

ARCCA stands in solidarity with all people of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage. Despicable and violent acts have been increasing against members of the AAPI community since early 2020 and must stop now. The March 16 murders of Suncha Kim, Soon C. Park, Delaina Ashley Yaun, Daoyou Feng, Hyun J. Grant, Xiaojie Tan, Yong A. Yue, and Paul Andre Michels, and of Elcias Hernandez-Ortiz who was injured in Atlanta, and other harmful acts committed in the wake of COVID-19 show how insidious, racist rhetoric when spoken and amplified by public figures leads to unspeakable tragedy.

Racism is used as a tool for division and intimidation. It is created in the vacuum of ignorance and cowardice. Communities of all backgrounds, and especially of the dominant culture, must stand together to denounce racist acts of violence, dismantle systemic racism in all its forms, and support transformative change for a more equitable society.

ARCCA is a collaborative that strives to build regional resilience to climate impacts by working together across silos and sectors. In declaring our strongest opposition to these inexcusable acts and attitudes, we are guided by ARCCA's <u>Commitments to Racial Justice</u> and ask others to stand with us in condemning racism in all forms, both obvious and obscured.

To all AAPI communities, we stand with you against all forms of hate and intolerance and will work towards a better future where you feel safe and live in peace.

We encourage ARCCA members to take action in solidarity with the AAPI community. Educate yourself, speak out, support AAPI businesses, volunteer with a community-based organization, or donate to these charitable <u>organizations</u>. Together we can create a different world.

In solidarity,

Rachel Couch

ARCCA Executive Committee Chair

Yachd Coveh