

Hope Against Hate Campaign: Immediate Safety for Asian New Yorkers



May 6, 2021



Asian American Federation

Asian American Federation Intro

- Umbrella organization representing 70 community-based organizations serving 1.3 million Asian Americans
- Leadership voice advocating for better policies, services, and funding for Asian immigrants
- AAF's response to anti-Asian violence since 2020



Expanding Needs of Asian New Yorkers

- Asians comprise **10%+** of residents in majority of City Council Districts
- Asian population grew **10%-80%** across most Council Districts
- **Almost 50%** of city's Asian population is **limited English proficient**, which prevents Asians from accessing critical services they need

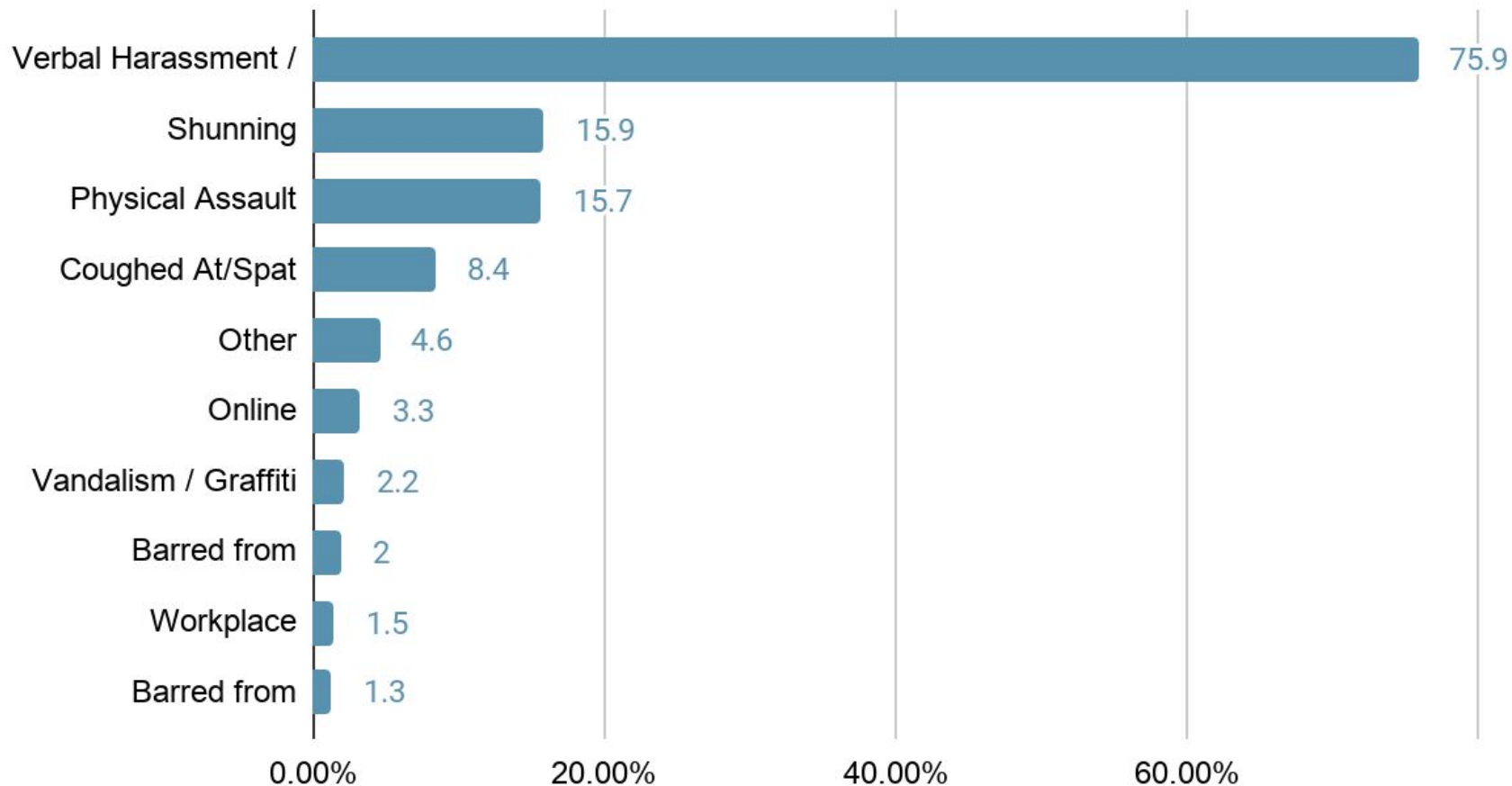


Surge in Anti-Asian Violence During COVID

- Nationally, 3,800 reports of anti-Asian incidents from March 2020 to February 2021
- In NYC, estimated 1,100+ incidents
 - NYPD recorded more anti-Asian hate crimes in Q1 2021 than all of 2020
 - City with greatest # assaults in U.S.
- Only 10-30% of actual # incidents



NYC: Types of Discrimination



Barriers to Reporting: A Look at NYC

- 70% of Asian New Yorkers are immigrants
- 1 in 4 lives in poverty
- 50% have limited English proficiency
- Uncertain immigration status
- Issue largely ignored by local and state leaders



Connecting People to Resources

- Reporting:
 - If emergency, dial 911 - say “Mandarin” to be connected to operator who speaks language
 - If harassment in housing, work, public place, call CCHR: 212-416-0197
 - Non-police option: AAF’s site: tinyurl.com/ReportAsianHate
- Creation of safety resources - in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese
 - Booklet: <https://tinyurl.com/AAFSafetyBooklet>
 - Videos: <https://tinyurl.com/AAFSafetyVideos>
- AAF’s mental health program - community support, MH referrals
 - AAF’s upcoming mental health directory for NYC providers

Hope Against Hate Campaign: An Overview

The Why: Climate of fear, Asian hate at highest level

The What: Real solutions to respond to violence and ensure immediate safety for Asian Americans

The How: \$7.5 million in private funding raised in next 6 months (of \$30 million campaign over two years)



HOPE
AGAINST
HATE

Hope Against Hate Campaign: Key Highlights

- **Centralize the reporting of bias incidents** through an in-language reporting tool in order to connect victims to the services they need
 - Alternative to NYPD
 - Web, text, and/or app
 - Share through ethnic media, texting platforms



Hope Against Hate Campaign: Key Highlights

- Establish safety ambassador programs in Asian-majority neighborhoods in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens
 - Train volunteers in de-escalation, self-defense, Mental Health First Aid
 - Escort vulnerable community members
 - Partner with Asian and other POC community-based organizations



Hope Against Hate Campaign: Key Highlights

- Create safe zones in communities throughout NYC to serve as safe havens for targeted Asian Americans
 - Partner with small biz, houses of worship
 - Marked with identifiable poster
 - Training to connect people to Asian community-based organizations



Hope Against Hate Campaign: Key Highlights

- Set up in-language victim support services
 - Assistance fund for assault-related expenses
 - Culturally competent mental health support



Hope Against Hate Campaign: Key Highlights

- Provide upstander, verbal de-escalation, and physical self-defense trainings in multiple languages
 - English, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese
 - Tailored content for seniors
 - Working with schools, impacted stakeholders

5 "D'S" OF BEING AN UPSTANDER
What to do when you see someone being harassed

DIRECT
Respond directly to the person causing harm or physically intervene if necessary
Be confident, assertive, & calm

DELEGATE
Get help from someone else
Ask for assistance, a resource, or help from a third party

DISTRACT
Excuse me
Do you know what the next step is?
Bring attention away from the person causing harm, the person who was harmed, or the situation itself

DELAY
Check in with the person who was harmed after the incident
And educate ourselves & our communities on why this happened

DOCUMENT
If someone is already helping the person in crisis,
document through photo or video*

*Never post or share a video without the consent of the person being harmed

Asian American Federation | 5 "D's" adapted from Hollaback! | CENTER FOR ANTI-VIOLENCE EDUCATION

Campaign Impact

If successful, Hope Against Hate will result in:

- **Fewer bias incidents in NYC** due to use of our safety strategies
- **Strong, wrap-around support for victims** that are more accessible
- **Education and engagement of 60,000-100,000 people, institutions, and nonprofits** in concretely supporting Hope Against Hate

Questions?

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