In response to the horrific events that have been affecting the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, U.S. Travel hosted an important discussion about race and diversity on March 31, 2021.

KEY DISCUSSION TAKEAWAYS

Racism and discrimination towards the AAPI community has been long-standing and brought to light due to recent events. Your colleagues have faced discrimination, whether bluntly or through microaggressions, simply because of their skin color. We must recognize how small everyday nuances of microaggressions have contributed to the build of perpetuating Asian Pacific Americans as a foreigner in their own home.

Actionable Steps:

• CHECK IN with your AAPI friends, colleagues, business partners, etc.
• START A DIALOGUE with your company on how to help the AAPI community and stand in solidarity with your colleagues
• SUPPORT local Asian-American owned businesses/attractions
• EDUCATE YOURSELF on the issues
• BE AN ALLY. If you see something, speak up—bystander traning is available with helpful tools
• DONATE your time and/or money if you can

STARTING POINT FOR AAPI SUPPORT RESOURCES

Please find a list of some organizations that provide both education and help for the AAPI community.

• AAJC—Asian Americans Advancing Justice | A non-profit with many chapters around the country started in 1991, serving as a voice of advocacy in the AAPI Community
• AALDEF—Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund | Provides education and resources of AAPI community searching legal help as well as education for the community in how to help serve the community
• Act to Change—Non-profit aimed towards educating the public about the rise in bullying AAPI youth have faced; provides toolkits and event curriculum to educate adults and youth alike about how to respond to racism and bullying
• Hate is a Virus—Started as a direct response to the rise in hate crimes against the AAPI community due to COVID-19; one of the largest community movements used to amplify and activate the community by hosting educational events, providing resources and speaking out
• NAPAWF—National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum | Advocate for educating and providing resources for Asian American women; a go-to resource follwing the Atlanta spa hate crime
• Stop AAPI Hate—Created in response to the rise in xenophobia towards the AAPI community; offers a 5-pronged approach, supported by well-known AAPI figures and scheduled multiple rallies across the country
• Welcome to Chinatown—Small grassroots organization that has become a leader in providing resources to specifically Manhattan, Chinatown to provide resources for long term sustainability and reclaiming the narrative surrounding Chinatown; created in response to the huge impact COVID-19 had on Chinatown businesses