

ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMINISTRATORS

THIS. MUST. STOP.

Good afternoon ACCCA members,

We are focusing this "Monday Motivational" on the aftermath of yet another senseless act of violence—this time against our family in the AAPI community, and to condemn the culture of hate and marginalization that precipitated it.

Today we send our love, our encouragement and support to our Asian, Asian-American and Pacific Islander community as each of us try to process this latest blow to our collective humanity and motivate ourselves to act, as individuals and within our institutions. Today we challenge ourselves to do this as we continue to educate, advocate and inform our members.

ACCCA is a community of educators, managers and leaders in the largest and most racially diverse public higher education system, we know the *immense power* we have to act collectively, and as individuals, to make change. We must acknowledge the pain, fear and uncertainty that so many are experiencing on a daily basis, and redouble our collective efforts to confront hate, and the violence that always accompanies it, *now*.

Following the mass shooting in Atlanta last week, many organizations have come forward with statements and resolutions that essentially share the same message we send today: *This has got to stop*.

In particular, we want to support and concur with the statement that was distributed last week by the powerful coalition of our friends and colleagues at A2MEND, APAHE and COLEGAS. If you haven't read it, please do - it is linked here. Their statement is not only a compelling and thorough assessment of the issue, but it also stipulates actionable steps to educate, support and sustain momentum in the fight against anti-AAPI violence and marginalization.



We are not helpless in this fight.

As leaders at your colleges we encourage you to continue to make bold statements that hatred and bias are **not** tolerated, and continue to create systems and protocols for reporting and responding to incidents. Administrators *must lead the way* to ensure that supportive places exist on all campuses to connect, heal and provide a sense of belonging for our AAPI family.

We encourage you to continue to educate yourself—knowledge is power—and a couple of new opportunities to do that have emerged we want you to know about. You can plan to attend the Coalition's free webinar on March 27th, <u>Silence is Violence</u>: <u>Unpacking and Addressing Anti-AAPI Violence</u> to help you actively engage and build understanding as you develop your own plan of action.

On April 15th, APAHE [Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education] is also offering a virtual summit. The program, *Advancing a Racial Equity Agenda: Forging a New Path for AAPI's*, features the voices of nationally recognized AAPI leaders including a representative from the Biden-Harris Administration, and **Dr. Russell Jeung**, co-Founder of <u>Stop AAPI Hate</u>, the foremost organization collecting data essential to tracking incidences of anti-AAPI violence.

As we now turn to face another week ahead, we want to encourage each of you to continue to lead with grace, kindness and understanding. Find the beauty in each day to balance the darkness and challenges, and remember you are not alone.

We are ALWAYS stronger when we stand together.

With love and solidarity until the fight is won, ACCCA

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