

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
January 16, 2007

AFRICAN-CANADIAN CHRISTIAN NETWORK ISSUES SECOND CALL FOR ANTI-CRIME PROJECT PROPOSALS

GTA pastors partner with government to help fight youth violence

TORONTO —The African-Canadian Christian Network (ACCN) today issued its second call for proposals from Toronto churches and community organizations committed to helping young people lead lives free of violence.

“The ACCN anti-crime project is focusing on four areas: Family, Education, Employment and Crime Prevention,” said ACCN co-chair Pastor Michael Morris. “We believe that success in these areas is critical to building the self-esteem and the bright future youth want for themselves.”

In April 2006, the McGuinty government awarded the ACCN \$3 million over two years to assist Black Christian leaders enhance and create sustainable Black church/community partnerships efforts within neighbourhoods that help marginalized youth find alternatives to violence.

This past December, Premier Dalton McGuinty and Children and Youth Services Minister Mary Anne Chambers joined the ACCN in congratulating the first grant recipients. Ten churches and their partnering organizations received a total of \$533,000. As financial trustee, the Toronto Community Foundation is supporting the ACCN in administering the funding.

“We were truly impressed with both the caliber and variety of proposals we received from churches and organizations truly dedicated to helping young people,” said ACCN co-chair Pastor Alvin Nicholson. “With this second call for proposals, we are again encouraging churches to partner with organizations on projects that will help our talented and eager young people to be their best. Our youth are looking to the adults in our community for guidance, support and to be their role models in achieving their aspirations.”

ACCN is a volunteer-driven organization and welcomes the support of people from various disciplines who would like to help make a difference in the lives of young people.

The deadline for submitting applications is February 21st, 2007. Interested organizations are invited to visit the ACCN’s website at www.accntoronto.com for more information about the organization and to download the grant application form.

ACCN will host an information session to assist church and community groups apply for grants on Wednesday January 31, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Friendship Community Church located at 1290 Finch Avenue West.

For more information, please contact the office at:

African-Canadian Christian Network (ACCN)
60 Signet Drive, 3rd Floor
Toronto, Ontario, M9L 2Y4
P: 416-744-3084
F: 416-744-0826
e-mail: info@acctoronto.com
website: www.accntoronto.com

