



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Muslim Community Center, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MCC Condemns Recent Anti-Asian American Violence

March 20, 2021

Once again, as a nation, we are facing the deeply painful news of violence and are reminded of the profound harm caused by racism, hate, and discrimination. The murders of eight people in Atlanta, six of whom are Asian, is another heartbreaking and disturbing example of the rise of violence against people of Asian descent in America. We now know the names of all eight victims, and our thoughts and our prayers go out to the family of these individuals:

- Soon Chung Park, age 74
- Hyun Jung Grant, age 51
- Suncha Kim, age 69
- Yong Yue, age 63
- Delaina Ashley Yaun, age 33
- Paul Andre Michels, age 54
- Xiaojie Tan, age 49
- Daoyou Feng, age 44

We, the members of the Muslim Community Center, are outraged and deeply saddened by yet another instance of anti-Asian discrimination and violence. Since the start of the pandemic, nearly 3,800 reports of anti-Asian discrimination and violence have been tracked by [Stop AAPI Hate](https://www.stopaapihate.org/), including over 400 physical assaults. It is vital that we recognize the vulnerabilities that many in the Asian, Asian-American, and Pacific Islander communities have been experiencing in these disturbing times.

The rise of anti-Asian hate, and this heinous act in specific, points to deeper, systemic issues of xenophobia, imperialism, and white supremacy that we as a society must investigate. As Muslims, we **MUST** raise our voices and take action. Our work starts here in our own community to help develop an antiracist mindset and to dismantle the model minority myth that serves to silence the pain and challenges of the AAPI community. We must stand in solidarity with the Asian, Asian-American, and Pacific Islander communities as we work to build a community of support, care, compassion, and justice.

Please refer to the following websites to learn more about the impact of hate and violence on AAPI communities and to learn more about how you can help:

- Asian Americans Advancing Justice: <https://www.advancingjustice-aaajc.org/>
- Bystander Intervention Trainings from Hollaback: <https://www.ihollaback.org/>
- Stop AAHPI Hate: <https://stopaapihate.org/>
- #ImReadyMovement for AAPI Women: <https://www.imreadymovement.org/>

The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services has provided the following list of resources available to the AAPI community, and all communities, to deal with acts of racism and violence:

- **Maryland State Attorney General Hotline to Report Hate Crimes**



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- *The State Attorney General's Office will make referrals to local law enforcement for further investigation when appropriate.*
- 1-866-481-8361
- **Montgomery County Office of Human Rights**
 - *The Office of Human Rights investigates incidents of hate/violence and complaints of discrimination. Victims of hate/violence crimes can seek compensation for replacement of property through the County's Partnership Fund, administered by the Office of Human Rights.*
 - 240-777-8450
- **Montgomery County Family Justice Center**
 - *The Center works with multiple agencies in a safe and secure facility to provide coordinated advocacy, government, civil legal services and social services for victims of domestic violence and their children.*
 - <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/fjc/>
 - 240-773-0444
- **Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project**
 - *DVRP provides services to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Washington DC, Maryland and Virginia.*
 - <https://dvrp.org/>
 - Hotline number 202-833-2233
- **Montgomery County 24 Hour Crisis Center**
 - *The Crisis Center provides emergency crisis evaluations for individuals who are experiencing a mental health crisis.*
 - 240-777-4000
- **Asian American Health Initiative**
 - *AAHI has a large library of health resources from around the county in multiple Asian languages.*
 - <https://aahiinfo.org/aahi-resources/>
 - 240-777-4517
- **Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center**
 - *The Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center provides a wide range of resources for the immigrant community, including food and rental assistance, healthcare information, where to find immigration and legal advice, and more.*
 - <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/gilchrist/>
 - 240-777-4940

MCC's mission is to promote brotherhood and human dignity among all by developing an environment of understanding, compassion, and justice in our personal and professional lives. We strive to serve the needs of the Muslim community and community at large in a manner that promotes its positive image and standing in a changing environment. We aim to represent the Muslim community in interfaith circles, in government, public and media relations, and in the society at large.

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For more information, please email info@mccmd.org or call 301-384-345.