



BERNADETTE N. SWAN SOCIAL CARE FOUNDATION

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Synopsis of the Bernadette N. Swan Social Care Foundation

During 2003-2004 the BNSSCF having received Federal, Provincial and City funding took the initiative to research and to collect information about the wellbeing of Edmonton seniors of African Heritage. This was the first ever research done in Edmonton, on Edmonton's seniors of African Ancestry. It was done under the direction of Gordon Sadool and Dr. Neville Case, Ed.D., RSW. The BNSSCF brought together individuals and members from religious and secular organizations to look into a variety of needs which included general health, diet, cultural comfort as well as a community centre with a section for seniors' activities and also to begin addressing difficulties experienced by these seniors. The BNSSCF has since initiated ten categories of seniors' programs.

1. COMMUNITY LIAISON PROGRAMS

- a) Help seniors to contribute their skills, experiences and wisdom in support of social wellbeing in their communities
- b) Seniors Facilitator Training Program: an advanced program where seniors are trained to deliver workshops titled "Towards a Safe and Caring Community".

2. RESOURCE/INFORMATION & EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The BNSSCF provides seniors with the opportunity to increase their social participation, come together on a regular basis at a central meeting place to socialize with other seniors, equip themselves with learning activities and knowledge, exchange ideas, learning and communicating with one another. These activities reduce seniors' risk of social isolation.

3. Health & Wellness 4. Social Issues 5. Computer Training

6. Testimonials 7. Advocacy & Referral 8. Collective Kitchen

9. Drop-in Activity 10. Yearly Events-(a) Grandparents Award of Distinction Gala Banquet & Silent Auction (b) Seniors of African Heritage, Canadian, immigrant & refugees Cultural Expression.

Based upon the program evaluation received from seniors, there is a need for continued funding of these programs. This could be possible through the Provincial Government Community Spirit Donation Program which provides an opportunity for non-profit and charitable organizations such as the BNSSCF to receive a grant based on the total eligible cash donations it received from individual Albertans over a 12-month period. For all funds you or anyone donates to the BNSSCF by December 31st a Tax Receipt for the donated amount will be issued to the donor. This receipt can be used for your 2011 TAX RETURN. All donations will be used in providing our seniors programs. Cheques should be made to the Bernadette N. Swan Social Care Foundation and sent to the above address.