

About the Congolese Community

Presented by Esperance, Juliette
and Regina

Funerals

- This includes deaths that happened here or abroad especially family members back home in Africa.
- As soon as news in regards to this is received, the leaders in the community show courage and love by passing the information around to all community members.
- Once the information has been passed, the community members get together and decide when to visit the bereaved family.

- On the visiting day, the immediate and urgent needs of the family are inquired for instance unpaid hospital bills that in many cases results in bodies not released from hospitals for burial, lack of money for the funeral etc etc.
- Depending on the nature of the need, the community gets together and raises funds for the bereaved family.

- Community members always stand with the bereaved family at this sorrowful time, people get together, eat and drink and hold a little party to encourage the bereaved family, console them and encourage the family to move on with life and be happy.

Benefits

- Through the “get togethers” people offers each other moral support. This gives people strength even in the most trying times because you know that you will never walk alone even when you do not have any relatives here. In a sense it encourages people to know that you always have brothers and sisters close to you.
- It is also reciprocal and thus encourages people to help each other knowing you will be accorded the same treatment when it is your turn.

Cooking Club

- There are many organization that teach women how to cook i.e. cooking standards, food handling, sanitary and hygiene etc.
- On the auspices of this organization, the Congolese women have secured funding.
- They have decided to use these funds to establish a cooking club for the women in the community especially the single mothers.



**Congolese women celebrating their
Independence Day**

Benefits

- This social activity will enable the single mothers who are isolated sometimes for many reasons to get together with other women, meet new people, make friends, share experiences, cook and most importantly meet men.

Everyone can cook individually in their own homes but when cooking together in a friendly, non threatening atmosphere, people have fun and enjoy themselves and also learn from each other.