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Dear CLIP Members,

Today Chicago's Philanthropy Affinity Groups - Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy Chicago, Chicago African Americans in Philanthropy, and Chicago Latinos in Philanthropy - are releasing a joint statement on violence directed towards the Asian-American community. We hope that you will join us in sharing and advancing this important call to our community.

## **A Joint Statement** from Chicago's Philanthropy Affinity Groups

Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP) Chicago, Chicago African Americans in Philanthropy (CAAIP), and Chicago Latinos in Philanthropy (CLIP) mourn the tragic murders in Atlanta that took the lives of 8 individuals that included 6 Asian women. These attacks appear to be the latest horrifying incident of anti-Asian sentiment in this country, which has resulted in more than 3,800 reported incidents of violence directed at Asian Americans in the past year, and has mostly targeted Asian American women. We unequivocally condemn these racist acts and the racialized misogyny that stems from white supremacy.

This violence underscores a long-standing grief and pain within AAPI communities. It is important to understand that anti-Asian violence has a long, embedded historical context in the United States. While these attacks have been directed towards the Asian American community, we must remember the parallels between these attacks and the continued anti-Black racism and antiimmigrant rhetoric that permeates our history and collective consciousness. We need to ask ourselves: what does it take to dismantle white supremacy in this moment as this is the root of the continued violence directed at the Asian American community? How do we come together and see each other's humanity while recognizing the shared trauma that our communities are facing in this difficult moment?

We need solidarity. We need action. We need an end to white supremacy.

While all of our needs cannot be met today, we offer a few resources that may be of support in these trying times:

- Shifting Philanthropy: AAPIP National and Native Americans in Philanthropy have co-authored this <u>letter</u> to the editor in *The Chronicle of* Philanthropy that is pushing the philanthropic sector to act now.
- Bystander Intervention: AAPIP Chicago is planning for a Bystander <u>Intervention training</u> next month in partnership with Asian Americans Advancing Justice; more details to come once we confirm the date. In the meantime, you can sign up to attend and/or share the training opportunity with your colleagues, friends, and family.
- Elevating Our History: The TEAACH Act will amend the Illinois School Code to include an Asian American History Curriculum in every public school in Illinois. It also pairs with the five-hour PBS film series and K-12 curricula, compliant with Common Core and National Standards, designed to be easily adopted into lesson plans and curricula. It recently passed through an IL House Committee and will head to the House floor for a vote. Contact your legislators today about this important act!

We are grateful for our partners and stakeholders who continue to build a more just and equitable society for all.

In solidarity,

The Steering Committee of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy Chicago

The Leadership Team of Chicago African Americans in Philanthropy The Steering Committee of Chicago Latinos in Philanthropy

**#StopAsianHate** 







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