



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF THE FOX VALLEY**

**Statement in Support of City of Appleton Resolution #6-R-21**

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley joins its long-time community partner, the Hmong American Partnership, and the broader Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community in being deeply disappointed by the Appleton Common Council's decision to not immediately pass Resolution #6-R-21 condemning xenophobia, racism, and anti-Asian violence in hopes of bringing increased safety and solace for AAPI communities in light of the pandemic.

The BGCFV is honored to serve a racially and ethnically diverse population of young people. The BGCFV recognizes that our goal of helping the Fox Cities become a great place for ALL kids to grow and thrive depends upon our community's collective efforts to ensure young people feel welcome, valued, safe, and know they belong. We stand with the more than 1,000 children, youth, and families we serve and employ who identify as AAPI. We stand against the structures, biases, stereotypes, and hate that perpetuate and fuel discrimination and assaults on the AAPI community.

The referral back to committee of Resolution #6-R-21 has led to feelings of betrayal, a loss of trust, and heightened the fear our AAPI community members face every day. The BGCFV believes the Common Council should have done all it could to avoid this result. The current situation is unacceptable and requires a quick and convincing response. Furthermore, BGCFV supports the passing of the resolution, introduced by Alderperson Maiyoua Thao and 5 other alderpersons, with its original language.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley understands the paramount importance of teaching our members about what is acceptable and what is not inside our Clubs. In much the same way, the City of Appleton has the responsibility to clarify the standards it expects of its residents. Resolution #6-R-21, as presented at the April 21st meeting of the Common Council, is an important step forward to meeting that responsibility.