



## **THE AFRICAN CENTRE FOR REFUGEES IN ONTARIO-CANADA**

### **ABOUT US:**

The African Centre for Refugees in Ontario-Canada is a registered non-profit and non sectarian African Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer (L.G.B.T.I.Q) community organization that supports vulnerable refugees from the African continent with humanitarian assistance to unite as a harmonious community to create a friendly and supportive environment.

We aim at addressing interests of African L.G.B.T.I.Q refugees in Ontario from the moment they enter the country until they are integrated into the Canadian setting following the IRCC agency of the Canadian Government.

Our organization is a place of consultation as well as mutual encouragement and support for the L.G.B.T.I.Q people by L.G.B.T.I.Q people.

### **PARTNERSHIP:**

The organization works with other civil society organizations/partners to champion the rights of African L.G.B.T.I.Q refugees seeking asylum and protection in the Province of Ontario Canada through Research and Advocacy work powered by our common belief of “**A Better World is Possible.**”

### **OUR VISION:**

To create an African L.G.B.T.I.Q generation of healthy youth proactively involved in the Canadian national transformation.

### **OUR MISSION:**

To promote meaningful African L.G.B.T.I.Q youth engagement in provincial programming for sustainable development.



## **OUR GOAL:**

To establish a coordinated African L.G.B.T.I.Q movement in Ontario Canada.

## **OUR OBJECTIVES:**

- To welcome and support all African L.G.B.T.I.Q Refugees in Ontario-Canada.
- To mobilize more African L.G.B.T.I.Q Refugees to help create a coordinated and visible African L.G.B.T.I.Q Refugee movement in Ontario-Canada.
- To rebuild a better future for African LGBTIQ Refugees by linking them to different innovative programs.

## **WHAT WE DO:**

### **1. New Comer Settlement Program (NSP):**

We offer new comers (Refugees) settlement support services to address the barrier of homelessness they face in Canada. Additionally, we assist refugee claimants with completing their applications for asylum as well as other settlement issues.

### **2. Volunteer Engagement Services**

Volunteering is one of the greatest ways that we utilize to open up our organization to the communities to actively participate in its operations through active involvement to ensure the sustainability of the organization.

### **3. CAREER WORKSHOPS:**

We offer career workshops such as financial literacy workshops, language literacy, Resume writing that encourages community partnerships and liaison with employers to integrate the African L.G.B.T.I.Q Refugees into the workforce.



#### **4. REFERRALS AND INFORMATION:**

We offer basic referral information on health and livelihood especially on Sexual Reproductive Health and Legal Aid since settlement involves all aspects of life.

#### **5. COMPUTER LITERACY:**

Technology is a significant aspect of Ontario's fast growing economy and this requires matching ICT literacy skills for efficiency by all African L.G.B.T.I.Q Refugees and this enables them build confidence in using computers.

#### **OUR PROMISE:**

At the African Centre for Refugees in Ontario-Canada, we believe that welcoming and supporting African L.G.B.T.I.Q Refugees is key to settle and integrate and by this we are making positive differences in their lives and the communities at large.

#### **OUR PROGRAMS:**

These are our organization related measures or activities with our particular long term aim:

##### **1. AFRICANTASTIC:**

This is a support group for new comers, convention refugees and whose passion lies in music, dance, drama, cultural activities, fashion and edutainment in the African L.G.B.T.I.Q Refugees communities of Ontario.

##### **2. DAIL-UP 4 HEALTH**

This program provides access to health care information, counseling and supportive services to new comers in Canada through referrals with focus on Harm reduction and Mental Health issues.

##### **3. FACE 2 FACE:**

This program focuses on our members who are living with HIV/AIDS where meetings are conducted to discuss issues on managing HIV/AIDS only where we discuss issues on managing HIV/AIDS, healthy diets, Adherence and other HIV related information.



#### 4. **SOCIAL FRIDAY:**

This program is open to all our members and its priority theme is to unite us as one African L.G.B.T.I.Q Refugee movement through recreation games, experience sharing, employment issues, open coffee table discussions, housing programs and settling-in discussions.

#### 5. **Q-RIOUS**

This is an inclusive program for African L.G.B.T.I.Q Refugees that offers information on L.G.B.T.I.Q issues such as Human Rights, homophobia, Tran phobia and Biphobia. We also discuss the issues of coming out, inclusion, diversity and equality.

#### 6. **AFRICAN SISTERHOOD:**

This program is for African Women and it offers information on women sexual health, mental health, women empowerment and educational workshops in financial management to promote gender equality.

### **OUR VALUES:**

These are our fundamental beliefs in our organization which guide us on the right paths to fulfilling our goals.

#### i. **Inspiration:**

We inspire each other to explore ideas that make the World a better place.

#### ii. **Team work**

We work together to meet the needs of our beneficiaries and to help our organization win.

#### iii. **Integrity**

We uphold the highest standards of sincerity and virtue in all our actions.



iv. **Respect**

We value our people, encourage their development and reward their performance.

v. **Excellence**

We strive to deliver the highest quality of work possible through simple, easy and relevant sustainable solutions.

vi. **Honesty**

We believe that honesty is an integral part of our working relationship.

**OUR COMMITMENT**

We empower our team to deliver effective solutions fast. We listen, we are accessible, creative and responsive and we act with urgency to make the right decisions.

**WORKING TOGETHER:**

***Nothing About us without Us.*** It takes partnership with the community to achieve real success. Supporting The African Centre for Refugees in Ontario – Canada means that you are supporting us in providing information, tools and necessities to help us rebuild our lives since we are powered with the belief that ***A Better Life is Possible.***

**VOLUNTEER WITH US:**

Volunteers are strong pillars of our organization. They make our programs and services possible. Contact us if you are interested in becoming a volunteer.