

African Advocate

Voice of African Immigrants & Refugees In Illinois

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED AFRICAN ORGANIZATION (UAO)

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OUR MISSION

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

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

7th Annual African Summit & Resource Fair

Join us for our 7th Annual Chicago Summit on African Immigrants and Refugees & Community Resource Fair!

Saturday, May 18, 2013

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

700 East Oakwood Blvd.

Chicago, IL 60653

(NEIU Jacob Carruther's Center for Inner City Studies)

The Summit will focus on critical issues affecting the African immigrant and refugee community both locally and nationally.

PLENARY SUMMIT SESSIONS

9:00 a.m.- Africans & Comprehensive Immigration Reform

11:00 a.m.- Healthcare Reform: What's in it for the Community?

12:30 p.m.- Organizing African Immigrants & Refugees: Challenges and Opportunities for Community Empowerment

A special highlight of the Summit will be the official release of UAO's "Chicago African Cabdrivers Health Study" and Summit attendees will be among the first to receive executive summary of the report!

PROVIDING RESOURCES TO THE COMMUNITY:

The Resource Fair component of the Summit will provide access to FREE immigration resources, mock citizenship interviews, education resources, legal resources, health screenings, mortgage/foreclosure assistance, and employment resources.

Participants will also have the opportunity to enroll into County Care, a regional Medicaid program for adults ages 19-64 without health insurance.

To RSVP for the Chicago African Summit and Resource Fair, e-mail events@uniteafricans.org, or register online by clicking here!

SEE YOU THERE!



Pledge your Support for Mali!

Since January 2013, UAO and allies continue to fight for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Malian nationals living in the United States. Providing temporary refuge for those affected by the ongoing bloody crisis in the African nation of Mali is necessary and urgent. Inaction on the part of the Department of Homeland Security and State Department is unacceptable!

We call on: **President Barack Obama, DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano, USCIS Director Alejandro Mayorkas, Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL), Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL), Congressman Bobby Rush (D-IL-1), Congressional Black Caucus**

to take action in granting TPS for Malians in the US. Recent figures show that over **350,000** Malians have been displaced and are unable to meet their basic needs in northern Mali.

We call on our elected officials to support TPS for Malians residing in the US and increase humanitarian assistance to the government of Mali.

Our voices are louder with numbers! Click below to sign our petition now!

[SIGN OUR PETITION TO PROTECT MALIAN NATIONALS FROM THIS PERILOUS SITUATION](#)

Advancing Social Justice & Opportunity:

[Alie Kabba speaks at American Islamic College](#)

On April 16, 2013, UAO Executive Director Alie Kabba held a lecture at the [American Islamic College](#) on "Advancing Social Justice and Opportunity: Perspectives on Immigrant Activism and Civic Engagement".

Drawing inspiration from the civil rights movement, the discussion highlighted the dynamism of immigrant activism to achieve significant public policy victories at local, state and national levels. For more information on this lecture, [visit our blog!](#)



U.S. Citizenship & Good Moral Character

Are you ready to Naturalize?

You may be eligible to apply for naturalization to become a U.S. citizen after five years or three years, if married to a U.S. citizen!

An applicant for naturalization bears the burden of demonstrating that, during the statutorily prescribed period, he or she has been and continues to be a person of good moral character. This includes the period between the examination and the administration of the oath of allegiance.

The Immigration and Nationality Act states that a person should not be considered for having good moral character if they:

- are/were a habitual drunkard;
- has/had an income derived primarily from illegal gambling activities;
- has been convicted of two or more gambling offences committed during this time;
- during such period has been confined, as a result of conviction, to a penal institution for an aggregate period of one hundred and eighty days or more, regardless of whether the offense, or offenses, for which he has been confined were committed within or without such period;
- at any time has been convicted of an aggravated felony

To help you prepare for your naturalization interview, UAO will be holding mock Citizenship interviews at the Resource Fair for our 7th Annual Chicago African Summit.

Having trouble with the civics portion of the exam? UAO can work with you to master U.S. history and government!

FREE

United African Organization
can help YOU on your road
to ***SUCCESS!***



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English & Computer
Courses!

Learn English!
Gain Confidence!

- ⇒ Boost your resume!
- ⇒ Prepare for Citizenship!
- ⇒ Diversify your client-base!

Don't wait, Register NOW!

Class Schedule:

Monday: 10:00am–1:00pm
Tuesday: 10:00am–1:00pm
Wednesday: 10:00am–1:00pm

Apply for Citizenship now! Attend our FREE Citizenship Workshop:

Saturday, May 18th
9:00am - 11:00am
Devon Bank
6345 N. Western Ave
Chicago, IL 60645

For more information, visit our [Citizenship page!](#)

Share Your Story

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

Upcoming Events!

Mark Your Calendars!

7th Annual African Summit & Resource Fair!

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8:00-5:00pm
NEIU Carruther's Center for Inner City Studies
700 E. Oakwood Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60653

Citizenship Workshop

Saturday, May 18th
9:00am-11:00am
Devon Bank
6325 N. Western Ave
Chicago, IL 60645

Mother's Day Fundraiser

May 9, 2013
4:30-6:30pm
6445 N. Western Ave Chicago, IL

African Voices



African Voices Podcast, Episode 18!

- Top news stories from Chicago and the African continent
- Upcoming Events
- Advice Box: Applying for a Green Card under Refugee/Asylee status
- Tajine aux Crevette (Algerian)

Contribute news, events, issues, interviews or music to podcast:

Email: podcasts@uniteafricans.org

Call: (312)-949-9980

Monday-Friday (9am-5pm)



United African Organization

Advocacy ~ Unity ~ Empowerment

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Contact Us!

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