

Community support for the education of immigrant and refugee students in Canadian schools

Abstract

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This paper focuses on the practical steps taken by Midaynta Community Services aimed at supporting the education of newcomer children in Canadian schools. Midaynta is a charitable organization that provides settlement services to newcomers to Canada, which also includes non-formal community education. I will talk about our youth mentorship program, de-radicalization initiatives, and special programs for Black, East African and Muslim Youth. Our presentation contributes to the burgeoning research on the critical role of grassroots community organizations' role, in particular how their proactive navigation strategies, partnerships and reach out actions lead to successful community/civil society-state collaboration.

Biography of Author

Mahad Yusuf is the Executive Director of Midaynta Community Services. He is also the founder of the Somali Immigrant Aid Organization and was instrumental in setting up the Somali Community Centre of Etobicoke. His work also includes community advocacy and policy analysis.