

2020

# ANNUAL REPORT

**BLACK CANADIANS  
FOR CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL  
AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS**

---



# BLACK CANADIANS FOR CULTURAL EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS



## *WHO WE ARE*

Founded in July 2017 and registered on February 15th 2018, the Black Canadians for Cultural, Educational and Economic Progress (BCCEEP) organizes and delivers several programs and events across the Windsor-Essex community.

## *MISSION*

BCCEEP pursues the cultural, educational and economic progress of Black Canadians by organizing and delivering programs and events in the community. BCCEEP strives to complement instead of duplicate programs offered by other organizations and agencies.



## 2020 Events and Accomplishments

- February 28- Annual Omoluabi Black History Month Event: Day 1 - Black History Tour
- February 29- Annual Omoluabi Black History Month Event: Day 2 - Black History Celebration
- August 24 - Beginning of BCCEEP's Covid-19 Emergency Response Program (CERP) which included groceries, hot-meals, online events and a variety of arts and crafts classes including pottery and sewing classes .
- October 1 - National Senior Day Celebration
- October 23-25- Virtual Africana 2020, A three day event celebrating African Culture
- Hired 1 student under the Canada Summer Job's grants program and 6 employees under the Government of Canada Covid-19 Emergency Response Program.

BCCEEP includes members from the African, Black, Caribbean and descendants of the Underground Railroad communities and has partnered with the Nigerian Canadians for Cultural, Educational and Economic Progress (NCCEEP), Windsor Essex Black Seniors Association (WEBSA) and the Harmony Cultural Exchange and Research Forum in the following programs and events:

- January 12- Seniors New Year Celebration
- February 23 - Multinational Mother Language Fest 2020
- Sokoni Market: A marketplace mini business expo to help marginalized and under or unemployed people promote and showcase their businesses.
- A Sound Mind Program: Innovative Support for Black Parents which helps families and is funded by the Government of Ontario.
- A monthly seniors' program called 'Tea time with African seniors', funded by the Canadian Government under the New Horizons for Seniors.

# PROGRAMS

- A Sound Mind- Innovative Support for Black Parents
- Sokoni
- Covid-19 Emergency Response Program
- Tea-time with African Seniors



# A Sound Mind

## Innovative Support for Black Parents



Established in 2018 and funded by the Government of Ontario under the Black Youth Action Plan Program (BYAP), the program provides innovative support for Black families in all areas including, but not limited to: counselling, referrals, mediation services, elders' intervention, support groups, self-help and family programs.

New methods were implemented to make sure important roles were acknowledged and appreciated! Mother's Day and Father's Day were celebrated via online video conferencing tool, Zoom, and parents were delighted to watch their children present original music expressing their admiration.

In order to bring the community together while staying in accordance with Covid-19 social distancing rules, caravans delivered baby gift baskets to expecting families.

### Sound Mind Events:

May 19, 2020- Baby Gift Basket Caravan

July 7, 2020- Baby Gift Basket Caravan

May 11, 2020 - Mother's Day Zoom Celebration

June 21, 2020 Father's Day Zoom Celebration

## SOUND MIND STATISTICS (SINCE MARCH 2020)

25

CAREGIVERS RECEIVED  
COUNSELLING OR PEER  
MENTOR SUPPORT

14

IN PERSON SUPPORT  
SESSIONS WERE  
PROVIDED

52

SUPPORT LINE CALLS  
WERE PROVIDED

92

ONLINE FORUM  
INTERACTIONS

18

CHILDREN RECEIVED  
COUNSELLING OR PEER  
MENTOR SUPPORT

15

CAREGIVERS ATTENDED  
OUTREACH &  
NETWORKING EVENTS

70

CHILDREN ATTENDED  
OUTREACH AND  
NETWORKING EVENTS

1226

ONLINE INTERACTIONS  
THROUGH THE PROGRAM'S  
FACEBOOK ACCOUNT



SOKONI started in 2017 with a Capacity Grant from the Ontario Government. The Sokoni program is a joint marketplace where people, especially newcomers and those with employment barriers, can come and expand their business. Sokoni means 'Market place' in Swahili and by bringing businesses together under one roof it helps small companies and entrepreneurs grow their businesses with minimal overhead costs. The hours are flexible and owners can work around their families schedules and other part-time jobs.



The market was temporarily closed due to Covid-19, but reopened on June 30th and continues to stay open featuring different caterers and vendors. The organizations Whatsapp account keeps the community informed with up-to-date posts on whats going on each week.

Sokoni vendors in 2020 included Burundi, Cameroon, Jamaican, and Nigerian caterers, online and onsite advertising for local businesses, and a market place at 3170 Walker Rd where people can purchase a variety of African items including food, fabrics and hair goods.





A screenshot of a Zoom meeting grid. The grid consists of 20 individual video feeds arranged in 4 rows and 5 columns. The participants are: Row 1: Laibio Afolabi, Jacqueline Lyenga, Fire Tablet, Elizabeth, Abiola Abiodun; Row 2: Orelia, Josephine Sempou, Nancy Allen, Ciss Cook, More Gbafu; Row 3: Mandrick Rogers, Nkegbe Asomota, James Oduro, Scholastica Lyonga, Felicitas Mwakushusho; Row 4: Patricia Healy-McCurry, Mama Dee, Fatmata R..., Richard Powo, Ernest Crev, Lennox Gervay-Shelley, Leslie McCurry. The bottom status bar shows the date and time '25/09/2020 15:07:21', the number of participants '42', and icons for chat, video, and audio. The Zoom logo is also visible in the bottom center.

# COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM

Started on August 24th and Funded by the Government of Canada and the Canadian Red Cross, BCCEEP delivered a Covid- 19 Emergency Response Program that included providing free African and Caribbean groceries, hot meals and activities to the community.

The program addressed issues such a food security and increased isolation faced by many people living in Windsor, Ontario by delivering groceries, hot meals and online/in-person classes held in a manner that complied with health regulations and social distancing guidelines.

Online classes included mental health classes by a culturally

qualified social worker, cooking classes with certified chef Tammy Elliot, a variety of arts and crafts classes, health and wellness classes with Maxine Ebegbuzie, prayer meetings and 5 weeks of interactive classes with performing artist Leslie McCurdy. In-person classes included sewing and pottery classes.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

470

PEOPLE RECEIVED HOT-  
MEALS AND/OR  
GROCERIES

316

FOOD BASKETS  
DISTRIBUTED

3012

HOT-MEALS SERVED

52

ACTIVITES HOSTED  
ONLINE OR IN-PERSON

157

PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN  
ONLINE OR IN-PERSON  
ACTIVITIES

OVER  
20

WINDSOR-ESSEX  
COMMUNITIES REACHED

# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

## AFRICANA 2020



# COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM



# OMOLUABI BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS



# BCCEEP FUNDERS



# BCCEEP PARTNERS

BCCEEP has partnered with many community organizations and churches including the Amherstburg First Baptist Church, Amherstburg Regular Missionary Baptist Association (ARMBA), Cameroonian Association of South-Western Ontario (ACSOO), Ivorian Organization of Windsor-Essex (IOWE), Harmony Cultural Research and Exchange Forum and the Nigerian Canadians for Cultural, Educational and Economic Progress (NCCEEP).

**Black Canadians for Cultural, Educational and Economic Progress**

**1356 Tecumseh Rd West**

**Windsor, ON**

**N8W 3R5**

**519-300-6237**

**bcceep.com**

