

DEI Committee Statement of Solidarity with AAPI Community

3800 hate crimes against Asian Americans have been reported over the past year -- 68% of the victims were women.

Last week's attention to hate crimes against Asian Americans is yet another reminder of the need for us all to continue to work toward improving who we all are as global citizens. We emphasize that the shooting in Atlanta was a hate crime, specifically targeting Asian American women. In fighting for justice, fundamentally, we must find our humanity and compassion in times of despair. Asian Americans encompass a wide swath of people of many skin colors, faiths, languages, lands, and cultures. We ask that as health care professionals, educators, researchers, administrators...mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings, sons, daughters, neighbors and friends, you each find what is most human in each and every person you confront every single day and listen particularly hard to those who are most different from you. Also, while each victim has an identity and family spanning our global community, this incident has impacted the Asian American community nationally in the US, particularly the Korean communities. Hate crimes towards Asian Americans are not new. There is a long history that has only recently been receiving national attention.

It is not just eight people who died last Tuesday in Atlanta, it is eight people who were loved by people who spanned our globe. And so, in solidarity with Black Lives Matter, let us say their names:

- Soon Chung Park
- Hyun Jung Grant
- Suncha Kim
- Yong Ae Yue
- Delaina Ashley Yaun
- Paul Andre Michels
- Xiaojie Tan
- Daoyou Feng

But amidst tragedy there lies enormous hope. In March 2014 we admitted a 100% white incoming residency class. On Friday March 19th, we have admitted nine (50%) BIPOC members to our DFMCH Residency Class of 2024. We are clearly capable of change. Let us welcome our newest members as mentors, advocates, and allies, and I hope someday we will call each other friends.

As we do an environmental survey and confront our ignoble past, let us continue to strive to accept each other, challenge each other, be willing to be vulnerable as an act of both faith and love, and forgive each other.

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With contributions from

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In solidarity with

Bill Schwab, DFMCH Interim-Chair
and the DFMCH DEI Committee