CISC Statement on Atlanta Shootings – March 17, 2021

Since the beginning of the pandemic, Asian American communities have experienced increased discrimination and verbal and physical assaults due to racism and xenophobia. In the last several weeks, alarming acts of violence against Asian Americans have occurred that have resulted in serious injuries and deaths, including an act of hate and misogyny yesterday that resulted in the deaths of eight people, six of whom were Asian women, in Atlanta.

CISC joins our community in condemning discrimination, hate, and violence against Asian Americans. Our hearts go out to the survivors and to the families and friends who have lost loved ones. We are committed to tackling the root causes behind hate, discrimination, and violence against Black, Indigenous, people of color, and immigrant communities in order to build a stronger community for everyone. We call for the development of community-based strategies to prevent hate and violence and keep our community members safe.

We encourage community members and allies to report incidents, learn how to intervene as a bystander, and speak out together. Youth leaders are organizing rallies and events to demonstrate the strength in our community and the support we have for each other. CISC joins in these efforts and by supporting our communities through our partnership with the Coalition Against Hate and Bias. Since mid-2020, we have recorded more than 170 incidents of hate and bias reported by community members.