



*Supporting Immigrant Communities Amid COVID-19 Crisis*

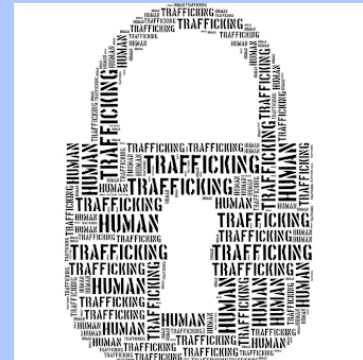
## APILO ADVOCACY FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



**APILO's Anti-Trafficking Project** was formed in 2001, soon after the enactment of the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA). The TVPA treats human trafficking as a serious crime which involves **force, fraud or coercion to obtain forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation**. The TVPA provides legal protections for victims and **it has enabled APILO to provide comprehensive legal and social service advocacy for trafficking victims in the Bay Area.**

### Debunking Myths about Human Trafficking:

- **Labor trafficking is much more prevalent than sex-trafficking.** Trafficking can happen in any industry and to persons of any gender, age and nationality.
- **Consensual adult sex workers** may voluntarily engage in commercial sex without any presence of force, fraud or coercion. **This is not human trafficking.**



### The COVID-19 Impact on Human Trafficking Victims:

- The COVID-19 is **forcing vulnerable victims to remain in isolated and exploitative situations and preventing them from reaching out for help** and obtaining information and resources.
- They are facing more perilous circumstances due to economic instability which directly impacts food and housing security.

### APILO Advocacy for Victims of Human Trafficking:

- Carefully assessing each case and **providing immigration relief through filing T-visa** applications.
- **Victim-witness advocacy** and family reunification.
- **Work in partnership** with Asian Women's Shelter, International Rescue Committee and other agencies and other organizations to provide wraparound social services to **support victims' journey towards self-sufficiency.**



# APILO IS WORKING TO PROTECT OUR VULNERABLE ELDERSDURING COVID-19



Due to the COVID-19 shelter-in-place order seniors have an increased risk of experiencing elder abuse and social isolation. **APILO has been conducting wellness checks with seniors to provide human contact, ensure they have adequate supplies, and detect early signs of elder abuse, and we encourage loved ones and other agencies to do the same.** Elder abuse can include physical abuse, emotional abuse, financial abuse, abandonment, isolation, abduction, deprivation of goods/services, or other treatment resulting in physical or mental harm, pain, or suffering.

## APILO's Collaboration with API Elder Abuse Task Force

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### API Elder Abuse Task Force

APILO established the API Elder Abuse Task Force in 2000, consisting of representatives from senior communities, government agencies, community based organizations, and legal service organizations.

#### Our Mission:

We work to address the unique issues that affect Asian Pacific Islander and other immigrant seniors, including cultural differences, language barriers, and generation gaps.

#### What We Do:

We meet quarterly to analyze and share community issues and best practices for serving vulnerable seniors and adults with disabilities.

**EDUCATION  
& OUTREACH  
& ENGAGEMENT**

# API Elder Abuse Task Force addresses the Rising COVID-19 related Hate-Crime incidents against API community members



- In our last meeting on May 5, 2020, the API Elder Abuse Task Force discussed the rising COVID-19 related hate crimes against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.
- **Bianca Mabute-Louie, a researcher for the STOP AAPI HATE Reporting Center and Youth Project Manager at APILO,** shared the study's current research findings, where to report bias motivated incidents, and safety intervention tips.
- Call API Legal Outreach for any issue relating to seniors and adults with disabilities, including:

## Study Highlights:

- AAPI women are 2.3 times more likely to be targeted than AAPI men
- 9% of respondents are AAPI seniors, whose relatives often reported these incidents on their behalf

## Safety Tips:

- Avoid traveling alone if possible
- Be around people who can intervene while maintaining social distancing

## Resources:

- Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center: <https://stopaapihate.org/>
- Submit incident reports in different languages
- San Francisco District Attorney's Office - Hate Crime Hotline

**APILO stands in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement.**

**We must confront anti-Black racism and all other forms of discrimination within our own communities and throughout our society. We applaud all youth of color and allies for their leadership in advancing the racial justice movement in the country.**

