



The City of New York  
**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1**

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*Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose*



**VANESSA L. GIBSON**  
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

**CLARISA M. ALAYETO**  
CHAIRPERSON

**ANTHONY R. JORDAN**  
DISTRICT MANAGER

**Immigration Committee Meeting Minutes**

**April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Mohammed Sheikh, Chairperson**

**DRAFT**

**Immigration issues and community involvement.**

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto introduces herself and other committee members.
- Abdullah from Mauritania shares his name and background, while Jericho and Ahmed discuss their roles in the community.
- Member Ngande Ambroise joins committee to address immigration issues.

**Immigration resources and services in NYC.**

- Community leaders discuss immigration committee and its impact on society.

**Immigration, asylum seekers, and community support.**

- Member Ngande Ambroise and Mr. Sekou Kromah discuss funding for a project and push for cash.
- Member Ngande Ambroise discusses asylum seekers and connecting them with resources.

**Supporting African asylum seekers in NYC, including creating a community and academy for army training.**

- Mr. Sekou Kromah expresses gratitude for community support in providing services to 20,000-30,000 individuals.
- Mr. Sekou Kromah created the African Asylum Seeker Support System NYC to help young people go to the army.
- The group's first initiative was a 7-day fitness program for young people interested in joining the army.

### **Supporting African asylum seekers with mentorship and resources.**

- Group trains with Mr. Sekou Kromah on Saturday and Sunday and plans to apply for English class at mosque.
- Mr. Sekou Kromah collaborates with African asylum seeker support system to provide resources and mentorship for those in need.

### **Supporting immigrant community in Bronx, NY.**

- Committee Chairperson Mohammed Sheikh emphasizes the importance of leadership and unity among immigrants.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto discusses changing narrative around migrants in city.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto outlines goals for community board one to support migrant community.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto seeks to prevent migrants from interacting with justice system, instead providing resources for growth.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto and Mr. Sekou Kromah discuss objective settings and data donation for a religion program.

### **Immigration resources and challenges in the US.**

- Member Ngande Ambroise advises against providing false information to potential military recruits.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto emphasizes the importance of language proficiency and education for immigrants.
- Mr. Sekou Kromah highlights the need for mentorship and guidance in navigating the immigration process.
- Mr. Sekou Kromah describes how some migrants are in temporary housing, while others are struggling to pay rent.

### **Education and mentorship in Ghana.**

- Member Ngande Ambroise emphasizes the importance of education for refugee youth.
- Member Ngande Ambroise discusses mentorship and secret for fair sirki.

### **Supporting immigrant children in the US.**

- Member Ngande Ambroise discusses language barriers and jealousy in a conversation with Lee Langley.

### **Connecting with African migrant communities in the US.**

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto wants to connect with young people (18-24) through internships, volunteer opportunities, and skill-building workshops.
- Member Argelia Ortiz wants to reach out to migrants and offer ESL classes, noticing their backgrounds as doctors, engineers, and lawyers.

### **Supporting refugees and immigrants in the community.**

- Ngande Ambroise and Speaker 1 discuss issues with shelter and food for community members.
- Speaker 6 and Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto discuss ways to address provisions for a community event.

### **Immigration resources and access for the community.**

- Committee Chairperson Mohammed Sheikh encourages community participation and provides contact information for clarifying questions.
- Mr. Sekou Kromah discusses immigration resources with Chairperson Alayeto and others.

### **Action Items**

Launch a mentorship program for asylum seekers led by Sekou to help guide them, provide information and connect them to opportunities.

Create an "African Asylum Seeker Support System NYC" nonprofit organization run by the asylum seekers themselves.

Organize English language classes and legal aid workshops at local mosques on weekends.

Connect asylum seekers aged 18-24 to potential internship and volunteer opportunities.

Look into ways to help asylum seekers find stable housing situations.

Invite representatives from the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs to the next meeting.