

Chairman's Message

Action for Safe and Healthy Communities (ASHC), was founded out of concern for Health Disparities or let me say that out of concern for worse health among socially disadvantaged people and, in particular, members of disadvantaged racial/ethnic groups, and focusing on the Black and the Racialized Communities. Therefore, our concern leads us to call for Social Justice and Health Equity through advocacy and through providing opportunity for community participation and engagement in activities and programs enabling people to increase control over, and to improve, their health and safety.

Moving together with the entire Board, Staff and Volunteers, I can envision how ASHC will rise to bring change and opportunity for our most vulnerable, individuals, families and, communities, through participation, engagement and advocacy. For example, in the past years, ASHC has carried out several programs and activities. For example we responded to the impacts of COVID-19 with strong commitment and dedication. The Organization utilized all the resources available to maintain the flow of supports to needy populations, and maintained the ongoing activities. The organization also took several forward-looking measures, including investment in the professional development of the ASHC team, building partnership and information which will help us strengthen and increase our supports for the needy populations to better serve the Black Communities and the Racialized individuals, families and communities.

Our Board of Volunteers also worked closely with the community leaders, partner organizations and all other stakeholders to review the current challenges and opportunities for the organization and developed a new five-year strategic plan to meet needs for organizational growth and development. This new strategic plan is aligned with ASHC's vision, mission, and core values and should serve the organization well moving into the future. The core values of inclusion, social Justice for all, sustainability, compassion, empowerment collaboration, participation, innovation and excellence drive long-term success for our organization as well as for the individuals and communities we serve.

These and many other accomplishments in the past years connect directly to the passionate and talented board and staff team who embody our collaborative organizational culture. We recognize the importance of ensuring that Action for Safe and Healthy Communities (ASHC) is a place where all of our beneficiaries, volunteers and staff feel valued, supported and rewarded. I am pleased with the strides we made during the last couple of years to foster Social Justice and Health Equity and make our organization even more inclusive.

I want to thank my fellow Board members for contributing their volunteer time, expertise and professional knowledge to make ASHC an innovative and responsive organization. In particular, I extend the entire Board's appreciation to the SBCCI and Government of Canada for invaluable contributions to help us bring ASHC to this level. I also commend our Senior Leadership Team for so capably executing ASHC's supports at all times. I feel confident that ASHC is on a strong footing as we continue on our growth trajectory in the upcoming years. On behalf of all my fellow board members, I am thankful to all our funders, supporters, volunteers and partners for their unwavering trust and support for our organization.

Thank you for your ongoing interest in ASHC and for your support.

Sincerely,



Gerald Bahati
Chairman of the Board & President
ASHC Inc.