



For Immediate Release  
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**First ever provincial meeting specifically for African Canadian Children's Aid Society staff to take place in Toronto**

**TORONTO** – Over 300 Black staff from Children's Aid Societies (CAS) across the province will be gathering in Toronto, November 14-15, to discuss anti-Black racism in the child welfare system at an event led by the One Vision One Voice project.

The two-day symposium, called **All In!** is an opportunity for staff of African Canadian descent to convene and discuss their thoughts and experiences working within the child welfare system.

In addition, participants will be given the opportunity to provide feedback on how Children's Aid Societies can work towards improving disproportionality and disparate outcomes faced by African Canadian families.

A key workshop offered will be **Naming our Pain and Reflections on Resilience**. This is a chance for African Canadian CAS staff, in all positions, whether frontline, administrative or leadership, to reflect on their role in the child welfare system and how it impacts them as members of the African Canadian community and as professionals.

**"All In,** is an opportunity for African Canadian staff, working in Children's Aid Societies across the province, to speak with one voice, and tell the system what they are experiencing. It is a chance for Black staff to take ownership of the ongoing work One Vision One Voice is doing within the system, work that needs to continue, if child welfare is to truly address the disproportionality and disparate outcomes faced by African Canadian families in this system."

**Kike Ojo Project Manager, Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies, One Vision One Voice Project.**

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**About the One Vision One Voice Project**

Aligned with A Better Way Forward: Ontario's 3-Year Anti-Racism Strategic Plan, OACAS through One Vision One Voice, and in partnership with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services and the African Canadian community, has taken a leadership role in working to combat the overrepresentation, address the disproportionalities and eliminate the disparities experienced by African Canadians engaged with child welfare agencies.

**About the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies**

Since 1912, OACAS has represented Children's Aid Societies in Ontario and provided service in the areas of government relations, communications, information management, education and training to advocate for the protection and well-being of children.

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