

**The Directory
of
Chicago Area Ethnic Organizations
and Media**

Third Edition

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Introduction

Welcome to the third edition of the *Directory of Chicago Area Ethnic Organizations and Media*, the region's most comprehensive resource on the ethnic organizations that serve the Chicago area's diverse populations. The Directory has been completely updated and offers professionals of all stripes an invaluable tool for reaching out to the organizations and media that define this global city and its environs.

When we began this project back in the '90s, under the auspices of the Illinois Ethnic Coalition, our mission was to showcase the many ethnic organizations that defined the social, political, economic and cultural landscape of the nation's third largest city. We knew our work would not only tell a story on its own, but would serve the metropolitan area in a broader way by providing information on and access to diverse networks that spanned across the counties.

Now produced by Chicago Area Ethnic Resources – a spinoff of the Ethnic Coalition – the Directory is the result of many hundreds of research hours consolidated into one comprehensive, user-friendly document, presented both in print and electronic form. From social service organizations focusing on basic human needs to others providing immigrant acculturation, health outreach, civil rights advocacy, economic empowerment, education, culture preservation and more, you will find them here.

We are indebted to the interns and volunteers who helped us get this project off the ground and into print, specifically: Chris Bentley, Molly Born, Brandon Campbell, Shanika Gunaratna, Gina Harkins, Yoonj Kim, Noreen Nasir and Jean Williams. Matthew Holzman and Ann Weigand of 2plustoo Marketing and Design spent many hours consulting and assisting with layout and production. We also deeply appreciate the input of key non-profit leaders and public officials who provided feedback and guidance.

This project would not have been possible without the CAER board of directors, which provided encouragement, insight and financial support, and the Walter S. Mander Foundation, whose initial funding gave the project legs.

This Directory is the companion publication to *The Chicago Area Ethnic Handbook*, second edition, which profiles in 37 chapters the demographics, histories, socio-economic and cultural characteristics of the region's most prominent ethnic groups. Used in tandem, the Directory and the Handbook provide the wider public with a deeper understanding of the fabric of our community.

Jeryl Levin, President

Cynthia Linton, Editor

Chicago Area Ethnic Resources

The Pan-African Association

6163 N. Broadway
Chicago, IL 60660
(773) 381-9723

Contact:

A. Patrick Augustin
exec. dir.

Email: apaugustin@sbcglobal.net

Purpose:

To serve, empower and promote the interests of refugees and immigrants of African descent.

Programs:

Workforce development, citizenship and civic education, computer vocational training, cultural, health outreach, mentoring, drivers ed.

Website: www.panafricanassociation.org

United African Organization

3424 S. State Street, Suite 3C8-2
Chicago, IL. 60616
(312) 949-9980, -81

Contact:

Alie Kabba
exec. dir.

Email: info@uniteafricans.org

Purpose:

To promote social justice, civic participation and empowerment of African immigrants and refugees in Illinois.

Programs:

Disability services, senior services, child support, food stamps, citizenship services, ESL, housing services, youth programs.

Website: <http://uniteafricans.org>

(See also Cameroonian, Congolese, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Ghanaian, Liberian, Nigerian, Somali, Sudanese)

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority

5656 S. Stony Island Ave.
Chicago, IL 60637
(773) 684-1282

Contact:

Deborah L. Dangerfield
exec. dir.

Purpose:

To promote friendship among college women and to be of service to all mankind.

Programs:

Black family, health, global poverty, economic security, social justice, human rights, leadership training.

Website: www.aka1908.com

AFRICAN AMERICAN

Bethel New Life, Inc.

4950 W. Thomas
Chicago IL 60651
(773) 473-7870

Contact:

Sarah Spoonheim
sr. dir. of resource dev.

Email: info@bethelnewlife.org

Purpose:

To help create a healthy, sustainable community on the West Side.

Programs:

Economic development, housing for seniors, job readiness training, financial literacy classes, foreclosure prevention assistance, adult daycare, community safety, advocacy, housing, computer training and office skills, small business center, health care for mothers and children, in-home services for seniors, mentoring program for youth, WIC.

Website: www.bethelnewlife.org

Black Contractors United

12000 S. Marshfield
Chicago, IL 60827
(773) 483-4000

Contact:

Belinda Henderson

Email: bcunewera@att.net

Purpose:

To expand the base of minority contractors; to help them achieve parity in the free marketplace without the restriction of bias or prejudice; to increase the success potential of new or existing firms by providing quality professional, technical and managerial assistance; to help a selected number of firms reach higher levels of growth, development and profitability through focused assistance; to act as a liaison between minority and majority contracting communities to the benefit of both.

Programs:

Monthly informative meetings, affirmative action/consulting/monitoring, some technical, managerial and educational training to members, referral, membership assistance.

Website: www.blackcontractorsunited.com