asia in Central Massachusetts. An organization which is highly responsive to the needs of the community, SEACMA has expanded program offerings, geographic reach, and the demographic profile to reach and meet the needs of more individuals, families, and elders in need. SEACMA pursues its mission by:

- Providing job training and assistance within career pathways while advocating for each individual's success.
- Bridging the gap between the Asian- and Arabic-speaking communities and the community at large.
- Supporting the academic, economic, social, and cultural needs of those who seek it.
- Promoting and embracing the cultural heritage of the different Southeast Asian cultures represented in Central and Western Massachusetts.

SEACMA offers a holistic suite of services which include:

- Direct/Referral Services: staff supports access to education, healthcare, careers, entrepreneurship, tax and voting information, along with providing civic engagement and citizenship opportunities.
- Education: courses support members of all ages and are offered on a rolling basis; include English Second Language (ESL) Courses, Academic Tutoring, and Vietnamese Second Language (VSL) Courses.
- Youth Effect: encourage and promote healthy activities, academic success, and community leadership.
- Economic Development: Job seekers are supported through the search process. Entrepreneurs and artisans are supported through Small Business Technical Assistance; support, workshops, and networking for small business owners and entrepreneurs; and grants and loans to small business owners.
- Art and Cultural Heritage Preservation: For twenty years, SEACMA has presented the annual Asian Festival, which draws more than 3,000 people annually to celebrate Worcester's cultural diversity. Beginning in 2016, SEACMA and Worcester Art Museum have collaborated in the Southeast Asian Artists in Residence program, bringing two artists from Asia to Worcester.

- Health and Wellness: SEACMA assists clients in accessing healthcare, to include mental health, heart disease, diabetes, and suicide prevention. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, SEACMA has distributed health and safety information and personal protective equipment to a population that is traditionally isolated and hard to reach. SEACMA distributes hot meals and CSA boxes (seasonal) to food insecure community members.
- Elder Program: SEACMA engages community elders to support their needs, while encouraging community engagement and volunteerism, from the community garden, to youth engagement, to cultural art and music preservation.
- Civic, Community, and Cultural Engagement: SEACMA educates community members of the importance and impact of civic and community engagement, to include census and voting participation. SEACMA supports and encourages community and cultural engagement, to include through festivals and cultural arts, crafts, and performances at public events.

SEACMA has been highly recognized for its work and accomplishments. Over the years, SEACMA's staff have been recognized for dedicated services to Asian immigrants, refugees, and asylees.

SEACMA is a member of the Worcester COVID Community Task Force, MA AAPI Commission, Worcester Chamber of Commerce, MA CDC, MA Nonprofit Network.

SEACMA and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Sustainable Development Principles

While SEACMA has been a strong champion of economic development in the Greater Worcester area, the organization is now embarking on the direct development of real property. SEACMA is confident that its mission and vision in this venture aligns with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Sustainable Development Principles.

SEACMA understands and is aligned with the principles and will work to advance the principles: Concentrate Development and Mixed Use; Advance Equity; Make Efficient Decisions; Protect Land and Ecosystems; Use Natural Resources Wisely; Expand Housing Opportunities; Provide Transportation Choice; Increase Job and Business Opportunities; Promote Clean Energy; and Plan Regionally. SEACMA will work with all private, public, non-profit, government, and municipal partners necessary to fulfill these principles.

Attachment List

- Service Area Map
- 2024 Organization Budget
- Statement of Financial Position (as of December 31, 2023; unaudited)
- CIP Adoption Documentation (upon approval, 03.11.24)
 - Board Meeting Agenda
 - Board Meeting Attendance List
 - Board Meeting Minutes