

**Human Rights Commission**  
**Executive Secretary Report**  
**June 18, 2020**

**I. OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS CASE STATISTICS**

**May 2020**

- Total Caseload **59**
- Total Cases Under Investigation **53**
- Total Cases Pending Closure – **7**
- New Cases filed – **12**
- Total Inquiries – **3**
- Cases Closed – **3** (*year to date is 30*)

**II. HATE-BIAS REPORT**

- 4 HBI cases reported in May 2020
  - 2 Anti-Black
    - Suspect called victim’s daughter and friends a monkey
    - A Bible study was being conducted via Zoom. An unknown suspect entered the Zoom chat and stated, “look at all Niggers”
  - 1 Anti-Jewish
    - Victim was in a Zoom video conference when suspects disrupted the meeting to show pictures as Hitler saluting
  - Anti-Other
    - The reporting party found advised there was a white supremacy sticker on the back of a public stop sign. The officer removed the sticker

**III. OHR COMMITTEES, MEETINGS, EVENTS & UPDATES**

(Note: In wake of the COVID19 pandemic, many of our outreach activities, meetings and events for May were cancelled).

- Continue to host and participate in the COVE (Coalition Opposed to Violence and Extremism) meetings.
- **Bystander intervention & Cultural Awareness Virtual training** May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Howard County Chinese School – 30 participants (15 Students; 15 Adults – Group consisted of leadership from the adult and student community connected to HCCS. This training focused on relevant cultural data, COVID bias (anti-Asian sentiments), and skills to honor the dignity of targeted individuals.
  - May 31<sup>st</sup> – Howard County Chinese School/HRC/Community members – 27 participants – Group consisted of HRC members, leadership from HCCS and community leaders in the Asian community. This training focused on relevant cultural data, COVID bias (anti-Asian sentiments), and skills to honor the dignity of targeted individuals.

- OHR Overview Presentation -
  - Description: This presentation is the first of 3 presentations in partnership with the 50+ center, focused on giving the audience an understanding of what our office is and how we serve them. There was also a bit more focus on “age” as a protected class and the things we can assist with pertaining to ageism.  
Presenter: Chaunta Taylor, Community Outreach Coordinator  
Date: May 26th, Tuesday  
Time: 1:00 pm; 45 min for presentation 15 min for questions/discussion
- Youth in Conversation: Students group comprised students from HOCO high schools that meet twice a month to learn/practice effective communication skills, social emotional tools, and Facilitation skills. The group runs a podcast that aims to expand the conversation for those that can’t attend. Dates May 27<sup>th</sup>
- State of Black Howard County – Yolanda F. Sonnier presented about OHR, filing process, protected classes and answered questions from the community.

#### **IV. JUNE 1<sup>st</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> EVENTS**

- June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Chinese America Parent Association (CAPA) Presentation – Leaning into Our Humanity
- June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Participated in the Black Lives Matter March and Protest
- June 9<sup>th</sup> – Cultural Awareness Training – 50+ Center

#### **V. UPCOMING**

- June 19<sup>th</sup> – Juneteenth Celebration with the 50+ Center facilitated by the Office of Human Rights
- June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Human Trafficking Prevention Coordination Council Meeting
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Latinx Leaders Conference Call with County Executive
- June 24<sup>th</sup> – AAPI Leaders Conference Call with County Executive
- June 26<sup>th</sup> – IAOHRA Virtual Townhall – Human Rights in an Era of Uprisings and the Pandemic
- June 30<sup>th</sup> – LGBTQ Virtual Celebration/Townhall
- July 1<sup>st</sup> – MLK Holiday Commission Meeting