



*Interfaith Works' Mission is to work together with our communities to serve our neighbors in need and advocate for an end to poverty in Montgomery County.*

## **Standing in Solidarity with the Asian Community**

As an antipoverty interfaith coalition, Interfaith Works of Montgomery County has been committed to promoting social justice and equity for those who have experienced the trauma of economic and racial injustice. The recent incidents of racial violence in Atlanta, during which six of the eight women killed were Asian, are another tragic manifestation of the racial hatred that has and continues to diminish the character of our nation. We mourn with the families of all the victims, and lament over the more than 3800 incidents of hate crimes in our nation.

As an organization built on justice and respect for differences, we seek to promote understanding about the root causes of poverty and racism. We speak up about disparities that destroy and deny all Americans the opportunity to live with dignity, without the dehumanizing impact of discrimination, marginalization, and disenfranchisement.

Today, we are speaking out against the anti-Asian violence that is a misguided response to the origins of Covid-19. Today we are mindful of the words of civil rights leader, The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, who said: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

We stand with the Asian community and all people of color in support of national and local efforts by government, community organizations, and faith leaders to combat racism. We stand ready to work with our county and community leaders to engage in ways to create an anti-racist culture and actions of solidarity for the good of our whole community.

### **Resources for the Asian community:**

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships/Resources/Files/Resources\\_for\\_Asian\\_Community.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships/Resources/Files/Resources_for_Asian_Community.pdf)

<https://www.iworksmc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Hate-Crime-Resources.pdf>