



The Commission on
Women, Children, Seniors, Equity & Opportunity

CWCSEO

Connecticut General Assembly

The Connecticut General Assembly's Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity, and Opportunity (CWCSEO) joins State Leaders Condemning Recent Hate Crimes Against Asian Americans.

Hartford, CT – (3/19/21) The Connecticut General Assembly's Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity, and Opportunity (CWCSEO) joins State Leaders Condemning Recent Hate Crimes Against Asian Americans. The CWCSEO, for the record, engages and advises policy makers regarding equity issues impacting women, children, & seniors along with a focus on Latino/Puerto Rican, African American & Asian Pacific American families living in the State of Connecticut.

"We applaud Governor Lamont and Legislative leaders for condemning hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and implore current and future leaders to unequivocally and unconditionally reject and condemn hate speech, hate crimes, bigotry, and behaviors that promote discrimination and violence." – Steven Hernández, CWCSEO Executive Director

"On behalf of the Commission, I want to remind everyone in Connecticut and nationally that hate has no place in our State or our Country, or for that matter, this planet. What I want to make clear is that we are all Americans – Divided we fall, and together we thrive. Together we will get through COVID-19. It does not help any of us to divide us, and I want to stress what happened in Atlanta is sickening and it is our job as leaders of our communities and government not just to condemn, but to make sure that such violent acts never happen in Connecticut or anywhere else for that matter." – Alan Tan, CWCSEO Co-Chairman

"During this difficult time, it is critical for all our communities to come together as there are devoted elected officials, passionate leaders, active and visible community members, and inspirational youth that will not be silenced in promoting and advancing Diversity Equity Inclusion work. We will address racism, hate crimes, discrimination and so much more as a collective; supporting our communities and healing from all these tragic events." – Mui Mui Hin McCormick, CWCSEO Commissioner

Background

The CWCSEO, about a year ago to this date, called on elected officials and constituents to unequivocally repudiate bigotry, racism, and discrimination, and not to be silent or complacent about the mistreatment of others based on race or national origin. The Coronavirus, CWCSEO indicated, does not discriminate based on race or ethnicity. We, at the Commission, stand with Asian American groups such as the Asian Pacific American Coalition of Connecticut (APAC-CT), and those who speak out unconditionally condemning racism, hatred, and bigotry and encourages Connecticut residents to do the same.

The world has been hit by what the World Health Organization (WHO) is calling a "global pandemic." As the virus COVID-19 spreads, numerous Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) have reported experiencing microaggressions, racial profiling, hate incidents and most recently cases of hate violence.

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The CWCSEO, as a result of these incidents of violence, helped organize a first-of-its-kind virtual press conference, discussing recent threats, intimidation and attacks against members of the Asian and Pacific Islander community in Connecticut related to the COVID-19 crisis. You may access the virtual event at the following:

- CT-N: <http://ct-n.com/ctnplayer.asp?odID=17279> or via CWCSEO
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/commission.equity.opportunity/videos/2955693004451666/>.

As a result of the press conference and our previous Statement of Unity, we are providing a quick resource for your communities and for parents. Please find what we hope is a helpful infographic ([SOLIDARITY DURING COVID-19 – Supporting Our Asian American and Pacific Islander Neighbors](#)).

We also providing an online teaching tool to help parents with talking to their kids about preventing and responding to prejudice called [Beyond the Golden Rule](#). Click the title or on the picture of the book to head to their site.

The CWCSEO is a nonpartisan legislative agency within the Connecticut General Assembly with a data driven, cross-cultural approach to policy innovation, promoting best practices, breaking barriers, and helping to build a more equitable and accessible state for all Connecticut residents.

For more information about this statement please contact CWCSEO staff at CWCSEO@cga.ct.gov