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Our mission is to facilitate the resettlement of the Somali Bantu and to integrate cultural and life skill training programs within the community. We seek to promote English literacy, promote awareness of American culture, and encourage self-sufficiency among the Somali Bantu community in the United States, especially in San Diego.

Previously we have received new Somali Bantu refugees into our San Diego community and have educated them on American culture. We have taught them basic necessities that would enable them to thrive in an unfamiliar environment, such as: job skills training, English literacy, counseling, and education. It's no surprise that America is much different than their home country.

Currently, we continue to help our people within the city of San Diego anyway we can. We continue teaching them skills that will help them succeed. We have added an emphasis in translation services. Our people need translators among the public and private sectors. The problem is, Americans typically think that the Somali Bantu speak Somalian. This is not always the case, as our people speak other languages as their native tongue such as: May May and Kizugua. We focus on filling the needs in areas such as: Doctor's offices, Courtrooms, Welfare Agencies, and places of potential employment for our men, women and young people. We have seen a great deal of confusion be relieved with our help.

In the future, we plan on educating the American public and private sectors about the language barriers that the Somali Bantu have to endure. By doing this, we hope to accommodate larger services for our people. We also will be more involved in communicating with the refugee camps in Kenya. This is where the Somali Bantu take refuge as they flee Somalia due to war, famine, and unrest. We would like to raise resources through fundraising so the Somali Bantu community in San Diego can accommodate their brothers and sisters.

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1a. We provide various areas of service to our people: Counseling, Education, Translation, and Transportation

Counseling:

Providing traditional one-on-one family counseling is a big priority for us. Stress is prevalent among our community due to low-income, and we strive to help people talk it out with services such as :

- Counseling and tutoring of adult and student education
- Violence prevention, meditation, and conflict resolutions
- Sexual harassment
- Rape
- Hate crimes
- Theft/vehicle theft/burglary
- Shop lifting
- Domestic violence
- Drive bys
- Child abuse

Education:

We help our people by filling in the gaps in areas where they feel weak. Tutoring helps us most to reach the Somali Bantus' needs such as:

Tutoring of adult and student education

Helping community members build resumes and find them employment

Preventing families from using drugs and other substances

Awareness of smoking tobacco and drinking

American cultural awareness of language, agriculture, food, dances, ritual, and music

Translation:

Reading mail

Filling out applications

Interpretation services such as:

Hospitalization

Electricity/utility providers

Court appointments

Low income housing, subsidized etc

Telephone services

Transportation services such as:

Doctor appointments

Shopping for needy families, etc.

Travel and Immigration services such as:

Assisting downloading forms

Travel document forms

N 400 forms

Tax forms

Green Card applications

Filling out forms and mail it to I.N.S.

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2. Yes we currently help only Somali Bantu as our resources are limited. We identify Somali Bantu by citizenship as well as through our community. As our organization grows, we plan on helping anyone who is affiliated with the Somali Bantu Community. But ultimately the Somali Bantu community is our primary focus and concern.

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3. Yes, our directors have family members who will benefit from the services we provide. Favoritism is NOT something we hold to, and we plan on keeping all our goods and services well accounted for and open for review to any party in question.

4a. Fundraising is a method we will use to provide services to the Somali Bantu Community.

Mail Solicitations: We plan on having small brochures outlining the needs of the Somali Bantu, and providing ways that people can help. We will only send mail to people who we previously obtained their address by personal solicitations.

Email Solicitations: We have a contact form people can fill out on our website <http://www.sbaoa.org> that will collect email addresses. We will email a monthly newsletter showing people what we have currently been up to.

Personal Solicitations:

We will provide interested people forms they can fill out if they would like to donate. We will also collect their address and mail them a monthly newsletter with their permission. We plan on soliciting in areas where allowed to do so.

Phone Solicitations:

We will only call people whose numbers we only obtained through personal and email soliciting. We don't believe in cold calling people, it's kinda annoying!

Foundation Grant Solicitations:

We will provide a detailed presentation that addresses our people's history, culture, and current needs.

Accept Donations on our website:

Yes

Government Grant Solicitations:

We will provide a detailed presentation that addresses our people's history, culture, and current needs.