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Stand with the Monterey Park Community

This past Saturday, January 21, at least 11 individuals were killed and nine seriously injured in a shooting spree that occurred just blocks away from a joyous New Year festival where thousands of people had gathered to enjoy the Lunar New Year festivities postponed for two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our hearts go out to the victims of this horrific tragedy.

The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations has worked for many years to promote positive human relations and prevent and respond to hate acts in and among our county's diverse communities. For more than three years, our hate prevention and response has been greatly strengthened through LA County's growing LA vs Hate program.

While at this time there is no report from law enforcement that bias or hatred was the motivation behind the gunman's actions, there is still much we do not know, and we will monitor the investigation as it proceeds. In the meantime, though, the entire county of Los Angeles and its resilient, strong communities have a lot of healing to do, as we all reflect on what changes need to happen to prevent these shootings in the future.

The Commission on Human Relations and LA vs Hate stand with Monterey Park, Alhambra, and all people and communities during this difficult time. We join our voice with the many messages of compassion, love and support being raised from diverse people and places. We are actively engaged in supporting the needed healing, including convening partners and concerned community members to assist – we are with you. We recommend valuable resources such as the 2-1-1 LA helpline (https://211la.org/), AAPI Equity Alliance's resource page (Community Resource Guide Developed by AAPI Equity Alliance), and LA County Office of Education (Statement from Dr. Debra Duardo on Monterey Park shooting; resources for schools and families > LACOE) for providing referrals to grief counseling or other support.

In solidarity we are stronger together.