



**HORN YOUTH  
SERVICES  
FOUNDATION  
(KULAN)**



**2022  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**"Working together for better future"**

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## Who we are

The Black community in Alberta founded Horn Youth Services Foundation (KULAN), which was created to support the growth of the Black community in Edmonton, Alberta.

We have been offering services that address the unique and complicated needs of the Black Community and Youth in Edmonton, Alberta, since 2017.

As a non-profit our aim is to serve the Black community, youth, and families by offering a range of services and integrate them into the larger community. Additionally, we provide a range of community events and activities for the Black community so they may share their skills and experiences while also learning about Canadian culture.

Through community partnerships with other organizations in Edmonton, the development of community programs, the promotion of economic and social opportunities, as well as the creation of connections to support healthy and vibrant communities, HYSF (KULAN) aims to provide resources and share knowledge intended to empower youth and families.

HYSF (KULAN) will introduce you to realistic situations and challenges facing Black community covering topics such as board structure and roles, conducting positive and effective meetings, working together through strategic planning, and making difficult decisions.

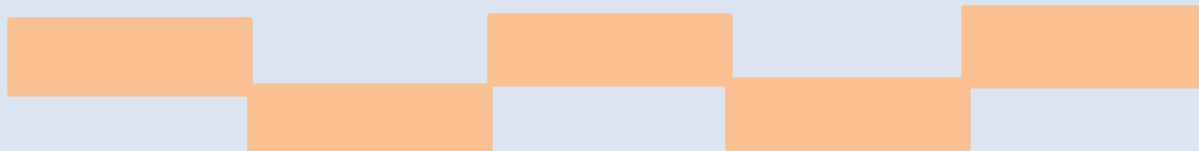
We collaborate with all stockholders and community members to comprehend the requirements, objectives, and resources of our community and work together to discover sustainable solutions to the problems they face.

The process of sharing and learning never ends! HYSF (KULAN) was created with the requirements of our community in mind, embracing new trends as well as modern rules and practices that are tailored to those demands.

# Our Achievements

## HIGHLIGHTS

- KULAN gave support to **625** newcomers on our newcomer support program
- **230** youths benefited from our 1<sup>st</sup> annual youth summit
- Youth get access to mentoring, leadership and Job readiness was **644** youth
- **594** low income kids received school supplies
- **8976** low income families in need received food hampers Since 2020 to 2022
- **4217** black community benefited from our services for the community
- **318** Children got access to summer camp, out of school time and tutoring.
- We organized **4** cultural events for the community with attendances of **135** people each which in aggregate reaches **540** attendances in 2022
- Our youth development program hired **24** youth collaborated with Canada summer jobs



# Program updates

## Employment programs

Our employment programs and services are designed to support immigrants achieving their employment and career goals, whether they need assistance in writing resume, cover letter, finding a job, how to apply jobs or bridging your international work experience to be recognized on the Canadian job market.

### LIST OF SERVICES

- Resume and cover letter building services
- Interview support
- Job search support
- How to apply jobs support
- Access to computer lap with printer and internet that can immigrant use to apply jobs and search and build resume supported by experts

In the year, our employment program helped out **423** immigrants to create resumes, find network, jobs, and get access to our computer lap. HYSF (KULAN) estimated that our program had a positive impact on our community in many different ways including improvement in quality of life as a participant who we made easier to get a job which leads to individual, family and community wellness.

Our youth development/employment program hired **24** youth collaborated with Canada summer jobs.

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## Social services

Our social services are dedicated to build a successful growing community through partnerships, to create continuing solutions for our community challenges. Our programs are aligned with community development and capacity building principles. Kulan has worked to build capacity of individuals and communities in vital areas for successful integration of wider society, such as:

- Community – building events/activities
- Providing community space at KULAN
- Networking and volunteer development opportunities
- Support community gathering activities to foster unity in diversity
- Cultural celebratory annual events
- Support African community organizations and groups through capacity building and community engagement activities
- Integration into the workforce and entrepreneurship development



## Newcomers support program

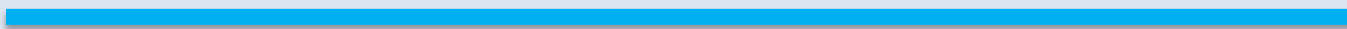
KULAN provides support to **625** newcomers in Edmonton, Alberta to help them successfully settle and integrate into the social, economic and cultural life in Edmonton. Our services target vulnerable newcomer population, including families, individuals, and youth who may be facing multiple challenges as they adjust to life in Canada. These challenges include language barriers, social isolation, economic pressures, single parenting and domestic violence.

Through our support and services, KULAN aims to empower and assist newcomers in overcoming the challenges they may face as they adjust to life in Canada, helping them to achieve successful integration and thriving in their new homes.



## Community support program

We held four cultural events for the community, with a total attendance of 540 people. These events allowed the community to showcase their own culture, food, clothing, and dance, as well as learn about Canadian culture and other cultures. By providing an opportunity for people to connect, network, and learn about each other, we aimed to foster good community relationships and create a space where everyone is appreciated and respected, regardless of race, gender, culture, ethnicity, language, or religion.





## Youth Empowerment & development



KULAN aims to support the youth in multiple ways including mentorship, capacity building, job search, resume building, volunteer opportunities, and many more. We believe that the youth are the backbone of our community. They are the bright leaders of tomorrow. During this year, we have offered summer job opportunities to **24** youth in collaboration with Canada Summer Jobs. Most of them worked as summer camp counsellors at our summer camp, while the rest operated as office administrative assistants, financial assistants, advertisement officers, and tutors at our after-school program. This gave them the opportunity to not only earn some money during their summer break, but also build and adapt new skills that can benefit them and prepare them for the workforce.

On December 17th, of 2022, KULAN held its 1st Annual Youth Summit. **230** youth benefited from our 1st annual youth summit. The purpose of Kulan's youth summit was to provide the black and ethnic minority youth in Edmonton a venue where they can express their feelings regarding important social issues and develop policies, strategies, and programs to help improve the lives of the black youth in their own communities. This initiative created a welcoming, respectful, youth-driven event that maintains a "safe space" for youth to express their ideas and experiences and provide opportunities for participants to contribute at whatever level they feel comfortable. This event strove to empower young people to take action, learn from their experiences, co-create and provide the platform for them to realize their goals and make a difference in society.



As part of the agenda for this summit, we focused on: financial literacy, health & wellness, career & academic guidance, and panel discussions dissecting relevant youth issues in our community.

Holding this youth summit for our community was significant because it was an opportunity to hear from young people who are working for positive youth development in their community. Furthermore, this summit created a place to learn from other young leaders and adults about what works, what lessons they have learned, and what future asset-building possibilities they see for their community. In addition, it embarked a renewed energy to continue to make the community a place where young people thrive.

KULAN's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Youth Summit aimed to help the development and success of Black youth in Edmonton and motivate them to lead a fruitful life. KULAN's goals during this youth summit were to:

- develop leadership and team building skills among the youth
- promote culture, peace, and companionship between the youth
- inspire and empower youth within the community
- create a space where young people can see excellence and potential for themselves
- provide young people the skills and knowledge to make that positive change
- energize the community's efforts to support young people

## After school program for kids

**The Kulan OST** project brought together members of our community—parents, children, volunteers, and others—to work toward the shared objective of bridging the educational divide between children in our society. Additionally, it served as a chance to gather the youngsters in our community so they may spend time together and gain knowledge from the seniors as well as one another. The Kulan summer program's main goal was to close the educational gap, with a special emphasis on immigrants because they require the most care and assistance. We offered them entertaining educational activities so they can learn while having fun. We generally concentrated on math, English, and science because those are the subjects that they struggle with the most. As we're a minority in our country, we battle to preserve our culture and must make extra efforts to ensure that it is passed on to our kids. Through the OST programs, we had the chance and opportunity to aid the children with their academic needs while also teaching them about their culture and language. It is crucial for youngsters in our society to learn about and be educated about our culture and heritage since it is significant to us and contributes significantly to our sense of identity. Our community has a sizeable number of newcomers who require particular care. We warmly welcome new students to our school and provide them math and science lessons along with English language instruction. Our staff and volunteers, who are fluent in both Somali and English, were aware of the requirements of our recent immigrants. Our top priorities were making children feel at home and ensuring that they enjoy learning. We took great delight in making every kid feel included and accepted. We put a lot of effort into this OST program to make it as enjoyable and interesting for the kids as possible and strive to combine as many educational activities as possible. Prior to the program's start, our staff collaborated to get these activities ready for the youngsters. One of the classes in our program taught children about the fundamental principles of Islam. These classes brought the children together, allowing them to interact and discuss their religion while taking new lessons.



**Kulan Tutoring school support team:** HYSF-KULAN was a welcome additional Residence particularly for parents for their children's learning Program. We provide group sessions and 1 to 1 and one hour-long parent's therapy sessions! Most notably, we provided sessions for all the parents on how to help their children when they need academic assistance, Mental Health Awareness information and two ad-hoc sessions in case of youth different crises was added to the summer program, this project allowed us to accommodate more activities/ mainstreaming. Typically, we spend 4 weeks mobilizing our volunteers, parents and elders before the program starts to understand more about the families and how we can help during this difficult time of the year. However, a couple weeks is preferred by the volunteers.

I would touch base with them early in every month to start charting out the year's timeline for parents' sessions. Figure out preferred dates, locations, parking, and contact people before we contact parents.

### Impact

**594** low income kids received school supplies and **24** kids benefited from our after school tutoring classes that KULAN organized in the summer.

## Food hamper program

The Food Hamper program was started in response to the food shortage or food crisis situations that families found themselves in during financial crisis times. KULAN creates hampers for those in need with foods sugar, oil, flour, rice, beans, lentils, and more as well as other necessities like cleaning products, baby formula and diapers. KULAN volunteers will drop off hampers to those who are not able to come to the centre due to lack of transportation, illness, or disability.

**8976** low income families in need received food hampers since 2020 to 2022.



# Funders & Partners

Horn Youth Services Foundation (KULAN) is grateful to our funders and partners for their support and contributions to our organization. Without their generosity and collaboration, we would not have been able to achieve our goals and make the positive impact that we have. We value their partnership and look forward to continuing to work together in the future.

