

# #STOPAAPIHATE

## STATEMENT ON ANTI-ASIAN VIOLENCE

BY APCTC ADVISORY BOARD AND DR. SHEILA WU, APCTC DIRECTOR

The Asian Pacific Counseling and Treatment Centers (APCTC) stand with the victims, families, and communities in Atlanta, Georgia. On Tuesday, March 16, eight innocent lives were lost to a racialized attack by a 21-year-old man. Violence against women - and Asian women in particular - has intensified worldwide during the current global health crisis. Domestically, we are also witnessing an alarming rise in racial violence against Asian Americans. Women who identify within the Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) community are our providers, caretakers, parents, and essential workers. We must take measures to protect their welfare and safety.

Right now, our Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) community is grappling with the grief, trauma, and pain felt from these cumulative experiences of hate and violence. APCTC aims to continue building community and solidarity through our mission to normalize and destigmatize mental health within the AAPI community, to heal and foster resilience and hope. We recognize that our therapeutic services are integral to ensuring that mental health services for the API community are available, accessible, and approachable. We continue to offer our services and support during this critical time. If you need to reach out for support, please contact us at **(213) 252-2100** or you may view our website: [www.apctc.org/contact-us](http://www.apctc.org/contact-us) for our other locations.

Lastly, we condemn these actions and ask others to stand up with us against violence towards Asian Americans. We invite others to support organizations that are dedicated to ensuring the health and safety of the AAPI community, especially the most vulnerable. We demand that these unfortunate incidents, while tragic, spark urgency to confront the systems of oppression, racism, and sexism that continue to target the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of our communities. Together, we hope that our communities can collectively heal with resilience, care, and compassion for each other.