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March 26, 2021

Dear Friends,

The Child Abuse Prevention Center stands in solidarity with the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities. The recent tragedy in Atlanta resulting in the deaths of eight people is yet one more incident of racism and violence toward the AAPI communities. The level of violence against AAPI communities has greatly increased since the onset of the coronavirus due, in part, due to erroneous fears linked to the virus beginning in China. However, there is a sad history of racism in our country, including Asian American internment during World War II.

We all have a responsibility to stand up against racism, hate, or violence, in our neighborhoods, cities, states, and nation. As Representative Doris Matsui, (D-CA 6th District) said, "There is a systemic problem, and we are duty-bound to stop the xenophobic and racist ideas that have escalated to physical threats." We know that the seeds of racism are passed on to children at an early age and take root. Seeking to change that pattern is a part of reducing negative impacts on children and families.

All communities and neighbors deserve to be safe and respected. There is much work to be done as has been demonstrated far too often by recent events. Our work is to protect children and strengthen families and communities. The Child Abuse Prevention Center is committed to continued work toward cultural responsiveness internally and in our practice.

For the Life of a Child,

Sheila Boxley  
President & CEO