

**Record Group 10: Audio-Visual Resources
Series 1: Images**

**Photographs, Negatives, and Contact Sheets
(Black & White and Color)
1942-[ongoing]
(bulk 1960-1992)**

12.5 linear feet [ongoing]

**Japanese American Service Committee Legacy Center
4427 N. Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60640
(773) 275-0097 x224
archives@jasc-chicago.org
<http://www.jasc-chicago.org>**

**Prepared by Deborah Mieko Burns, Archivist
2002**

Overview of the Collection

- Creator:** Japanese American Service Committee (Chicago, IL)
- Title:** Photographs, negatives, and contact sheets (black and white and color)
- Dates:** 1942-[ongoing] (bulk 1960-1992)
- Abstract:** This record group documents the JASC's programs, events, activities, public relations efforts, outreach to other social services agencies, and community partnerships. Generally, JASC staff members created these images to document the agency. The images in this series date from 1942 to 1992 with the bulk dating from 1960 to 1992. Processing of this series and acceptance of new accessions are ongoing. This series includes black and white and color images. Photographs range in size from 2 ½ x 3 inches to 11 x 14 inches. Also included are negatives (35mm) and contact sheets. The images are arranged roughly chronologically. For related information and context, please see also Record Group 9 (Publications); Series 1 (Annual Reports), Series 2 (Newsletters), and Series 4 (Ephemera). The material will be administered in accordance with the *JASC Legacy Center Access & Use Guidelines* provided to all researchers. Researchers assume full responsibility for following libel, privacy, and copyright laws as they may apply to use of this collection.
- Quantity:** 12.5 linear feet (30 boxes) [ongoing]

Acknowledgements

The JASC Legacy Center gratefully acknowledges the Chicago Japanese American Council, Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Chicago, National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), and the Woods Fund of Chicago for generously supporting the preservation, processing, and care of this material.

Deborah Mieko Burns, Archivist; Mike Courtney, Archival Assistant; Ruth Kumata, Volunteer; and Dorothy Kaneko, Volunteer, processed this material.

Provenance

Generally, JASC staff members created these images to document the agency. There are images from other sources such as the U.S. War Relocation Authority. It is not known how the JASC acquired duplicate copies of these photographs. In addition, community members took photographs of JASC events and activities and donated them to the agency. These images have been stored at the current or previous JASC facilities.

Access and Restrictions

This material will be administered in accordance with the *JASC Legacy Center Access & Use Guidelines* provided to all researchers. Researchers assume full responsibility for following libel, privacy, and copyright laws as they may apply to use of this collection.

The preferred citation for this collection is: [Item Name, Folder Number, Box Number]. Record Group 10, Audio-Visual Resources. Series 1, Images. Japanese American Service Committee Legacy Center, Chicago, Illinois.

Container lists available upon request, archives@jasc-chicago.org or (773) 275-0097 x224.

History of the JASC

The Japanese American Service Committee (JASC) is a non-profit, community-based organization providing social services and cultural and community programming. It was founded in 1946 to assist in the resettlement of over 20,000 newly arrived Japanese Americans to Chicago who had been interned in U.S. concentration camps during World War II. Originally called the Chicago Resettlers Committee (CRC), the agency sought to help Japanese American resettlers with housing, job placement, educational, medical, social service, translation, and recreational needs. At the end of the resettlement era, the agency renamed itself the Japanese American Service Committee in October 1954.

After the initial postwar period of resettlement, the JASC undertook a new priority and sought to provide comprehensive services for seniors including English language classes, employment doing piece work (called the Sheltered Workshop begun in 1960), home visitations, and healthcare programs. In addition, the JASC began coordinating community-wide programs and cultural events such as arts and music programs, lectures, festivals, and special celebrations. Eventually the JASC expanded their activities to include other social services such as individual and family counseling, a nutrition program, meals on wheels, adult day services, and household care and general assistance for seniors. The agency constructed a 200-unit home for seniors in 1980 called Heiwa Terrace (920 W. Lawrence in Chicago) and a 180-bed skilled nursing care facility in 1993 called Keiro Extended Care Center (3919 W. Foster in Chicago). This nursing care facility is now called Harmony Nursing Home.

The JASC has been a center of the Japanese American community in Chicago since its founding. As a Japanese American social service agency, the JASC has been keenly aware of the important role it can and should play in preserving, promoting, and passing on Japanese and Japanese American traditions, history, culture, and arts. The agency has made that heritage an integral part of its programming and services.

Currently the JASC serves the Japanese American community in the Chicago metropolitan area as well as various parts of the Midwest. The JASC distinguishes itself by being the only Japanese American social service organization in the Midwest, but it has also grown into a community center used by many other Japanese American and Asian American organizations to hold meetings and events. The primary population the agency serves is Japanese American, but through its various social service programs, the JASC serves a diverse group of people regardless of age, race, gender, religion, sexual orientation or disability.

Today the JASC runs a wide variety of programs including Adult Day Services; Casework & Counseling; Home Support Services; educational workshops on topics such as health insurance, social security, senior driver's education, and estate planning; health screening and flu shot clinics; arts and cultural classes such as ceramics, ikebana (flower-arranging), origami, and tai chi; Japanese American community events

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and festivals; and the Legacy Center (an archive and library). The JASC also serves as a meeting place for many community groups such as the Tohkon Judo Academy, Tampopo-kai (pre-school), Northside Friends (Quakers), Asian American Law Enforcement Association, Angel Island Theatre Company, Chicago Nisei Post (veterans), New Horizons (a senior singles group), Nisei Minyo Dance Group, Ukulele Club, and the Quilting Club. The JASC is a partner with other groups in programs such as the Lunar New Year celebration, a citywide Japanese American community picnic, periodic Intergenerational Dialog programs, and the annual Day of Remembrance event honoring the U.S. Presidential signing of Executive Order 9066 (authorizing the internment of Japanese Americans). Today the JASC extends its services not only to Chicago' s Japanese American population, but also other Asian American groups and seniors.

Scope and Contents Note

This record group documents the JASC's programs, events, activities, public relations efforts, outreach to other social services agencies, and community partnerships. Generally, JASC staff members created these images to document the agency. The images in this series date from 1942 to 1992 with the bulk dating from 1960 to 1992. Processing of this series and acceptance of new accessions are ongoing. This finding aid describes the images that are processed dating from 1942 to 1992. Additional unprocessed images comprise approximately ten linear feet and the Legacy Center takes new accessions of images regularly.

This series includes black and white and color images. Photographs range in size from 2 ½ x 3 inches to 11 x 14 inches. Also included are negatives (35mm) and contact sheets. The images are arranged roughly chronologically. Processors removed slides from this series to be housed separately (see Series 2). Audio resources and moving images are also housed separately (see Series 3 and 4, respectively).

Unfortunately, this series has very little accompanying documentation about the images. Staff members labeled the groups of images in a general manner without providing specific information about people or events. Volunteers have identified individuals and events where possible. Staff members used many of these images in the agency's publications and public relations material. For related information and context, please see also Record Group 9 (Publications); Series 1 (Annual Reports), Series 2 (Newsletters), and Series 4 (Ephemera).

The term *Issei* refers to the immigrant generation who came to the United States from Japan. *Nisei* are second-generation Japanese Americans or the first generation born in the United States. *Sansei* and *Yonsei* are third and fourth-generation Japanese Americans, respectively.

The terminology for the different JASC programs and activities changed over time. The piecework employment program for seniors operated from approximately 1962 to 1987 was called alternately the Sheltered Workshop, Workshop, Work Center, Issei Work Center, and the Senior Work Center. The Adult Day Services program, begun in 1980, has been called alternately Day Care and Adult Day Care. The JASC formerly operated the Issei Comprehensive Program, a precursor to today's Adult Day Services Program. This program provided social services to seniors. The JASC hosts two community festivals or bazaars annually: Market Day (the first Saturday in June) and Christmas Delight/Sale (the first Saturday in December) now called Holiday Delight. Today the Mother/Toddlers Playgroup is called Tampopo-kai and has a more specific pre-school curriculum. The Nutrition Program, a daily hot lunch program for seniors, is now called the Golden Diners Program and is supported by the City of Chicago.

Generally information and dates listed on the folders and container lists were copied directly from the original folders. Information added by the processor is indicated in

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brackets [XX]. The JASC fiscal year runs from July to June. For example, fiscal year 1999 is July 1998 to June 1999.

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