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We at the Greater Rochester Health Foundation are saddened to write this statement and we sit with heavy hearts over the troubling rise of hateful rhetoric, white supremacy, xenophobia, sexism and the surge of anti-Asian harassment and hate crimes in our country. We mourn the loss of the eight individuals killed in Georgia last week -six of whom were Asian American women- and we condemn this and all horrific acts of hatred.

Research from [Stop AAPI Hate](#) reports nearly 3,800 reported incidents over the course of the year during the pandemic, with a disproportionate number of attacks directed at women. This alarming and traumatic rise in anti-Asian racism must not be ignored.

As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. famously observed: *"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."*

It is everyone's responsibility to address anti-Asian hate and violence everywhere. We stand with local partners and pledge to continue doing our part in combating [racism as a public health crisis](#) and supporting our beloved Asian and Asian American communities in our region.

In solidarity,

Greater Rochester Health Foundation

Tiana Flynn Stephens, Heidi F. Burke, Anita Black, Monica Brown, Danette Campbell-Bell, Mimi Enadeghe, Ari J. Elliot, Kristine K. Feeney, Matthew A. Kuhlenbeck, Justin Rand, Chiara Smith, Hannah Stark, Kristin Verbanic

HOW TO HELP

Talk, Listen, Learn:

Host a conversation, or participate in local discussions such as [Asian Matters](#), produced by [Levine Center to End Hate](#) and [Monroe Community College's Department of Global Education & International Services](#). The free series explores the Asian and Asian American communities of Greater Rochester, the history of racism and xenophobia aimed at Asian and Asian Americans in our country, and ways we can work together to support our Asian and Asian American neighbors.



Virtual sessions are scheduled for **Sunday, April 11** and **Sunday, May 2**.

Register [here](#) and watch a replay of the March 21 session [here](#).

SURJ ROC (Showing up for Racial Justice - Rochester) offers an online workshop "Responding to Racist Remarks," designed to teach white people to speak up when they hear racist remarks. SURJ ROC's purpose is to support the missions of People of Color-led racial justice groups in the Rochester area in their fight against oppression and inequality. SURJ works to educate white people about privilege and white supremacy and organize white people to act for racial justice with passion and accountability. The next workshop is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 14**. View additional offerings including "Allyship/Accompliceship" [here](#).

Explore & Share Resources:

The White House's [Memorandum Condemning and Combating Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States](#)

[Anti-Asian Violence Resources](#) including links to statements, donation pages, education resources, and more

[Resource Directory](#) from Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy (AAPIP)

[Resources for Allyship and Fighting Anti-Asian Discrimination](#) prepared by Airbnb employee resource group Asians@.

Safety tips from [Stop AAPI Hate](#), ways to help if you witness a hate incident, and reports showing the extent of this disturbing rise in AAPI-targeted incidents of hate and violence

NatGeo article: [America's long history of scapegoating its Asian citizens](#)

Donate:

[Asian American Defense Fund](#)

[AAPI's Civic Engagement Fund](#)

[Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy's Supporting API Communities Resource Directory](#) shares ways for the philanthropic sector to take meaningful action in the midst of the heightened violence and hate targeting Asian American communities, with links to API-serving organizations and coalitions, national and local response efforts, and resources for learning, safety, and support.

Respond:

Sign the Community-Centered Response to Violence against Asian American Communities to join [Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Atlanta](#). Sign on as an [organization](#) and/or an [individual](#).

Sign a [Change.org](#) petition to end hate crimes against Asian Americans.



Centered in equity, the mission of the Greater Rochester Health Foundation is to pursue and invest in solutions that build a healthier region where all people can thrive.



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