The Youth Ubuntu Project (YUP) is a collaborative project between the Center to Support Immigrant Organizing (CSIO) & African Community Economic Development Of New England (ACEDONE). Launched in 2013, YUP’s mission is to develop African, Latin American, Caribbean and Asian immigrant teen grassroots leadership in social justice efforts and build unity and solidarity among youth in Boston’s diverse immigrant communities.

**Who are we?**

YUP teens engage in a wide variety of about social justice workshops.

1) Roots of Migration aimed at highlighting the push and pull factors of migration to the US, examine the economic and political policies, and to bring youth migration experiences forward by looking at their similarities and differences which build connections.

2) Anti-Muslim Racism aimed at teaching about systemic discrimination against Muslims and those racialized as Muslims.

3) Global Health Equity’s goal is to dive deep into 4 countries (US, Haiti, Japan, and Canada) health care systems learning about quality health care, inequities, and medical racism.

4) Financial Literacy helped to give the youth an understanding of what money is, and how to maneuver with it.

5) Food Justice Workshop aimed to describe what food insecurity is and explain the significance of food insecurities in our lives and communities.

6) My America Project was a workshop dedicated to photography expression and for the youth to explain what America means to them.

**Purpose of Workshops**

At YUP, we create an emphasis on leadership, and we had core leaders, such as Tia Hashem, lead a workshop about Art activism. A prime example on how youth have taken charge in the development of the YUP curriculum.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

YUP teens volunteered at ICNA Relief’s food pantry. Youth distributed food to communities in need at Roxbury Crossing.

YUP creating PPE COVID kits for immigrant health equity cohort, Equity Now and Beyond. This cohort tackled the health inequities faced by immigrant communities.
Social Justice Workshops

“'I love that I gained valuable public speaking skills, creating presentations and facilitating skills.” -Elijah Greene

“One thing I enjoyed was participating in the global health equity workshop and going on field trips on Fridays.” -Sunel Gonzalez

“'I got to make new friends and learn about global health crises, and create COVID kits.” -Ameen Mustafa

“'I enjoyed learning about workshops, people's cultures and meeting new people. The program helped me not be shy.” -Yael Jean-Louis

“'I taught about Art activism and we all made art together, it was really fun.” -Tia Hashem

“I think the YUP program pretty much prepared me for anything else in life.” -Reem Hossam

The program is led by the Director of Teen Development, Hawa Yassin, the Program Manager, Kaynan Yassin, Youth coordinators, Laetitia Pierre-Louis and Salma Mohamed, and Youth Organizers, Neha Ratnapuri and Bryan Castro. Through their leadership and dedication, they have led a successful program. We would, also, like to thank our collaborators We Got Us, ICNA Relief, Housing=Health, and Cambridge Savings Bank. Finally, we would like to thank specifically our funders for making this possible, Hyams Foundation, Boston Center for Youth and Families, and Boston After School and Beyond.

For more information, contact CSIO at laetitia@csioboston.org or ACEDONE at hawa.yassin@acedone.org

YUP teens working in groups tasked to create a desert dish for our food tasting competition. This was done to build teamwork and communication.

Youth Teens participated in a Boston Scavenger Hunt. The winning team are posing near the Boston Marathon Finish line with the infamous Boston Turtles.

YUP leaders seen facilitating Field Day activities with scholars from ACEDONE Summer Learning Academy at the Hennigan School.

YUP teens supporting Mariam Diallo taking on the obstacle rope activity at Hale Reservation.

Youth Teens participated in a Boston Scavenger Hunt. The winning team are posing near the Boston Marathon Finish line with the infamous Boston Turtles.

YUP embarking on a trip to Boda Borg, where groups of 4 were tasked with conquering quests by using effective communication.