



Coalition For Asian American
Children+Families

Open Letter: Standing in Solidarity in Response to Anti-Asian COVID-19 Related Discrimination

The Coalition for Asian American Children and Families along with the undersigned concerned individuals and organizations supporting the diverse communities across New York City, and dedicated to the well-being of those most marginalized, call on our elected officials, mainstream and ethnic media, and the general public to stand together against xenophobia and protect the health and well-being of all our children and families.

We call for solidarity in support of Asian Pacific Americans, primarily East Asian-presenting Americans, who have been subjected to rampant discrimination and hate surrounding the novel 2019 coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.

We strongly denounce the racist language against Asians and Asian Pacific Americans employed by United States' President Donald J. Trump and his administration, who cited COVID-19 as the "Chinese virus" and "Kung-flu." This only fuels anti-East Asian sentiments. With the U.S. State Department's push to call the disease the "Wuhan virus" at the G7 summit and the recently proposed House of Representative Resolution 907, our federal government is further cementing the harmful narrative of Asian Pacific Americans as "perpetual foreigners" and failing to protect them from more stigma and discrimination. When such words and actions come from the highest level of our government, racism becomes more normalized.

We know from our nation's history, during times of fear and uncertainty, people of color and immigrants have been scapegoated and targeted through hateful actions, both on individual and systemic levels. Jewish immigrants were blamed for the spread of tuberculosis at the turn of the 20th century. Anti-Black racism and homophobia surrounded the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Asian Pacific Americans have faced racist U.S. policies dating back to the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, the 1917 Immigration Act, and the internment of Japanese Americans through executive order in the 1940s.

Today, fear and uncertainty are once again resulting in targeted acts of racism towards Asian Pacific Americans. In New York City, there have been violent attacks against East Asian-presenting individuals, a steep decline in business at Asian-owned enterprises, and

xenophobic representations of the virus in local media. Disease does NOT discriminate based on race or ethnicity. COVID-19 is a public health concern that impacts ALL of us.

We are New Yorkers, residents of a city that is rich in diversity and strong in community.

During this period of heightened anxiety and fear, we must not allow misinformation and prejudice about communities of color to divide us. We must listen to and learn from each others' experiences and tackle all racially motivated discrimination. We call on each of us - individuals, families, communities, organizations, businesses, media, and the local government - to stand together both in the face of, and in the aftermath of this crisis. **Only through solidarity will we be able to collectively heal and address the inequities faced by the most marginalized communities.**

CACF Member Organizations

A Place for Kids

Adhikaar

Apex for Youth

APICHA Community Health Center

The Arab-American Family Support Center

Asian American/Asian Research Institute – CUNY

Asian Americans for Equality

Center for All Abilities

Center for the Integration and Advancement of New Americans (CIANA)

CMP

Chhaya CDC

The Child Center of New York

Chinatown YMCA

Chinese-American Family Alliance for Mental Health

Chinese-American Planning Council

Chinese Progressive Association

Council of Peoples Organization

Damayan Migrant Workers Association

Filipino American Human Services Inc.

Grand Street Settlement

Hamilton-Madison House

Henry Street Settlement

Homecrest Community Services, Inc.

Immigrant Health & Cancer Disparities Service

India Home

Indochina Sino-American Community Center

Japanese American Association of New York, Inc.

Japanese American Social Services, Inc.

Korean American Family Service Center

Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York

Mekong
MinKwon Center for Community Action
Sakhi for South Asian Women
Sapna NYC
South Asian Council for Social Services
South Asian Youth Action
Turning Point for Women and Families
United Chinese Association of Brooklyn
United Sikhs
University Settlement
Womankind
Women for Afghan Women
YWCA of Queens

Partner Organizations

#MEAction New York
Academy of Medical & Public Health Services
Act Up - Fight Covid-19!
Alice Meichi Li Illustration
Alliance for Quality Education
Angela's Pulse
Arena
Artists Co-Creating Real Equity (ACRE)
ArtsPool
Asian American Performers Action Coalition
Asian-American Association of the CSA
Bannon Consulting Services
BronxWorks
Build A Movement 2020
Center for Racial Justice in Education
Chinese Methodist Center Corporation
Clever Girl Productions
Commission on the Public's Health System
Committee for Hispanic Children and Families (CHCF)
Cora Group
D30 Equity Now
District 15 Parents for Middle School Equity
Diverse Charter Schools Coalition
Edgility Consulting
Educational Resource Company
El Centro Del Inmigrante
FPWA
GAPIMNY—Empowering Queer & Trans Asian Pacific Islanders

Girl Be Heard
Girls for Gender Equity
Habitat for Humanity New York City
Hispanic Federation
Homecrest Community Services Inc.
Human Services Council of New York
ICAP at Columbia University
IntegrateNYC
Japanese American Citizens League - New York Chapter
Kalayaan Consulting
Kolot Chayeinu / Voices of Our Lives
LatinoJustice PRLDEF
LEAP (Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics)
Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club of Queens
Make the Road NY
MapSO Freedom School
NAACP Legal Defense Fund
NAPAWF NYC Chapter
Neighbors United Below Canal
New American Leaders
New School
New York Appleseed
New York Coalition for Asian American Mental Health
New York Foundation
New York Immigration Coalition
Nonprofit New York
NYC Coalition for Educational Justice
NYU Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools
Planned Parenthood of Greater New York
Pridelines
Project New Yorker
Radical Evolution
Sadhana: Coalition of Progressive Hindus
Sikh Coalition
Teach For America - New York City
Teens Take Charge
The Anthropologists
The Cranky Queer Guide to Chronic Illness
The Dancer-Citizen
The Dinner Guys Giving Circle
The New York Women's Foundation
The Osborne Group, Inc.
The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond

Theater Mu

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