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September 17, 2024

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**RE: Preliminary Report – Asian American Studies/Stop AAPI Hate**

Enclosed please find a preliminary report pursuant to AB 179 Budget Act 2022, Section 175, Item 6610-490.

In response to the alarming escalation in xenophobia and bigotry that spiked during the COVID-19 pandemic, AAPI Equity Alliance (AAPI Equity), Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA), and the Asian American Studies Department of San Francisco State University (SFSU) launched the Stop AAPI Hate coalition on March 19, 2020. Since the coalition's founding, Stop AAPI Hate ([stopaapihate.org](http://stopaapihate.org)) has served as the leading aggregator of anti-Asian American hate data in the nation. Between 2020 and 2023, Stop AAPI Hate recorded a total of 12,255 incidents of anti-Asian hate across the United States.

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This preliminary report covers activities the Stop AAPI Hate coalition has undertaken from 2021 to 2024 to develop and operate the Stop Asian American Pacific Islander Hate website and the COVID-19 Multilingual Resources website, conduct analysis and research associated with hate incidents experienced by Asian Pacific Islander communities, and support policy research projects on COVID-19-related challenges directly impacting Asian Pacific Islander communities.

Should you have any questions about this report, please contact Nathan Dietrich, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Advocacy and State Relations, at (916) 445-5983.

Sincerely,



Steven Relyea (Sep 24, 2024 16:16 PDT)

Steve Relyea  
Executive Vice Chancellor and  
Chief Financial Officer

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Full report posted to <https://www.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/government/Advocacy-and-State-Relations/Pages/legislative-reports.aspx>

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## **Asian American Studies/Stop AAPI Hate**

In response to the alarming escalation in xenophobia and bigotry that spiked during the COVID-19 pandemic, AAPI Equity Alliance (AAPI Equity), Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA), and the Asian American Studies Department of San Francisco State University (SFSU AAS) launched the Stop AAPI Hate coalition on March 19, 2020.

In July 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed the Budget Act of 2022 (AB 179), which made \$10 million available to SFSU AAS through June 30, 2025 for Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Equity. This report provides an overview of the initiatives and projects conducted from January 2021 to the present by SFSU AAS in collaboration with its STOP AAPI Hate coalition partners to design, conduct and support: (1) the Stop Asian American Pacific Islander Hate website and the COVID-19 Multilingual Resources website, (2) analysis and research associated with hate incidents experienced by Asian Pacific Islander communities, and (3) policy research projects on COVID-19-related challenges directly impacting Asian Pacific Islander communities.

### **The Stop AAPI Hate Coalition**

Stop AAPI Hate was co-founded when community leaders from the three organizations outlined below recognized the need to document the rise of COVID-19-related anti-Asian racism in the early stages of the global pandemic and joined forces to launch an online reporting center.

#### **Chinese for Affirmative Action**

Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) was founded in 1969 to protect the civil and political rights of Chinese Americans and to advance multiracial democracy in the United States. Today, CAA is a progressive voice in and on behalf of the broader Asian American and Pacific Islander community. CAA advocates for systemic change that protects immigrant rights, promotes language diversity, and remedies racial and social injustice.

#### **AAPI Equity Alliance**

AAPI Equity Alliance (AAPI Equity, formerly A3PCON) is a coalition of community-based organizations that advocates for the rights and needs of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community in Los Angeles County and beyond. As a coalition of over 40 community-based organizations, AAPI Equity is a leading voice on local, state, and national issues related to gender-based violence, social, racial, environmental and economic justice for AAPIs.

#### **San Francisco State University's AA CARES**

San Francisco State University's Asian American Studies (SFSU AAS) Department, which grew from the 1968 Black Student Union/Third World Liberation Front Student Strike, is the nation's most comprehensive Asian American Studies program, with over 50 undergraduate and graduate courses taught by more than 20 faculty members. Asian American Collective Action for Racial Equity and Solidarity (AA CARES) is SFSU's current implementation of the Stop AAPI Hate initiative.

Working together, the partners have served as the leading aggregator of anti-Asian and Pacific

Islander hate incidents, including violence and harassment against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States. Between 2020 and 2023, Stop AAPI Hate recorded a total of **12,255 incidents** and **2,366,584 visits** to stopaapihate.org.

Today, CAA, AAPI Equity, and AA CARES take four approaches – data and research, policy and advocacy, community capacity building, and narrative change – to address three core issues for stopping anti-Asian hate: educational equity, civil rights, and community safety. Through its initiatives and projects, Stop AAPI Hate has cracked status quo inattention to the hate and discrimination faced by the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. Nevertheless, the work remains urgent. Stereotypes and misinformation continue to fuel anti-Asian prejudice, and public figures still promote anti-China and anti-immigrant rhetoric. Injuries to persons and property lead to racial trauma and depression, isolation, fear, anxiety and stress; language barriers, fear of reprisal, and government responses reinforce distrust and produce fear, discouraging victims from reporting hate incidents and seeking and receiving help.

### **Activities and Projects**

The three partners of the Stop AAPI Hate coalition collaborate to conduct multiple initiatives to stop anti-Asian hate and promote healing.

### **Websites**

Since its launch, stopaapihate.org has recorded **2,366,584 visits**. The coalition now operates multiple websites and subsites to track acts of hate against AAPI communities, connect community members to resources, provide a central hub for organizing, and disseminate information on Stop AAPI Hate projects.

- Stop AAPI Hate: [stopaapihate.org](https://stopaapihate.org)
- Asian American Collective Action for Racial Equity and Solidarity (AA CARES) at SFSU: [aa-cares.com](https://aa-cares.com)
- Asian American Research Initiative (ARI) at SFSU: <https://asianamericanresearchinitiative.org/project/stop-aapi-hate/>
- COVID-19 Multilingual Resources Websites for Reporting Hate Incidents and Community Safety:
  - <https://stopaapihate.org/safety-tips/>
  - <https://stopaapihate.org/report-hate/>
- Data Visualization Tool: <https://stopaapihate.org/explore-our-data/>
- Stop the Blame Game: <https://stoptheblame.org/>
- No Place for Hate: <https://www.noplaceforhateca.org/>
- Spread AAPI Love: <https://spreadaapilove.org/>

### **Stop AAPI Hate Core Issues Areas**

In addition to operating websites to collect data and link community members to resources, the Stop AAPI Hate partners organize research, community capacity building, narrative change and policy advocacy to protect civil rights, make education equitable, and keep communities safe.

#### **1. Protecting Civil Rights**

Stop AAPI Hate has conducted numerous policy research projects on COVID-19-related

challenges directly impacting Asian Pacific Islander communities:

- ***State of Anti-AA/PI Hate Study*** (forthcoming) includes findings from Stop AAPI Hate’s inaugural annual survey in partnership with NORC. It gauges the state of anti-AA/PI hate in the U.S. by surveying a nationally representative sample of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders on the hate acts they experience each year to determine whether hate is increasing or decreasing annually, how frequently different forms of hate occur, and where hate is happening, who is involved, and its impact.
- ***Shades of Hate: A Deeper Understanding of Asian American and Pacific Islander Experiences*** (November 2023) outlines an updated classification system for categorizing reported hate acts.
- ***Community Reports to Stop AAPI Hate: Key Findings 2020-2022*** (November 2023) compiles key takeaways from a new analysis of hate acts reported to Stop AAPI Hate between January 2020 and December 2022.
- ***Righting Wrongs: How Civil Rights Can Protect Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Against Racism*** (May 2023) is a report produced from a nationally representative survey of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to understand hate acts that are civil rights violations. The survey also yields [insights specific to California](#), and the [executive summary](#) has been translated into [Chinese](#), [Korean](#), [Vietnamese](#), and [Samoan](#).
- ***The Blame Game: How Political Rhetoric Inflames Anti-Asian Scapegoating*** (October 2022) spotlights how political rhetoric is used to inflame anti-Asian racism and xenophobia. The report includes a brief history and offers recommendations to respond to the practice of blaming marginalized communities for social and economic challenges. The report laid the foundation for a new campaign called [Stop the Blame](#), launched in September 2023, which aims to confront the recent surge of anti-Asian scapegoating in American politics.
- ***Two Years and Thousands of Voices*** (July 2022) showcases the impact of over 11,000 hate incidents reported to Stop AAPI Hate’s Reporting Center. Nearly 40% of people reporting these incidents call California home.

Based on this research, Stop AAPI Hate provides advice and technical assistance to government agencies and community organizations on the state and local levels. The coalition advised the California Civil Rights Department (formerly the Department of Fair Employment and Housing) on the development of the California vs. Hate Resource Line and Network. It has also worked with LA vs. Hate in Los Angeles County and the Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department in Los Angeles City on new and existing efforts to improve hate incidents and hate crimes reporting and responses across the state.

## **2. Making Education Equitable**

Stop AAPI Hate supports interventions in K-12 and college Ethnic Studies in California and

beyond through initiatives and programs designed to heal trauma stemming from anti-Asian hate. The coalition has developed, researched and collaborated on innovative curricula for learners ranging from 7-year-old children to adults participating in the workforce to broaden knowledge about anti-Asian discrimination, the history and importance of Ethnic Studies, and the pivotal role of Asian Americans in seminal U.S. civil rights advancements. AA CARES has also implemented multiple youth campaigns and internship programs at SFSU and in partnership with others to provide meaningful opportunities for high school, college, and graduate students to contribute to eradicating anti-Asian discrimination through education about controversial issues, problem-solving and empowerment.

Stop AAPI Hate also propels narrative change across multiple platforms, including the launch of plays and musicals focused on the Asian American experience. Stop AAPI Hate's Narrative Change portfolio combats anti-Asian hate by reinserting Asian Americans as the storytellers to amplify silenced histories, discuss critical issues for the community and address healing through storytelling. This portfolio includes support for plays and musicals that present Asian American history, like *Larry the Musical*, which premiered in March 2023 at Brava Theater in San Francisco's Mission district. The project educates Asian Americans and others on Larry Itliong's life and contribution to the United Farm Workers Movement, which has largely been ignored in lessons about civil rights. Stop AAPI Hate is also sponsoring two other ongoing theater productions, *Citizen Wong* and *Out of the Box*. These works by Asian American artists fight against the erasure and invisibility of Asian Americans in American history and media presentations by giving voice to Asian American perspectives left out of textbooks and narrative art by non-Asian American writers.

These works and others, along with research into the experience of audiences that attend or otherwise participate in these productions, will be detailed in the full report due in April 2025.

### **3. Keeping Communities Safe**

Based on findings reported in *The Blame Game* (October 2022), Stop AAPI Hate developed the No Place for Hate California campaign, which has resulted in Governor Newsom signing three bills into law. This has only been possible through deep partnership with the AAPI Legislative Caucus and with the backing of a coalition of more than 100 organizations, including the California Commission on APIA Affairs, LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro), LA Board of Supervisors, SF Board of Supervisors, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), and SF Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA). The bills successfully passed are:

- AB 2448 (sponsor-Asm. Phil Ting): creating a pilot program to encourage businesses to address hate and harassment. Stop AAPI Hate continues to advise the California Civil Rights Department on the implementation of AB 2448.
- SB 1161 (sponsor- Sen. Dave Min): creating a community survey tool to help transit agencies collect the data needed to understand rider experiences with harassment and bring back riders. Stop AAPI Hate is also working with the Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) to implement SB 1161, by providing ample feedback on the draft community survey tool and accompanying report; translating the community survey tool and research brief into multiple AAPI languages and coordinating a rollout of the report and survey for December 2023.
- SB 434 (sponsor- Sen. Dave Min): builds on the success of SB 1161 by requiring the top

10 transit operators in California to: collect qualitative and quantitative ridership data regarding street harassment as riders wait at transit stops and ride transit vehicles and publish this data on their websites; conduct outreach activities with riders who are underrepresented in surveys yet impacted by street harassment so that all voices are heard; and, utilize the community survey developed by the Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) pursuant to SB 1161 to collect ridership data, if desired.

**Allocation of Funding**

The funding made available to Stop AAPI Hate has been budgeted as follows:

Account Category	Budget	Allocation
Regular Salaries and Wages		\$1,659,474
Benefits		\$793,952
Travel		\$100,195
Contractual Services		\$7,231,062
Operating Expenses		\$215,318
	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000

SFSU is distributing \$7,181,062 of the funds in Contractual Services to CAA and AAPI Equity Alliance quarterly. These funds have been used to develop, update, and maintain key resource tools such as the stopaapihate.org website and subsites for reporting anti-Asian hate incidents, build platforms to disseminate multi-lingual support resources for community members, and conduct and make publicly available research findings on Stop AAPI Hate projects. It is also used for consulting and partnering with policymakers, government representatives, community organizations, and researchers to provide valuable information and other resources related to Stop AAPI Hate.

SFSU uses the remaining \$2,818,938 for projects it operates.

- \$2,453,426 is allocated to regular salaries, wages and benefits. These funds support staff and directors. They are also used to buy out faculty’s time for research, curriculum development and narrative change projects; hire consultants and student assistants and pay honoraria to guest speakers.
- \$215,318 is allocated to operating expenses, which include supplies and services, hospitality, and indirect costs. Operating expenses include curriculum, materials and other supplies for youth programs, plays and musicals, , technology equipment, event

space rental, and provisions for summits and conferences participants.

- \$100,195 is allocated for travel to attend conferences and events within and outside of the United States. These funds support student and staff researchers to present reports and research findings at local, regional and national conferences such as APAHE and AAAS. The travel allocation also covers traveling expenses to other speaking engagements related to Stop AAPI Hate.
- \$50,000 is allocated in San Francisco contractual services account to host events in support of Stop AAPI Hate.

### **Conclusion**

The final report will provide more detail of Stop AAPI Hate's work on the three core issues. It will highlight key findings from data collection and research that have led to policy recommendations and changes and detail the impact of the four approaches.