

California Clubhouse Community Stands United Against Racism

Hello,

We, at California Clubhouse, wish to express our sympathy and solidarity with the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. Our Clubhouse community stands united against racism and the resulting violence and trauma it causes. **Hate against Asian American and Pacific Islander communities has risen during the COVID-19 pandemic**.

This past year we have witnessed increased racism and xenophobia towards Asians and those of Asian descent with 3800 incidents reported in the United States alone. This racism has evolved into violence as seen in the recent Atlanta-area mass shootings that led to the killing of eight people, including six Asian women. We condemn this violence, and we acknowledge that such hate-fueled attacks are occurring here, in our own backyard. Over the past year, we have seen an increase in threats, intimidation, assaults, injuries, and deaths fueled by anti-Asian discrimination and hate crimes right here in the Bay Area.

As a community resource, we are committed to using our voices to support those who are not heard and are most vulnerable. California Clubhouse embraces acceptance, equality, and the rights of every person to live without prejudice, stigma, stereotype, hate, violence, and trauma. Within our organization, we will continue to uphold what is right and be a safe space for everyone.*

In peace and justice, California Clubhouse Community

*The above statement was written by California Clubhouse members and staff through a process of community conversations. It is unedited by the administration to allow the collective voice of our community to be heard.

Putting Our Words Into ACTION

California Clubhouse is a community of recovery, hope, and dignity, empowering people who live with mental illness through work, friendship, resources, support, and an overarching ethic that focuses on building strengths rather than managing illness.

We know that systemic change does not occur in a vacuum nor by being an idle, passive observer or recipient of service. Real change takes effort, extensive time, and hard work.

The California Clubhouse board, administration, staff, and members are committing to the following actions to implement internal organizational change that can create a ripple effect of change in our greater community. Here are the initial steps we are taking:

- Through our Social Justice Collaborative, our members and staff are working to implement programming that incorporates both external and internal community participation in social justice activities related to Anti-Asian and Pacific Islander racism, discrimination, and violence.
- California Clubhouse will continue to develop our cultural competency and cultural humility in our education and advocacy efforts regarding Anti-Asian sentiments and xenophobia. We confirm our commitment to equity-driven county health initiatives, such as the Chinese Health Initiative.
- Just as we do every day to break the stigma associated with mental health, we are breaking the stigma and begin chipping away at systemic racism through open and supportive dialogue, education, and participation in peaceful vigils, protests, and local community events. We will join our voices in solidarity to breakdown disparity!

We ask our California Clubhouse stakeholders to join us in this effort by putting words into action. We invite you to participate in anti-harassment and responsive bystander/ally training with <u>AAJC (Asian Americans Advancing Justice)</u>

To report hate crimes please visit

Stand Against Hatred

and Stop AAPI Hate - CAA (caasf.org)

To our Asian and Pacific Islander colleagues who are dealing with trauma and emotional stress, We See You, We Hear You, We Stand With You!

For Mental Health Resources For Asian American And Pacific Islander Communities please visit: <u>mhanational.org</u>

