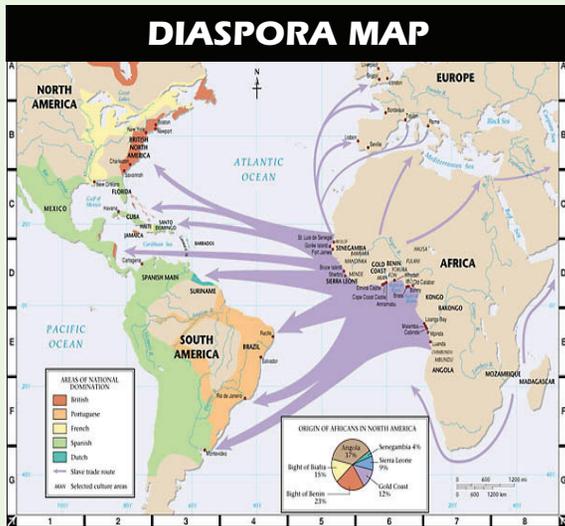


What are the Goals of the Centers?

The primary goal of the after-school Literacy Centers is to increase vocabulary development and word meaning, reading comprehension, and critical thinking skills, for low- performing children. In addition to the centers aim to provide enrichment opportunities through extra curricular activities, early childhood education for students ages 3-5, and to act as a resource and information center for parents.



Key Objectives:

- ▶ School Leadership
- ▶ Literacy Development
- ▶ Early Childhood Education
- ▶ Nutrition
- ▶ Inter-Connected Histories in the Diaspora
- ▶ Student Leadership and Identity Development

Summary of the Initiative:

We are a group of collaborative organizations and like minded individuals dedicated to education, equity and social justice concerns. We are passionate about improving the teaching and learning of students living globally in the African Diaspora. The 16th Episcopal District, AME Church has approximately 60 church schools, located in 15 Caribbean countries, South America and parts of Europe, are the focus. We will establish an after-school Literacy Center in church schools with the purposes outlined earlier in this proposal. The centers are also open to remediate and accelerate literacy among students enrolled. Parents are encouraged to attend sessions on how to develop and sustain early childhood practices in their home.



Contact us for more info:

ICESC

3737 N Meridian Street, Ste. 102

Indianapolis, IN 46208

Email: icesc3737@gmail.com

317-820-3448



Indiana Council on Educating Students of Color



in partnership with the
16th Episcopal District, AME Church

**International Initiative:
Breaking the Chains of Illiteracy
for Children of the Diaspora**

About the Connectional Initiative

The Indiana Council on Educating Students of Color Initiative, **“Breaking the Chains of illiteracy for Children of the Diaspora”** is an opportunity to expand the previous work utilizing the infrastructural aspects of the AME Church and their schools in 15 Caribbean countries. ICESC seeks to provide resources, support and educational training to the schools, and is uniquely prepared and connected to provide these services. We believe the keys to releasing youngsters from the bondages of poverty are early childhood education, literacy, leadership, and nutrition.



Why Is There a Need for the Centers?

There is a need to support children of color in their pursuit of a quality education and to increase access to educational opportunities for all children globally.

1. The Caribbean population is a combination of the indigenous inhabitants present before the arrival of the Europeans. The enslavement and the dispersion of Africans, from the west coast of Africa, to the Caribbean and the Americas is called the “African Diaspora”. The word Diaspora refers to the distribution of people, language, and culture that was formerly concentrated in one place and dispersed to another.

2. Students’ living in low-socio-economic conditions often do not enroll nor attend school regularly. Many of these youngsters are merchants at the ages of eight and nine, selling vegetables and fruits in the marketplace or on the streets, to support their family needs.

3. Many of the AME Church Schools have large numbers of students enrolled. It is a financial struggle to provide supplemental reading books and supplies for hundreds of attending children without additional resources. Supplemental materials are needed on a consistent basis which include desk, blackboards, dry erase boards, notebooks, pens, and technology.

4. Due to the prohibitive cost of the application, many of the teachers employed have not passed the national examination. Supporting teachers to pass the national examination, results in higher wages, which encourages and enhances skilled instructors to continue their professional development.

5. The dynamics of globalization present significant challenges for children of color as well as opportunities; being educationally prepared is the cornerstone. To assume future leadership roles, critical thinking, literacy and communication skills, are essential to their participation in the economic growth and development of their respective countries.

Who are the Principle Collaborators?

The Indiana Council on Educating Students of Color, a 501c3, office is located in Indianapolis, Indiana, all of our international initiatives will be directive to support the AME Church Schools after school literacy centers in collaboration with the 16th Episcopal District, AME Church under the leadership of Reverend E. Anne Henning Byfield, presiding prelate.



Diana Daniels
Director of Literacy,
ICESC



Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield,
16th Episcopal District,
AME Church

How Can You Help?

Volunteers we invite you to join one of the Collaboratives: educators, social workers, medical doctors, publishers, foundations, churches, business, student groups and retirees.

Ways that you can assist the initiative reach the goals outlined is through monetary donations, school supplies, children’s trade books, equipment, technology, art supplies, dry erase boards, and other educational materials. For further information contact:

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