

## JULY 2023 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Dear AYCO Community and Stakeholders,

Summer is in full swing, and July has been a month packed with excitement and growth at AYCO! We are thrilled to bring you a roundup of the amazing activities and events that have taken place, fostering empowerment, leadership, and community spirit. Let's dive into the incredible happenings of the sunny month of July!

### DRIVING CLASSES & PARTNERSHIP WITH PORTLAND POLICE

Community Engagement July 8

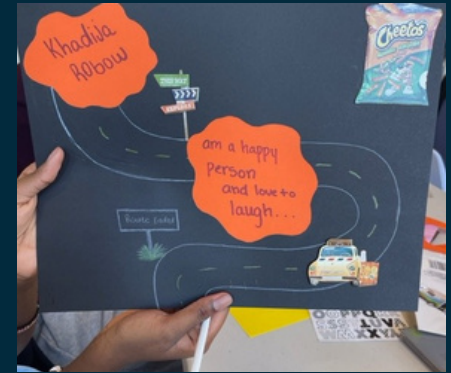


We are excited to announce our partnership with the Portland Police for AYCO's Driving Classes. This driving course has been a big help to our community as community members are already seeing an increase in safer driving habits. Our driving safety course is ongoing; this past weekend, more than 30 community members attended as part of the program's second cohort. AYCO's driving course is lead by Faysal Ibrahim, Community Engagement Coordinator at AYCO & Portland Police Captain David Abrahamson.



### HOOPS, HEART, AND TEAM SPIRIT UPLIFT Youth Services July 15

AYCO's Annual Basketball League is LIVE and has been a hub of excitement and friendly competition this summer. Teams showcase their skills and sportsmanship, with the community cheering them on. This program runs every weekend through September 17th. Over 80 youth compete in the basketball league for the chance to win the championship!



### EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION

UPLIFT Youth Services July 20

Girls Group is a six week summer program focused on leadership development for 16 young future leaders. Our Girls Group has been a driving force in empowering young women in our community, providing a safe space for personal growth through inspiring workshops, engaging group discussions, field trips and more. We are proud to support and cultivate the confident and resilient leaders of tomorrow.

### NAVIGATING NEW HORIZONS

UPLIFT Youth Services July 24



We are delighted to announce that we have finished our second program in partnership with Wind & Oar Boat School and The Willamette Sailing Club, combining hands-on learning with creativity in an extraordinary educational experience. Over the course of a week, a group of ten enthusiastic youth participated in a transformative program where they learned the art of woodworking, assembled sailboats, and crafted a magnificent canoe from scratch.

The culmination of their efforts was the creation of the remarkable "African Voyager," a testament to their hard work, passion, and teamwork. This project has been an incredible journey of discovery and empowerment for the students, as they acquired valuable skills and forged unforgettable memories that will leave a lasting impact. Beyond the mastery of woodworking and boat-building techniques, the participants were also introduced to the art of sailing. For many of our young members, this was a thrilling adventure, as historically underserved youth don't usually get opportunities like this. We took pride in providing an inclusive environment that encourages participation from all members of our community, bridging barriers, and opening doors to new opportunities.



## BUILDING FUTURE LEADERS

»» UPLIFT Youth Services July 25



Our Youth Leadership Classes have been a resounding success, igniting the potential within our young members. Through interactive sessions, leadership exercises, and mentorship, we are shaping 23 confident and empathetic leaders who will make a positive impact in their communities.

## KICKING FOR SUCCESS

»» UPLIFT Youth Services July 29



We have just concluded our month long soccer program. The program was a grand celebration of teamwork, dedication, and camaraderie. We were please to have 22 young athletes from diverse backgrounds show up each week to display their passion for soccer and embrace the spirit of healthy competition. Youth ranging from ages 7-17 came together as one and enjoy the sport they love in a supportive community.

## SAVORING TOGETHERNESS

»» Community Engagement July 30



Under clear blue skies, we gathered at Blue Lake for a delightful Community BBQ. With mouthwatering treats and lively conversations, the event strengthened our community bonds, leaving everyone with cherished memories. 200 Community members consisting of all different backgrounds gathered to establish lasting relationships with the people of our communities! We also shared resources and details about our wrap around services, and community members participated in our community engagement survey to help guide and inform our programming.

## **APPRECIATION & ANALYTICS**

**THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS, PARTNERS, & YOUTH!  
DURING THE MONTH OF JULY, WE WERE ABLE TO SERVE  
OVER 400 COMMUNITY MEMBERS FROM 7-60 YEARS OLD  
THROUGH OUR VARIOUS PROGRAMS IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION.**

**STAY TUNED FOR UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS, AND INITIATIVES THAT WILL  
CONTINUE TO ENRICH THE LIVES OF OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS.  
WE EXTEND OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE TO ALL OUR MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND  
SPONSORS WHO MAKE THESE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS POSSIBLE.  
YOUR SUPPORT IS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND AYCO'S MISSION  
TO CREATE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF OUR YOUTH AND FAMILIES.**

**WANT TO HAVE A CONVERSATION AND/OR GET INVOLVED?  
CONTACT US VIA EMAIL OR BY PHONE!**

**INFO@AYCOWORLD.ORG  
971-254-8916**

**TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
AND BUILD A VIBRANT, EMPOWERED COMMUNITY!**

**SEE ATTACHED FLYER FOR OUR UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENT!**

AFRICAN YOUTH & COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION  
WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO

# Unleashing Roots



UNLEASH THE POWER OF UNITY

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: SENATOR KAYSE JAMA**

FROM SETBACKS TO STEPPING STONES:  
WITNESS THE MAGIC OF TRANSFORMATION

THURSDAY	SEP 28 2023	3PM
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AYCO DREAM CENTER

2110 SE 82ND AVE., PORTLAND, OR 97216

*Ayco Family*