

Dear Ujima Community,

Once again, we find ourselves in deep sorrow mourning the senseless slaying of innocent members of our society. Our hearts are heavy, and we grieve with the Asian community today in response to the deadly shootings in the Atlanta metro area that claimed the lives of eight people, including six Asian women. The hateful surge of racists attacks and threats against the Asian American community must have swift and expedient national, state, and local responses that intervene in white supremacist terroristic acts and hold those who are complicit in protecting and facilitating bad actors accountable.

This tragedy is a reminder that communities of color are vulnerable at work, at home, at school, and in public spaces. There are no safe spaces. There has to be a call to action to shift the paradigm for no safe spaces for violent racist rhetoric and acts. We stand in solidarity with our sister resource center, The Asian Pacific Islander – Gender-Based Violence Institute, in challenging the status quo and working toward real and sustainable systemic remedies and solutions to address the scourge of racism.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families and friends of those who heartbreakingly lost their lives in this horrible tragedy.

In Solidarity,

Karma Cottman

Executive Director, Ujima, Inc.