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COUNCIL OF AGENCIES SERVING SOUTH ASIANS

The Council of Agencies Serving South Asians'

December 2020 Newsletter

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Project Updates

COVID-19 Helpline for South Asians -

Nikhita Dogra, Project Coordinator

This COVID-19 Helpline is funded by the Government of Canada and managed by the Council of Agencies Serving South Asians in partnership with the South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario, Tamil Canadian Centre for Civic Action, Bangladeshi Canadian Community Services, South Asian Women's Rights Organization, and Punjabi Community Health Services.

The Helpline will provide information about health & safety during COVID-19, details on the reopening process, government benefits, and support services available to communities in English, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Bangla and Punjabi. All recorded information is available 24/7 and live Intake Specialists are available on a set schedule every week.

The Helpline went LIVE in early September and is accessible at: 647-846-2233.

We highly encourage and appreciate if members could share the helpline with their networks and on their social media.

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647-846-2233

TOLL FREE # FOR OUT OF GTA CALLERS: 1-866-300-3454

INFORMATION ON COVID-19: HEALTH & SAFETY, GOVERNMENT BENEFITS, SUPPORT SERVICES, RE-OPENING PROTOCOLS, AND FOOD SECURITY

RECORDED INFORMATION & LIVE INTAKE SPECIALISTS AVAILABLE IN: ENGLISH, URDU, HINDI, TAMIL, PUNJABI, AND BANGLA





















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Canada United Way

Canada Qunited Way গ্রেটার টরন্টোতে বসবাসরত দক্ষিণ এশিয়ানদের জন্য কোভিড–১৯ হেল্পলাইন 647-846-2233

টরন্টোর বাইরে থেকে কল করার টোল ফ্রী নম্বর: 1-866-300-3454

কোভিড-১৯ এর তথ্য, স্বাস্থ্য এবং সুরক্ষা, সরকারী উপকার বা সুবিধা, সার্পোট সার্ভিস, পুনরায় খোলার নিয়মাদি, এবং খাদ্য নিরাপত্তা

রেকর্ড করা তথ্য এবং ইনটেক বিশেষজ্ঞদের সাথে কথা বলা: ইংরাজী, উর্দু, হিন্দি, তামিল, পাঞ্জাবি, এবং বাংলা























Subscribe Past Issues Translate > வாராணனரா வபருயபாதை اے میں رہنے தெற்காசியர்களுக்கான ينوبي ايشيائي افرآد கோவிட் - 19 (COVID-19) தொலைபேசி உதவித் தொடர்பு 647-846-2233 ரொறொன்ரோ பெரும்பாகத்துக்கு வெளியிலிருந்து அழைப்பவர்களுக்கான கட்டணமற்ற தொலைபேசி ی ٹی اے سے باہر رہنے والے کالرز کے لئے ٹول – فری نمبر: எண்: 1-866-300-3454 கோவிட் - 19 பற்றிய தகவல்கள்: சுகாதாரமும் பாதுகாப்பும், அரசாங்கத்தினால் வழங்கப்படும் உதவிகள், ஆதரவுச் சேவைகள், மீளத் திறப்புக்கான நடைமுறைகள், உணவுப் பாதுகாப்பு حت اور حفاظت، حکومتی فوائد اور خدمار دوبارہ کھولنے کے عمل سے متعلق قوائد، اور کھانے کی حفاظت பதிவு செய்யப்பட்ட தகவல்களையும் மற்றும் நிபுணர்களிடமிருந்து தகவல்களை நேரடியாகவும் ஆங்கிலம், உருது, இந்தி, தமிழ், பஞ்சாபி, வங்காளம் ஆகிய மொழிகளில் பெற்றுக்கொள்ளலாம். ریکارڈ شدہ معلومات اور براہ راست انگریزی، اردو، بندی، تامل، پنجابی، اور CASSA SAECO PCHSHAIN CASSA SALCO pchs

Food Baskets for Seniors - CASSA has partnered with SacredHand Canada to provide food baskets for low-income South Asian seniors in the GTA. These food baskets are meant to last up to one month or more and contain essential items such as rice, flour, canned foods, oil, lentils, spices, and more. To determine their eligibility to receive a free food basket, seniors can call the COVID-19 Helpline at 647-846-2233. Service is provided in English, Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi, Tamil, or Bangla. Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Food baskets are for low-income South Asian seniors only annual income has to be under \$40k.
- Seniors who are living alone or with their partner only not living in joint families
- Age of at least one of the seniors has to be 65 or over
- For seniors living in the Greater Toronto Area only Peel, York Region, Toronto, and Durham region
- · One food basket per household only

This initiative is funded by the Government of Canada New Horizons for Seniors program.

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If you are a South Asian senior (age 65 or over) living in the Greater Toronto Area (Peel Region, York Region, Durham region, and Toronto) & are not able to afford essential monthly groceries, please call the Covid-19 Helpline to see if you are eligible for a free food basket:

647-846-2233

Talk to one of our intake specialists or leave a message with your name and phone number and someone will get in touch with you. Service is provided in English, Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi, Tamil, or Bangla.

The food package includes essential items that can last you up to one month or more



It includes items such as rice, flour, lentils, canned beans/olives/corn, onions, potatoes, oil, dates, tea bags, sugar, salt, other spices, tortillas, honey, and oats.

Fresh fruit and vegetables may also be added to each order prior to delivery



Funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program









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Subscribe Past Issues ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ **ਗ੍ਰੇਟਰ ਟੋਰਾਂਟੋ ਏਰੀਆ** (ਪੀਲ ਰੀਜਨ, ਯੋਰਕ ਰੀਜਨ, ਡਰਹਮ ਰੀਜਨ, ਅਤੇ ਟੋਰਾਂਟੋ) اگر آپ ایک ایسے **جنوبی ایشیایی عمر رسیدہ فرد** (جس کی عمر 65 یا اس سے زائد) ہیں ਵਿੱਚ ਰਹਿ ਰਹੇ **ਇੱਕ ਸਾਊਥ ਏਸ਼ੀਅਨ ਸੀਨੀਅਰ** (ਉਮਰ 65 ਜਾਂ ਇਸ ਤੋਂ ਵੱਧ) ਹੋ ਅਤੇ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ جوکہ **گریٹر ٹورنٹو ایریا** (پیل ریجن، یارک ریجن، ڈرہم ریجن اور ٹورنٹو) میں رہتے ہیں اور خریدنے کے متحمل نہیں ہیں تو براہ مہربانی کووڈ 19 بیل ਮਹੀਨਾਵਾਰ ਕਰਿਆਨੇ **ਨੂੰ ਖਰੀਦਣ ਦੇ ਸਮਰੱਥ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋ**, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਕੋਵਿਡ -19 **لائن پر یہ جاننے کے لئے کال کریں** کہ آپ مفت کھانے کی ٹوکری حاصل کرنے کے اہل ہیں یا ਹੈਲਪਲਾਈਨ ਨੂੰ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ ਤੇ ਪਤਾ ਕਰੋ ਕਿ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਮੁਫਤ ਖਾਣੇ ਦੀ ਬੈਸਕਿਟ ਦੇ ਯੋਗ ਹੋ ਜਾਂ ਨਹੀਂ: ਨਾਲ ਸਨੇਹਾ ਛੱਡੋ ਅਤੇ ਕੋਈ ਤਹਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੇਗਾ। ਇਹ ਸਰਵਿਸ **ਅੰਗ੍ਰੇਜ਼ੀ, ਉਰਦੁ, ਹਿੰਦੀ, ਪੰਜਾਬੀ, ਤਾਮਿਲ** ਅਤੇ ਬੰਗਲਾ ਵਿਚ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ। ت **انگریزی، اُردو، ہندی، پنجابی، تامل اور بنگلہ** میں دستیاب ہے۔ ਫੂਡ ਪੈਕਜ ਵਿਚ **ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਚੀਜ਼ਾਂ** ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹੁੰਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ ਜੋ **ਇਕ ਮਹੀਨੇ ਜਾਂ ਇਸ ਤੋਂ ਵੱਧ** یج میں وہ تمام **ضروری اشیاء** شامل ہیں جو آپ کے لئے **ایک ماہ یا اس ਸਮੇਂ ਤਕ** ਰਹਿ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਵਿੱਚ ਚਾਵਲ, ਆਟਾ, ਦਾਲ, ਕੈਨਡ ਬੀਨਜ਼ / ਜੈਤੂਨ / ਮੱਕੀ, ਪਿਆਜ਼, ان اَشیاء میں چاول، آٹا، دالیں، پھلیاں/ زیتون/مکئی کے ڈیّے، پیاز، آلو، تیل، کھجور، ٹی بیگز، چینی، نمک، دیگر مصالہ جات، ٹورٹیلاز، شہد اور جو شامل ਆਲੂ, ਤੇਲ, ਖਜੂਰ, ਚਾਹ ਪੱਤੀ, ਖੰਡ, ਨਮਕ, ਮਸਾਲੇ, ਟਾਰਟੀਲਾ ਬ੍ਰੈਡ, ਸ਼ਹਿਦ ਅਤੇ ਓਟਸ ਵਰਗੀਆਂ ਚੀਜ਼ਾਂ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹਨ। ਡਿਲਿਵਰੀ ਤੋਂ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਹਰ ਆਰਡਰ ਵਿਚ ਤਾਜ਼ੇ ਫਲ ਅਤੇ ਸਬਜ਼ੀਆਂ ਵੀ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ں پہچانے سے پہلے اس میں تازہ پھل اور سبزیاں بھی شامل کی جان ਕੀਤੀਆਂ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ।

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<u>Legal Education for Refugee Women Toolkit -</u>

Yomna Omar, Project Coordinator

Funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program

The Legal Education for Refugee Women toolkit was launched on **September 8th, 2020.**The toolkit is available in 4 languages: *English, Arabic, Tamil, and Urdu.* Short infographic

summaries for 11 topic areas are available in 8 languages: English, Arabic, Bangla, Farsi, Punjabi,

Spanish, Tamil, and Urdu.

Both toolkit and infographics can be found on **CASSA's Website**: http://cassa.on.ca/toolkit2020/ The infographics in the 8 different languages are also available for download from this google folder.

We urge all CASSA's members to share the toolkit content with staff, colleagues, and clients, as you see fit. If you have any questions, or would like CASSA to discuss how to use the Toolkit with your staff, please contact the project coordinator at younna@cassa.on.ca.

Employment Equity for South Asians -

Cynthia Saxena, Employment Equity Coordinator

CASSA is continuing to advocate the policy recommendations created in the <u>Moving Towards</u>

<u>Decent Employment reports.</u>

We are developing a disseminating and advocacy strategy that involves social media platforms such as Tik-Tok and Instagram reels! CASSA will also be launching its official blog and launching its #ImmigrantSuccess series. We are going to be working with policy-makers, corporations, small businesses, social

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inequities.

If you would like to support, collaborate or know more about this advocacy campaign, please reach out to Cynthia: cynthia@cassa.on.ca



Racial Equity in Education -

Eman Zahid, Muslim Community Outreach Coordinator

The Racial Equity in
Education project is training
volunteers in advocacy and
helping them develop
leadership skills.

The first of the Volunteer Training sessions for high school students and parents took place on November 28th, focusing on anti-racism and anti-oppression advocacy, led by the Urban Alliance on Race Relations (UARR). CASSA is leading the Muslim community outreach for this project. CASSA held the first Muslim Community Forum on November 26th, to engage the communities in discussions of equity in education. We featured guest speakers, Fatah Awil, who spoke on anti-black racism in the Muslim community, Dr Tayyab Rashid, who spoke on mental health of Muslim youth and Amira Elghawaby, who spoke about Islamophobia in Ontario schools. The forum produced insightful discussion of significant issues in the Muslim community, and how we can go about producing collective change for our youth. The year-end forum for this project will be on December 8th, and we are currently working on a centralized online portal for resources and toolkits addressing racial equity in education. The Racial Equity in Education project continues to do research on issues of racism most pertinent to the communities in Ontario, and the concerns with building an inclusive education system.

If you would like to get involved with this project, please connect with Eman Zahid: eman@cassa.on.ca

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CALLING ALL TECH EXPERTS

Volunteer for a Scarborough based community organization to assist them in upgrading their digital footprint.



Applicant must be familiar with

Zoom Canva

Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Youtube)
Website Editing

If you're interested please email your resume and a short description about yourself to programs@urbanaliance.ca.











TORONTO NONPROFIT NETWORK (TNN) DIRECTOR - 12 MONTH CONTRACT

DESCRIPTION:

The Toronto Nonprofit Network provides an amplified voice for Toronto's diverse public benefit sector in order to create an enabling environment and influence systemic change for public benefit organizations on issues that are relevant to the nonprofit sector and are unique to the size, diversity and geography of Toronto. One-time funding has been secured to hire a consulting position to lead and support TNN strategic activities for a 12-month period, starting in early 2021.

Working under the guidance of the TNN Steering Committee or its designates, this position will work to advance the TNN's proposed strategic activities and will complete specific deliverables on behalf of the TNN as follows:

<u>Calling All Tech Experts</u> <u>- Urban Alliance on</u> Race Relations

Volunteer for a Scarborough based community organization to assist individuals in upgrading their digital footprint.

Applicants must be familiar with Zoom, Canva, Social Media, and Website Editing.

Please email your resume and short description on yourself to program@urbanalliance.ca if interested.

HIRING: TNN Director (12 MONTH CONTRACT)

The Toronto Nonprofit

Network is hiring a **Director**

for a 12-month

position. One-time funding has been secured to hire a consulting position to lead and support TNN strategic activities for a 12-month period, starting in early 2021.

For more information on this position, please click here.

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relevant background information. Only selected applicants will be invited to an interview.

Messages from Members



This pilot program is the first of its kind in Canada. It aims to provide culturally appropriate legal services coordination for Canadian Muslim women seeking legal advice and counsel on family law issues. Visit **www.ccmw.com** to learn more.







Canadian Council of Muslim Women (CCMW) Le conseil canadien des femmes musulmanes (CCFM)





CCMW Launches Legal Services Coordination Pilot Project for Canadian Muslim Women

CCMW is pleased to assist Canadian Muslim women in receiving legal services that are responsive to their needs in the spirit of fair and equitable access to justice. This pilot project, funded by the Law Foundation of Ontario, aims to formalize our ability to refer Canadian Muslim women to culturally appropriate legal services that address family law issues and protect them from violence.

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The purpose of this form is to help our legal services coordination team, identify the services you may need and for us to assist and guide you in the precise direction. (This can include services that do not categorize as "Legal Services").

If you are looking for support/referral with other issues like housing, mental health, food bank services etc., please email info@ccmw.com.

If you would like to contact someone from our legal services team, please email legalservices@ccmw.com or contact us by phone at (647) 622-2221. Please note, for some individuals charges may apply. Check your phone plan to ensure this call is free of charge for you.

To have someone from our legal services coordination team call you, send us an email with your name and number to <u>legalservices@ccmw.com</u> and we will be in touch.



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When the luxury Hotel X in Toronto switched subcontractors, over 200 workers who cooked, served food, and cleaned were suddenly terminated in the middle of the pandemic. They are collectively owed over \$1.4 million in termination pay. But Hotel X has not paid up, claiming they are not responsible for subcontracted workers. Whether workers are hired directly or indirectly, our rights should be protected.



Send a letter to Hotel X owner Henry
Kallan with the demand to #PayUpHotelX:

https://www.15andfairness.org/payuphotelx

Please share this petition online using the hashtag #PayUpHotelX and tagging @HotelXToronto



<u>Epilepsy Toronto -</u> <u>Online Workshops</u>

Epilepsy Toronto is offering interactive online workshops that dispel myths and misconceptions about epilepsy.

Topics include: *Epilepsy 101, Seizure First Aid and Epilepsy Toronto Services*. Hear client stories of their lived experience with epilepsy.

For further information, please email leah@epilepsytoronto.org

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ONLINE SERVICES

Are you a community organization located in Scarborough?

Do you want to be more visible online and connect with your clients faster?

The Urban Alliance on Race Relations can help you optimize your Digital footprint.



FREE TRAINING

One on one training Learn about ZOOM Get to know CANVA Upgrade your social media skills!

If you'd like to learn more, please email programs@urbanalliance.ca.







Alliance on Race Relations

Are you a community organization located in Scarborough? Do you want to be more visible online and connect with your clients faster? The Urban Alliance on Race Relations can help you optimize your Digital footprint. We offer one-on-one training to improve your digital footprint.

Important News

Ontario's Salmonella Contamination through Metro stores

The more than 20 affected products, which are being recalled by Metro Ontario Inc., include salmon torenados, tropical green juice, spinach-fruit salad with nuts and rainbow trout stuffed with vegetable and cheese.

If you have become ill from consuming one of the recalled products, the CFIA advises you to contact a doctor.

New Hindu COVID-19 Task Force aims to make public health messaging more accessible in Peel

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Region communities understand public health messaging about the novel coronavirus.

The task force, which comes under the umbrella of the Canadian South Asian COVID-19 Task Force, was established on Nov. 17. Its founders say the group is a non-partisan, grassroots organization committed to community health and well-being and to bringing COVID-19 transmission down.

Covidiots come in all colours. Using race-based data to demonize South Asians is a cruel twisting of the evidence

From the barbaric East Asians and their <u>bat-eating</u> habits to the villainous South Asians and their dangerous socializing habits, the <u>COVID-19</u> narrative has traced an interesting if richly <u>racist</u> trajectory in the eight months since it has afflicted us.

Across the U.K., Canada, the U.S. and other nations, the pandemic is unveiling what health experts have always known: structures birthed in bias and driven by principles of profit have gone on to exacerbate the suffering of people living in the margins.

Ontario parents can soon apply for second COVID-19 payout, should receive it before holidays

Ontario parents will soon be able to apply for their next COVID-19 cheque from the provincial government and should receive the funds before the holidays.

Parents of children aged 12 or younger will again be able to receive a one-time payment of \$200 per child, and \$250 for children 21 years of age or younger with special education needs.

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