



African-American Alliance of CDFI CEOs
Denounces
Anti-Asian Violence and Systemic Racism

Our humanity is what unites us in moments where our differences cause harm. Our unconditional acceptance and appreciation for one another are what *heals us* when the effects of racism, discrimination, violence, and hatred have *torn us* apart. For these very reasons, it is imperative that we call for unity, a proactive response, and unwavering support for our Asian-American communities. Our prayers are with the families and friends of the eight individuals killed in Atlanta this past week (6 of whom were Asian American). Violence is never necessary. Violence is never the answer.

The recent violent acts against Asian-Americans are deplorable and adds salt to the racial wounds, that as a country, we have yet to learn how to heal. The ongoing rampage against people of color is an unfortunate case study on the insidious ignorance that inconsequential race and gender-based crimes depict about our Nation's values. Not only must we denounce violence and discrimination, but we must also empower ourselves to avoid it, call it out and demand justice.

We are much better than this. We are stronger and smarter than how these cowardly acts depict us as a nation. The end to inconsequential racial terrorism starts with our demands for justice, unity, corrective action, proper anti-discrimination education, and healing.

May we constantly call upon our conscience to remember Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s words, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." Therefore, the [African American Alliance of CDFI CEOs](#) calls on all American Citizens to be vessels of light and love to drive out hate that continues to appeal to humanity's worst instinct.

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President & CEO

AAA CDFI of CEO's Board and Members