



chhaya

Community Development Corporation

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Media Advisory:

Annetta Seecharran, Executive Director of Chhaya CDC to testify before Congress about the impact of discrimination and civil rights of the Muslim, Arab, and South Asian American Communities on March 1, 2022, at 10:00 AM

On Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 10:00 AM, Annetta Seecharran, Executive Director of Chhaya CDC will testify before the House Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee of the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties for a hearing on Discrimination and the Civil Rights of the Muslim, Arab, and South Asian American Communities. The virtual hearing can be viewed live on [YouTube](#).

Ms. Seecharran will be speaking on the consequences of post-9/11 backlash and policies affecting South Asians, Muslims, and Arabs, and to push for action to repair and reinvest in our communities. Annetta Seecharran's full testimony will be released at the conclusion of the hearing on <https://chhayacdc.org/hjhearingtestimony/>

Muslim, Arab, South Asian, and Indo-Caribbean communities experienced unprecedented levels of discrimination after 9/11 at every level – at work, on the streets, during transit, and in classrooms – while also being targeted by immigration and national security policies that profiled, detained, and deported many community members. Instead of investing in the safety and well-being of our communities after a national crisis like 9/11, government agencies and policymakers allocated resources for surveillance, detentions, and profiling. These decisions have had devastating consequences for South Asians, particularly working-class families with mixed immigration statuses, which are even more evident during the global pandemic.

After significant efforts by numerous organizations working with Muslim, Arab, South Asian, and Indo-Caribbean communities, this landmark opportunity to testify before Congress will hopefully mark the beginning of a wider dialogue with all levels of government to acknowledge and support those affected by the aftermath of 9/11 well after the initial backlash.

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