



# SOLIDARITY DURING COVID-19

## Supporting Our Asian American and Pacific Islander Neighbors



### WHAT IS THE CORONAVIRUS?

A respiratory virus spread through respiratory droplets, which are released when an infected individual coughs or sneezes.

The virus is named after the crown-like spikes on its surface -- much like the corona of the sun.

Calling the virus by any other name, especially a geographical or ethnographical designation, could spread misinformation and incite xenophobia.

### WHY DO OUR NEIGHBORS NEED OUR SUPPORT?

Historically, immigrant communities have long been used as scapegoats for the spread of disease. People of Asian descent bear no additional responsibility for transmission of the coronavirus yet increasing fear and anxiety about COVID-19 has resulted in racist and targeted harassment against AAPI community members.

**Many of our AAPI neighbors have reported feeling unsafe in their own communities. Together, we can change that.**



### How You Can Help When Our Neighbors Are Targeted

#### BEFORE :

- Stay up to date** — Direct yourself to credible sources of information regarding COVID-19, such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and other factual, non-racist media
- Stay connected** — Support targeted communities through patronizing local Asian and immigrant-owned businesses when shopping for groceries and other necessities

#### DURING :

- Prioritize safety first** — Follow appropriate policy to ensure safety for all parties involved. Refrain from calling the police in non-violent situations. Alert parents, caregivers, and other pertinent parties when children are involved.
- Denounce the act** — If you are in a safe and meaningful position to do so, denounce hate crimes targeting AAPI populations. Respect, inclusion, and a sense of community in crisis are meaningful values to uphold.
- Provide factual information** — Denounce misinformation and provide information to relevant parties who are willing to listen.
- DON'T put victims on the spot** — Do not ask victims of violence to issue statements or speak for an entire community.

#### AFTER :

- Review lessons learned** — Evaluate what worked well and what did not in dealing with acts of prejudice. Equip relevant stakeholders with the tools to correct misinformation and encourage positive action.
- Promote a respectful and inclusive environment at home and in your community** — Changing the world begins at home. Speak respectfully and meaningfully with folks close to you about issues of stereotyping and prejudice, as well as means to support targeted communities

### How You Can Report Hate Incidents

[CLICK HERE TO FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE CT COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[CLICK HERE TO FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE CT STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL](#)

[VISIT THE STOP AAPI HATE WEBPAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REPORT INCIDENTS](#)

#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [COVID-19 and Social Inequities](#)
- [Coronavirus Crisis Elevates Antisemitic, Racist Tropes](#)
- [The Coronavirus Surfaces Fear, Stereotypes and Scapegoating](#)
- [ADL Cyber-Safety Action Guide](#)
- [Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Resources](#)

These materials are provided for informational purposes only.

The Commission does not endorse any particular product or affiliation which may appear on the provided resources.