



African Advocate

Voice of African Immigrants & Refugees In Illinois

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED AFRICAN ORGANIZATION (UAO)

February 2012

Issue 5

Defend Chicago's Sanctuary Status!

Thanks to coordinated action by UAO and immigrant leaders, 54-year-old asylum seeker and mother Rose Tchakounte from the African nation of Cameroon was released by [Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\)](#) on an order of supervision last month.



Chicago Sun Times

Rose was stopped by the Chicago Police Department (CPD) for a simple traffic violation. The officer could have simply issued a citation and let Rose return to her family. But instead the officer discovered that Rose had an [Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\)](#) order against her after she had missed a hearing on her immigration case--and arrested her in violation of the 2006 Chicago "sanctuary" City Ordinance.

The Chicago Police Department violated the city's longstanding policy that dates back to 1985, instilled fear in the immigrant community, and wasted precious taxpayer dollars - all in the name of separating families.

We call on Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Police Chief McCarthy to work with immigrant leaders in upholding the city's historic commitment, since Mayor Harold Washington's tenure as Mayor, to make Chicago the most immigrant friendly and welcoming city in the nation.



Your donation is tax-deductable

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THE MISSION

The United African Organization is a dynamic coalition of African national associations that promotes social and economic justice, civic participation, and empowerment of African immigrants and refugees in Illinois.

Become a proud UAO Member!

Become a Member
of UAO today

Renew your
Membership

Community Leadership Workshop



At the UAO's latest Leadership Workshop on February 25, 2012, participants learned how to **write successful grant proposals and sound financial management**. Dr Marcia Lipetz facilitated the workshop. She has spent her career in Chicago's philanthropic, nonprofit and academic communities, and currently consulting with foundations and corporations on grant making and community involvement.

The next Leadership Workshop, **on March 24**, will be on **Effective Advocacy: Developing strategies for grassroots public policy advocacy**

The UAO's African Leadership Development Program is targeted at African community leaders in and around Chicago.

Leadership workshops take place every month and cover a range of topics. **The workshops are free BUT you must register in advance to attend.** The next workshop will be:

Date: Saturday, March 24, 2012

Time: 9:00am-1:00pm

Venue: 6th Floor, 10 West 35th Street, Chicago IL 60616

Topic: Developing strategies for grassroots public policy advocacy

- Helping communities understand the political process in the U.S.
- Techniques for advocacy and outreach to policymakers
- Role of civil society in public policy debates
- Designing campaigns- building community capacity for analyzing problems and proposing creative solutions
- Voter education and mobilizations as key elements of a comprehensive civic participation strategy

E-mail training@uniteafricans.org to register or call [\(312\) 949-9980](tel:3129499980) for more information.

OUR GOALS

- Build the leadership and organizational capacity of the community
- Advance public policies to increase opportunities and support for immigrant and refugee integration
- Ensure that African immigrant and refugees have an active role in multiple civic arenas
- Promote community development and access to social services
- Serve as a viable model of African Unity and Empowerment

Follow us: [f](#) [t](#) [b](#) [You Tube](#)

Listen to our Podcast:



Highlights from African Voices:

[Top news stories from Africa](#)

[Interview with Almaz Yiqisaw, owner of Ethiopia Diamond Restaurant located on the city's North side](#)

[Music from Gwaii Thyword](#)



Join Our Mailing List!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**GHANA'S 55TH
INDEPENDENCE
ANNIVERSARY**

Date: Saturday, March 10 2012

NEWS ROUND-UP

African Voices in February

February's African Voices Podcast featured:

- News and events from the African community in Chicago
- News from the African continent
- Tips on Healthy Eating
- Interview with Almaz Yigizaw, owner of the Ethiopian Diamond Restaurant
- Music from Chicago-based Gwaii Thyword.



African Voices Episode 5



To contribute news, events, issues, interviews or music to our podcast:

Email: podcasts@uniteafricans.org

Call: [\(312\) 949 9980](tel:3129499980) between 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri.

[Click to listen!](#)



WVON's "Africa Speaks" with Alie Kabba

On Saturday, **March 10, 2:00pm - 4:00pm**, listen to UAO's Executive Director Alie Kabba on his **WVON AM1690** radio show, Africa Speaks.

Africa Speaks is a monthly show on Chicago's WVON, AM1690. The radio station provides an interactive forum for the African American community to discuss current, social, economic, and political issues. Africa Speaks will feature discussion on issues affecting the African continent.

Don't forget to tune in Saturday, March 10 at 2:00pm (CST). You can listen live on www.wvon.com, and call-in during the show with your comments or questions.

Time: 7:00pm-1:00am
Venue: Crystal Light Banquet
8400 S. Cicero, Burbank, IL

UNION OF LIBERIA ASSOCIATIONS IN THE AMERICAS (ULAA) GRAND INAUGURAL BALL OF NATIONAL PRESIDENT

GAYE D. SLEH JR

Date: Saturday, March 10 2012

Time: 6:30pm

Venue: Luther South Hall
3130 W. 87th Street
Chicago, IL 60652

Admission: Patrons: \$100.00
Ordinary: \$50.00

AFRICAN BUSINESS ROUND TABLE

Date: Monday, March 12 2012

Time: 11:00am - 1:00pm

Venue: 10 West 35th Street
6th floor, University Room
Chicago IL 60616

CELEBRATION OF THE NEW GENERATION OF AFRICA

Date: Saturday, March 17 2012

Time: 7:00pm- 10:00pm

Venue: UIC Illinois Room
750 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60607

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Date: Saturday, March 24 2012

Time: 9:00am- 1:00pm

Venue: 10 West 35th Street
6th floor, University Room
Chicago IL 60616

CITIZENSHIP WORKSHOP

Date: Saturday, March 24 2012

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Venue: Truman College
1145 W. Wilson Ave
Chicago, IL 60640

AFRICAN YOUTH FORUM

Date: Saturday, March 31 2012

Time: 9:30am-4:30pm

Venue: 10 W. 35th Street
Chicago, IL 60616

For more info call

[\(312\) 949-9980](tel:3129499980)

email: events@uniteafricans.org

CHICAGO AFRICAN SUMMIT & COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR

Date: Saturday, May 12 2012

Time: 9:00am-5:00pm

Venue: Schultz Auditorium
10 W 35th Street
Chicago, IL 60616

Invitation: African Business Owners

Join us at the next African Business Roundtable, a project of UAO to connect African-owned businesses with vital information and networking opportunities.

AFRICAN BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

with
THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF
CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES (CMS)
Discover how to do business with the State of Illinois!


Monday, March 12, 2012
11:00 AM

Learn about CMS initiatives to promote equal economic opportunity and diversity inclusion through statewide services and business


University Room
IIT Tower Building
10th West 35th Street
Chicago, IL 60616

RSVP: services@uniteafricans.org
Call (312) 949-9980

The African Business Roundtable is a project of the UAO to connect African-owned businesses with vital information and resources and networking opportunities.



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www.africansinchiicago.org



Try a healthy, Swahili dish!

Sukuma Wiki Recipe



Ingredients:

- Oil – 3 tablespoons
- Onion, chopped or minced – 1
- Kale or collard greens, de-stemmed and finely chopped – 2 pounds
- Tomatoes, chopped – 2 cups
- Water or stock – 1 cup
- Small amount of salt and pepper – to taste

Preparation:

1. Heat the oil or fat over medium-high flame in a large, heavy-bottomed pot. Add the onion and sauté until translucent. Add the greens in batches, sautéing each addition until wilted. Add the tomatoes, water or stock, salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, and then reduce heat to low and simmer gently until tender, from 20 to 30 minutes.

AFRICAN YOUTH FORUM

Saturday, March 31, 2012

10:30am - 5:00pm

10 West 35th Street, Chicago, IL 60616



UAO will host the *African Youth Forum* on March 31, 2012. The African Youth Forum will bring together African and African-American youth, as well as other immigrant and native-born young people in Chicago to dialogue around issues and challenges in their communities.

The Forum focuses on the Prison Industrial Complex, Immigration, and Education.

Through dialogue, we hope that young people will build understanding of each others' points of view, and in the process find common ground. We hope that the forum will be a catalyst for sustained youth dialogue and organizing in Chicago, with committed and open engagement from African youth. The forum will be a day-long affair, and will include performances, music, talks and discussions.

[Register Here](#)

For more information, email: events@uniteafricans.org
or call [312.949.9980](tel:312.949.9980)

2. Adjust seasoning and serve with a little bit of the broth.

Variations:

- Add a chopped chili pepper or two with the onions if you like.
- Some recipes call for thickening the dish with a flour-lemon juice mixture. Here's how: mix 2 tablespoons of flour well with the juice of 1 lemon and a little water. Stir into the greens after they have been simmering for about 10 minutes. Continue simmering for another 15 to 20 minutes until the dish is slightly thickened.
- If you like, add some leftover meat for more flavor. Kenyans would most likely use goat or beef.

ENJOY!

SAVE THE DATE!



6th Annual Chicago Summit on
African Immigrants & Refugees

+

Community Resource Fair

Saturday, May 12, 2012

9:00am - 5:00pm

Schultz Auditorium

IIT Tower Building

10 West 35th Street

Chicago, IL 60616

The Annual Summit is the premier forum of its kind in the Midwest with a special focus on contemporary African issues, public policy advocacy and community empowerment. It brings together individuals like you, scholars, legislators, community activists, policy analysts and students to engage in constructive dialogue about Africa and the Diaspora.

For more information, email: summit@uniteafricans.org

To register online, [click here](#).

We all have stories about how we, each in our own way, enrich our communities.

Tell us how you GIVE BACK to YOUR COMMUNITY...

You could be featured in the next issue of African Advocate!

Email:

editor@uniteafricans.org

UAO shows strong presence at Immigrant Integration summit



Earlier in February, the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR) hosted its 2nd annual Immigrant Integration Summit - "One Nation, One Dream". The Summit included workshops for community leaders and advocates, citizenship clinics, a youth civic leadership academy meeting and a resource fair. United African Organization had a strong presence at the Summit (see above).

More than 1,500 people attended the summit, joined by 50 of Illinois's most powerful elected officials and dignitaries, including Governor Pat Quinn, US Senator Dick Durbin, US Representatives Luis Gutierrez and Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan, Illinois Senate President John Cullerton, and Senate Republican Caucus Chair Senator Matt Murphy.

More images and reports are available on the [ICIRR website](#).

United African Organization
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