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Translate ▼



COUNCIL OF AGENCIES SERVING SOUTH ASIANS

The Council of Agencies Serving South Asians'

December 2021 Newsletter

Table of Contents

CASSA's Project Updates

- South Asian Vaccine Engagement Collaborative
- Hate Crime Reporting Project
- Anti-Hate & Equity Education Project
- Gender-based Violence Project
- · Anti-Hate Initiatives

Messages from Members

- Urge the federal government to make the definition of homelessness inclusive
- Equity in Education Forum
- Digital Anti-Racism Education Workshop (Waterloo-Wellington)
- Digital Anti-Racism Education Workshop (Durham)
- December Events and Resources (WeCanWin)
- First Generation: A Canadian Immigrant Podcast
- Eastern GTA Community Health Pulse Event
- Women in Construction: Panel Discussion

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Opportunities

- December Computer Workshops
- · Job Posting: Project Coordinator
- Job Posting: Support Staff (Part-time)
- Volunteers Needed: Ontario Cervical Screening Program
- Women in Future Careers Workshop
- Volunteer Opportunity: Regional Branch Members
- Epilepsy Education Workshops

Important News

- Boosters recommended for those over 50, younger people may also get 3rd shot: NACI
- Feds clarify new travel rules, testing at airports still 'ramping up'
- Where do all the masks go? One Quebec company says it shouldn't be the garbage
- Study: Oceans polluted with over 25,000 tons of COVID-related plastic waste

Project Updates

South Asian Vaccine Engagement Collaborative -

Wardah Malik, Vaccine Engagement Coordinator

For December, SAVEC is focusing our outreach efforts on youth groups and children. We will continue educating South Asians with video and infographic content as best as we can. All SAVEC organizations urge community members to social distance and follow health guidelines. Thank you to all of our VET staff and volunteers who have helped educate on vaccines and guidelines. The pandemic is not over and our actions these next few months will dictate how we recover and come out of this health crisis. For more information and translated resources please contact wardah@cassa.on.ca

Hate Crime Reporting -

Lakhdeep Dhaliwal, Hate Crime Reporting Project Coordinator

Hate crime reporting project continues to invite community input from our survey and focus group

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the foundations of police training sessions using community voice to improve the reporting system. Community organizations interested in hosting focus groups are invited to contact Lakhdeep Singh Dhaliwal - hate crime reporting coordinator at:

lakhdeep@cassa.on.ca



Anti-Hate & Equity Education Naima Raza and Eman Zahid, AntiHate Education Project Coordinators EXTENDED DEADLINE FOR VOLUNTEER

RECRUITMENT - DECEMBER 7

Are you a Muslim high school student or parent/guardian? Would you like to combat racism and Islamophobia in the education system? CASSA is recruiting volunteers for its Coalition for Racial Equity in Education (CREE) project in collaboration with the Urban Alliance on Race Relations.

This project will equip you with advocacy skills in order to make the education system more equitable for Muslim students and staff. Over the past year, CREE has held community forums, training sessions with volunteers, conferences, and has supported a motion to establish an anti-Islamophobia strategy at the Peel District School Board. Please apply by our extended deadline of Tuesday Dec 7th via this form. Our volunteer onboarding will occur on the evening of Thursday December 16th. naima@cassa.on.ca

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Project Coordinator

The GBV team is working to finalize all focus group sessions. The project will be incorporating greater west coast representation in the study by including a new agency from British Columbia. The project's data entry and coding work is scheduled to be completed by December 6. Finally, the GBV project's website has also been published, depicting the progress and details of this study. More information on the project may be found

here: http://cassa.on.ca/gbvstudy/
For more information, contact dinoba@cassa.on.ca

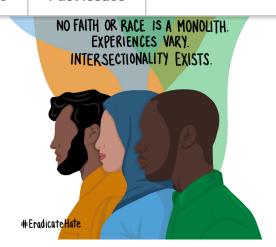
Anti-Hate Initiatives -

Maryam Faisal, Project Manager

A new podcast episode is up! In Part 30 of the Anti-Hate Conversation Series, CASSA staff engage in self-reflection discussions from CASSA's new game Reflect 2 Connect aimed at examining our own identities. The game aims to facilitate reflection on our intersectional identities and biases that have been created through our personal experiences, especially when it comes to navigating the online world. Inspired by the card game, "We're Not Really Strangers", our questions hope to spark connections between people by sharing different perspectives and placing value in our ability to be vulnerable with others. Listen here!

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online hate, please share with others!

Monday (22nd

Nov): Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn

Wednesday (24th

Nov): Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn

Friday (26th

Nov): Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn

Sunday (28th Nov): Instagram Reel

Monday (29th

Nov): Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn

Wednesday (1st

Dec): Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn

Messages from Members



<u>Urge the federal government to make the definition of homelessness</u> inclusive - *CERA*

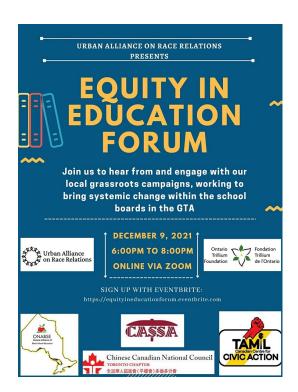
Housing is a human right. For many women and gender-diverse people across the country, this right is not being realized. In fact, their right to adequate housing is being impeded by policies that do not consider their specific needs and circumstances.

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instead relied on a narrow definition of "chronic homelessness" when implementing programs that address homelessness under its National Housing Strategy (NHS). **This narrow definition** excludes hidden homelessness which is the most common way women and gender-diverse people experience homelessness.

The Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation (CERA) has recently launched a petition calling on the federal government to change its definition of homeless to include the experiences of women and gender-diverse people.

Add your name to this important initiative here.



Equity in Education Forum - *UARR*

Join us to hear from and engage with our local grassroots campaigns that are working to bring systemic change within the school boards in the GTA.

Please sign up for our two breakout rooms and choose one topic for each session you are interested in joining!

Breakout #1: Thematic Please choose one of the following topics you would like to see:

1) Curriculum/Options, 2) Staff
Training/Support, 3) Parent/Guardian
Engagement Strategies or 4) Youth
Leadership/Voice/Well-Being

Breakout #2: Regions - Please choose one of the following school boards you would like to see

1) YRDSB, 2) TDSB, 3) PDSB or 4) DDSB

Click here to register!

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Digital Anti-Kacishi Education Workshop!

Topics Include:

- What is Islamophobia?
- · Gendered Islamophobia
- What is Cyberhate?
- CounterSpeech & Counter Narratives

Participants attending to receive a certification in Digital Anti-Racism Education!



Registration required

https://bit.ly/DAREDurham Q

For more information visit www.daretobeaware.ca





Wellington Chapter

As part of the project, CCMW's Digital Anti-

Racism Education (D.A.R.E.2), CCMW

Durham Chapter is hosting a FREE workshop

on December 4th (1-3 PM EST) on the

following topics:

What is Islamophobia?

Gendered Islamophobia

What is Cyberhate?

CounterSpeech & Counter Narratives

Register here: bit.ly/DAREDurham



CCMW Durham Chapter in partnership with the Durham Region invites you to join a free...

Digital Anti-Racism Education Workshop!

Topics Include:

- What is Islamophobia?
- Gendered Islamophobia
- · What is Cyberhate?
- CounterSpeech & Counter Narratives

Participants attending to receive a certification in Digital Anti-Racism Education!



Registration required

https://bit.ly/DAREDurham Q

For more information visit

www.daretobeaware.ca





<u>Digital Anti-Racism Education</u> <u>Workshop - CCMW Waterloo-</u>

Wellington Chapter

As part of the project, CCMW's Digital Anti-Racism Education (D.A.R.E.2) hosted bilingual virtual workshops this summer and trained 400+ participants from across Canada on the impact of Islamophobia and how to counter cyberhate. Join our free, virtual Anti-Islamophobia 1O1 & Countering Cyberate 1O1 Workshops. Workshop Topics Include:

December 20 - 7-9 PM EST

What is Islamophobia?

Gendered Islamophobia

December 22 - 7-9 PM EST

What is Cyberhate?

CounterSpeech & Counter Narratives

Register here: http://bit.ly/dare2waterloo

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December Events and Resources - WeCanWin

We Can Win is a not-for-profit organization established in 2011 that has pioneered and guided about 600 immigrant families by training and advising the youth, newcomers, women, and seniors. Our goal is to help create opportunities and provide resources to improve the condition of visible minorities by working to enhance their skills for employment. Our mandate is to encourage participation in economic, cultural, social and political activities in the community, and to ensure individuals attain the resources in meeting future opportunities.

Learn more here.



First Generation: A Canadian Immigrant Podcast - Canadian Immigrant

Inspiration, information, helpful tools, tips and resources – find all this and more in our 2021 Canadian Immigrant podcast series **First Generation** presented in partnership with Mizrahi Developments. Our goal is to equip our community of newcomers and immigrants with change to inspiration, information and resources to help you thrive in your new home.

Tune in and hear from a wide range of immigrants – entrepreneurs, refugees, young Canadians, artistes, Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Award winners, and everyone in between as they share the

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Missed any of our episodes, start listening today! And don't miss an episode by subscribing on <u>Apple</u>, <u>Spotify</u> or wherever you listen to your podcasts.



<u>Eastern GTA Community Health</u> <u>Pulse Event - University of Toronto</u>

Join us for a community-based dialogue about the ongoing experience of the pandemic in the Eastern GTA. Experts in health and wellness will share the challenges and strategies for resilience specific to the region. There will be an opportunity for audience members to submit questions for the panelists at registration and during the event. The session will be recorded and will include captioning. Webinar link and viewing instructions will be sent by email to registrants.

<u>Please RSVP here</u> by Monday, December 6, 2021.

Below are details on the panels:

Panel 1: What are the impacts of COVID-19 on mental health and wellbeing?

- Allison Crawford: Director, Virtual Care; Chief Medical Officer, Canada Suicide Prevention Service; Associate Professor, Departments of Psychiatry and Dalla Lana School of Public Health; CAMH
- Ilan Fischler: Chief of Psychiatry and Medical Director of the Mental Health and Addiction Program, Scarborough Health Network, and Mental Health and Addiction Physician Lead, Ontario Health East
- Julie McCarthy: Professor, Organizational Behavior and HR Management, University of Toronto Scarborough
- SanazRiahi: Vice-President, Practice, Academics and Chief Nursing Executive, Ontario
 Shores Centre for Mental Health

Panel 2: How can we foster resilience through community relationships?

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- VéroniqueHenry: Dean, School of Community and Health Studies, Centennial College
- Jo Sharma: Associate Professor, Historical and Cultural Studies, University of Toronto Scarborough

Panel 3: What are the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on Indigenous and Racialized communities in the Eastern GTA?

- LibenGebremikael: Executive Director, TAIBU Community Health Centre
- BertLauwers: Executive Vice-President, Medical and Clinical; Acting Chief of Staff,
 Scarborough Health Network
- Notisha Massaquoi: Associate Professor, Department of Health and Society, University of Toronto Scarborough, and founder and former executive director of Women's Health in Women's Hands Community Health Centre



<u>Women in Construction: Panel</u> <u>Discussion - WERC, Times Change</u>

Is a career in the Trades right for you?

Women in Future Careers and Women's

Employment Resource Centre (WERC)

presents Women in Construction: A Panel

Discussion Learn what Programs Community

Benefits offers: QuickStart Pre
Apprenticeship Program, NextGen, and

Pathway to Construction for Newcomers from

past participants who will be on the Panel.

On our panel: Manuela Sa, M.Ed, Kimoy

Francique IBEW L353 and Shannon Kilgar

Local 30.

When: Wednesday, December 8, 10 am to 11 am

Register

here: https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/women-in-construction-a-panel-discussion-tickets-209452597357

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Times Change Women's Employment
Service Presents: A day in the life of a
Heritage Mason!

Learn about Celeste's story about being a
Heritage Mason, and what the typical day
looks like in this online info session for
women! She will talk about the steps to
becoming an apprentice in this trade, and will
be followed by a question and answer period!

Date: Thursday, December 2 2021, 4:00 PM 5:00 PM

Register here:

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/info-session-forwomen-a-day-in-the-life-of-a-heritage-masontickets-205211692697

Opportunities



<u>December 2021 Computer</u> <u>Workshops - TimesChange</u>

<u>Times Change December Computer</u> <u>Workshop Schedule:</u>

Intro to Excel for Budgeting Part 1

- Monday, December 6, 2021, 10am-11:30am

Intro to Excel for Budgeting Part 2

- Thursday, December 9, 2021, 10am-11:30am

Using Gmail Efficiently - Monday,

December 13, 10am-11:30am

Navigating LinkedIn for Beginners

- Thursday, December 16, 10am-11:30am

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> To register, please email: booking.timeschange@gmail.com



PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Women Breaking Barriers (WBB) Program Full-time, one-year contract position

imes Change Women's Employment Service is an incorporated non-profit charifable community agency. For 47 years, we have been providing women with free employment workshops, computer training, counselling and resources. Dur mandate is to advance gender equity by helping women increase their prosperity and security through sustainable and satisfying employment.

Nomen Breaking Barrier's objective is the transformation of non-diverse maledominated workplaces to cultures that are inclusive in the recruitment, etention, and advancement of women. The WBB Program Coordinator is esponsible for designing, developing, implementing and coordinating the Nomen Breaking Barriers Program at Times Change.

Responsibilities

- Oversee all aspects of the WBB program
 Partner with diversity organizations and stakeholders to inform the project's strategic plan and program development
- Assist with program development and improvements; develop strategies to identify and address gender barriers to employment and facilitate job
- Liaise with community and private partners and actively engage in
- outreach activities to promote program and recruit participants
 Engage with employers (small to mid-sized companies in particular) to
- garner employers' commitments to improved workplaces for women Coordinate and facilitate diversity training to employers' management
- Engage with Times Change clients to expose them to non-traditional occupations through career panels and employment opportunities with our diversity-committed employers
- Provide job coaching in groups or one on one to employers and their employees, as well as Times Change clients to support job retention Recruit mentors from within the employer or community agencies, sector councils and professional bodies that help mentor new hires (recruit by leading information sessions and marketing to employers, community agencies, sector councils and professional bodies using LinkedIn and other social networks)
- Screen. train and match mentors/mentees using established guidelines; conduct mentor/mentee orientation sessions

Job Posting: Project Coordinator -Women Breaking Barriers (WBB) Program - TimesChange

The WBB Program Coordinator is responsible for designing, developing, implementing and coordinating the Women Breaking Barriers Program at Times Change.

Qualifications: Post-secondary education in a related field i.e. Career Development Practitioner programs, human resources management, diversity/inclusion/equity studies, social sciences, women's studies, social work, law, political science or related field

Hours: 35h/week

Pay: \$30/h

Apply by **December 10** by sending a resume and cover letter to hiring@timeschange.org. More details here.

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Support Staff Part-time, Contract (3 days a week) (January 2022 to March 31, 2022)

Location: 55 University Ave, 15th Floor, Toronto, Ontario

IAVGO is a specialty legal clinic, funded by Legal Aid Ontario, to provide legal services to injured workers throughout Ontario. Our services include legal advice, legal representation, public legal education, law reform advocacy, and community outreach and development. The clinic operates as a collective, where the staff collectively shares in the day-to-day management of the clinic.

Primary function: Responsible for providing administrative support to caseworkers, outreach worker and the admin. team.

Reception duties: Assist with reception; answer, screen and route calls as appropriate; schedule intake appointments where appropriate or make referral.

General administrative duties: photocopying; faxing; scanning; opening and distributing mail; filing paper documents and inputting client information into the Client Information Management system (CIMS); process interpretation/translation requests; close intake client records in CIMS; assist with the storage of banker boxes; provide other administrative support as required.

- Required skills & experiences:

 Experience in an office environment and proven ability to deal effectively with clients on the phone and in-person
 Excellent telephone skills and knowledge of multi-line phones
- Admin. apprehence in a legal environment an asset
 Sound organizational skills in order to maintain control of a variety of administrative tasks with high attention to detail
 Excellent computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook; Adobe; CIMS knowledge an asset)
 Able to work independently, effectively and co-operatively
 Experience working with diverse communities an asset
 Ability to speak multiple languages an asset
 Experience working in the not-for-profit sector an asset

Length of contract: January 2022 to March 31, 2022; Part-time (3 days a week; 21 hours a week)

Salary: \$25 an hour plus vacation pay, statutory benefits, paid sick time and statutory holidays.

Please be advised that our organization requires all staff, students, and volunteers to be fully vaccinated. Proof of vaccination can be obtained from the Ministry website

Reception duties: Assist with reception; answer, screen and route calls as appropriate; schedule intake appointments where appropriate or make referral. General administrative duties: photocopying; faxing; scanning; distributing mail; filing documents and inputting client information into the Client Information Management system (CIMS); process interpretation/translation requests; close intake client records in CIMS, etc Salary: \$25/hour, Length of Contract: Jan 2022 - April 2022, Part-time. Click here for more details.

Volunteers Needed - Ontario Cervical Screening Program

Ontario Health (Cancer Care Ontario) is looking for volunteers to help improve their new cervical cancer messages. Do an interview and get a \$30 gift card as a thank you. Find out more here: https://www.cancercareontario.ca/en/getchecked-cancer/volunteers-needed-cervicalmessages.

Volunteers Needed

The Ontario Cervical Screening Program is doing interviews to find out how to make new cervical cancer messages better.

You may be able to do an interview if you

- · Are 25 to 75 years old
- · Are a woman, trans man or non-binary person
- Speak English

About the interview

The interview will take 1 hour and 15 minutes. You can choose to be interviewed by phone or by videoconference. Do an interview and get a \$30 President's Choice gift card as a thank you.

If you are interested

- Call us at 1-866-662-9233 toll free
- Email us at cancerinfo@ontariohealth.ca. Do not send us any information about you health or your health card (OHIP) number



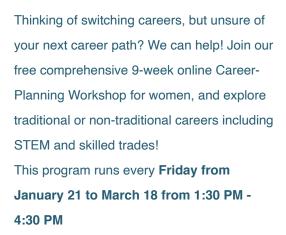




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Registration begins now! https://www.timeschange.org/cpw-application.html



The Volunteer Regional Branches advance our vision of an end to breast cancer and provide opportunities for individuals and organizations to become active in supporting breast cancer research in Canada. Branches act locally, engaging with their community to fundraise and help drive awareness of the need to continue to fund breast cancer research to help find a cure.

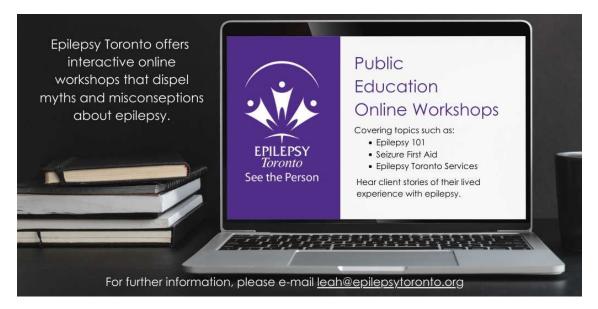


The Regional Volunteer Branches:

- Fundraise to support breast cancer research to help find a cure.
- Raise Awareness of the importance and impact of our research.
- Advocate for access to testing and breast cancer treatments.

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<u>Combatting Epilepsy Misconceptions - Epilepsy Toronto</u>

Here is a new COVID-19 Vaccine Bulletin, developed by doctors in partnership with settlement organizations, in 8 languages. It's the first in a series, addressing questions about the vaccine.

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

Important News

Boosters recommended for those over 50, younger people may also get 3rd shot: NACI

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization is now strongly recommending adults over the age of 50 be offered COVID-19 boosters, while those aged 18 to 49 "may" be offered boosters based on individual risks and where they live.

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- those living in long-term care homes;
- those who received two doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine or one dose of the Janssen vaccine;
- · certain immunocompromised individuals;
- adults in First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities; and
- front-line health-care workers who have direct close physical contact with patients.

Read more

Feds clarify new travel rules, testing at airports still 'ramping up'

The new measures mean Canadians, permanent residents and fully vaccinated international travellers arriving at Canadian airports from non-U.S. destinations will be tested on arrival, or receive a test to take home. They must then self-isolate until they receive negative test results, which the government says could take up to three days. If they test positive then they must quarantine for 14 days. Unvaccinated travellers will be required to remain in a designated quarantine facility for their entire quarantine period. Anyone arriving on a connecting flight will get tested on arrival or receive a take-home test and continue to their final destination. Read more here.

Where do all the masks go? One Quebec company says it shouldn't be the garbage

One Quebec company, however, is trying to keep single-use face masks from ending up in the landfill by recycling them. For Eric Ethier, Go Zero Recycle president, it doesn't make sense for the masks to be thrown out when they are "100 per cent recyclable." "We have a capacity of (recycling) 50 million masks per day, so there is no limit," he said. "Does it make sense in 2021 that you buy a disposable product without thinking, 'how am I going to dispose of it once I will be done with it? Doesn't make sense."

To read more, click here.

Study: Oceans polluted with over 25,000 tons of COVID-related plastic waste

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of the pandemic — around **25,000 tons** of which are now in the global ocean. The vast majority, around **87%**, of excess pandemic-related plastic waste is produced by hospital systems, whereas personal PPE waste accounts for just a little over **7%** of global excess plastic. Researchers also found that the "surge in online shopping" led to an increased demand for plastic packaging material, although package waste makes up only 4% of the pandemic-era plastic in the global oceans. Test kits make up an early smaller fraction of plastic waste at **.3%** Click here to read more.









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