

ASSOCIATION OF IVORIANS IN TEXAS-HOUSTON (AIT-HOUSTON)



TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS
YEARLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
NOV 16-DEC 17

AIT-HOUSTON EXECUTIVE BOARD



INTRODUCTION



AIT-Houston Vision

Overview of technical commissions Objectives

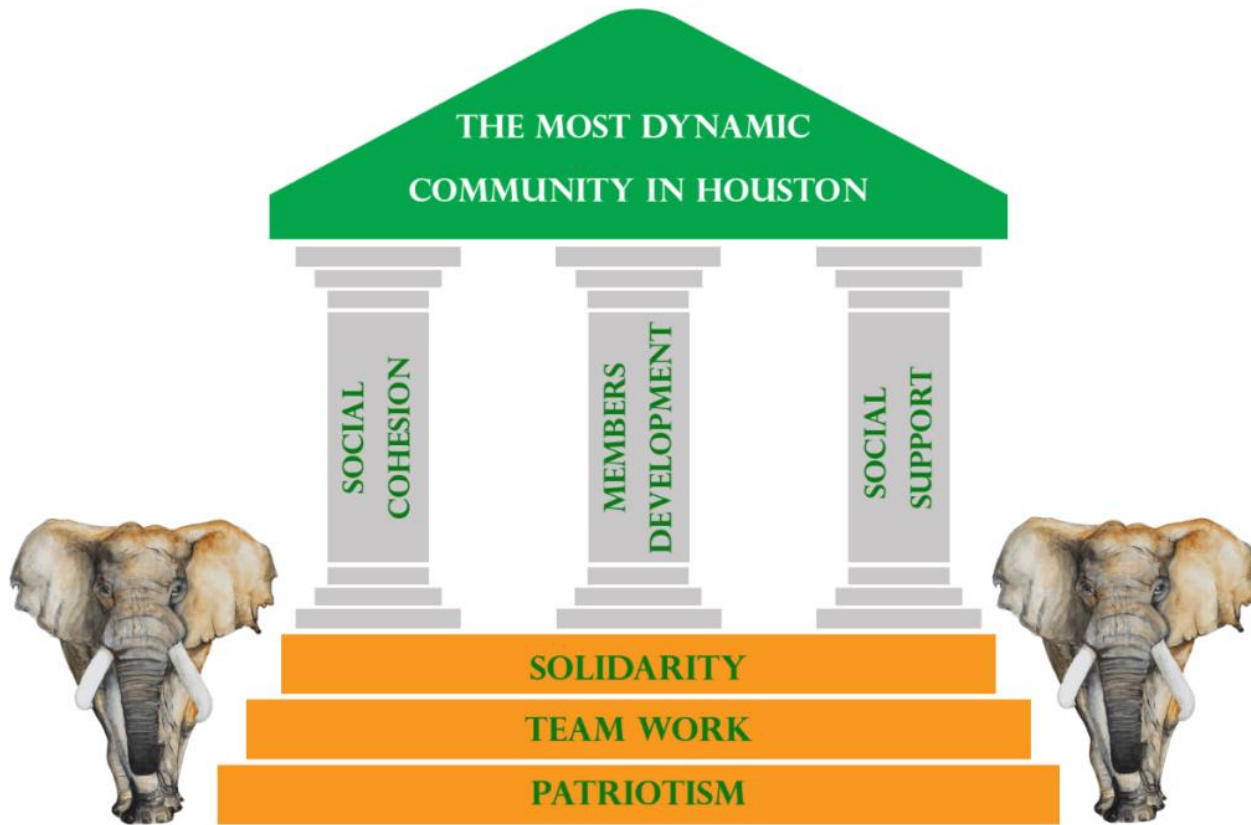
Year to date progress of these structures

Our goal

to forge a meaningful and long lasting impact
on the Ivorian community in Houston



HOUSE OF AIT-HOUSTON



Our core values will serve as our foundations and our 3 main courses of actions as our pillars...

President Office



GROW AIT-HOUSTON THROUGH CORPORATE AMERICA



PPG Global and City of Mankono Officials

- **Houston November 2016 visit**
 - ❖ Visit with Houston based potential investors
 - ❖ Meeting with companies looking to establish business in Ivory-Coast
 - ❖ Hospital visit to discuss potential equipment donation
- **AIT-Houston Benefit**
 - ❖ Network opportunities for members
 - ❖ AIT-Houston 1st press release
 - ❖ Potential jobs and internship opportunities
 - ❖ Scholarship funds (**\$1500 Contribution**)



ESTABLISH A NETWORK IN THE CITY OF HOUSTON

Houston's Mayor Office



- **Office of Trade and international Affairs**
 - ❖ Presentation of AIT-Houston course of actions
 - ❖ Learn about different programs offered by the city of Houston
 - ❖ Take advantage of the city social resources available to our members
- **Houston's Office of Business Opportunity (OBO)**
 - ❖ Discuss available support for entrepreneur
 - ❖ Obtain OBO partnership in AIT-Houston financial workshop program



The
City of Houston
Official Site for Houston, Texas



PARTNERSHIP WITH BLISS FINANCE

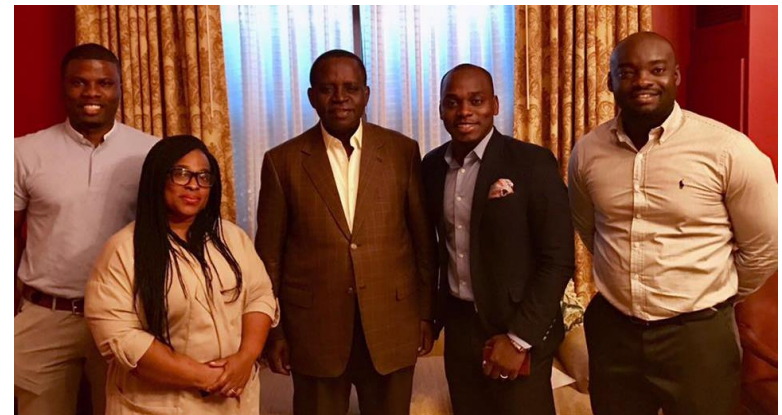
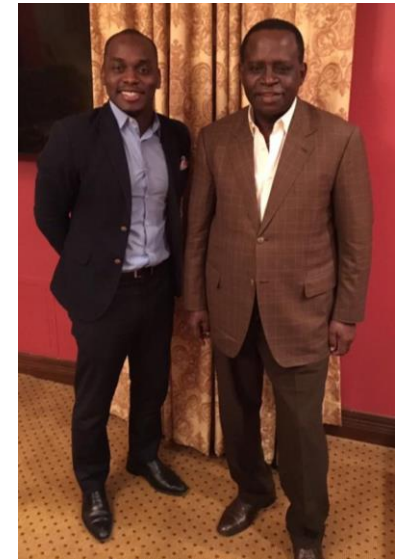
- **Financial Empowerment**
 - ❖ Financial Advisor Tools
 - ❖ Personal Investment coaching
 - ❖ Lending strategy for Entrepreneurs
 - ❖ Debt free Strategy
 - ❖ Credit History Repair Strategy
- **AIT-Houston Benefit**
 - ❖ Financial education
 - ❖ Financial workshop sponsoring

BlissFinance.com



AIT-HOUSTON MISSION IN IVORY COAST MARCH 2017

- **Mayor Noel Akossi Bendjo Visit**
 - **President of the City of Abidjan Mayors**
 - ❖ Presentation of AIT-Houston activities
 - ❖ Discussion on city of Abidjan support for donation programs
 - ❖ Kids clothes drive
 - ❖ Kids English books
 - ❖ Foundation Benianh International
 - ❖ Scholarship opportunity
 - ❖ www.fondationbenianh.org



AIT-HOUSTON MISSION IN IVORY COAST APRIL 2017

- HE Minister Ally Coulibaly meeting
 - Minister of Diaspora and African Integration
 - ❖ Promote Ivorian community in Houston
 - ❖ Discuss US immigration Policies and its impact on our community
 - ❖ Reinsertion program expansion to US diaspora
 - ❖ Meeting with Mr. Issiaka Konate
 - ❖ *Invitation to the 2nd Diaspora Forum May 22nd-May 23rd in Abidjan*



AIT-HOUSTON MISSION IN IVORY COAST

- HE President Charles Koffi Diby

Economic and Social Council

- ❖ Meeting with the community on Aug 27th 2016
- ❖ Encouragement and donation promise from the President
- ❖ Donation to AIT-Houston (\$3150)



MEET & GREET
SAT
27th
AUG 2016
Start: 5pm

SON EXCELLENCE
MR. Charles Koffi Diby
ANCIEN MINISTRE DE
L'ÉCONOMIE ET DES FINANCES,
PRÉSIDENT DU
CONSEIL ÉCONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL
DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE
CÔTE D'IVOIRE.

VOUS INVITE À UNE
RENCONTRE D'ÉCHANGE.

Marriot Westchase, Meeting Room: Briarpark 2&3
2900 BRIARPARK DR, HOUSTON, TX 77042

Dance Time
PRODUCTION

Academic and Professional Development



ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



MENTORING PROGRAM

Identify professionals with significant experience to assist mentees social and academic integration



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Allocate fund to encourage and celebrate academic excellence within our student population



PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING

Build a network of professionals within our community and promote a spirit of entrepreneurship among our members

FINANCIAL WORKSHOP EVENT: JAN 2017

“HOW TO GET FINANCING FOR YOUR BUSINESS”

Key Speakers

- **Will Norwood III**, *Office of Business Opportunity*
 - ❖ Minority and Women owned bussiness support
 - ❖ City of Houston available ressources for entrepreneur (Mentoring Program, Business plan tutoring, legal support etc...)

- **Wenfang Bruchett** , *BlissFinance*
 - ❖ Steps prior to applying for a loan
 - ❖ Understand the process for loan approval
 - ❖ Key criteria for securing a business loan
 - ❖ Build equity prior to applying for a loan request



OIL & GAS COMPANY STUDENT VISIT MARCH 2017:

- **Opportunity for student to visit a professional workspace**
 - ❖ Modern facilities (Conference room, live video with offshore platform...)
 - ❖ Oil and Gas industry performance dashboard
- **Networking Opportunity**
 - ❖ Meeting Professional from Engineering, Finance, Accounting, IT etc...
 - ❖ Discuss academic background and professional career path
- **Mentoring opportunity**
 - ❖ Lunch meeting with Leadership team (Vice President, Directors, Manager ..)
- **Inspiration and motivation for Ivorian students**

[Event Video Link](#)



AIT-HOUSTON SCHOLARSHIP FUND DEC 2017

CELEBRATE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- **Book Scholarship**

- ❖ \$500 Book Scholarships
- ❖ Spring 2018
- ❖ 4 Students to be awarded

- **Award Criteria**

- ❖ Merit based application
 - ❖ Academic Performance
 - ❖ Involvement in the community

- **Independent Jury**

- ❖ Dr. Ousmane Diallo, Aerospace Research Engineer at NASA
- ❖ Dr. Aya Fanny, Pediatrician Resident at Texas Children Hospital
- ❖ Mr. Souleymane Kaba, Sr. Finance Manager Baker Hughes



MENTORING PROGRAM: “TAKE A STUDENT TO LUNCH”

- **Objectives:**

- ❖ Provide mentorship to our students
- ❖ Pair up professionals and students with similar academic background
- ❖ Introduce students to professional environment
- ❖ Create networking opportunities

- **Expectations for Mentors:**

- ❖ Discuss academic and professional aspiration
- ❖ Advise and coach
- ❖ Review resume and provide feedbacks
- ❖ Introduce students to other professionals
- ❖ Keep student informed of jobs and internship opportunities



Solidarity and Social Affairs



SOLIDARITY AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS



AKWABA PROGRAM

Assist newly arrived Ivorian in the city of Houston to facilitate their social integration



CHARITY AND VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM

Express our gratitude and appreciation for the city of Houston.

Lead or participate in charity events in cote d'Ivoire.

SOCIAL SUPPORT TO OUR MEMBERS

- Orphanage Visit in Cote d'Ivoire and Radio Appearance
 - ❖ Boys Orphanage of Bingerville
 - ❖ ONG MINOGE
 - ❖ Nostalgie: “ Rien a Cacher”
- Assistance to members in need of a home Assistance
- Rescue of stranded Ivorian transiting through Houston
 - ❖ Contacted his family
 - ❖ Provided him with food and purchased a bus ticket
 - ❖ Cost covered by Mr. Leonard Bouadi (\$100)



KID CLOTHES DONATION PROGRAM

- **ONG MINOGE**
 - ❖ Non-profit organization in Ivory-coast
 - ❖ Rescuing and providing shelters to orphans
 - ❖ Struggling financially and surviving on donations
- **AIT-Houston Support**
 - ❖ Executive Board Orphanage visit
 - ❖ Fatima Kamara in Dec 2016
 - ❖ Collect Kids clothes and Books
 - ❖ Send donation in December 2017



HURRICANE HARVEY RESPONSE

- **Disaster Response Actions**

- ❖ Insure safety of all members
- ❖ Communication by emails, texts and phone calls
- ❖ Provide key information on:
 - ❖ Evacuation route
 - ❖ First responders contact info
 - ❖ Shelters information
 - ❖ FEMA recovery process
- ❖ Stay in communication with members who had to be evacuated
- ❖ Share needs among the community and initiate a chain of solidarity actions
- ❖ Communication from **Marlene Mc Clinton**,
 - ❖ Ivory-Coast Houston Honorary Consul Office



FUND RAISING SOCCER GAME

- Provide support to families impacted by the disaster
 - ❖ Game Opposing Elders vs Young
 - ❖ Score 0-0, 5-4 Penalty Kicks victory for the elders
 - ❖ Participation set at \$20 per players and open donation for the public.
 - ❖ Total of 44 people contributed **\$1400** to the solidarity effort
- Identified Ivorian families impacted by the Hurricane and receiving financial support
 - ❖ Famille Tano
 - ❖ Famille Tchety
 - ❖ Ladj Cisse
 - ❖ Habib Cisse
 - ❖ Dominic Djoman



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND CHILD PROMOTION



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WOMEN NETWORK PROGRAM

Celebrate women
achievement

Create a platform
promoting constructive
interaction among
Ivorian women



KID PROGRAM

Contribute to the
growth of future leaders
of our community

Engage our kids and
encourage them to get
to know each other



INVOLVE OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN...

• Christmas Tree Celebration

- ❖ +120 people present
- ❖ +65 Kids received free gifts
- ❖ Great moment of social cohesion and celebration
- ❖ Event Fully funded on Donation : ~\$1880
 - ❖ Mr. Ousmane Conde : \$500 in gifts
 - ❖ Mlle Candace Koffi : \$300
 - ❖ [Christmas Tree Celebration Video Link](#)



• Awareness against women violence video

- ❖ Video add seen +4.7 K times on Facebook
- ❖ Speak out on this issue
- ❖ Educate our community especially young men
- ❖ Encourage women to report sexual violence or other abuses
- ❖ [Violence Awareness Video Link](#)



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

- Raise awareness
 - ❖ Educate members about the disease
 - ❖ Most diagnosed cancer among women (1 out of 8 women in their lifetime)
 - ❖ 2nd highest mortality rate of all Cancers
 - ❖ Mortality is 40% higher among the black community compared to the other ethnicities
 - ❖ Encourage women to take preventive actions
 - ❖ Adopt healthy habits (Healthy Food, exercising etc....)
 - ❖ Conduct routine mammography
 - ❖ Monitor hormone level frequently



CULTURAL AND EVENTS COORDINATION



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CULTURAL PROGRAM



Promote the Ivorian culture and celebrate our cultural heritage by involving Ivorian local businesses.

Ensure that our community is proudly represented at events honoring cultural diversity.



MEMORIAL DAY COOKOUT MAY 2017

- Collaboration with Gabonese Community in Houston (CGH)
 - ❖ Amazing crowd support
 - ❖ Great competition and fun
 - ❖ Interaction between kids, youth and elders
 - ❖ Great food (Mea Cuisine + Unique Restaurant)
- Exciting Afternoon
 - ❖ Ivorians Elders vs Gabonese Elders
 - ❖ Score: 3-1 (Victory)
 - ❖ Houston Elephants vs Houston Panthers
 - ❖ Score: 2-2, Penalty Kick 9-8 (Victory)

[Event Video Link](#)



INDEPENDENCE DAY 2017 AUGUST 2017

- **BBQ Event**
 - ❖ Members contributed by:
 - ❖ Providing food and drinks
 - ❖ Volunteering to cook
- **Entertainment s**
 - ❖ Fun games for adults
 - ❖ Activities for Kids
 - ❖ Fund raising raffle
 - ❖ Amazon fire 7 Tablet won by Carine Yapo



AFRICAN TASTE OF MOTHERLAND COMPETITION JULY 2017

- **Cooking Competition**
 - ❖ Organized by the Gabonese community
 - ❖ Participants from different African communities (Gabon, RDC, Burkina, Tanzanie ect...)
 - ❖ **Fatou Fall and Tiffany Gui competing for AIT-Houston**
 - ❖ **Cooking Champion!!!!**
 - ❖ **\$300 Winning Price**



HOUSTON AFRICAN FASHION WEEK SEPT 2017

- Largest Annual African Fashion show
 - ❖ Promote African Fashion Designers
 - ❖ Proud to have Ivory- Coast represented by talented fashion designer Fatim Coulibaly
 - ❖ Brand: Africanqueenfashion
 - ❖ www.africanqueenfashions.com
 - ❖ AIT-Houston Congratulates Fatim Coulibaly for representing Ivorian culture with such talent and grace



Sport and Recreation



KEEP THE COMMUNITY ACTIVE...

- **Support to Houston Elephants Soccer Team**

- ❖ Donation from sport agent Mr. Yannick Souagnon
- ❖ 25 Full Orange Jersey
- ❖ 25 Full Green Jersey of Ivory-Coast
- ❖ 25 Full warm up sets



KEEP THE COMMUNITY ACTIVE...

- **Paintball Party April 2017**
 - ❖ Diversification of sport activity in our community
 - ❖ Entertaining and Fun for participant
 - ❖ Practice team work and “I have your back” mentality

[Event Video Link](#)





Communication Team



STAY CONNECTED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA...

- How do we communicate ?

1.  ivoirehouston@gmail.com
2.  Association des Ivoiriens de Houston
3.  ait_houston
4.  ait_houston
5.  www.AIT-HOUSTON.org

CONCLUSION

These technical commissions are driving our activities and promoting programs targeting the betterment of Ivorians within the city of Houston

Our Goal is

“

TO BECOME ONE OF THE MOST DYNAMIC
COMMUNITY IN HOUSTON ”





**AIT-HOUSTON
THANK YOU**

FOR A GREAT 2017 YEAR

Merci.