



Dear Appalachian Community,

The Language and Culture Resource Center's mission is to close the gap between native English speakers of East Tennessee and other languages/cultures. It is with deep sadness that we witness hate crimes happening so close to us such as the recent shootings of Asian American Women that happened in Georgia. With this letter we want to express our support and love for the Asian American community and Asian immigrants who live in the US. We are here for you.

We recognize that thoughts and prayers are not enough though. It is about time our society begins to react to these hideous events with action. Hence, the LCRC will start a fund raiser initiative to help the families of the shooting victims and any other victims of hate crimes that happen in the future. In order to do so, in the Fall semester, we will start by organizing two events on campus to celebrate Asian languages and cultures. For the first event, we will invite martial arts academies from the area to participate in a free style open martial arts tournament. For the second event we will focus on Asian media, including music, poetry, film, and tv shows (anime included). Any money generated by these events will go to our soon to be created "Love fund." We hope that this initiative will spark action within other institutions in our society. Thank you.

In solidarity,

Felipe Fiuza, Ph.D.
Director of the Language and Culture Resource Center
Assistant Professor of Spanish
deoliveirafi@etsu.edu
423-439-8342