



## For Immediate Release

### APAPA TO DISTRIBUTE YELLOW WHISTLES AT NATIONWIDE EVENTS

**Yellow Whistles with “We Belong” message to be distributed to community members for protection and solidarity in fighting against racism and hatred**

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**Sacramento, April 19, 2021** — In wake of the rising trend of violence and harassment targeting the Asian community, APAPA and AAPI organizations across the nation have joined together to support The Yellow Whistle™ Project, a new initiative started by Dr. Agnes Hsu-Tang, Oscar Tang, and Li-En Chong with the help of Ken Tan, Anne Martin-Montgomery, and Cassandra X Montgomery. Beginning on April 19, 50,000 customized yellow whistles with the words “We Belong” will be distributed to community members through a network of community organizations, public officials and at the New-York Historical Society.

APAPA plans to help distribute the yellow whistles at the May 15 nationwide “Unity against Hate” event that APAPA is organizing with over 30 national and local organizations from the Asian, Black, Jewish, Latino and LGBTQ communities and other marginalized groups. Details of the event and participating organizations can be found at the event website: [CommunityAgainstHate.org](https://CommunityAgainstHate.org).

“The Yellow Whistle is a symbol of self-protection and solidarity in our common fight against historical discrimination and anti-Asian violence”, said Agnes Hsu-Tang. “The whistle is a simple gadget with a universal purpose—to signal an alarm and call for help. We chose the color yellow because it has been weaponized as a mark of xenophobia against Asians throughout American history.”

“Asian Americans are among the hardest working people in this country, yet have been subject to racial discrimination, racial targeting and racial profiling, and have been ruthlessly attacked in thousands of incidents in the last year alone”, said APAPA National Chair, Ken Fong. “We must stand in solidarity and fight against racism and hate along with all communities that have had similar struggles. The Yellow Whistle Project creatively combines a practical design with a powerful message ‘We Belong’, which will amplify our united voice.”

“This is a much needed and highly practical strategy to address anti-Asian violence”, said Frank H. Wu, President of Queens College, City University of New York. “The recent attacks are not random but racial. Out of tragedy we have seen people come together to recognize the need to do something.”

“The Yellow Whistle campaign is an important effort to ensure our nation’s founding principles of equality and justice for all are understood, appreciated, and uniformly applied”, said Dr. Louise Mirrer, President and CEO of New-York Historical Society, “APAPA’s partnership in this project is important.”

“It is clear that a lot of thought went into the Yellow Whistle, including color, design, message, and safety”, said Dr. Jeremy Wu, a retired senior federal official and co-founder of APA Justice. “In addition to the nationwide events, we are committed to distributing the yellow whistles in many other events to empower the AAPI community and beyond”, said Dennis Wu, APAPA’s San Francisco Chair.

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**About APAPA (Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs)**

As a grassroots, community-based, non-profit, non-political, non-partisan organization, APAPA focuses on increasing AAPI civic participation at the local, state, and national level through voter registration and education, civic leadership programs including internships and scholarships for high school and college students, fellowship and mentorship for adults leading to appointive, judicial, and elective offices.

Website: <https://www.apapa.org>. Follow APAPA @apapahq on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#).

**About The Yellow Whistle Project**

The Yellow Whistle™ Project was started by Dr. Agnes Hsu-Tang, Oscar Tang, Li-En Chong, and several other generous individuals in response to the anti-Asian violence. The project provides free special-designed yellow whistles with a "We Belong" message to individuals and organizations, preferably 501(C)3 organizations with demonstrated strong community ties. The Yellow Whistle is a simple gadget with a universal purpose - to signal an alarm and call for help - for all Americans, and a symbol for self-protection and solidarity in our common fight against discrimination and violence.

Website: [theyellowwhistle.org](http://theyellowwhistle.org). Follow The Yellow Whistle project @thetellowwhistle on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [TikTok](#), [KaKao Story](#) and [WeChat](#).

**Press Contacts**

For inquiries regarding APAPA's civic engagement programs, internship programs and the upcoming May 15 nationwide rally event, please contact [info@apapa.org](mailto:info@apapa.org).

For inquiries regarding The Yellow Whistle™ campaign, please contact [theyellowwhistle@gmail.com](mailto:theyellowwhistle@gmail.com).