



Bronx Borough President, Ruben Diaz Jr.

AFRICAN ADVISORY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

Famod Konneh, Chairman
Adeyemi La crown, Vice Chair
Charles Cooper Jr., Secretary
Bourema Niambele, Liaison

Committee Chairs:

Passyna Boula-Boula, Economic
Stephanie Arthur, Civic Engagement
Grace Imo, Arts & Culture
Ambroise Ngande, Social

NEXT GENERAL BOARD

MEETING: (open to public)

Date: Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011

Time: 6:30pm-8

Place: 851 Grand Concourse Ave.
Room 933, Bronx, NY

Message from the Bronx Borough President:

Dear Neighbor:

On January 13, 2010, I was pleased to announce the creation of the borough's first-ever "African Advisory Council (AAC)." The mission of the council is to work with the Bronx African community to resolve emerging issues and make recommendations on ways improve the quality of life of this growing and diverse population. According to recent reports, the African population in the Bronx has grown considerably in recent years: the 1990 census reported **12,063 sub-Saharan Africans residing in the Bronx**, while the most recent census estimate was over **70,000**.

The AAC strives to encourage continental Africans, including people of African descent, to actively participate in the economic, social and cultural developmental aspects of the borough. At the same time, the AAC seeks to cultivate relationships and enhance communication and interaction between the borough's African community and the larger Bronx community.

Both my office and the Bronx African Advisory Council exist to serve as a resource to you and your family. Please reach out to us if you need our help. I strongly believe that we are "One Bronx" and together we can continue to make our borough a great place to live and work.

Sincerely,

Ruben Diaz Jr.
Bronx Borough President

GET MORE INFO ON THE BRONX AAC:

- **EMAIL:** BronxAAC@gmail.com
- **FACEBOOK:** Like us @ African Advisory Council of The Bronx

Pg.1 BP's Remarks
AAC Members
Pg.2 Chairman Remarks /
Community Recourses
Pg.3 Council Highlights/
Community Resources
Pg.4 Upcoming Events

The African Advisory Council of The Bronx Borough President's Office

History of The Bronx African Advisory Council

During the summer of 2009, there was an unprecedented level of violence against the African and Muslim communities in the Bronx. The violence was centered around the Claremont Village area of the Bronx and was spreading to New York City Housing Authorities (NYCHA) buildings and places of worship.

Seeing that something needed to be done, leaders in the African community banded together to sponsor a press conference that highlighted the hate crimes that were occurring. They strategically reached out to various government agencies, elected officials and community organizations asking them to join the coalition to condemn the ongoing violence in support of the growing African community in the Bronx. The press event was attended by nearly three hundred concerned citizens, including representatives from NYCHA, the NYPD and elected officials; all of whom stood in support and vowed to investigate the 21 incidents of violence.

After the July press conference, the community organized a "Stop the Violence" forum in the Bronx where several demands were made; one of which was the acknowledgement of the rich culture and diversity of the African Community in the Bronx, by their elected officials.

Consequently, a meeting was convened with the Deputy Bronx Borough President, Aurelia Greene; the Borough President's Chief of Staff, Paul Del Duca; and community leaders that included, Joan Smitherman, Chauncy Young, Bourema Niambele, Ibrahim Ndure and Sidique Wai. The discussion led to Del Duca proposing the creation of the African Advisory Council to represent the African Community in the Bronx, of which Bourema was charged with the initial outreach and selection of council members.

On January 13, 2010 Bronx Borough President held a press conference announcing the Bronx Borough President's African Advisory Council.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Legal Services / Immigration

- Bronx Works
(718)731-3114
- Northern Manhattan Coalition for
Immigration Rights
(212)781-0355
- African Services Committee
(212)222-3882 ext. 108

Education (Scholarship /ESL Classes)

- Hostos Community College Im-
migration Center
(718)518-4395

Social Services

- NYC Dept of Homeless Services
(800)994-6494
- Food Stamp Centers
(718)637-2401, Concourse
(718)901-0287, Crotona
(718)664-1607, Melrose
- Temporary Cash Assistance, NYS
Safety Net Program
(877)472-8411

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Bronx Community Spotlight!

2011 AAC Bronx Week Soccer Tournament

The African Advisory Council of The Bronx Borough President's Office hosted the Bronx 2nd Annual African Nations' Soccer Cup competition during Bronx week in May 2011. The tournament was held at Macomb's Dam Park, near Yankee Stadium.

The countries that participated in the soccer tournament were Cameroon, DR Congo, Cameroon, DR Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo. The winning country was team Guinea which beat Gambia during a penalty kick.



Upcoming Events in the Bronx African Community

Do you want your event advertised on this page?

Email your event to **BronxAAC@gmail.com**.