



WHAT'S NEW AT BLACK HEALTH MATTERS COVID-19?

BRIDGING THE GAP

We at Black Health Matters COVID-19 continue to serve the needs of the community by collecting this vital data to be utilized in the creation of equitable and accessible care. Our project began in 2020, and our community engagement workers have been working diligently with the public through our focus groups and raising awareness through our various social media channels. Last Fall, we began working on our global outreach initiative and had successfully recruited various professionals to our global advisory team.

The response from the community both at home and abroad has been overwhelming, to say the least. At Black Health Matters COVID-19, the goal is not only to serve the community but also to empower and educate one another while also identifying and resisting systemic racism. This year, we are especially looking forward to conducting more focus groups, organizing educational webinars, and concluding our scoping review.

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WHY WE DO THIS RESEARCH

FOR OUR PEOPLE BY OUR PEOPLE.



Today, research on African/Black communities in Canada and around the world are underfunded and under-researched. Research is needed in order to inform effective and tailored interventions. However, not all research is safe for African/Black population as research must guarantee accountability, be conducted with respect and care, and data must be collected in a dignified and meaningful way.

If we have learned anything from the COVID-19 pandemic, it's to make use of the time and resources we have now so that our communities are well-equipped to deal with the health outcomes of tomorrow. The Black Health Matters COVID-19 initiative aims to collect race-based and intersectional data on African/Black communities so that Black-led researchers and community groups can create empowerment-centered interventions to support communities during and after the impacts of the pandemic.

OUR APPROACH

The project uses a Black-feminist, anti-colonial, anti-racist, and resistance methodological framework. The Black Health Matters Covid-19 project will focus on conducting scoping reviews, focus groups, and mixed methods surveys to develop targeted interventions and strategies for African/Black communities in response to the impact of the pandemic.



MEET OUR RESEARCH ASSISTANTS



Ayan Hashi, BA Hon. 2020

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

MPH Candidate: Social & Behavioural Health Sciences, Class of 2022

Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto

"What drew me to this project was that it not only focused on collecting race-based and intersectional data to support Black/African communities, but it is also being done in a dignified manner by Black/African champions. Being a part of the research team and working alongside Dr. Roberta Timothy taught me I am a community member first and that resisting anti-Black racism can look different for everyone. "

"Having previously read much of Dr. Timothy's work, when I heard about the Black Health Matters COVID-19 initiative I knew immediately this was where I wanted to complete my practicum. The Black/African experience in Canada is multilayered (but familiar) and the research team at BHM try to uncover each layer carefully, with care, accuracy, ethics, love, and empathy. It truly does take a village to complete this work and I hope to continue doing what I can to improve the lives of my community".



Asli Nur, BA Hon.

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

BA Commerce, Health Care Management Student, Class of 2022

Humber College Lakeshore

MEET OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKERS



Heba Roble, Bsc Hon. 2020
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers
MI Candidate, Class of 2022
Faculty of Information, University of Toronto

"Working on the Black Health Matters COVID-19 Project has been an absolute dream. Being able to give back and perform health research that is by and for the Black community is truly a privilege. Additionally, contacting Black-focused organizations nationally and globally has highlighted our universal struggle but also our communal sense of hope in creating a better, more equitable world."

"When the pandemic began, I felt compelled to volunteer with an organization that aligned with my interest and was committed to supporting population health through actionable change. It was a miracle that I found the BHMCVD-19 Project, and my participation in it was due to the fact it was developing milestones for better understanding Black health in Canada, given that race-based data is not collected. My experience so far in supporting the project, has been remarkable because not only am I able to champion a national and translational project for Black Health, I am also learning more about my history and others that I will ultimately use in day-day operations and career."



Robert Chin-See, Bsc Hon.
Pronouns: He/Him/His
Class of 2021

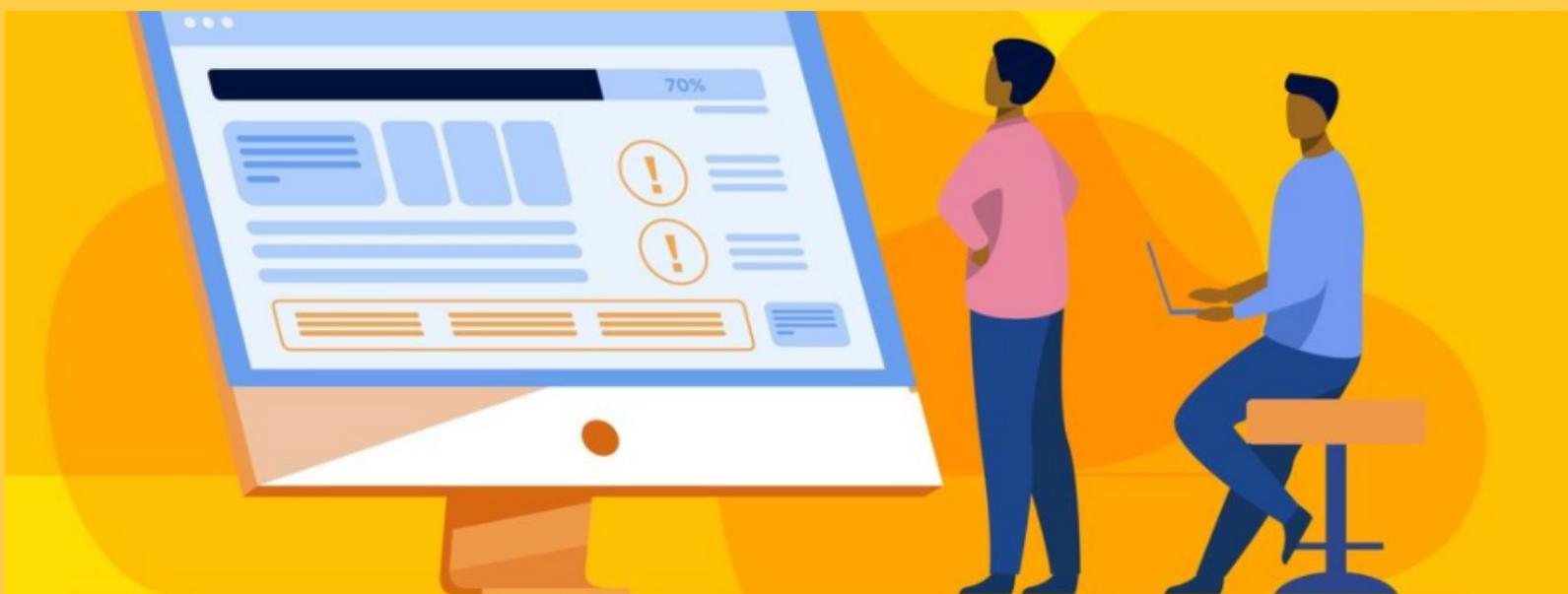
Faculty of Health Sciences, Wilfrid Laurier University

DID YOU KNOW...

Our Global Advisory Committee consists of African/Black members from:



**Barbados, Brazil, Cameroon, Columbia, Ghana, Haiti, Joburg:
South Africa, Lusaka: Zambia, Nigeria, Panama, Rwanda, Somalia
& United States of America**



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National and Transnational COVID-19 Impact,
Resistance and Intervention Strategies Project