



# CAIRO

Center for Africa Immigrants and Refugees Organization

## Enhancing our Youth Programs

### Types of Youth Programs

1. SPACE for Holistic Engagement
2. CONNECT for Leadership and Growth
3. MySTEP for Career and College Readiness

Together, SPACE, CONNECT, and MySTEP Youth Programs represent a comprehensive ecosystem of support for African immigrant children and youth, designed to meet their diverse needs from educational achievement to personal development and career preparedness. Investing in these programs is investing in the future of our state, fostering a generation of well-educated, empowered, and engaged citizens who will contribute positively to Minnesota's growth and diversity.

### Our Legislative Ask

We are requesting for \$2.5M to enhance our youth programs that helps students gain work experience, earn experience in high-demand fields, and transition into family sustaining careers. It is essential that we act swiftly and decisively to dismantle these barriers, fostering an environment where every child has the opportunity to thrive, contribute, and succeed.

[caiomn.org](http://caiomn.org)

### About CAIRO

CAIRO, the Center for African Immigrants and Refugees Organization, is a champion for African refugees and immigrant families in central Minnesota, dedicated to forging paths to equity and social justice. We are a non-profit, service-driven organization, steadfast in the mission to advocate for, support, and enable the growth and empowerment of African communities through a comprehensive array of programs and initiatives. Our work is rooted in the understanding that equitable access to education, health services, workforce development, and housing are pivotal to the prosperity of immigrant and refugee families.

### Why CAIRO?

Our approach is collaborative and multifaceted, acknowledging the complex web of challenges that face our communities. We commit to service with an understanding that sustainable change requires not just intervention but the active involvement of the people we serve. Our ability to meet program requirements is synergized by our comprehensive service delivery model, which encapsulates not just the provision of resources but also the advocacy and policy work necessary to create systemic change.

