
January - April 2022

ACEDONE's Quarterly Newsletter

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ACEDONE in Minneapolis, MN

Its official, the African Community Development Of New England has been registered to commence services in Minnesota. The ACEDONE executive team visited the Twin cities last week and were warmly received by African community members, business owners and local leaders. The exploratory engagement centered on ACEDONE current programming and outcomes and how best similar efforts can be replicated in multiple spheres of life for the greater African community in Minneapolis. Throughout the next few months, ACEDONE- Minnesota will undergo the formal process of introductions at numerous levels of representation with the aim of improving cross-cultural outcomes.

Youth Ubuntu Project

The YUP school year program has been hybrid in this school year. The youth have been participating in workshops on grassroots leadership, roots of migration, inequalities in education, English language learners campaign, art activism, and social emotional learning. Currently the youth are working on youth led projects as the school year program wraps up on April 29th. If you or your child aged 14-18 are interested in a summer youth employment opportunity at ACEDONE please apply using this [link](#).

Are you a woman in need of a safe space to exercise?

Muslim women are among the least likely to take part in any physical activity outside the home – with only 18% working out in public, compared with 30% of women overall. As such, ACEDONE is working with Liberty Fitness to create a gym space in Roxbury that is **safe and inclusive to non-male identifying people**. Please take this [survey](#) to help us move forward in the next steps for development.



Summer Learning Program

Summer is around the corner and we are gearing up to provide more information on our free Summer Learning Academy partnered with Boston Public Schools. Our program targets students in the 1st- 8th grade from the Immigrant community while building on our After School Academic Enrichment Program. This summer we will be offering academic, STEM, fitness, leadership, and art. Please look out for more information in the next couple of weeks. For more information contact summerlearningacademy@acedone.org.



Face painting at a Summer Learning Program event last year!

JENGA

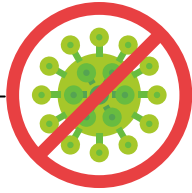
As Jenga approaches the start of its second year, we are in the process of developing the implementation phase of the project. **The Health Equity team has been working to recruit three Peer- to-Peer specialists from the community** to help us promote mental health awareness among African immigrants. Moreover, we are currently in the process of obtaining data collection software

that is necessary for keeping track of the progress we make when we launch the program. It is also critical that at this point in the project, that the team begin to recruit community members and peak their interest on this project, so if you are interested, please reach out to ayatt.elawad@acedone.org.

Equity Now & Beyond Clinics

ACEDONE is currently working on planning a vaccine clinic in collaboration with a potential health clinic. As the pandemic continues, it is imperative that community members continue to protect themselves and their families from the COVID-19 virus through vaccination. It is evident from the data collected by the coalition that there continues to be a large number of our community members who are still not vaccinated.

Holding these vaccine clinics are meant to provide our community with the necessary resources to protect themselves. Be sure to check out our socials to stay updated with the next clinic!



Small Business COVID19 Relief

Following the pandemic, ACEDONE has experienced an increase in business owners being served with one on one technical assistance and counseling going up by 367% of which 96% operate in low-income areas. As of February 2022, **ACEDONE's strategic collaborations secured access to financial support of over \$3,000,000 for small businesses to sustain their operations and workforce following COVID-19** state guidelines. Additionally, ACEDONE was able to secure the support of community members to create a coalition of professionals to assist business owners with pro-bono legal and accounting aspects. With the ongoing changes in Massachusetts, a majority of businesses are yet to recover their client and sales base prior to the pandemic however the small business development center remains a prominent advocate providing an authentic outlook for state and legislative decision makers.

Ramadan Kareem

FROM OUR ACEDONE FAMILY TO YOURS

