

Asian-American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Cohort

November 9, 2023

### **OVERVIEW**

- (01.) AAPI Cohort
- 02. Background
- (03.) Recommendations
  - 1. Address bias among youth and in the school community
  - 2. Launch a public relations campaign
  - 3. Apply racial equity lens to county decision making involving AANHPIs
  - 4. Expand the capacity of AANHPI community-serving organizations
  - 5. Promote cross-community solidarity
- Acknowledgements
  References
  Resources



### **AAPI COHORT**



ARYANI ONG
CHAIR
Founder, Montgomery County Progressive
Asian American Network (MoCoPAAN)



HOAN DANG
VICE CHAIR, AANHPI COMMUNITY RELATIONS
Treasurer, Maryland Vietnamese Mutual
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JEFF LE
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MEI POWERS
SECRETARY
Chief Development & Communications
Officer, Martha's Table



NAZNIN SAIFI
VICE CHAIR, COALITION PARTNERS
Executive Director, Asian Pacific American
Legal Resource Center (APALRC)

#### AANHPI Community Anti-Hate Needs Assessment Survey

ABOUT THIS SURVEY: The Montgomery County Council has formed an Anti-Hate Task Force comprised of cohorts including an Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) Cohort to provide policy recommendations for addressing the recent rises in hate crimes & hate incidents in Montgomery County.

This is a survey intended for feedback from a sample of AAPI community nonprofit executive directors, board members, staff and/or key volunteers.

SURVEY PARTICIPATION: Please complete this survey by Thursday, October 5 @ 9pm EDT by providing as much helpful detail as possible to help us better understand the issues facing your community organizations. This survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete and is best viewed on a desktop/laptop computer. For any questions regarding the survey, please email hoan.hoandang@gmail.com with SUBJECT: "AAPI ANTI-HATE SURVEY OUESTION."

LEARN MORE: For more information about this survey study please contact AAPI Cohort Chair, Ms. Aryani Ong, at aong@sixhuesblog.com, or for more information about the Montgomery County Anti-Hate Task Force,

 $\label{lem:please visit: https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/resources/antihatetaskforce/index.html.$ 

mocopaan@gmail.com Switch account

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\* Indicates required question

Email \*







# WHO INFORMED OUR WORK

- 1:1 MEETINGS
  14 county leaders + stakeholders
- SURVEY FEEDBACK

  14 feedback group members
- **COMMUNITY SURVEY**21 organizations
- GUEST SPEAKERS
   4 students, county, and community leaders

# ASIAN AMERICAN NATIVE HAWAIIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER (AANHPI)

### A POLITICAL CONSTRUCT



#### THE TERM

"Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander" (AANHPI) is a political construct to bring diverse groups together. The unity enables the community to be heard by decision makers.



#### **BUT ETHNIC GROUPS DIFFER**

They have specific challenges, e.g. high poverty rates or below average attainment of high school graduation and needs, e.g. language assistance.



#### **USING DISAGGREGATED DATA**

Enables decision makers to apply equity and inclusion, and avoid the trap of the model minority myth - the false perception that all AANHPIs share the same characteristic, such as a high income or education level



### **AANHPIS IN THE U.S.**

#### LARGELY IMMIGRANT



### FASTEST GROWING RACIAL OR ETHNIC GROUP

20.6 million, or 7% of the U.S. population.



#### LARGELY IMMIGRANT

71% adults are foreign born

#### **Reasons for immigration to US:**

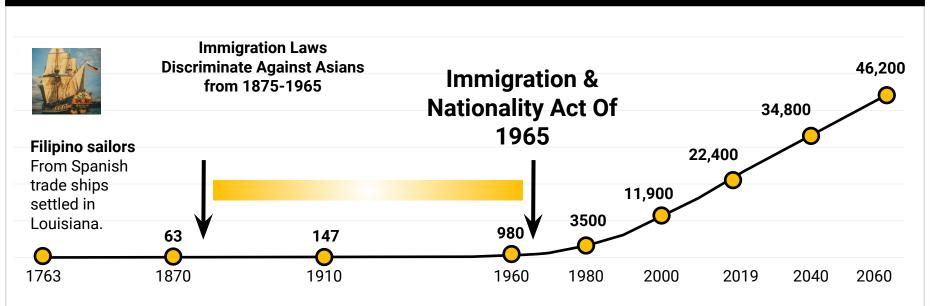
- Response to major events: Gold Rush; displacement following American imperialism (i.e. Hawaii, Philippines); conflict,(e.g. Tiananmen Square); war, (e.g. Vietnam war); natural disaster, famine, poverty.
- Sought the American dream, arriving through study and work visas, family reunification, adoption.
- Some were trafficked.



### U.S. IMMIGRATION LAWS

DISCRIMINATED AGAINST ASIANS THROUGH 1965

Asian population in U.S. nearly doubled between 2000 & 2019 & is projected to surpass 46 million by 2060



### **AANHPIS ARE DIVERSE**

### NOT A M<mark>onolith</mark>

#### **ORIGINS:**

20 countries of origin, 45 ethnic groups, 100 languages & dialects

### **RELIGION:**

34% Christian, 32% unaffiliated, 10% Buddhist, 10% Hindu, 6% Muslim, 4% Daoists, Jains, Jews, Sikhs and others



### **POLITICAL PARTY:**

60% AANHPIs registered voters; 62% identify as Democrats or lean to the Democratic Party; and 34% are Republicans or GOP leaners

### **SOCIOECONOMIC:**

Highest income inequality gap here AANHPIs in the top 10% of the income distribution earn 10.7x more than AANHPIs in the bottom 10%.

# AANHPIS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

PERCENTAGE OF AANHPI IN MOCO - 2.5X PERCENTAGE OF AANHPI IN U.S



### **POPULATION:**

185,254 (17.5% of county pop). 2.5x nat'l avg. Grew 23% between 2010 to 2020



### **IMMIGRANT**:

117,305 or 63.3% foreign born. Similar to national figures.



### LANGUAGE:

72% of AANHPIs in Montgomery County report speaking a language other than English at home, and 28% reported speaking English less than "very well"



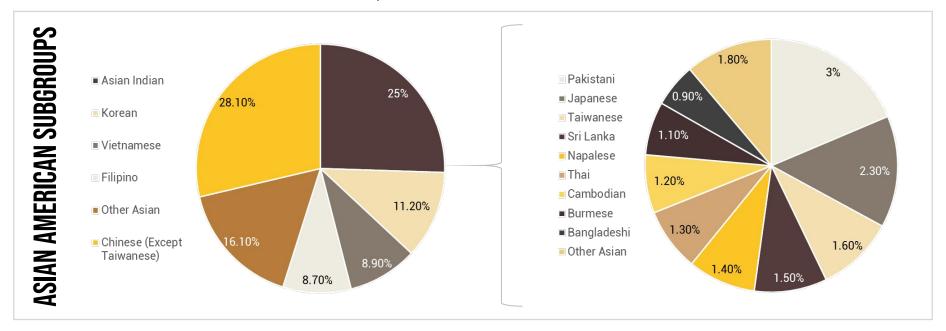
### **SOCIOECONOMIC:**

AANHPI child poverty rate 2x> White Non-Hispanic

### **AANHPIS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

### SIMILAR LARGEST ETHNIC GROUPS NATIONALLY

Chinese, Asian Indian, Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino





### **DID YOU KNOW?**

1 in 10 Chinese laborers filed a lawsuit to protest the Chinese Exclusion Act?

## ANTI-ASIAN HATE/ DISCRIMINATION IS LONGSTANDING

**SELECTIVELY EXCLUDED FROM ENTRY UNTIL 1965** 

### **IMMIGRATION**

- Shortly after arrivals of Chinese immigrants, the U.S. enacted 6 laws to restrict Asians from different countries from immigrating to the U.S.
- U.S. singled out Chinese in the Chinese Exclusion
   Act (1882), which stayed in force for 60 years until
   the U.S. needed China as an ally for WWII.



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

An Asian brought the landmark case in the Supreme Court that established birthright citizenship (*U.S. v. Wong Kim Ark, 1898*)?

## ANTI-ASIAN HATE/ DISCRIMINATION IS LONGSTANDING

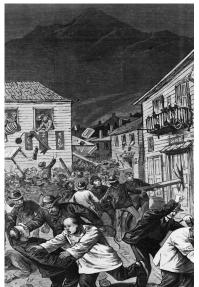
BARRED FROM U.S. CITIZENSHIP UNTIL 1952

### **CITIZENSHIP**

- Japanese and South Asian plaintiffs (Takao Ozawa v. U.S.(1922); (U.S. v Bhagat Thind (1923)) sue the U.S. to challenge race eligibility for citizenship to be white.
- Chinese able to naturalize via Magnuson Act (1943), Filipinos via Luce-Celler Act (1946), Japanese and Korean via McCarran-Walter Act (1952). Most AANHPI able to be citizens only 71 years ago.

### ANTI-ASIAN HATE/DISCRIMINATION IS LONGSTANDING

### **FACED SYSTEMIC RACISM**



November 20, 1880, issue of Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper depicts an anti-Chinese riot in Denver, Colorado.

#### 1913-1956:

14 states had Alien Land Laws that barred land ownership.

Restrictions on commercial + professional licenses and purchase of real estate.

#### 2023:

34 states bar Chinese citizens, businesses and government entities.

One-room schoolhouse, Jim Crow era, South. Source: Stan Lou



Asians were plaintiffs in two landmark cases (*Tape v. Hurley* (1885) and *Lum v. Rice* (1927)) that challenged segregated schools.

Women lost their U.S. citizenship if they married Asian men - Cable Act (1922).

Asians could not enter into interracial marriages where states had miscegenation laws until *Loving v. Virginia* (1967).

ANTI-ASIAN HATE/DISCRIMINATION IS LONGSTANDING

### **DENIED EQUAL PROTECTION**

#### **CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES**

### Profiling

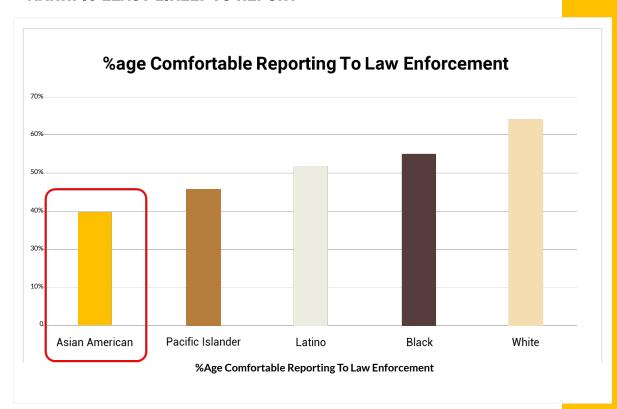
- McCarthy-era: SF Chinatown files, scientists program
- Post 9/11: Arab Middle East Muslims South Asians in transportation
- 1999-2000: Dr. Wen Ho Lee Case ("Nuclear Secrets")
- 2002-2011: Nat'l Sec'y Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEERS)
- 2017-2018: Muslim Travel Bans (3)
- 2018-2022: China Initiative (DOJ and "Spies")
- 2000s: Federal employee sec'y clearance restrictions
- Warrantless surveillance
- Lack of language access
- Voting rights suppression



Incarcerated Japanese Americans at Heart Mountain, WY. Credit: Oreg. Hist. Soc. Research Lib.

### HATE CRIMES

### **AANHPIS LEAST LIKELY TO REPORT**



# Factors for underreporting:

- Unfamiliarity with hate incidents/crimes, reporting process, places/reasons to report
- Cumbersome reporting process
- Language barriers
- Mistrust of law enforcement

### HATE CRIMES

### **LOWEST REPORTING**

- National data
  - 339% increase (U.S.) (2019-2020)
  - 2 in 5 Asian Americans Experience hate
  - 11,400+ hate incidents (U.S.) (2020-2021)

### STATE OF MARYLAND 2022 HATE BIAS REPORT

All Groups - Hate Incidents	Anti-Asian Totals (71):	Anti-Asian Verified (9):
382 (2020)	17 (2020)	3 (2020)
388 (2021)	33 (2021)	4 (2021)
465 (2022)	21 (2022)	2 (2022)

- MoCo Annual Report on Bias Incidents
  - Anti-Asian: 21 (July 2022-September 2023)

### "I felt very violated"

Customer attacked in hate crime at McDonald's at Rockville Pike, 2022



Reporter interviews belligerent offender Source: ABC7



What are you supposed to do when someone starts spitting at you with these racial taunts? [The offender] even said he was going to come to my house and rape my wife and kids. I wasn't too worried though because I'm not married and I don't have any kids.

### WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT ANTI-ASIAN HATE?

### **OFTEN TIED TO FOREIGN EVENTS**



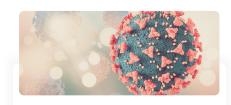
**FOREIGN EVENTS** 



**ECONOMIC COMPETITION** 



NO UNIVERSAL ANTI-ASIAN HATE SYMBOL



#### **INVISIBLE UNTIL COVID**

- Black/white paradigm
- AANHPIs invisible to public
- Low reporting rates
  - Immigrant victims
  - Cultural barriers
  - Police mistrust
  - Nonprofit capacity

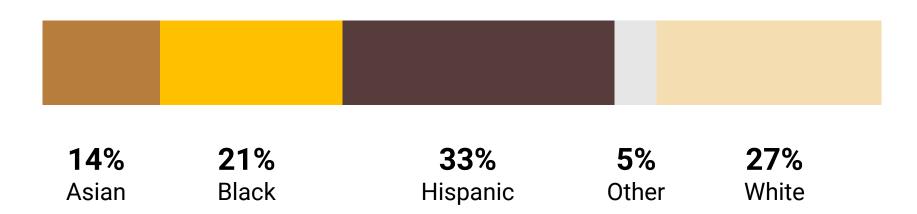
Youth summit. Human Rights commission. Rockville BIAS AMONG YOUTH AND SCHOOL COMMUNITY **Recommendation:** Monitor, Advise, and Fund MCPS To Fully Implement and Strengthen the Anti-Racism Action Plan

### WHAT WE LEARNED

MCPS STUDENT BODY IS DIVERSE

NO SINGLE RACIAL OR ETHNIC GROUP REPRESENTS THE MAJORITY OF STUDENTS

CLUSTERING OF GROUPS MEANS EXPERIENCES OF ISOLATION



### "NO OFFENSE, BUT ALL OF CHINA SHOULD BE GASSED."

Elementary school-aged swimmer to middle school-aged swimmers - including many AANHPIs - in locker room. Youth swim league, off-school property, Montgomery County, 2020

CLASSMATES CALLED A
CHINESE AMERICAN STUDENT "CORONA."

"PEOPLE KEEP CALLING
MY [FILIPINO] FOOD SMELLY AND DISGUSTING."

### WHAT WE LEARNED

### YOUTH SPEAKING OUT

Families and students report that race-based bullying and discrimination is prevalent throughout MCPS.

- (\*\*) "Race- and ethnicity-based bullying, harassment, and microaggressions were discussed in 29 out of 36 focus groups and interviews. All student focus groups raised these issues" (MCPS Antiracist System Audit)
- On average 1 hateful incident per day (Washington Post, 4/8/23)

Youth Building Bridges, C&T Youth Technology Academy, Rockville,

ASIAN AMERICANS AND ASIAN IMMIGRANTS ARE 2X AS LIKELY AS WHITE NON-HISPANICS TO REPORT HAVING ENCOUNTERED INSTANCES OF COVID-19-RELATED ACUTE DISCRIMINATION, ACCORDING TO A 2020 SURVEY OF 7,778 RESPONDENTS.

MCPS student

"I just ended up not leaving the house for three months," said student alarmed by hate crime reports.

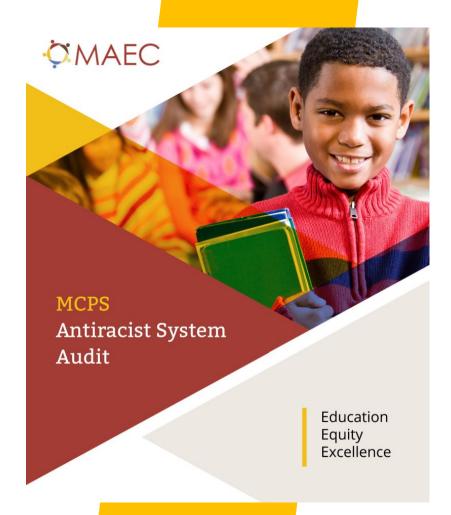
### **WHAT WE LEARNED**

MENTAL HEALTH EFFECTS OF HATE

Suicide was the leading cause of death among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders ages 10 to 19 and the second leading cause of death among those ages 20-34 (SAMHSA).



Student winning art, Asian Pacific American Student Achievement Action Group (APASAAG)-MCPS poster competition (2021), APIA Heritage Month



### WHAT WE LEARNED

### FRAGMENTED, INCONSISTENT

- Many stakeholders perceived that the current approach to developing system-wide capacity is fragmented and inconsistent
- Results from Equity Audit Tool show that the application of the student code of conduct and implementation of disciplinary practices vary from school to school

### **Stronger Student**

Mental Health & Wellness App



- 100% anonymous and

#### MCPS學生: 只需輕輕一點就可

合移動用戶的**"心理健康和幸福"**資



由MCPS學生為 MCPS學生設計

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

#### Hoc sinh Manh mẽ hơn

Ứng dụng Sức khỏe & Sức khỏe Tâm thần



Stronger Student 정신건강과 웰니스 앱

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHAT WE LEARNED

FRAGMENTED, INCONSISTENT

Underreporting/inconsistent reporting of hate bias incidents and hate crimes due to:

Join

- Preference to make it a teachable moment instead of reporting
- Lack of differentiation between bullying and hate bias
- Lack of awareness of how to recognize AANHPI hate bias and report incidents
- Reporting services not well known or not accessible to youth

Find Stronger Student app at https://rb.gy/gndkv

MONITOR, ADVISE, AND FUND MCPS TO FULLY IMPLEMENT AND STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-RACISM ACTION PLAN

- 1 Collect and analyze disaggregated data by **ethnicity**
- 2 Improve its **understanding and cultural competency** on the needs of AANHPI community and incorporate into all MCPS functions
- Provide **training for staff, parents, and students** and broader community to identify, respond to and prevent bias incidents and crimes against AANHPI and other communities;
  - Mandatory annual anti-bias training (skills-based, accessible)
  - Promote bystander trainings

MONITOR, ADVISE, AND FUND MCPS TO FULLY IMPLEMENT AND STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-RACISM ACTION PLAN

- Provide culturally proficient and linguistically accessible services, in particular mental health services, for AANHPIs who encounter bullying, harassment, discrimination and bias
  - Hire AANHPI counselors
  - Compile a list of culturally competent and bilingual therapists and resources available in Asian languages.



MONITOR, ADVISE, AND FUND MCPS TO FULLY IMPLEMENT AND STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-RACISM ACTION PLAN

- (5) Foster an inclusive school climate for AANHPI students and employees
  - Make AANHPI studies available in all schools; support AANHPI student clubs
  - Celebrate diversity without othering underrepresented groups
  - Promote student-led school wide anti-bias and DEI programs and outreach efforts
  - Recruit/hire AANHPIs to MCPS

MONITOR, ADVISE, AND FUND MCPS TO FULLY IMPLEMENT AND STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-RACISM ACTION PLAN

- Oversee implementation of the Anti-Racist Audit and Action Plan so that responses to hate incidents and crimes is fair, consistent and equitable across all MCPS schools, employees, students and parents.
  - Evaluate community awareness of trainings and resources
  - Host annual public meeting on the progress of Anti-Racist Audit and Action Plans across the school district
  - Review reported incidents so that the response is conducted in a consistent, fair and equitable manner across schools



# AANHPI COMMUNITY

### **Recommendations:**

- 1. Carry out public relations campaigns
- 2. Apply racial equity lens to county decision making involving AANHPIs
- 3. Expand capacity building of AANHPI community-serving organizations



**CARRY OUT PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGNS** 

#### **Factors**

- **Diversity**: 14+ ethnic groups
- Reliance on ethnic news sources and ethnic social media platforms
- Needs: 1) give hate crimes 101 2) direct where to report and seek help 3) promote strong sense of community and pride
- City models: Los Angeles and New York multi-lingual anti-hate campaigns
  - **Benefits**: 1) improved resident **awareness of hate crimes** and resources 2) increased **contacts with county government and nonprofits** 3) motivation to **strengthen community**



**CARRY OUT PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGNS** 

- Post public service announcements
- Work in partnership with the private sector
- Translate messages
- Provide a **reporting hotline** that is staffed with multilingual staff trained to provide culturally proficient services
- Use ethnic media (print, TV, radio) and ethnic social media platforms
- Poll resident understanding of choices that they have if they encounter bias









Taiwanese **Japanese** 

South Asian Indonesians Hong Kong



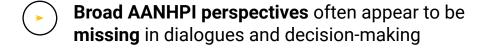






APPLY RACIAL EQUITY LENS TO COUNTY DECISION MAKING INVOLVING AANHPIS

#### **Factors**



- AANHPI community needs are not fully understood or met
- Few AANHPI employees who are knowledgeable of or connected to the AANHPI community lead in high-level positions across the county government



### APPLY RACIAL EQUITY LENS TO COUNTY DECISION MAKING INVOLVING AANHPIS

- (1) Collect and report **disaggregated data** on AANHPI
- (2) Ensure representation of **ethnic groups** at the table
- (3) Apply racial equity lens to evaluate access and use by AANHPI of county programs and services
- (4) Collect narratives on the different ways that AANHPI targets experience bias.
- (5) Hold trainings on AANHPIs for county officials and staff across the government
- **Benchmark progress** in recruitment, mentorship, employee affinity groups and leadership opportunities for AANHPI employees
- (7) Convene a **State of AANHPIs Summit** in in Montgomery County

**EXPAND CAPACITY BUILDING OF AANHPI COMMUNITY-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS** 

#### **Factors**

- Few AANHPI organizations focus on civic activities
- Other cities have more established AANHPI organizations which **represent community voices** before county leaders, **engage in advocacy** and work in a **pan-AANHPI community coalition**.
- To grow such capacity, AANHPI organizations would **require funding to hire paid staff and grow into sustainable organizations**. In the long run, like other nonprofits, strong AANHPI organizations are reliable partners to the county government.
- At the same time, AANHPI organizations face **historically low funding** nationally. For 20 years, and even until recently, studies have reported that they received equal to **20 cents for every \$100 dollars** of foundation funding and **\$1 for every \$100 dollars** of corporate giving.

### **EXPAND CAPACITY BUILDING OF AANHPI COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS**

- Stand up AANHPI civic and advocacy organizations to represent community interests before county leaders and to partner on anti-hate efforts
- Leverage AANHPI organizations and their connections to ethnic groups
- Fund volunteer "navigators" to assist survivors of hate with different roles: navigating social, health, financial and legal services systems and serving as a support companion, translator and spokesperson; and, to provide training for those navigators
- Foster the **growth of AANHPI organizations** that represent underrepresented ethnic groups, support **pan-AANHPI coalition building** and fund **solidarity work** with other groups.



# RECOMMENDATION #5 INVEST IN CROSS COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY

#### **Factors**









- AANHPIs have been involved in anti-discrimination efforts since the late 1880's, and through the 1960's Civil Rights Movement through the present.
- The impact of the AANHPI community was not always "seen" due to their small numbers
- In Montgomery County, according to recent Census data, the AANHPI population grew from 14.23% in 2010 to 16.11% in 2020.
- The increase in the AANHPI population means that a greater percentage of this community are "seen" and a larger number are active in community organizations.
- Due to the heightened threats to their communities due to the rise in anti-Asian rhetoric and the threats to other communities, the AANHPI community wants to serve as allies in multi-racial and multi-faith coalitions.

### **INVEST IN CROSS COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY**

#### **Implementation actions**



Cross-cultural Solidarity from 1960s - Asian Americans in the Civil Rights Movement: Yuri Kochiyama

- Sponsor activities that deepen understanding among and between different communities.
- Work to disabuse stereotypes, myths and dis/misinformation about the AANHPI community.
- (3) Promote intra-AANHPI community education on solidarity efforts
- Encourage anti-hate/bias work by AANHPIs that is integrated with the community at large
- Conduct simulations of hate/bias crime scenarios for each cohort community, both individually and collectively, to identify gaps in knowledge, practice and resources.

### **INVEST IN CROSS COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY**



- Create a crisis response plan to address hate/bias crimes for the purpose of de-escalating tensions and conflicts that may arise.
- Tailor resources to all community groups that are accessible in a central online space.
- Establish an alert system for community leaders, officials and staff to notify them when a hate/bias incident occurs against a county resident and/or community group.
- Coordinate cultural proficiency training regarding the diverse communities within Montgomery County for county, business and community leaders.
- Provide funding for bystander intervention training to equip communities with the tools needed to intervene in hate/bias incidents.

### THANK YOU!

- Montgomery County Council President Evan Glass
- Montgomery County Council Members
- Montgomery County Council Staff
  - Selena Mendy Singleton
  - Bertha Lidia Cerzosimo
  - · Essie McGuire
- Fellow Cohorts of the Anti-Hate Task Force
- White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, & Pacific Islanders (WHIAANHPI) Executive Director Krystal Ka'ai
- Offices of Sens. Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen, and Rep. Jamie Raskin
- Lanlan Xu, Howard County Asian American Pacific Islander Commissioner Chair and Maryland Attorney General's Hate Crimes Task Force Member

- ADL Regional Director Meredith Wiesel
- Human Rights Office Director James Stowe
- Racial Equity and Social Justice Director Tiffany Ward
- Yi Shen, Office of Community Partnerships
- Asian American Progressive Student Union
  - Tanika Choudhry, President
  - Oorja Munot, Vice President
- Karen T. Lin, MoCoPAAN
- Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), Montgomery County Police Department, Montgomery County State Attorney's Office

Graphics by Hamza Hashmi

### THANK YOU TO SURVEY PARTICIPANTS!

- Act To Change
- Anti-Hate Task Force
- Asian American Progressive Student Union
- Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center
- Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project
- Cambodian Buddhist Society Cultural Committee
- Cambodian Community Day Inc.
- Cherry Blossom Giving Circle
- Chinese Culture and Community Service Center
- Ewha Washington DC Chapter

- Guru Gobind Singh Foundation
- Heritage Series LLC
- JACL DC Chapter
- Jain Society of Metropolitan Washington
- Kaur Foundation
- Korean American Education Foundation
- Maryland Vietnamese Mutual Association
- Montgomery County Progressive Asian American Network
- OCA-DC
- U.S. Zen Institute, Inc.
- Vietnamese Literary and Artistic Club



## RESOURCES

#### FIND CULTURALLY PROFICIENT THERAPIST

National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association <a href="https://www.naapimha.org/aanhpi-service-providers">https://www.naapimha.org/aanhpi-service-providers</a>

#### **REPORT HATE INCIDENTS/CRIMES IN COMMUNITY**

Text "MDStopHate" to 898-211 211 Maryland <a href="https://211md.org/stophate/">https://211md.org/stophate/</a>

#### **GET LEGAL ADVICE**

Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center <a href="https://www.apalrc.org/">https://www.apalrc.org/</a>

#### **APPLY FOR COMPENSATION**

Montgomery County Office of Human Rights <a href="https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/humanrights">https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/humanrights</a>

#### **GET COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

- Montgomery County Progressive Asian Pacific American Network (MoCoPAAN) www.mocopaan.org
- Communities United Against Hate <u>www.cuahmd.org</u>

