



ANNUAL REPORT

2023

Message from the Team

Our work at the Active Newcomer Youth Ottawa - ANYO nurtures positive children and youth in Ottawa hence fostering community development. When we enable community connection, sports participation and social skills development through our evidence-based community strengthening programs, like Coping Mental Health Through Sports, The House of Talent, and the Immigrant Experience Podcast, we are nurturing positive children and youth and fostering community development in Ottawa.

As 2023 finally comes to an end, we want to express our great appreciation to our amazing volunteers, participants, and the community. Our programs such as the Coping Mental Health Through Sports program has seen a spike in community interest as well as facilitates partnerships and collaborations with sports clubs and organizations, community resource centers, and settlement agencies. The House of Talent program is continuing to both increase music training capacity and engage artistic youth in different and impactful ways. The Immigrant Experience Podcast program was paused 2023 due to space issues. We hope to resume early 2024 and expand our collaboration with community members. The program is continuing to play a key catalyst role in the community of connecting youth and young adults with their peers.

We invite everyone to learn more about The Active Newcomer Youth Ottawa's achievements and progress and to join us to ensure the spirit does not end in 2023. Our work is only possible because of community partnerships and collaborations, and we want to express our gratitude to our entire network, including you, for being partners and supporters in

our work. Thank you to our amazing participants, staff, and volunteers for your dedication to the programs. A special thank you to our coaches, and mental health peers support volunteers. Thank you to all of our surrounding partners and friends who shared resources with us, Footwear4kids, Ottawa Community Foundation, The City of Ottawa, Crime Prevention Ottawa, Ottawa Sport Council Foundation, and our parent organization, Social Planning Council of Ottawa.

We could not have done all this without your support.

In gratitude,
ANYO TEAM





Our Mission

The Active Newcomer Youth Ottawa's mission is to support newcomers and immigrant children and youth to prosper as new Canadians, utilizing sports and social interactions as engaging platforms to connect in order to address the economic, systemic and social barriers that many newcomers and immigrant families face in their integration journey in Canada.



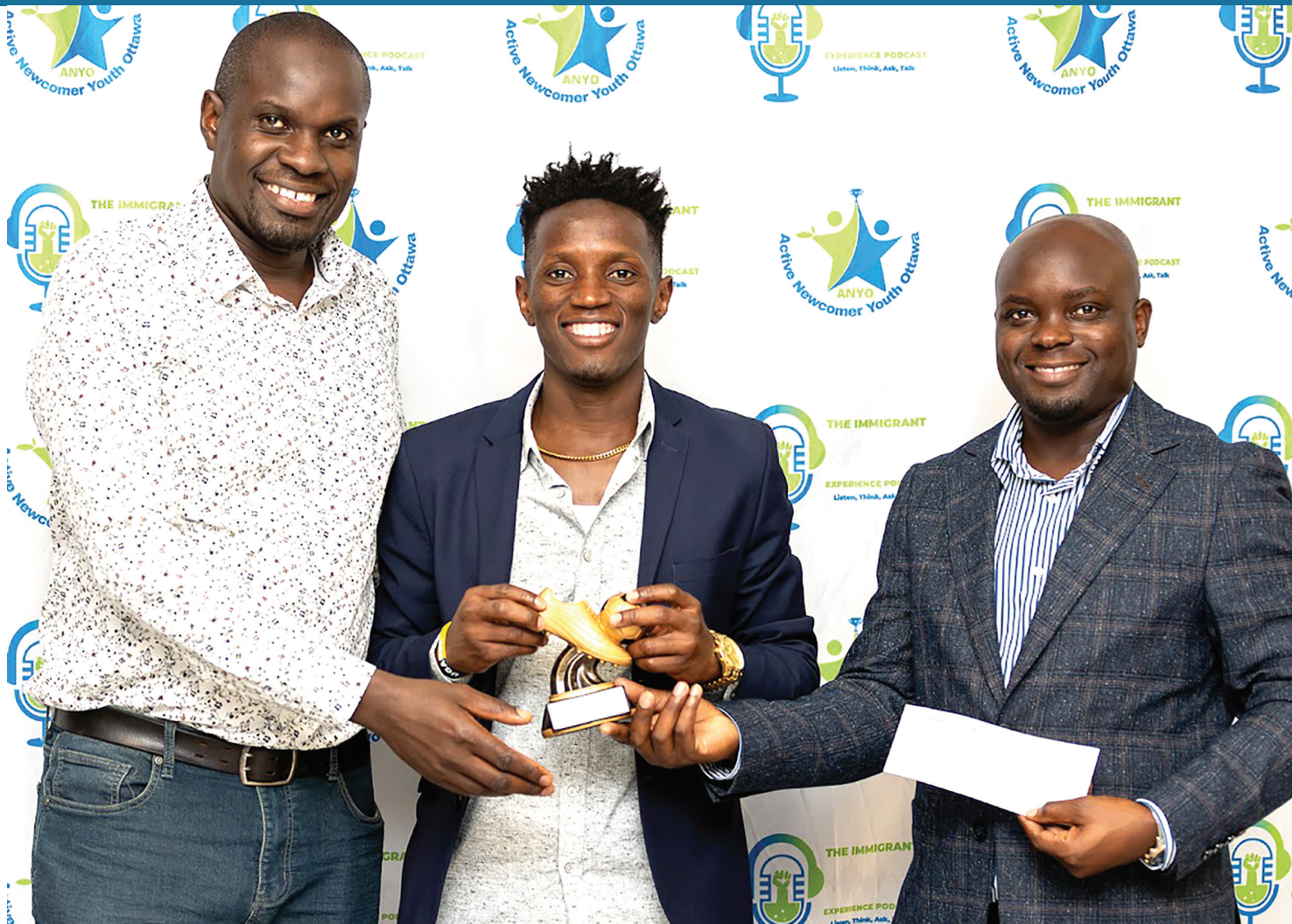
Our Vision

We are determined to eliminate the sports participation gap so that we improve mental well being and reduce social isolation for children and youth from lower and middle-income newcomers, refugees and immigrant families in Ottawa.



Our Values

We implement our programs aligning with core values of inclusivity, affordability, fun and fairness and social development which lead to a quality experience for all our participants.





THANKS

Our sincere thanks

Thank You To Our Volunteers.

The majority of ANYO's programs and activities are run by volunteers. We could not have done this without the help of our amazing 15 volunteers who contributed over 3060 hours to the programs.

Special Thank You To Our Funders and Key Partners.

We would like to sincerely thank our 202-2023 funders - Ottawa Community Foundation, Social Planning Council of Ottawa, and the city of Ottawa for your continued support.

We would like to thank our key partners, the ACB Wellness Resources Centre, Canadian Women of Colour Leadership Network, and more importantly the Ottawa FootySevens. You are indeed our CHAMPIONS. We could not have existed without the incubation support of our parent organization the Social Planning Council of Ottawa. We say THANK YOU ALL.

Our sincere thanks

We could not have done it without the dedication of this team.

1. Behnaz Alimardani
2. Alois Mulinda Nashali
3. Mohamed Abdella
4. Gaston Mpela Balibanga
5. Berat Acar
6. Sarah Mulinda
7. Amani Wendo Kalulu
8. Eliakim Hawi
9. Matteo Bruce
10. Bryann Fotsing
11. Gakah Both
12. Reuben M. Nashali
13. Emmanuel Duala-Ekoko
14. Somayeh Momen Zadeh
15. Ehsan Atar

ANYO's Year of Progress

Early 2023, we launched a strategic planning exercise for Active Newcomer Youth Ottawa. It consisted of numerous SWAT analysis geared towards the different demographics ANYO interacts with. The results and full report will be presented early 2024. Through the exercise, we hope to identify and restructure ANYO so that it can sustainably maintain the program.



The Soccer Programs.

From 2021 we have been hosting summer and winter soccer tournaments for youth 18 years of age to 30. Since, 2022 however, in partnership with the local Soccer Club, we were able to launch a pilot soccer for social development program - the Friday Night Light soccer program for mostly male children 6 years of age to 17. 2023, we expanded the program to include girls and young females to the program. A total of 210 children participated in the program.

The free Winter Tournament started February 2023 and continued until April 2023 engaging 250 young participants. who meet every Saturday and play soccer in an indoor dome.

ANYO free summer soccer tournament which was held throughout the summer months starting July 8th to Sept 6th, 2023 on Saturdays. The program involved a total of 520 participants. The participants met every Saturday to play soccer at the RA center.

The participants in all the activities are primarily lower and middle-income newcomers, refugees, and immigrant youth and young adults.

Our programs have always been evidence-based and

impact-focused primarily on the participants and the entire community.

Since the summer of 2021, our programs have continued to support participants develop positive mental attitudes, and gain a sense of achievement by boosting their confidence in doing something they enjoy. Participants have reported benefiting from socializing and meeting new people hence expanding their social network.

Also, participants reported gaining a sense of belonging by meeting people who notice and understand their experiences and position, share personal struggles and help each other in their integration journey.

The programs have helped build capacity and promote community partnerships and collaborations hence laying a foundation for sustainability and expansion to a large scale in the near future. We are currently working to bring sports stakeholders in Ottawa together so that we can collectively work together in combating the striking impacts of deteriorating mental well being in the black and racialized community in Ottawa as well as minimize the sports participation gap that is existing with racialized and black children and youth.

Our programs have continued to provide the immigrant community in Ottawa a sense of pride as well as benefit from community connections and peer support networks.

2023 Recap and Impact summary;

Volunteers 15	Contributed hours 3060	
Engaged Youth 770	Male 83%	Female 83%
Returning Participants 472	Unique participants 298	
Children engaged 210	Male 55%	Female 45%
Returning Participants 110	Unique participants 100	
Total participants (Youth and children) 980		

Group stages - 980 participants x 7 weeks x 2 hours = 13,720 hours

Semi-finals and finals - 84 participants x 6 hours x 2 weeks = 1,008 hours

= 14,728 tota hours (which is also, roughly 15 hours per participant).

OUR PLANS FOR 2024 AND BEYOND

The release of the strategic plan final report.

Winter tournament announcements/plans

The Summer 2024 Plans - Registration, Divisions, etc

The relaunch of the Immigrant Experience Podcast, The Immigrant Awards, Virtual Fifa Tournaments, etc.



Donate;

The Active Newcomer Youth Ottawa is a non-profit organization and all our programs and services are free of charge to all of our participants. We could not have done it without the great support of our community partners and the generosity of funders.

We sincerely continue to thank the Social Planning Council of Ottawa (SPCO) for supporting us to establish a sustainable and continuous community engagement model.

If you can, please consider donating to support the program by clicking on the link here:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/m/74927?v2=true> or scanning the barcode on the bottom right corner. For any donation above \$20 if you used this link you will be issued a donation receipt for your taxes.

We are active on social media, catch us on - Instagram/Twitter: @anyottawa, Facebook/YouTube: Active Newcomer Youth Ottawa. You are encouraged to follow us on social media to stay updated on upcoming events and important dates, e.g registration deadlines.

