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STOP AAPI HATE Receives over 1,100 Incident Reports in Two Weeks



Friday, April 3

LOS ANGELES—Since its official launch on March 19, 2020, the STOP AAPI HATE reporting center has received over 1,100 reports of coronavirus discrimination from Asian Americans across the country. The reporting center was founded by the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON), Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) and San Francisco State University's Asian American Studies Department.

Trends from week two can be found in the April 3rd report, linked <u>here</u>. They include the following:

- Stop AAPI Hate has received 1,135 reports in its first two weeks
- AAPI women are harassed at twice the rate of men
- AAPI children/youth are involved in 6.3% of the incidents
- Despite shelter-in-place policies being implemented across the nation, the number of discriminatory incidents remains high
- With shelter-in-place, a significant number of incidents are now taking place in grocery stores, pharmacies and big box retail

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Vietnamese and Khmer, Vietnamese and Hindi as well as English, Simplified and Traditional Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Thai, with Tagalog and a few additional South Asian languages coming soon. The lead organizations are working with public, private and other community-based organizations to develop targeted education and media campaigns, to provide resources for impacted individuals and to advocate for policies and programs dedicated to curtailing racial profiling.

"The flood of incidents related to anti-Asian hate--over 1,100 and counting--reflect the hostile environment that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders face during this pandemic. The data helps us respond to specific community needs and make targeted policy recommendations. These include providing mental health resources to bullied youth and ensuring that stores provide safe access for AAPIs to their goods and services." said Russell Jeung, Ph.D., chair and professor of Asian American Studies at San Francisco State University.

It's disheartening to see such a high number of incidents, especially when we consider that much of the nation is sheltered-in-place," stated Manjusha Kulkarni, executive director of Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON). Being targeted at grocery stores, pharmacies and in their neighborhoods adds an additional challenge for Asian Americans during this crisis. It makes basic tasks of everyday living-- buying food, filling prescriptions and getting a little exercise-- all the more difficult."

"Our task ahead of us is to provide resources and information for impacted communities. We also need to mobilize community groups and to demand greater accountability from government agencies and leaders to address anti-Asian racism," said Cynthia Choi co-executive director of Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA). "In times of crisis and longer term, we need to work alongside other communities that are targeted to get at the underlying causes of hate."

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The <u>Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council</u> (A3PCON) is a coalition of more than forty community-based organizations that serve and represent the 1.5 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the greater Los Angeles area, with a particular focus on low-income, immigrant, refugee and other vulnerable sectors of the population.

<u>Chinese for Affirmative Action</u> was founded in 1969 to protect the civil and political rights of Chinese Americans and to advance multiracial democracy in the United States. Today, CAA is a progressive voice in and on behalf of the broader Asian American and Pacific Islander community. We advocate for systemic change that protects immigrant rights, promotes language diversity, and remedies racial and social injustice.

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U.S. Rep. Ted Lieu and Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Organizations Urge AANHPI Communities to Complete the 2020 CENSUS

LOS ANGELES, April 1, 2020 – Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON) joins members of the Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Census 2020 Collaborative in emphasizing the importance of filling out the 2020 Census even amongst the fears generated by COVID-19. In times like this, it becomes apparent how important it is to be counted regularly so that resources can be allocated appropriately.

Since COVID-19 has come to the United States and California is largely experiencing shelter-inplace, organizations that are part of the AANHPI Census 2020 Collaborative have been educating community members about the Census and its importance using social media and other virtual tools, using 21st century tools to reach out to community members, despite no longer being able to hold events in person.

The work includes outreach to ten communities in over twenty languages, including, but not limited to Bangla, Cambodian/Khmer, Cantonese, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Marshallese, Samoan, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Tongan, Urdu, Vietnamese, and English.

"Estimates are that for every person that goes uncounted, states, local communities and schools lose \$2,000 per person per year. That affects class sizes, public safety, healthcare programs and many other critical services. A more complete response to the Census means more opportunities for a brighter future for our community. I'm grateful that A3PCON put together a virtual event to help us highlight this issue," remarked U.S. Representative Ted Lieu.

"We realize now more than ever how important it is to complete the census. We need to make sure we have all the public health, education, and social service resources in place for our communities, many of which are designated as hard-to-count," said Ruthann Chou, Program Manager, A3PCON.

"Pacific Islanders have so much at stake this 2020 Census. It is about being seen and heard as a community. Being counted is our tautua, our kuleana, our duty to those who came before us and those who will follow," shared Tavae Samuelu, Executive Director, Empowering Pacific Islander Communities.

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Due to necessary shelter-in-place policies, A3PCON held a virtual press conference on Zoom on April 1, Census Day. U.S. Rep. Ted Lieu joined A3PCON and our AANHPI collaborative partners to urge community members to complete the 2020 Census.

Community Calendar







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