



Youth Alliance for Intersectional Justice

Nothing About Us, Without Us

Acknowledgements

Brant Tract Treaty

I dwell in the unceded territories of the Anishinaabeg, and Mississaugas of the Credit, for whom I am grateful.

I'd like to acknowledge my solidarity with the Kwantlen, Mississauga's of the Credit, Anishinabek, Huron-Wandet, and Haudenosaunee Nations. Brant tract Treaty 8 is where I reside (Burlington).

I would also like to acknowledge my ancestral heritage, contributions to what we now call Canada in pre-enslavement times and honor their sacrifices which allow me to be here with you today.





“It’s the torture of being the
unseen object and the
constantly observed subject”
– Amiri Baraka.



About the YAIJ - Overview



ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

The Youth Alliance for Intersectional Justice (YAIJ) is a Black-led collective of neurodiverse youth with and without intellectual dis/abilities. We serve racialized neurodiverse youth, their families, and allies. Our goal is to amplify and centre the voices of neurodiverse Black youth who have multiple identity labels including labels related to their gender expression, sexuality, SES, and "hidden" dis/abilities. Youth engage their peers in youth-centred, community-based projects and research focused on education, technology, employment, and entrepreneurship.



Our Services:

** Self-Advocacy & Leadership Training*

** Peer Mentorship*

** Arts-Based Assistive Technology*

** Intersectional Community-based Projects*

** Culturally Centred Employment & Entrepreneur Exploration*



The Youth Employment Futures Program (YEFP)





Youth Alliance for Intersectional Justice
Nothing About Us, Without Us

YEFP Program Overview

- The Youth Employment Futures Program (YEFP) is connecting Black and racialized neurodiverse youth to meaningful and relevant work.
- Youth decide what they're most interested in, which areas of work they'd like to explore, then receive pre-employment training geared to their interests and skills.
- Youth are connected to employer partners within Black and racialized communities, creating local and cultural community engagement, so necessary to fight disability stigmas. Representation and relevance matters.
- Youth are supported and guided by an empowerment and job coach working together to make the YEFP a positive and impactful experience.
- Culture is a commodity and as such is essential to reflecting how youth see themselves in and experience the working world.

Program Activities (Current)

Sept-Dec 2023:

- a) Job matching and employment experience (to December).
- b) Workplace check-ins.
- c) Job counseling.
- d) Tech-asst training (ChatGPT, gig economy, supports).
- e) Post-employment perm job coordination.
- f) Social media promotion.
- g) Completion ceremony.



Aiden's Perspectives

- Photography was his area of interest.



*Thank
you!*



Youth Alliance for Intersectional Justice
Nothing About Us, Without Us

connect@yaij.org
whathappening@yaij.org