

The HOPE Program condemns the needless deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and numerous others.

HOPE was founded on the belief that everyone deserves the chance to **work** and **grow**. This week, as we face painful reminders of lasting, violent, and systemic racism, it is clear that our city and nation have a moral imperative to **work** toward equality and **grow** in our understanding as we take action against the structural barriers that continue to hold our Black and Brown neighbors back.

Sadly, this is nothing new. Racism ends so many lives and permeates every corner of our society and economy.

Through HOPE's mission of empowering New Yorkers to build thriving careers, we deeply understand that the cards are stacked against people of color. Black Americans earn 27% less in the workforce* and even when their resumes are equally strong, Black jobseekers receive 36% fewer callbacks in the job market than their white peers**.

We believe that our work of providing New Yorkers of all backgrounds with the skills, support, and networks to build thriving careers chips away at these statistics. We invite you to join us in this critical work. Sign up for mock interviews. Help our jobseekers write resumes. Get to know the men and women of HOPE. Contact us to hire skilled New Yorkers. Most importantly, we invite you to continue to join us in the fight for economic and racial justice.

In Solidarity,



Jennifer Mitchell
Executive Director

*Economic Policy Institute
**Harvard Business Review

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The HOPE Program condemns the horrifying acts of violence and discrimination against Asian New Yorkers and Asian-Americans across the country. The rise in racism and xenophobia since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic is upsetting and directly threatens our efforts to build justice and equity in our community. Hate crimes such as Asian Americans being blamed, attacked, and scapegoated have increased ninefold in New York City since 2019 — and that is only reported crimes that we know of.

Our neighbors, including HOPE staff, students, grads, and supporters, should not have to face the fear of experiencing violence in the workplace, on their commute, in their children’s schools, or in their neighborhoods.

We invite you to **join us** in supporting Asian New Yorkers:

- Read the New York City Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes (OPHC)’s [Toolkit](#) for Addressing Anti-Asian Bias, Discrimination, and Hate
- Review these Bystander Intervention [Strategies](#) from the Center for Anti-Violence Education
- Volunteer with [SafeWalks](#) to escort members of your community to their local subway station
- Browse these [resources](#) on Black-Asian solidarity
- Support HOPE’s Asian-led, Asian-serving peer nonprofits, like the [Chinese-American Planning Council](#) and [Coalition for Asian American Children and Families](#)
- Attend a free bystander intervention training with [Hollaback!](#) on March 29 or April 20

If you're facing fear, anxiety, harassment, or discrimination, **we are here for you** :

- Sign up for a [SafeWalk](#) to be escorted to or from your local subway station
- Read the #IAmNotAVirus campaign’s [Mental Health Workbook for Asian-Americans](#)
- Visit our [Work Wellness Landing Page](#) for wellness and mindfulness resources, including the [Asian Mental Health Collective](#)

Over the past year, we have shared with you how we’ve been **responsive** to the economic, digital, mental health, and racial inequity crises facing New Yorkers, and **ready** to connect our jobseekers to the workforce of tomorrow. We remain committed to fighting against racism and keeping our community connected with the skills and resources to not only build sustainable futures, but also to live safe, fulfilling, meaningful lives.

["I Still Believe in Our City"](#) is a public awareness campaign by multidisciplinary artist Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya. The public awareness campaign was developed with the NYC Commission on Human Rights to combat anti-Asian discrimination, harassment, and bias as a result of COVID-19, and launched with the support of the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs. The art featured in this email is from an upcoming Art Display Case exhibition presented in partnership with the NYC Department of Transportation’s Temporary Art Program.

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