

“This virus is not going to discriminate and we aren’t going to either.”

- Governor Tim Walz

Supporting Asian/Pacific Islander Communities during the COVID-19 Pandemic

In the United States and around the world, COVID-19 is impacting everyone in various challenging ways. Although everyone is experiencing different hardships during this uncertain time, specifically API individuals and communities are being faced with racism, xenophobia, and discrimination. There have been reports all around the country, including Minnesota, of hateful acts from dirty looks and being called racial slurs to specific targeted attacks, like a racist note left on one Woodbury resident’s door. While President Trump has called COVID-19 “the Chinese virus,” Minnesota Governor Tim Walz has outrightly rebuked connecting the coronavirus to API identities. “We can’t tolerate the discrimination of our neighbors,” Walz said. Overall, it’s important to note that API individuals and communities are experiencing high levels of stress and fear about being discriminated against, based on the false perception that COVID-19 is connected to their race. With that in mind, Education Minnesota created this list of resources to help support API individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic, including different organizations, various articles, and helplines to report discrimination.

Articles/Resources

NEA

<https://neaedjustice.org/2020/03/30/standing-up-to-hate-and-bias-related-to-covid-19/>

<https://neaedjustice.org/2019/10/11/5-things-educators-can-do-to-address-bias-in-their-school/>

NEA-APIC

<https://nea-apic.com/2020/04/06/nea-apics-response-to-the-recent-growing-attacks-against-the-api-community/>

AFT

<https://aftvoices.org/stop-blaming-asian-americans-for-the-covid-19-crisis-64ea958afb3a>

National Association of School Psychologists

<https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/countering-coronavirus-stigma-and-racism-tips-for-teachers-and-other-educators>

MPR/NPR

https://www.mprnews.org/story/2020/03/25/asian-americans-in-minnesota-confront-a-covid19-backlash?fbclid=IwAR3aThH3ssnRuvvX6sTqK85vAz6k-YDKt2ebI2GtNYj6WfRV8SV_dhK-nsM

<https://www.npr.org/2020/03/02/811363404/when-xenophobia-spreads-like-a-virus>

Teaching Tolerance

<https://www.tolerance.org/topics/bullying-bias>

Urban.org

<https://www.urban.org/urban-wire/confronting-racism-and-supporting-asian-american-communities-wake-covid-19>

ActionNetwork

<https://actionnetwork.org/forms/condemn-racism-violence-against-asian-communities-now/?fbclid=IwAR1REnrNP92aoAFjxeLFJdpOChvMLiPDPtwSDqWvrHUdgYcSXjjh264fn20>

Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO (APALA)

<https://www.apalanet.org/>

<https://www.apalanet.org/covid19.html>

https://www.apalanet.org/uploads/8/3/2/0/83203568/aapi_covid19_guidance.pdf

https://www.apalanet.org/uploads/8/3/2/0/83203568/covid_workplace_sign.pdf

Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council: Resource to submit report incidents of hate speech and crimes, harassment, and discrimination:

<http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/stop-aapi-hate/>

Gov. Tim Walz opened a toll-free helpline as of Monday, April 6th to report incidents of bias and discrimination either seen or experienced. *Call 1-833-454-0148 to reach the Department of Human Rights*. The line is staffed from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

Education Minnesota's Social Justice Rapid Response Team email: JusticeRRT@edmn.org; members/local leaders can contact this team as a resource to combat racial equity and social justice issues that arise in schools/locals.

Legislative Caucus:

<https://apicaucus.legislature.ca.gov/StopAAPIHate>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/asian-america/black-asian-hispanic-house-caucus-chairs-unite-no-tolerance-coronavirus-n1173476>

University of Connecticut crowd-sourced document with resources on teaching about coronavirus-related racism:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-DLnAY5r-f4DRLZgndR_Bu47nqHVtAOKem5QRmbz7bg/edit?usp=sharing

Organizations

Coalition of Asian American Leaders-MN

<https://caalmn.org/>

Council of Asian Pacific Minnesotans

<https://mn.gov/capm/covid19/>

Manzanar Committee

<https://manzanarcommittee.org/2020/03/20/stop-api-hate/>

Next Shark

<https://nextshark.com/>