



Immigrant Services – Guelph Wellington

926 Paisley Rd, Units 4 – 5
Paisley Plaza
Guelph, ON N1K 1X5
519-836-2222 Fax: 519-837-2884
mailbox@gdmc.org
www.is-gw.ca
Bus Routes: #23 and #70A/B



Be the Change

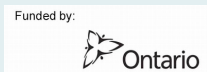


Join a new innovative program

Funded by the Government of Canada through
Citizenship and Immigration Canada



We also gratefully acknowledge the funding support of:



Be the Change is supported by
United Way of Guelph & Wellington



What is “Be the Change”?

Be the Change is a program designed to benefit new immigrants and communities in Guelph and Wellington County. It recruits new immigrants and trains them in eight community development skills that will enhance their capacity to organize and mobilize others to develop home-grown projects that will solve common issues facing their groups, community or neighbourhood. Participants trainees will speak different languages and be from diverse cultures. The program benefits participants, their communities, and social service agencies that wish to diversify their human resources.

This unique program has proven to be successful in involving and engaging new immigrants. Participants can learn skills which will be assets to them and their communities.

What trainings are provided?

Recruited individuals will be trained in the following eight community development skills:

- 1) Working with others for a common goal
- 2) Planning community events and projects
- 3) Running community and neighborhood groups
- 4) Networking with purpose
- 5) Small-scale fundraising for your projects
- 6) Evaluating your success
- 7) Community groups are your assets
- 8) So you want to be a community mobilizer: How to motivate and mobilize

Who is eligible?

All adult immigrants over 18 years of age, especially those who are Permanent Residents/Landed Immigrants, Convention Refugees, and new Canadian Citizens.

Organizations and social service agencies can benefit from our Be the Change program by utilizing the skills of our trained community mobilizers.

What happens after training?

Upon completion of the program, trainees will be assisted to organize community groups and grassroots projects.

Be the Change is based on the principles of shared leadership, self-help and mutual aid. It promotes cooperation among groups of people with common issues, interests, or needs. The trainings help participants to learn how to mobilize and organize around common causes.

A group of trainees in a similar program organized a community theatre for youth in their neighbourhood. It became a cooperative income-generation venture.

Another group of trainees organized a home-work assistant program in their apartment building.