



# NVT-USA FA 2026

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# A Message from the President of NVT USA-FA USA



Dear NVT Family, Supporters, Friends, and the Tucson Community,

It is my great pleasure to welcome all NVT Teams, players, members, supporters, families, partners, and the people of Tucson, Arizona, to this historic 2026 NVT Tournament. We are grateful for the warm welcome and support that Tucson has extended to our NVT family.

Over the past couple of years, the NVT has experienced tremendous growth. We have welcomed more Teams, gained greater recognition across the United States, and seen our story reach communities and media outlets from Africa and Europe to South America and across America. What began as a Cameroonian veterans' football initiative has grown into an increasingly diverse and inclusive community.

One of my priorities as President has been strengthening our financial foundation through sponsorship. I am proud that we have secured more than \$60,000 in sponsorship for the 2026 tournament, while also building valuable partnerships with businesses, community organizations, Tucson Sports, and airlines including Delta Air Lines and Southwest Airlines, which have provided discounted travel opportunities.

We have also taken important steps forward with the launch of our NVT app with a sponsorship platform, designed to connect our members, sponsors, businesses, and supporters throughout the year. These initiatives will help us build a stronger and more sustainable organization.

Beyond football, we are investing in our community through professional enrichment programs, women's soccer, youth outreach, and other initiatives. Our new NVT magazine also gives us an opportunity to preserve our history and share the stories of the people and communities that have made this organization what it is today.

Our Bereavement Solidarity Fund for which pays out a \$25,000.00 death benefit to our registered members and families has gone fully operational and has already paid almost \$500,000.00.

Yet our vision goes much further. We dream of a future where the NVT can secure significant funding and perhaps even own its own permanent facility, including football fields and a community hall. These are ambitious goals, but our progress has shown us that great things are possible when we work together.

We will not always agree. We will have different opinions about football, administration, and the direction of the organization. That is part of any healthy community. But our greatest strength is our ability to come together after disagreements and continue moving forward.

The NVT was built on a proud Cameroonian heritage, but it has also evolved into an increasingly inclusive community—a melting pot united by football, friendship, and shared values. We should embrace that growth while always honoring the history that brought us here.

I extend my sincere appreciation to our project managers, committee leads, match delegates, volunteers, club presidents, coaches, players, sponsors, partners, and supporters. Special thanks go to the National Executive Council for its tremendous work and commitment in preparing for this year's tournament.

Finally, I encourage everyone to enjoy NVT 2026, reconnect with old friends, make new ones, compete with pride, and represent the NVT community with dignity.

Thank you to Tucson for welcoming us. Thank you to our supporters for believing in us. And thank you to the entire NVT family for continuing to build this remarkable organization.

Our journey has come a long way, but our best days are still ahead. Welcome to NVT 2026. Welcome to Tucson.

With gratitude,  
**Valentine Esaka**, President, NVT USAFA



# PAST NVT PRESIDENTS



Denis F. Nkeh, Esq.  
Veteran Club:  
Veterans Football Club, Maryland USA.  
Years in Office:  
NVT Founder 2015.  
NVT National President: 2016 to 2018.



Tongwa Mecha  
Veteran Club:  
Arlington Veterans FC, Texas, USA.  
Years in Office:  
NVT National President: 2018 to 2021.



Dr. Charles Yakum  
Veteran Club:  
Allen Veterans FC, Texas, USA.  
Years in Office:  
NVT National President: 2021 to 2023



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# MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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*Dr Pride Abongwa, PhD*  
*Vice President and*  
*Director of Operations*



*Simo Noubissie*  
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Social  
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**Dr. Kevin Nana Njabo**  
Bereavement Solidarity  
Fund Steering Committee



**Beltus Ntopi**  
Elections Administration &  
Constitutional Committee



# Preserving the Soul While Growing the NVT

## EDITORIAL

The National Veterans Tournament (NVT) stands at an important crossroads.

What began 11 years ago as a competition built around Cameroonian veteran football has grown into something much larger. Over the past five years, championship victories by teams featuring relatively few Cameroonian players have intensified a debate that is no longer easy to dismiss: What should the NVT be, and who should it be for?

At the heart of the discussion is a legitimate concern about identity. Should the NVT remain primarily a tournament for players of Cameroonian descent, including first-generation Americans with Cameroonian roots? Or should it continue evolving into a broader international veterans' competition that welcomes African players, players of African descent, and even players of all nationality as is currently the case? There are strong arguments on both sides.



**Frederick Mafany Itoe**  
*Editor-in-Chief*  
*NVT-USA FA Editorial Board*

### The Case for Protecting the Cameroonian Identity

Those calling for a stronger Cameroonian identity are not necessarily opposed to growth. Their concern is that growth should not come at the expense of the tournament's original purpose.

Today, some NVT teams reportedly have more than 70 percent of their players with no direct ties to Cameroon. In portions of some matches, teams have fielded nine or more non-Cameroonian players. For Cameroonian veterans who helped build the tournament and continue to play weekly at their clubs, this can create the uncomfortable feeling of becoming spectators in a competition that was originally created for them.

There is also a cultural argument. The NVT is more than football. It represents community, friendship, heritage and the nostalgia of Cameroonians who once played the beautiful game and now have an opportunity to reconnect through it. If that identity disappears, critics reasonably ask, what distinguishes the NVT from the many other veterans' tournaments across America? There is merit to that question.

A tournament can grow so successfully that it eventually becomes disconnected from the very people and traditions that gave birth to it. The NVT should be careful not to allow expansion to become a form of identity loss.

### The Case for Opening the Doors

But there is an equally compelling argument on the other side. The NVT does not operate in Cameroon. It operates in the United States. A country famously shaped by immigration and cultural diversity. Many Cameroonian communities are relatively small, particularly in some parts of the country where NVT teams are based. Requiring those teams to rely almost exclusively on Cameroonian players could make it impossible for them to remain competitive, or even to survive.

The reality is simple: teams need players.

Some clubs are located in areas with very few Cameroonians. Their presidents and representatives know that failing to recruit quality players could leave their teams on the waiting list. That competitive pressure has inevitably encouraged teams to recruit talented players from outside the Cameroonian community.

There is another consideration that should not be underestimated:

### Growth creates opportunity

An increasingly international NVT has the potential to attract sponsors, media coverage and partnerships that a narrowly defined competition might struggle to secure. Greater visibility could eventually translate into discounted travel for members, complimentary accommodation, larger prize money, corporate sponsorships, youth soccer camps, scholarships and humanitarian initiatives. The tournament is already attracting attention beyond its original community. Its international character makes it easier to tell a broader story about football, community and African heritage in America.



In that sense, opening the NVT does not necessarily mean abandoning Cameroon. It could mean allowing the Cameroonian vision to become bigger than Cameroon.

## When Competition Becomes "Win at All Costs"

Yet there is another issue beneath the eligibility debate: the changing culture of competition.

Some teams are spending significant amounts of money to assemble rosters capable of winning the NVT or avoiding relegation. Recruiting top players has become, for some clubs, more important than developing the veteran players who originally made the tournament special. That raises a difficult question: Are teams still playing for the joy and camaraderie of veterans' football, or has winning become the overriding objective? Competitive ambition is not inherently bad. In fact, serious competition is one reason the NVT has grown. But when winning becomes everything, the tournament risks losing some of the recreational, social and nostalgic qualities that made it meaningful in the first place.

The aging of the original veteran population complicates matters further. Some clubs simply do not have enough younger Cameroonian veterans available to replace players who can no longer compete at the same level. Asking those teams to field mostly Cameroonian players without providing a realistic pathway for recruitment could unintentionally punish clubs for circumstances beyond their control.

### The Democratic Question

One fact should remain central to this debate: eligibility rules are ultimately a matter for the NVT membership to decide.

If the teams, through their presidents and representatives, have voted democratically to allow broader participation, that decision deserves respect even from those who disagree with it.

At the same time, democracy does not mean the debate should end. Rules can be revisited. As the NVT changes, its members have every right to examine whether its eligibility structure still serves the tournament's mission.

The answer does not necessarily have to be an extreme one.

The NVT could explore ways to preserve opportunities for Cameroonian veterans while maintaining its international appeal. Additional exhibition or heritage games, special Cameroonian-focused matches, age-based competitions or other initiatives could give original members more opportunities to play without forcing every NVT team into a single roster model.

The goal should not be to choose between identity and growth if both can coexist.

## The Way Forward

The NVT's greatest strength may be the very thing causing the current controversy: it has evolved.

Eleven years ago, no one could have known exactly what this tournament would become. Today, its reach is broader, its competition is stronger and its visibility is greater. Growth inevitably brings challenges. But growth should come with reflection. The NVT leadership and member clubs should consider establishing a clear long-term vision that answers several fundamental questions:

What exactly is an NVT veteran? How important should Cameroonian heritage be to eligibility? How can original Cameroonian players remain central to the tournament? If the NVT chooses to restrict on Cameroonian, does it have the legal tools and rights to verify immigration statuses of players? How can teams in areas with small Cameroonian populations remain viable? And how can the NVT attract major sponsors without compromising its founding identity?

Those questions deserve serious, transparent discussions and not personal attacks or divisions among teams and teammates.

### Conclusion: Don't Choose Between the Past and the Future

The NVT does not have to choose between being Cameroonian and being international. Its history is Cameroonian. Its future can be international.

The tournament should proudly acknowledge the people who created it, the veterans who built its culture and the Cameroonian identity that gave it meaning. At the same time, it should recognize that its success has created something capable of bringing together veterans from many backgrounds.

The real challenge is not deciding who belongs. It is deciding how to grow without forgetting why the NVT exists.

If the NVT can protect its heritage while embracing diversity, it could become an even more powerful institution and not simply a soccer tournament, but a platform for community, youth development, philanthropy, cultural exchange and international friendship.

The debate should therefore not be framed as Cameroonians versus everyone else. It should be framed as tradition versus stagnation, and growth versus identity loss.

The best NVT is one that refuses to surrender either side. Its founders gave it a beginning. Its members now have the responsibility to give it a sustainable future.



# ALLEN VETERANS

## *Rise to Glory* - NVT 2025 Champions



Allen Veterans PR Department



Sule N. Photo  
September 06, 2025



Celebration Park Veterans Football Club (CPVFC) aka Allen Vets FC

How Celebration Park Veterans FC Conquered Ohio and United a Community

A Brotherhood Forged Through Football. In every great championship story, there is a moment when talent meets destiny. For Celebration Park Veterans Football Club (CPVFC), that moment arrived in Ohio during the 2025 National Veterans Tournament (NVT), where an undefeated team completed a remarkable journey by defeating Houston 3-0 in the championship game and capturing the coveted title. Yet to tell the story of Ohio is to tell only part of the story.

The true story began a decade earlier. Founded in 2015, CPVFC was established on the belief that football could be more than a game. It could become a vehicle for friendship, brotherhood, wellness, and community service. The club entered its first NVT tournament in 2016 and has participated every year since, steadily building a reputation as a competitive, respected, and community-minded organization.

What started as a group of football-loving veterans evolved into a family bound together by a common purpose and a shared commitment to one another. That foundation would eventually carry the club to the pinnacle of veterans football.



### The Legacy of Mola Ndoko

Every successful organization has individuals whose impact transcends titles and statistics. For CPVFC, that individual was Edwin-Daniel Ndoko, affectionately known as Mola Ndoko. A founding member of the club, Mola was much more than a teammate. He was a visionary, a motivator, and a unifier. He embodied the spirit of togetherness that would eventually define CPVFC. Long before championship trophies were lifted, Mola preached a simple but powerful philosophy: "One for all and all for one." Those words became the heartbeat of the club.

Whether on the football field, at community events, or during life's challenges, Mola inspired members to stand together, support one another, and move forward as one family.

The 2025 season was dedicated to his memory. Although Mola was not physically present to witness the championship run in Ohio, his spirit was felt throughout the journey. Every tackle, every goal, every victory, and every celebration reflected the culture he helped build. When CPVFC lifted the championship trophy, it was also a tribute to the man who helped lay the foundation. His legacy lives on in every member who proudly wears the CPVFC colors.







## Building a Championship Team

Championships do not happen by accident. The Ohio title was the result of countless hours of preparation, sacrifice, and leadership. A tremendous amount of credit belongs to Coach Nkwain and Coach Yeboah, whose vision, dedication, and ability to assemble a talented and disciplined squad transformed CPVFC into champions. Their leadership kept the team focused and motivated throughout the season. They built a culture where accountability, preparation, and hard work became non-negotiable.

The result was a team that played with confidence, purpose, and unity. The championship squad featured outstanding contributions from numerous players, including: Kevin Tabe, Stephane Mounthe, Telles, Bertrand, Tabi and many other players who answered the call whenever the team needed them. Each player contributed to a collective effort that demonstrated the strength of the entire squad.

The message was clear: No individual was bigger than the team. The team was bigger than any challenge.

## An Undefeated Road to Glory

Ohio will forever hold a special place in CPVFC history. The tournament represented the culmination of years of effort, perseverance, and belief. Match after match, CPVFC showcased the qualities that had become synonymous with the club: determination, discipline, resilience, and teamwork. Most impressively, the team completed the tournament without losing a single game.

The defining moment came in the championship match against Houston. Facing a formidable opponent, CPVFC delivered a performance for the ages, defeating Houston \*3-0\* and claiming the 2025 NVT Championship. The final whistle unleashed pure joy. Players embraced. Families celebrated. Supporters rejoiced. Years of dreaming had finally become reality. CPVFC had reached the summit of veterans football.



## More Than Champions

The significance of CPVFC extends far beyond trophies and tournament victories. Throughout the years, the club has consistently demonstrated its commitment to community service and wellness. Members have volunteered at food shelters and participated in numerous service initiatives throughout the city.

The club has also created an environment where members celebrate life's milestones together. Birthdays, graduations, personal achievements, and family events have become opportunities for the organization to strengthen the bonds that unite it. These efforts have transformed CPVFC into far more than a football club. It has become a community. It has become a support system. It has become a family.



## A Celebration Worth Remembering

The championship victory deserved a proper celebration. In January 2026, CPVFC gathered with family members, friends, supporters, sponsors, and donors to celebrate one of the greatest accomplishments in club history. The evening was filled with gratitude, reflection, and excitement for the future.

Special recognition was given to the sponsors and donors whose generosity helped make the championship journey possible. Their support reinforced the idea that championship teams are built not only by players but also by communities willing to invest in a shared vision.

It was a celebration of success. But more importantly, it was a celebration of togetherness.







## Recognition by the City of Allen

One of the proudest moments in the club's history occurred when CPVFC received an official proclamation and recognition from the Allen City Council.

The entire City Council was present to honor the club's achievements. The recognition extended beyond the Ohio championship.

The City acknowledged CPVFC's commitment to health, wellness, volunteerism, and selfless service throughout the Allen community. The proclamation confirmed what members had long known:

CPVFC was making a difference not only on the football field but throughout the city. The recognition validated years of dedication and community engagement. It was a proud moment for every player, family member, sponsor, and supporter associated with the club.



## Honoring the Founders

Every organization stands on the shoulders of individuals who commit themselves to a vision larger than themselves. In addition to Mola Ndoko, special recognition belongs to fellow founders and leaders whose unwavering dedication helped shape CPVFC into the successful organization it is today: Sule, Nelson Ngogomo, Charles Yakum. Their continued leadership, commitment, and service have played an invaluable role in sustaining and growing the organization over the years. The success celebrated today is built upon the foundation they helped establish.

The Journey Continues. For many teams, winning a championship represents the end of a journey. For CPVFC, it represents the beginning of a new chapter.

The focus now shifts to Tucson, Arizona, host of the 2026 National Veterans Tournament. The message from the champions is bold, confident, and unmistakable:

## Winning is in our DNA.

The goal is not merely participation. The goal is not merely defending a title. The goal is to continue building a legacy of excellence. The players are hungry. The coaches are motivated. The supporters are energized and the champions are ready.

As the club looks toward Arizona, the rallying cry remains loud and clear:

"One for all and all for one."

And one more message to the rest of the NVT:

"We go TIF the cup again!!!"





# NVT-USA FA Humanitarian Committee



**Dr. Mukong Adeso**  
NVT-USA FA Humanitarian Committee Chairman

The NVT-USA FA Humanitarian Committee is responsible for organizing humanitarian activities for the NVT-USA FA organization. The NVT-USA FA organization is a nationwide organization, with thousands of followers, working with over fifty veteran soccer teams in the USA and Canada.

As a nonprofit organization, one of our principal duties is Humanitarian activity nationally and internationally, especially in Cameroon, through the Humanitarian Committee.



The committee also works alongside other teams, assisting when necessary, with humanitarian activities from other teams. We establish and maintain a working relationship with all the teams that participate in the NVT-USA FA Tournament.

This year, we visited Firestation 25 at Montgomery County, MD, during our East Coast/West Coast Golden Age Tournament. We provided office supplies and food items to show our appreciation and support for our first responders. We were welcomed with a tour of their facility.





We are currently doing a shoe drive for the underprivileged in Cameroon. This is a collaborative effort with all the over fifty soccer teams. We are collecting gently used, everyday shoes nationwide and in Canada. The shoes will be shipped to Cameroon and distributed to different underprivileged communities in December 2026.

During our yearly tournament this year in Tucson, Arizona, as part of our tournament activity, we will be visiting a food bank to donate food items.



In the past years, we have collected freewill financial donations from our generous community nationwide to help underprivileged sick individuals, orphanages, and provided supplies/support to the displaced population in Cameroon due to the crisis in the North-west and Southwest regions.

As one of the largest Cameroonian organizations in the diaspora worldwide, with membership in the thousands, we understand full well the importance and need to give back to our communities both nationally and internationally. Humanitarian activism is one of the pillars of this great organization.

Humanitarian activities will always be a central focus of the NVT-USA FA organization as we strive to build a stronger, better community together.

**Dr. Mukong Adeso**  
NVT-USA FA Humanitarian Committee Chairman





# THE REMARKABLE TRANSFORMATION OF THE NVT by the Esaka Administration Over the Past 3 Years

Walter W. (Editorial Board)

## A New Era of Vision, Professionalism and Growth

In the history of the NVT-USA FA, few periods have brought as much change, innovation and growth as the Esaka Administration. What began with a vision to strengthen the tournament, and the organization has evolved into an era defined by professionalism, partnerships, technology, community engagement and a renewed sense of pride.

The Esaka Administration did not simply seek to organize soccer tournaments. It sought to change the game. On the field, behind the scenes and within the communities that make the NVT-USA FA possible.

From sponsorship and player welfare to stadium venues, technology, media, women's participation and international partnerships, the administration has introduced initiatives that have fundamentally changed the way the NVT-USA FA operates.

## Building a Sponsorship Culture

One of the most significant firsts under the Esaka Administration was the creation of the NVT's first Sponsorship Committee.

For an organization that had historically depended heavily on participating teams and tournament contributions, establishing a structured sponsorship program opened a new chapter. The results have been remarkable.

Companies and organizations have stepped forward to support the tournament in different ways. Nightingale Healthcare Services contributed \$8,000, while Bear Professional Institute provided medical equipment and medicine to care for players during NVT tournaments. Additional medical equipment came through Dr. Mukong's Foundation.

Other partners have contributed water, ice, gift cards, financial support and services. Cub Food provided water and ice during the four-day tournament in Blaine, Minnesota. Sam's Store and Costco provided gift cards, while Tap Tap Send supported the tournament during its Columbus hosting.

The momentum has continued to grow.

A La Carte Rental Tucson contributed \$2,000, Azure Villa and Suites Limbe contributed \$2,000, and Kingdom Wealth Management contributed another \$2,000. Pima County, through Tucson Sports, provided an extraordinary \$20,000, along with 2,400 cooling towels, 1,400 sunscreens and 1,400 lip balms...etc

Zobo Money has taken sponsorship to another level, contributing \$25,000 toward the NVT application and activation support while also supporting more than half of the clubs participating in NVT 2026.

The progress is perhaps best illustrated by what happened during the administration's first year hosting the NVT tournament in Minnesota: sponsorship exceeding \$30,000 was secured. This is something that had never happened before.

Just as importantly, the administration established the precedent of allowing sponsors to place their logos on official NVT tournament attire, creating an additional platform for partners while strengthening the professional appearance of the tournament.

## Taking Care of the People Behind the Game

A successful soccer tournament is about much more than the 90 minutes on the field.

The Esaka Administration recognized that players, referees, match delegates, volunteers, families and supporters all deserve to be treated with dignity and respect.



Under the administration, conditions for referees and match delegates have improved, including how they are treated and compensated. Volunteers have also seen improved working conditions.

Medical preparedness has received greater attention, with equipment, medicine, hydration and other health-related resources made available through sponsors and partners.

Security and fair play have also been strengthened, contributing to a safer and more organized tournament environment. The message has been clear: everyone who contributes to the NVT matters.

The NVT Symposium: Investing Beyond Soccer. Perhaps one of the most forward-looking initiatives has been the introduction of the NVT Symposiums.

The symposiums recognizes that NVT participants are not only soccer players; they are parents, professionals, entrepreneurs, business owners and members of a broader community.

Health education has been a major component, including discussions about knowing one's numbers and increasing awareness of diabetes, heart disease and men's health issues.

Professional enrichment has also been incorporated, with opportunities focused on networking, information technology, computer-related careers and real estate.

The symposium has expanded into practical education on starting businesses, understanding taxes and navigating immigration issues.

In this way, the NVT has become more than a soccer tournament. It has become a platform for education, empowerment and community development.

## **Changing the Game: Better Venues, Better Experiences**

The quality of a tournament is heavily influenced by the quality of its facilities.

Under the Esaka Administration, NVT host venues have consistently featured stadiums. The administration has emphasized playing in better parks and facilities, giving players and spectators an experience that reflects the importance of the competition. The tournament itself has also become more of an event. Traditional dancing has been added to the village area and opening ceremonies, while

stages featuring artists and comedians have brought entertainment to the tournament environment. These additions have helped create a festival atmosphere where families and communities can come together around soccer.

The result is a tournament that increasingly feels like a major community sporting event rather than simply a series of soccer matches.

## **A New Approach to Hosting**

The Esaka Administration also changed the rules and philosophy surrounding tournament hosting.

Host teams are now identified two years in advance, giving organizers sufficient time to prepare properly. Facility contracts can be negotiated and secured a year before the tournament, reducing uncertainty and allowing for better planning.

The administration also introduced a system of shared responsibility in which the NVT-USA FA tournament budget is divided according to the number of participating teams. When sponsors and partners contribute, those resources can help offset the financial burden.

The administration also developed guidelines, procedures and benchmarks for bids to host future NVT tournaments, creating a more structured and professional hosting process.

## **Technology Enters the NVT**

Technology has become another defining feature of the Esaka era.

The administration initially developed an application for football operations known as CopaFascile. As technology evolved, the NVT continued to adapt, eventually embracing Jamboa as its updated platform.

The administration also developed the NVT's first mobile application, designed to bring sponsors, fans and families closer to the tournament while providing NVT news and coverage and, importantly, creating opportunities to generate revenue for sponsors, tournaments and NVT activities.

Technology is now being used not only to improve football operations but also to strengthen communication, marketing and commercial opportunities.

A new NVT website and expanded social-media presence have further increased the organization's visibility.

The administration is also working toward producing the first comprehensive NVT Policy and Procedures Manual, another important step toward institutionalizing the progress that has been made.

## **Putting the NVT on the Global Stage**

The Esaka Administration has worked to broaden the NVT's reach beyond the traditional tournament audience.

The organization has attracted prominent football personalities, including Victor Ndip Akem, who represented Cameroon at the 1990 FIFA World Cup, as well as other former Cameroonian national-team players. The tournament has also welcomed Deon McCaulay of Belize, remembered for his outstanding performance at the Copa América, where he finished among the competition's leading scorers.

These appearances have helped expose NVT participants and spectators to accomplished football figures while raising the profile of the tournament.

The NVT has also established a partnership with the Cameroon Veterans Tournament. That relationship became particularly meaningful when Dr. Ndifor represented the veterans in Cameroon and presented awards from Cameroon to deserving NVT members and teams.

It was a powerful connection between Cameroonian soccer communities across continents.

## **Building Relationships With Host Communities**

The administration has understood that hosting an NVT tournament is also an opportunity to build relationships with the local community.

Local residents are encouraged to volunteer during tournaments, helping reduce labor costs while giving host communities an opportunity to participate directly in the event.

The administration has also encouraged every participating team to undertake at least one community-service project each year.

That initiative is important because it changes the conversation about what the NVT represents. Teams are not simply coming together to compete; they are also being encouraged to give back.



As more teams embrace community service, the NVT can demonstrate to host communities and potential partners that its impact extends well beyond the soccer field.

### **Making History With Host Cities**

The Esaka Administration has established another important tradition by working with host cities to issue official proclamations recognizing the NVT-USA FA during tournament periods.

It has also consistently worked to have host-city mayors lead tournament opening ceremonies. These relationships provide the NVT with something invaluable: recognition and legitimacy within the communities where it stages its events.

The tournament becomes not merely an event taking place in a city, but an event embraced by the city's leadership and community.

### **The Power of Media**

The administration recognized early that a modern tournament needs a modern media strategy. An Editorial Committee was created, the NVT magazine was developed, and media and photography became important components of tournament operations.

The NVT-USA FA magazine has grown into one of the most widely circulated magazines within the Cameroonian diaspora and back home.

The reach of the tournament has expanded even further through live broadcasting. Last year's final was broadcast live and viewed in Cameroon and around the world.

That represents a major transformation: a tournament that once depended largely on those physically present can now reach supporters across continents.

### **Growing the Tournament**

Under the Esaka Administration, the NVT has expanded to 52 clubs, increasing both participation and the tournament's overall reach. The addition of a women's game has brought another dimension to the competition and created greater opportunities for female participation.

The administration has also encouraged women to become more involved in NVT leadership. The progress is already visible, with one NVT member club having a female president.

This is an important step toward making the

organization more inclusive and representative of the broader community.

### **Stronger Leadership and Solidarity**

Leadership during a tournament is not only about making decisions from an office. The Esaka Administration has demonstrated a commitment to being present with the teams.

When an executive member is lost or unavailable, the President or another executive representative has traveled to events to demonstrate solidarity with the teams.

That presence sends a powerful message: the administration stands with its members. The administration has also created and strengthened the NEC logistics department to better manage tournament events and ensure that the many moving parts of a major tournament are coordinated effectively.

### **Making Travel More Affordable**

Because NVT teams and supporters travel from different parts of the United States and beyond, transportation costs can represent a significant burden.

The Esaka Administration responded by negotiating major discount arrangements with Delta Airlines and Southwest Airlines, helping players, families and fans spend less to travel to NVT events.

It is another example of an administration looking beyond the pitch to address the practical challenges facing its members.

### **A Tournament That Has Become an Experience**

Perhaps the greatest achievement of the Esaka Administration is that it has helped transform the NVT tournament from a soccer competition into a broader cultural and community experience. There is soccer, of course.

But there is also traditional dancing, music, comedians, networking, health education, professional development, business education, community service, media, technology and opportunities for families to come together.

The NVT village has become part of the tournament's identity. The stadiums provide the sporting spectacle. The village provides the culture. The symposium provides education. The technology connects everyone. Sponsors provide resources. Host communities provide support.

Together, these elements have created something bigger than the sum of their parts.

### **A Legacy Still Being Built**

The Esaka Administration's story is ultimately a story of transformation.

It is a story about creating the NVT's first sponsorship committee and turning sponsorship into a significant source of support. It is a story about better stadiums, improved referee and volunteer conditions, stronger security and greater attention to player welfare.

It is a story about technology, from Copa-Fascile to Jamboa, and the development of the NVT's first mobile application. It is a story about 52 clubs, women's participation and greater inclusion.

It is a story about mayors, host cities, international football stars and partnerships stretching from the United States to Cameroon and beyond. It is a story about a magazine that carries the NVT story across the diaspora, and a live broadcast that allows the world to watch the finals.

It is a story about sponsors investing tens of thousands of dollars and communities investing their time and energy.

And most importantly, it is a story about a simple but powerful idea: ***The NVT can be more. More professional. More connected. More inclusive. More visible. More sustainable. More valuable to its members and communities.***

The Esaka Administration has laid down a foundation that extends beyond any single tournament or season. Its challenge—and its opportunity—is to ensure that these innovations become lasting institutions within the NVT-USA FA.

The journey is not finished. Work continues on the organization's first comprehensive policy and procedures manual, while new partnerships, technologies and opportunities continue to emerge.

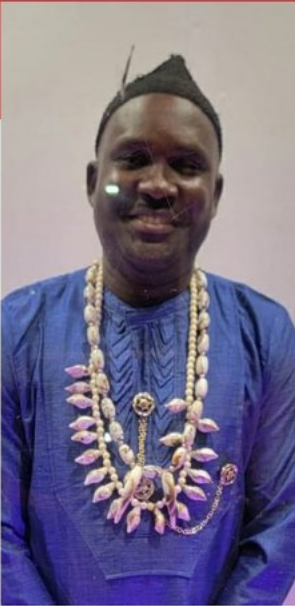
But the evidence of progress is already visible. From the stadium to the village. From the players to the sponsors. From Minnesota to Tucson. From the United States to Cameroon. From the soccer field to the wider community.

The Esaka Administration has not simply hosted tournaments. It has helped redefine what an NVT tournament can be.

And that may be its greatest victory of all.



# NVT-USA FA IS BIGGER THAN ANY ONE INDIVIDUAL



Chief Peter Forikik

## *A Call for Unity, Brotherhood and a Shared Vision*

The NVT-USA FA is much bigger than any one individual. It is bigger than any one team, any one Executive, any one tournament, and certainly bigger than any disagreement that may arise among us.

We have built this organization together. We have sacrificed together, celebrated together, debated together, disagreed together, and, most importantly, continued to move forward together. That is the strength of the NVT brotherhood.

Our organization is made up of passionate people. We are passionate about our teams. We are passionate about our players. We are passionate about the future of the NVT-USA FA. And sometimes, that passion produces strong opinions, heated debates and difficult conversations.

But we must always remember something very important: strong disagreement does not mean hatred, and passionate opposition does not mean malice.

Many of the disagreements we have witnessed over the years have come precisely because people care so deeply about the NVT. When difficult decisions are placed before us, emotions can become intense because every member sees the organization from a different perspective and wants what he or she believes is best for the game. That passion should never be mistaken for bad intentions.

## **We Can Disagree Without Becoming Divided**

There is nothing wrong with disagreement. In fact, an organization without disagreement may be an organization where people have stopped caring. Healthy debate can make us stronger. Different opinions can expose weaknesses, create better ideas and force us to examine decisions more carefully. The NVT-USA FA should always have room for constructive criticism, honest questions and passionate discussion. But there is a line between disagreement and division.

We must never allow a debate over a tournament, a rule, a hosting decision, a financial matter, an Executive decision or any other issue to destroy relationships that have taken years to build.

We should be able to debate fiercely in one room and shake hands in another. We should be able to vote differently and still respect one another. We should be able to lose an argument and remain committed to the organization. And when a decision does not go our way, we should remember that tomorrow we will still be NVT brothers and sisters. The game will continue. The tournaments will continue. Our families will continue to meet. Our teams will continue to compete. And our brotherhood must continue.

## **Our Passion Is Not Malice**

To every NVT member, team and Executive member: please understand that some of our strongest voices are strong precisely because their love for the game is strong.

When someone passionately defends a position, it does not necessarily mean that person wants to destroy the organization. When someone questions the Executive, it does not necessarily mean that person hates the Executive.

When a team strongly disagrees with a decision, it does not mean that team is against the NVT.

And when members passionately demand change, it may be because they believe deeply in what the NVT can become.

We must learn to separate the person from the position. We can disagree with someone's idea without becoming enemies with the person. We can oppose a decision without attacking the character of those who made it. We can demand accountability while maintaining respect. We can defend our teams while still protecting the interests of the entire NVT-USA FA. This is the maturity our organization needs as it continues to grow.

## **Our Brotherhood Is Greater Than the Game**

Soccer brought many of us together, but our relationships have grown beyond soccer.

We have shared birthdays, weddings, funerals, celebrations, hardships and milestones. We have supported one another in business and in our personal lives. We have watched our children grow. We have traveled together across cities and states. We have built friendships that go far beyond the soccer field. That is why we must never allow a disagreement over soccer to destroy a relationship that has been built over decades.

Our brotherhood must outlive even our love for the game.



The NVT tournament may last a few days each year. A championship may last a season. An Executive position may last a term. A controversial decision may dominate our conversations for a few weeks or months.

But the relationships we have built can last a lifetime.

Let us therefore keep our disagreements in perspective.

No tournament decision is more important than our humanity.

No Executive position is more important than our brotherhood.

No trophy is more valuable than the relationships we have built.

And no disagreement should be allowed to permanently divide a family.

## **We Must Protect What We Have Built**

The NVT-USA FA has grown because generations of members have contributed their time, resources, ideas and energy.

We now have an organization with greater visibility, stronger partnerships, improved tournaments, better facilities, technology, media exposure, community involvement and an expanding membership.

That progress did not come from one person. It came from all of us.

Therefore, the responsibility to protect the NVT also belongs to all of us. We must reject negativity that seeks to tear down what we have collectively built.

We must resist personal agendas that place individual interests above the organization. We must be careful with our words, especially in public forums and social media, because words can create wounds that are much harder to heal than the disagreement that produced them.

Let us challenge one another, but let us challenge ideas—not people.

Let us demand transparency, but let us do so respectfully.

Let us hold our leaders accountable, but let us also recognize the sacrifices that leadership requires.

And let those who lead remember that criticism is not always an attack. Sometimes it is simply another member expressing a genuine concern because he or she cares about the organization.

After Every Debate, Let Us Come Back Together

There will always be difficult decisions in the NVT-USA FA.

There will be hosting decisions.  
There will be financial decisions.  
There will be disciplinary decisions.

There will be disagreements over rules, tournaments, administration and the direction of the organization.

We will not always agree.  
And that is okay.

What matters is what happens after the disagreement.

After the vote, let us come back together.  
After the debate, let us shake hands.

After the disappointment, let us remember the bigger picture.

After the tournament, let us sit together again.  
After a difficult decision, let us continue working together.

We should never allow the outcome of one debate to determine the future of a relationship.

## **One Family, One Organization, One Future**

The NVT-USA FA belongs to all of us. It belongs to the players who give everything on the field.

It belongs to the teams that travel, compete and sacrifice.

It belongs to the volunteers who give their time.

It belongs to the supporters and families who fill the stands.

It belongs to the sponsors and partners who believe in our vision.

It belongs to the Executive and the members who dedicate their energy to running the organization.

And it belongs to the generations that will come after us.

We are only temporary custodians of something much bigger than ourselves.

Our responsibility is therefore not simply to ask, "What do I want?"

We must also ask:  
"What is best for the NVT?"  
"What are we leaving for the next generation?"

"Will our children and younger members inherit a stronger organization because of the way we handled our disagreements?"

Those questions should guide us.

Let us not allow negativity, personal differences or attempts to create division to weaken what we have built together.

Let us choose unity over division, progress over negativity, and togetherness over personal agendas.

Let us disagree with courage, but reconcile with humility.

Let us compete fiercely on the field, but embrace one another off it.

Let us debate the issues, make our decisions, and then move forward together.

Because at the end of the day, we are still one family.

And our family is bigger than any argument. Our organization is bigger than any individual.

Our mission is bigger than any single administration.

And our brotherhood is bigger than the game itself.

## **NVT-USA FA IS BIGGER THAN ANY ONE INDIVIDUAL.**

**ONE TEAM.  
ONE NVT-USA FA.  
ONE FAMILY.  
ONE FUTURE.**

**FORWARD EVER, BACKWARD NEVER!**



# KIDS SOCCER SUMMER CAMP



CAMEROON DALLAS  
FOOTBALL CLUB (CAMDAL FC)  
*One of the Founding NVT-FA USA Teams*

## A Legacy Built on Football and Fellowship

For 20 years, CAMDAL FC has been a home away from home for many—promoting teamwork, leadership, wellness, and cultural pride through sport and community engagement. From competitive matches to mentorship and social gatherings, the club has remained committed to strengthening bonds both on and off the field.

**CLUB LOCATION:** Dallas, Texas

**VISION:** CAMDAL FC's vision is to be the leading Cameroonian soccer/social club in the Dallas-Fort Worth area while fostering team and community spirit.

**MISSION:** Our mission extends beyond soccer. The mission statement of CAMDAL FC shall be to enhance members' leadership skills, people skill, health and wellness while promoting service and involvement in the community.

We strive to make a meaningful impact through four key pillars: Sports, Recreation, Mentorship, Member Development, Communications, and volunteering.

## CAMDAL FC Kids Soccer Summer Program — Summary

The CAMDAL FC Kids Soccer Summer Program is a community centered youth development initiative designed to help children build strong soccer fundamentals, teamwork skills, and confidence in a fun, structured environment. Hosted by CAMDAL FC, a Dallas based soccer organization



Dr. Franklin Fru







The summer program typically includes:

- **Age appropriate training sessions** focused on dribbling, passing, shooting, ball control, and game awareness.
- **Professional coaching** from experienced CAMDAL FC staff and volunteers who prioritize safety, encouragement, and skill progression.
- **Daily fitness and conditioning activities** to improve agility, endurance, and coordination.
- **Small sided games and scrimmages** that help kids apply skills in real game situations while learning teamwork and sportsmanship.
- **Character building lessons** woven into activities—leadership, discipline, respect, and perseverance.
- **A fun, inclusive environment** where kids of all skill levels can participate, from beginners to more advanced players.
- **Community engagement** through family friendly events, team bonding activities, and opportunities to connect with CAMDAL FC's broader soccer community.

Overall, the CAMDAL FC Kids Soccer Summer Program provides a safe, energetic, and supportive space for children to stay active, learn soccer fundamentals, and build lifelong values—while strengthening the club's mission of developing youth talent and fostering community unity through the sport.



**Cameroon Dallas Football Club**  
(CAMDAL FC) PRESENTS

**\$25**  
Includes soccer ball and CAMDAL FC T-shirt & Participation Award

**2022**

**SUMMER SOCCER CAMP**  
**SATURDAY: JULY 9, 16, 23, 30**

**9:00AM - 11:00AM**  
**BOYS & GIRLS AGES 4-12**

**ANDERSON BONNER PARK**  
**12000 PARK CENTRAL DR, DALLAS, TX 75251**

**GEAR TO BRING:** Required: Appropriate Clothing, Water Bottle, Soccer Shoes (or comfortable athletic shoes) optional: sunscreen

**For More Info Contact:**  
Massango: +1 (612) 226-8012, Bruce: 469-268-5972, Deus: +1 (469) 347-4633,  
Mr.Leo: 469-268-5972, Betrand: +1 (469) 602-4221, Kelvin: +1 (214) 789-2482

**WWW.CAMDALFC.ORG**

**Cameroon Dallas Football Club**  
(CAMDAL FC) PRESENTS

**\$30**  
Includes Soccer ball and T-shirt

**2019**

**SUMMER SOCCER CAMP**  
**SATURDAY: JULY 6, 13, 20, 27**  
**Registration Deadline: 6/25/19**

**9:00AM - 11:00AM**  
**BOYS & GIRLS AGES 4-12**

**ANDERSON BONNER PARK**  
**12901 PARK CENTRAL DR, DALLAS, TX 75251**

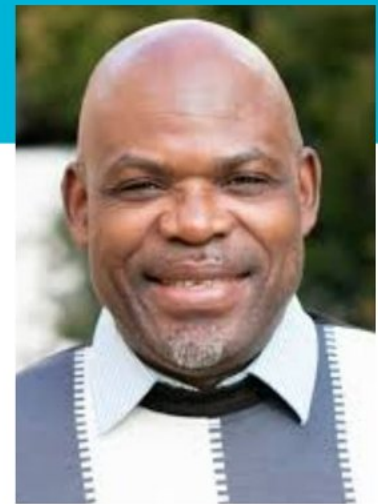
**GEAR TO BRING:** Required: Appropriate Clothing, Water Bottle, Soccer Shoes (or comfortable athletic shoes) optional: sunscreen

**For More Info Contact:**  
Massango:(612)226-8012 / Kevin:(214)789-2482 / BK:(903)278-5575  
Benji:(781)502-1722 / Chesoh:(469)826-2769 / Deus:(469)347-4633

**WWW.CAMDALFC.ORG**



# NVT DELIVERS A REMARKABLE \$475,000 LIFELINE TO 19 FAMILIES THROUGH THE BEREAVEMENT SOLIDARITY FUND



**Dr. Kevin Njabo**  
*Chair, BSF*

One of the greatest measures of a community is not how it celebrates its successes, but how it stands beside its members during life's most difficult moments. Over the past eight months, the NVT Bereavement Solidarity Fund (NVT-BSF) has demonstrated exactly what solidarity means by providing \$475,000 in financial assistance to the families of 19 deceased members, a remarkable testament to the compassion, unity, and collective responsibility of the NVT family. Following a successful open enrollment period from August through December 2025, more than 5,200 members joined the Bereavement Solidarity Fund. Since January 2026, the Fund has recorded an average of three member deaths per month. Through the dedication of the BSF Committee and the unwavering support of participating teams, each eligible family has received a \$25,000 lump-sum benefit after a thorough verification and due diligence process.

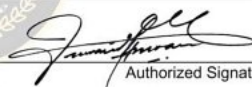
While we celebrate this milestone, it is also important to recognize that four claims could not be approved because they did not comply with the Fund's established rules and documentation requirements. These cases reinforce an important principle: the strength and credibility of the BSF depend on fairness, transparency, and strict adherence to its policies. Every approved payment represents not only financial assistance but also the confidence of thousands of members who contribute to this shared commitment.

As we prepare for 2027, the Bereavement Solidarity Fund will once again open enrollment to welcome new members. The BSF Committee has also submitted a number of recommendations to the National Advisory Board (NAB) to strengthen the program and improve its efficiency. Once approved, these updated guidelines will take effect in January 2027. Members are encouraged to watch for these important announcements and familiarize themselves with any new provisions.





|                                                                                                                                                |                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
|  <b>NVT-USA FA</b><br>2026 NVTBSF Blvd<br>Vets City, TX76018 | <b>00001</b><br>Date <u>03/21/2026</u> |
| Pay to the Order of <u>Emmanuel Akateh</u> \$ <u>25,000.00</u>                                                                                 |                                        |
| <u>Twenty Five Thousand -and- 00/100</u> Dollars                                                                                               |                                        |
| Memo <u>Bereavement Solidarity Fund: "CLEV" (OH)</u>                                                                                           |                                        |
| <br>Authorized Signature                                    |                                        |
| ⑆0⑆23456789 ⑆0009876543⑆ ⑆025                                                                                                                  |                                        |

|                                                                                                                                                |                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
|  <b>NVT-USA FA</b><br>2026 NVTBSF Blvd<br>Vets City, TX76018 | <b>00004</b><br>Date <u>03/20/2026</u> |
| Pay to the Order of <u>Rabio Mohammed</u> \$ <u>25,000.00</u>                                                                                  |                                        |
| <u>Twenty Five Thousand -and- 00/100</u> Dollars                                                                                               |                                        |
| Memo <u>Bereavement Solidarity Fund: "NBOY" (MN)</u>                                                                                           |                                        |
| <br>Authorized Signature                                  |                                        |
| ⑆0⑆23456789 ⑆0009876543⑆ ⑆025                                                                                                                  |                                        |

The mission of the NVT Bereavement Solidarity Fund remains unchanged: to provide timely financial support to the family or designated beneficiary of a deceased NVT member through a \$25,000 benefit that helps ease funeral expenses and provides short-term financial stability during a period of loss. Payments are made in accordance with the member's designated beneficiary or, where no designation exists, the applicable statutory beneficiary order.

To ensure transparency, accountability, and timely processing of claims, the following requirements remain essential:

- The Club President or an officially designated representative must notify the BSF Committee immediately following the death of a member.
- The death must have occurred in the United States or Canada. If it occurred elsewhere, documentation must demonstrate the member's affiliation with either country and confirm travel within the preceding six months.
- The member's Club must be in good standing with NVT and have no outstanding financial obligations.
- Once a claim is approved, participating teams will have 2 weeks to remit their required BSF contributions before the \$25,000 benefit is released. Contributions are invoiced only to Clubs. Individual members are not billed separately.

The success of the Bereavement Solidarity Fund belongs to every Club President, Club Representative, and member who has honored their commitment to this program. Together, we have built more than a financial assistance fund, we have created a lasting legacy of compassion, dignity, and mutual support that reflects the very best of the NVT family.

As we look toward 2027, let us continue to strengthen this remarkable initiative by remaining informed, meeting our obligations promptly, and supporting one another in times of need. Because when one member grieves, the entire NVT family stands together. No other Diaspora organization comes close!!



# THE GUY IN THE CHAIR:

## *How to Advocate for Your Loved One — and How to Use AI Wisely*

Let me tell you about two young men I met last month in the hospital. They reminded me so much of our own sons and brothers at NVT.

The first was 38 years old. Let's call him Eric. He came rushing in with his mother, who had been flown in from Cameroon two months ago for a visit. She had fever and was suddenly confused. Eric stood in the corner of the room, arms folded. When the team came in, he shook our hands and said, "Yes, doctor. Yes, doctor. Whatever you say, doctor." After we left, he sat down and started Googling "confusion and fever in elderly" at 2 a.m., panicking at everything he read. He didn't know her medications. He didn't know her allergies. He didn't know what was normal for her. He loved his mother deeply, but he felt completely helpless.

The second man was 45 years old. Let's call him Roland. He came in with his older brother, who had chest pain and diabetes. Roland had a small spiral notebook. On page one, he had a photo of all his brother's pill bottles, including the bitter leaf tea his brother takes. He had his allergies written down. He knew his baseline: "My brother usually walks every morning, but for three days he gets tired quickly."

When we came to round, Roland stood up and said, "Good morning, doctor. I know you are very busy. Can you tell me what is the main problem today? Yesterday you said infection — is that still the main thing?" Then he wrote down the answer.

Both men loved their family fiercely. Both are good sons. But only one felt like he was helping. Only one helped the medical team help his brother.

If you are reading this magazine, chances are you are, or will soon be, the guy in the chair. You are over 40. You are the one the family calls here and back home. You were raised to be respectful, to be steady, to not make a fuss, to not question the doctor. So you say, "It's okay, doctor."

I am a family physician, and I am a daughter of this community. I have also been the daughter in that vinyl chair at 2 a.m. for my own father. From both sides of the bed, let me tell you: In an American hospital, asking respectful questions is not disrespect. It is your duty. It is how you protect your family. And this year, you have a new assistant in your pocket — Artificial Intelligence — if you use it wisely.

### PART ONE:

**You Are The Griot — You Hold The Story The Computer Doesn't**

My hospital computer knows the labs and the scans. It does not know that your father greets all the neighbors by name every morning back home and now does not recognize you. It does not know your wife is the one who runs the whole house and has been too tired for three weeks. It does not know your uncle stopped his blood pressure medicine because he thought he was healed. That story changes our decisions. That is clinical gold.



**Pryscia Ngalame Mbi, MD**

*A Board-Certified Family Physician in Arlington, TX. She cares for families of the African diaspora with a focus on prevention and family advocacy.*

### PART TWO:

Be like Roland. Before you go, make Page One in your notebook:

1. Photo of EVERY bottle — prescriptions, plus herbs, supplements, and teas from home. We need to know. No judgment — some interact with hospital medicines.
2. Allergies, past surgeries, other doctors' names.
3. What is normal for them?
4. One sentence summary: "This is my 74-year-old mother with hypertension and diabetes, visiting for 2 months, now admitted for 2 days of fever and confusion."

Hand that page to the nurse and the doctor. You have just made our job easier and your loved one safer.



## PART THREE:

### Learn The Team and The Rhythm

Back home, you may have one doctor who knows your whole family. Here, the hospital is a city that changes staff every 12 hours. The antidote is names.

Every morning write down: Who is the main doctor today — the attending? Who is our nurse today? Any specialist?

Then ask the nurse: "Please, what time is rounds?" Rounds is that 10-minute window when the whole team stands outside the room and makes the plan. If you can be there in person or by phone, you hear 90% of what matters.

And please — befriend your nurse. They are at the bedside 12 hours. They know if your brother ate, if his breathing was harder at 4 a.m., if the pain medicine worked. A partnership built on respect — "Thank you, sister, I know you are busy. What are you watching for today?" — will help your family more than anything else.

Finally, for our large families: Choose ONE or TWO spokespeople to get the update and share it in the family WhatsApp group. When five people call, messages get mixed.

## PART FOUR:

The 5 Questions To Ask Every Day — With Respect. You don't need big medical English. Tape these inside your notebook. Say: "Doctor, please can I ask a few questions?"

1. "What is the main problem we are focusing on TODAY?" It changes. Yesterday it was infection, today it may be kidneys.

2. "What is the plan for today, and what needs to happen before we can go home?" This gives you a roadmap. Are we waiting for a CT scan? For fever to go down? For physiotherapy? Ask early: What will a safe discharge look like? Will we need help at home? For us, we want to care for our own at home — we need to plan for it.

3. "Please, can you explain that result or new medicine in simple language for my family?" Say: "Explain it like you would to your own brother." You should never nod yes to something you don't understand. Also ask: "Was any medicine stopped, started, or changed today and why?"

4. "What should I watch for while I am sitting here in this chair?" You are the extra eyes. Ask: "If you were me, what would make you press the call button

button immediately?" New confusion? No urine? More difficulty breathing? Write it down.

5. "What is the next big decision we will need to make as a family?" As men over 40, we like to be prepared. It may be: Do we need rehab after? Do we need oxygen at home? Are there options for treatment? Do we need to talk about what Papa would want if things get worse? Asking early gives you time to call the family, to pray, and decide together, not at midnight in a hallway. Use respectful language that works: "Doctor, I know you are very busy with many patients. I want to make sure I understand so I can explain to my family..."

## PART FIVE:

Where AI Can Help — And Where It Cannot  
AI like ChatGPT can be a helpful assistant for our community if you use it right. It should NEVER replace your doctor.

Good ways to use AI:

Before you go: "I am taking my 68-year-old father with diabetes and high blood pressure to the hospital. What important information should I bring?" To understand, not to diagnose: During rounds the doctor says "acute kidney injury from dehydration." Later, you can ask AI: "Explain acute kidney injury from dehydration in simple terms for a family member and list 5 respectful questions I should ask the doctor."

To prepare for prevention: Many men over 40 in this community deal with high blood pressure, diabetes, stroke risk, and prostate health. You can ask: "Why is a colonoscopy important for African men at age 45? Explain in simple terms."

Where AI must STOP:

- Do NOT put your full labs into AI and ask it what to do. AI can be confidently wrong — we call this hallucination.
- Do NOT use AI to stop or start a medicine.
- Do NOT share private information like full name, birth date, or hospital number with AI.

Think of it like this: AI is a very smart library assistant who has read many books but has never met you. Your doctor has met you, can examine you, knows your history, and is responsible for your care. Use the library assistant to prepare, then bring your questions back to your real doctor.

For NVT Tucson

Brothers, at this year's tournament in Tucson, Arizona — our largest gathering, 8,000 to 15,000 Cameroonians — we will celebrate football, culture, and brotherhood. We also use our magazine to talk about health because we don't talk about it enough.

I want you to be like Roland, not Eric. Not because Eric is a bad son — he is a good son who was unprepared. I want you to be the prepared one.

Bring the notebook. Learn the names. Ask the five questions with respect. Use AI to understand better, not to replace your team. Your presence in that chair is not small. You are telling your loved one, "You are not alone in this system far from home. I am here." And you are telling us, "This is not just a patient in Bed 4. This is my father. This is my brother. This is my wife. This is our community." We are counting on you in there.

*Educational Disclaimer: This article is for education only and does not constitute medical advice. Please consult your healthcare professional for personal concerns.*



### 2. BRING THE WHOLE PICTURE



### 3. ROUNDS: THE PLAN IS MADE TOGETHER



### 4. USE AI WISELY, NOT BLINDLY



### 5. KEEP THIS CARD IN YOUR WALLET







**VISIT**  
*Tucson*

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#### OUR BENEFITS

## Premium Amenities for Ultimate Comfort

We offer luxury accommodation in Limbe, Cameroon, with modern suites, premium comfort, amenities and convenient access to top attractions.



### Free Wi-Fi Guest House

Stay connected with high-speed internet access throughout the property.



### Secure Guest House With 24/7 Security

Enjoy premium safety in our fully gated compound with 24/7 video surveillance and onsite security



### Guest House With Parking

A spacious and secured parking area is available for your vehicles



### Guest House With Car Rental Service

Convenient car rental services are available for exploring Limbe and beyond.

# AZURE VILLA AND SUITES

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# Before The Spotlight

## A Cameroonian Parent's Road Map From Student-Athlete to Star

The stories of Joel Embiid, Pascal Siakam and Ndamukong Suh show that the first responsibility of a sports parent is not to manufacture celebrity. It is to build a protected, educated and adaptable young adult.



*Joel Embiid with his wife, Anne de Paula. Their family story is a reminder that an athlete's identity and motivation extend beyond the arena. Photo reproduced for editorial purposes; source: NBC Insider.*

Long before a child's name is called in an American draft, there is usually a parent standing somewhere outside the spotlight.

That parent is paying school fees, finding transport to practice, asking whether a coach is genuine, protecting a transcript, calming an injured child and trying to distinguish a real opportunity from an expensive promise. For Cameroonian families, the dream of American sports can be dazzling: a scholarship, a degree, a professional contract and a life transformed. But the distance between talent and stardom is not a straight road. It is a border crossing filled with educational, legal, financial, cultural and emotional tests.

The journeys of three elite athletes with Cameroonian roots — Joel Embiid, Pascal Siakam and Ndamukong Suh — reveal different versions of that road. Embiid left Cameroon as a teenager, developed in American high schools, played at the University of Kansas and became an N.B.A. Most Valuable Player. Siakam moved from a



**Elume Raymond™**  
Sports Analyst

disciplined education in Cameroon to a development camp, a Texas prep school, New Mexico State and an N.B.A. championship. Suh, born and educated in the United States to a Cameroonian father and Jamaican mother, followed the American high-school and college-football system, earned a university degree, became a Super Bowl champion and was selected for the 2026 College Football Hall of Fame class.

Their stories are exceptional. That is precisely why parents must study them carefully, rather than imitate only the glamorous final chapter.

### ***Talent Must Be Discovered Not Invented***

Embiid grew up playing football (soccer) and volleyball and did not begin organized basketball until his teenage years. His trajectory changed after he was noticed through a camp associated with the Cameroonian N.B.A. veteran Luc Mbah a Moute. He later moved to the United States, played high-school basketball in Florida and spent one season at Kansas before Philadelphia selected him third in the 2014 N.B.A. draft.



The lesson is not that every tall Cameroonian boy should be put on an airplane. It is that credible discovery usually happens inside a chain of trust: a serious local coach, a recognized development program, a legitimate school and adults willing to evaluate potential honestly.

Parents should resist the temptation to declare a child a future professional too early. Height, speed and neighborhood dominance are not enough. A young athlete needs repeated assessment against strong competition, sound coaching and age-appropriate physical development. He or she should be allowed to play more than one sport in the early years, learn movement rather than merely rehearse highlights and retain the freedom to say, "This is not the life I want."

The parent's first question should not be, "How quickly can my child reach stardom?" It should be, "Does my child love the daily work enough to grow when nobody is watching?"

## ***Education Is Not the Backup Plan. It Is the Path.***



*Pascal Siakam with family and supporters outside the home he presented to his mother, Victoire. His account of leaving Cameroon repeatedly returns to education, family and resilience. Photo reproduced for editorial purposes; source: Daily Hive.*

Pascal Siakam's story begins not with an American recruiter but with a demanding educational environment. He has written that his father sent him to a seminary at 11 because he valued academics, discipline and character. Siakam learned to manage chores, homework, homesickness and a tightly structured day years before he became serious about basketball.

After attending the Luc Mbah a Moute camp and Basketball Without Borders in Africa, Siakam attracted interest from an American prep school. His family did not simply celebrate the invitation. His brother James, already familiar with U.S. college basketball, asked to see the information and checked whether the school was legitimate. Siakam later attended New Mexico State, where he initially had to redshirt because of academic issues, developed into the Western Athletic Conference Player of the Year and entered the 2016 N.B.A. draft. His three older brothers had also played college basketball in the United States.

That sequence contains an instruction manual for parents: preserve the child's academic record from the beginning.

The N.C.A.A. Eligibility Center requires international prospects to submit official academic records, proof of graduation and, when necessary, certified English translations. Schools — not families acting alone — generally need to send official records through the prescribed process.

A parent should therefore keep a secure file containing every report card, transcript, examination result, certificate, school contact, passport page and name-consistency document. If a child changes schools, the family should record the dates precisely. If documents use different spellings of a name, resolve the discrepancy early. A missing transcript can erase an opportunity faster than a missed shot.

Parents must also follow the calendar. In June 2026, Division I adopted an age-based eligibility model under which athletes may receive up to five seasons if they enroll in college no later than the academic year immediately after their 19th birthday; delaying enrollment beyond that point may reduce eligibility. Families should verify the rule for the athlete's division and circumstances before accepting a delayed-placement plan from any academy or intermediary.

A child who can dunk but cannot be certified is not on a pathway. The child is standing outside the gate.

## ***Verify the Adults Before Trusting the Opportunity***

The international recruiting market rewards hope, and hope can be exploited.

Any person can print a business card, organize a camp, assemble a highlight video and call himself an agent. Parents should treat every offer as unverified until the receiving school confirms it through an official email address, a published staff directory and a direct conversation with an admissions or athletics official.

Ask for the full legal name and accreditation of the school. Ask who will issue the immigration document. Ask where the child will live, who supervises the residence, how transportation works and who is responsible during holidays. Ask whether the scholarship is guaranteed, renewable, partial or dependent on making a team. Ask for the total annual cost in writing — tuition, housing, meals, insurance, books, flights and fees — after all aid is applied.

Then call the school independently. Do not rely on the telephone number supplied by the recruiter.

The N.C.A.A. publishes resources on recruiting, Eligibility Center registration and scouting services. Those resources should be part of a family's due-diligence process, not something discovered after money has changed hands.

A trustworthy mentor welcomes questions. A dishonest intermediary creates urgency, discourages verification, guarantees a scholarship or professional contract, or demands large payments through an individual account.

The correct pathway is built with documents, not excitement.



## Choose the School That Develops the Whole Child

The biggest brand is not always the best destination.

A Cameroonian athlete may need English-language support, a host family, culturally competent counseling, familiar food, reliable medical care and a coach experienced with international students. The athlete also needs a realistic chance to practice, compete and improve.

Families should compare schools on five dimensions:

1. **Academic fit:** Does the institution offer a credible course of study and the support necessary to remain eligible and graduate?
2. **Athletic fit:** Does the team's style, depth chart and development plan match the athlete's position and current level?
3. **Human fit:** Who will notice if the child becomes isolated, injured, depressed or afraid?
4. **Financial fit:** What does the family truly owe, and what happens if the athlete is injured or the coach leaves?
5. **Legal fit:** Is the school authorized to enroll international students, and will its designated official explain the visa process directly?

The U.S. State Department makes clear that a student generally needs the appropriate student visa to study in the United States and cannot treat a visitor visa as a substitute for enrollment. Families should obtain immigration guidance from the school's designated official and, for complicated questions, a qualified U.S. immigration lawyer — not from a coach, social-media personality or informal agent.

## Build a Child Who Can Adapt

Siakam has described arriving in Texas with limited English, living with a host family and confronting unfamiliar food, language and social customs. He also wrote about how difficult it was to learn basketball at the American pace and skill level. That cultural adjustment is not a side issue. It is part of performance. Before departure, parents should teach the young athlete how to ask for help, report mistreatment, manage money, prepare simple meals, use public transportation, keep appointments and communicate with teachers. The child should know the difference between coaching and abuse.

The child should have at least two adults outside the team whom he or she can contact privately. The family should agree on a communication rhythm: perhaps a brief daily message and a longer weekly call. Constant monitoring can prevent independence; silence can hide danger. The goal is supported autonomy.

A written emergency plan should include medical insurance information, school contacts, the nearest Cameroonian consular contact, a trusted local guardian, travel contingencies and funds for an emergency flight home.

Homesickness is not weakness. Injury is not moral failure. Mental-health care is not evidence that a child lacks toughness. The N.C.A.A.'s international student-athlete guidance includes legal and tax questions, health, nutrition, mental health and transition support because athletic performance cannot be separated from a student's overall well-being.

## Keep Several Doors Open



*Ndamukong Suh with his parents, his father, Michael, left, and his mother, Bernadette, right. Suh's route through a U.S. public high school and the University of Nebraska shows the value of multi-sport development and a completed education. Photo reproduced for editorial purposes; source: Heavy.*

Ndamukong Suh offers another model. At Grant High School in Portland, Ore., he played American football and basketball and competed in track and field. At Nebraska, he became one of the most decorated defensive players in college-football history while earning academic recognition and completing a degree in construction management. He was selected second in the 2010 N.F.L. draft, played 13 professional seasons and won a Super Bowl with Tampa Bay in 2020. In January 2026, Nebraska announced his selection to the 2026 College Football Hall of Fame class.

Suh's story matters because a sports pathway should widen a child's future, not narrow it to a single fragile outcome.

A knee can fail. A coach can leave. A scholarship can change. A professional league can decide that an excellent player is not quite elite enough. Parents must insist on a genuine degree plan, career exposure, internships and financial education.

Even when an athlete begins earning money through name, image and likeness opportunities, the family should move carefully. N.C.A.A. rules allow college athletes to pursue N.I.L. (Name Image Likeness) activity, but international students can face additional immigration and tax questions. Contracts should be reviewed by qualified professionals, income should be documented and no family member should casually sign away long-term rights to a young athlete's name or future earnings.

The objective is not merely to reach a league. It is to emerge from the journey with health, education, identity and choices intact.



## ***The Parent's Road Map***

For Cameroonian families, the pathway can be organized into nine stages.

### **1. Ages 8 to 13: Build the foundation**

Protect school attendance. Encourage several sports. Develop sleep, nutrition, punctuality and respect for coaching. Do not confuse early physical maturity with professional destiny.

### **2. Ages 13 to 16: Seek honest evaluation**

Use reputable local coaches and recognized competitions. Request written development feedback. Obtain appropriate medical screening. Record full games, not only edited highlights.

### **3. Build the evidence file**

Maintain transcripts, examination results, certificates, identification documents, medical records, references, measurements, statistics and game footage. Use consistent names and dates across every document.

### **4. Test exposure through credible channels**

Prioritize recognized federations, established camps, school networks and coaches with verifiable placements. Research every program. Speak with former families, including families whose children did not receive scholarships.

### **5. Map the correct U.S. route**

Compare prep school, junior college, N.A.I.A. (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) and N.C.A.A. (National Collegiate Athletic Association) options. Understand which route matches the child's academics, age, sport and budget. Register with the relevant eligibility system early and monitor rule changes.

### **6. Verify the offer**

Require direct confirmation from the school. Get the financial package, housing arrangement, medical coverage and renewal conditions in writing. Never pay for a "guaranteed" scholarship or draft selection.

### **7. Prepare the landing**

Confirm the proper visa process, host or residence, local guardian, airport pickup, insurance, phone service, bank access, transportation and emergency plan before the child travels.

### **8. Manage the student-athlete years**

Review grades as closely as statistics. Schedule rest. Protect rehabilitation. Maintain regular private communication. Consult independent experts before signing N.I.L., agent or professional agreements.

### **9. Decide on professional sport with independent evidence**

Seek evaluations from more than one qualified source. Compare the professional opportunity with the value of remaining in school. Choose an agent for competence, licensing, transparency and references — not celebrity photographs.

## ***A Family Constitution for Success***

Before the first major offer arrives, a family should write down its rules.

Who is authorized to speak for the athlete? Who can receive money? What expenses will the family cover? What information remains private? How will requests from relatives be handled? Who reviews contracts? What percentage of earnings, if any, will be saved, invested or used to support others?

These conversations can feel premature when a child is still training on a dusty court or school field. They become much harder after attention and money arrive.

A simple family constitution protects relationships. It also tells the young athlete that success does not cancel accountability.

## ***The Real Meaning of "Superstar"***

Embiid, Siakam and Suh reached heights that millions of talented athletes never reach. Their stories should inspire Cameroonian families, but they should not be sold as formulas. None of them proves that the right camp, school or sacrifice guarantees fame.

They prove something more useful.

Embiid's journey shows the power of credible discovery and mentorship. Siakam's shows the value of education, family, adaptability and patient development. Suh's shows that multi-sport growth, academic achievement and long-term planning can exist alongside elite performance.

A parent's job is not to turn a child into a commercial project. It is to help the child become ready — for a scholarship if it comes, for professional sport if it comes and for a meaningful life whether or not it comes.

The pathway to stardom begins with talent. But it survives through paperwork, patience, protection and truth.

And before the arena ever chants a child's name, those are the victories a family must win.

*Elume Raymond (X: @elumeraymond) is a seasoned sportswriter with over a decade of experience. He leverages data and analytics to deliver in-depth analysis across regional and global competitions. He is the author of Soccer is Football, a book dedicated to sharing the game's stories, meanings, and passions with a global audience.*



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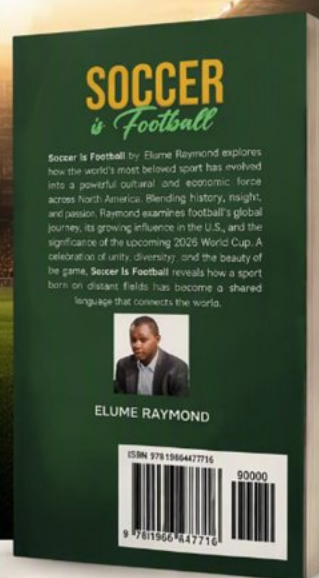
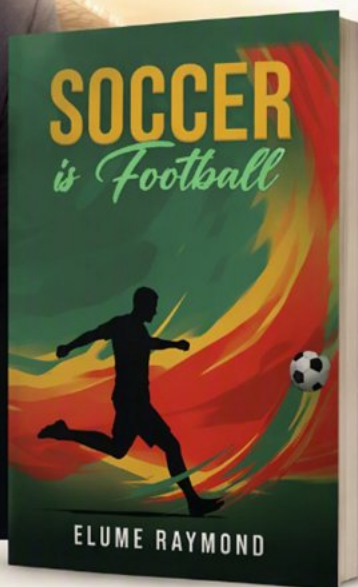


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RAYMOND**

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Elume Raymond is an accomplished sportswriter, soccer analyst, and storyteller with a passion for the beautiful game. Through data, research, and real-world experience, he brings unique insight into the sport that connects the world. His mission: to inform, inspire, and elevate the global football conversation.



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DATA, AND HUMAN STORIES.



# HERO'S PROFILE:

## *First Cameroonian born Manager in English Football League*



**Frederick Mafany Itoe**  
Editor-in-Chief  
NVT-USA FA Editorial Board

Dynamic and resolute former professional footballer and manager with more than 24 years of experience in elite-level football, George Elokobi have established a distinguished career as both a player and football manager. George's achievements include leading an historic FA Cup campaign, pioneering leadership milestones in English football, receiving national and international media recognition, developing athletes who progressed to higher leagues, and contributing significantly to the commercial growth and public profile of professional football clubs.

Born in Mamfe, grew up in Kumba, Cameroon. Upon completion of his Primary School education, George went to St. Joseph's College Sasse renowned for his outstanding ability in playing football combined with his studies. Left Sasse in Lower Sixth after obtaining a visa to join his mother in the United Kingdom.

George's path into the game is anything but conventional. Playing park football before being scouted and Dulwich Hamlet FC. After a year playing with Dulwich Hamlet, Colchester United FC came in for George signing him in 2004-2005 season on a 12 months contract. George demonstrated an exceptional level of discipline, resilience and determination rising from non-league football in England to competing at the highest level in the Premier League. Signed on by Wolverhampton Wanderers for over five hundred thousand pounds after his impressive performances for Colchester United in 2008. George Elokobi became a popular figure, a fans favourite, a cult hero throughout his six years spell and a "Wolves Legend" nicknamed "The Body" for his incredible physique. His time with Wolverhampton Wanderers, George made over a century of appearances winning two promotions with the club reflecting not only his ability as a defender but also his commitment and reliability in one of the most demanding leagues in the world.

George became more popular for his performances and became a talking point for handling some of the world's best strikers and wingers, not forgetting his goals against the mighty Manchester United where George Elokobi scored the goals which ended Man United's 29 games unbeaten. These performances earned George a well deserved International Call-Ups for Cameroon.

George would go on to play for other clubs such as Nottingham Forest, Bristol City, Oldham Athletic, Colchester United, Braintree Town, Leyton Orient, Aldershot Town and Maidstone United. What distinguishes George is not merely the level at which he played, but the breadth of his experience across the football pyramid. Few players can claim to have contributed meaningfully from the top tier of English football down through its lower divisions, maintaining professionalism and competitive spirit throughout. Following his playing career, George has continued to demonstrate leadership and vision in his managerial role at Maidstone United where he became caretaker/interim manager in January 2023 before being appointed manager on a permanent basis.





His guidance of the of the Club during a historic FA Cup run, securing victories over football league clubs Barrow FC, Stevenage and Ipswich Town during the 2023-2024 season showcased George's tactical awareness, motivational skills, and ability to inspire a team to exceed expectations against higher-ranked oppositions.

Beyond statistics and results, George Elokobi is widely respected for his character. He is known as a positive influence in the dressing room, a committed professional, and an individual who brings energy and integrity to every role he undertakes. George Elokobi's journey resonates strongly with those who value hard work, humility, and perseverance in achieving success.

George's major achievements for over 23 plus years in the beautiful sports include Historic Leadership

- First Cameroonian-born manager to manage in the English Football League
- Led Maidstone United to the Fifth Round of the FA Cup, becoming the first non-league club in more than 50 years to achieve this milestone
- Guided Maidstone United to numerous club records, including Longest unbeaten league run, longest away unbeaten run, historic clean-sheet record, record home victory (8-0), won multiple promotions throughout his football playing career





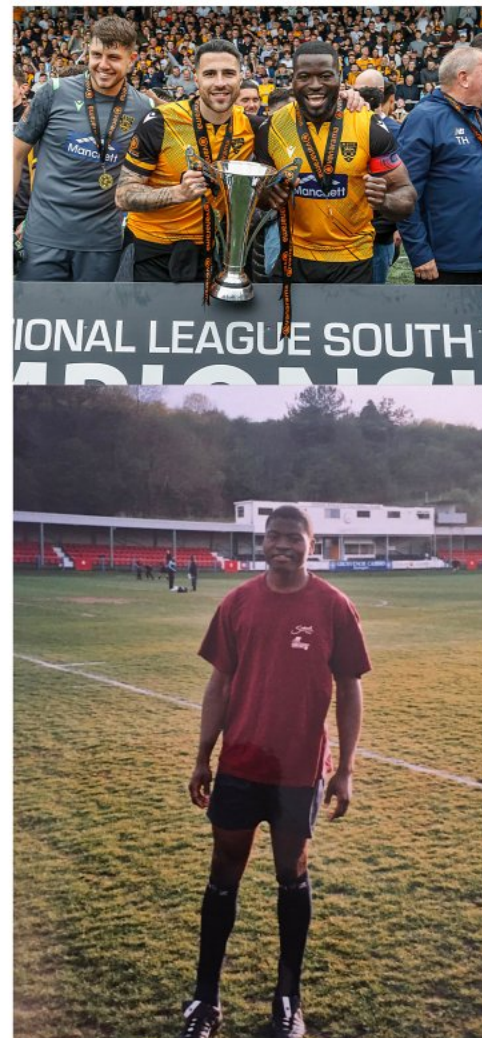


George's achievements have also been recognised by major international media outlets including BBC, Sky Sports, CNN, ESPN, The Independent, TalkSPORT, ITV, The Sun. He has also appeared as football analyst, television pundit, co-commentator, guest speaker, featured contributor in a Sky Sports documentary on diversity in football management, guest appearance in the television series Ted Lasso.

George Elokobi's coaching and leadership have helped numerous players develop and progress into higher levels of professional football. This also helped George win awards and honours which include multiple Manager of the Month Awards, multiple Manager of the Week Awards, Best FA Cup Moment Award, Two-time Kent Senior Cup Winner, Numerous Player of the Match Awards, Player of the Season Award, Best Goal of the Season Award and Four career promotions as a professional player.







His leadership has been recognised beyond football through "Invitation from the Mayor to attend a civic ceremony recognising George's leadership and contribution to the community". An invitation by "Members of Parliament to the House of Commons in recognition of George's achievements and leadership" and a "letter from the Maidstone Council recognising the work George did for the community."

Upon George's decision on moving on and not resigning a new contract with Maidstone United, George Elokobi has been hired as Technical Director and Head Coach for the MLS Next Academy Team alongside George operating as Director and Head Coach of the newly formed GE3 SOCCER ACADEMY in Dallas, McKinney.

George's presence in the USA will no doubt make a positive and lasting contribution. Not only will he enhance player progression systems but also strengthen the overall culture and professionalism of the organisations he is joining. George Elokobi's career to date is truly inspirational and distinguished by its resilience, breadth, and impact. George represents the very best of what dedication to one's craft can achieve.





# NORTHEAST VETERANS TOURNAMENT USA (NEVT-USA)



**Dr. Mukong Adeso**  
*NEVT-USA President*



The Northeast Veterans Tournament (NEVT-USA) is a non-profit soccer veteran tournament that was established in 2024. The tournament takes place every year during the Memorial holiday weekend. It is comprised of teams of Cameroonian heritage that span the East Coast including Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts.

In 2026, the tournament took place in Delaware and in 2027, it will take place in Maryland. This year, 14 teams from 5 states participated at the Sandhill Fields in Georgetown, Delaware. Approximately 600 people were in attendance. The teams included: BALISOA Vets, Baltimore Vets, Boston Vets, Delaware Progressives, Delaware Vets, Elite Vets, Hillandale Family FC, Lanham Vets, Landover FC, New England Vets, New Jersey Ndamba, Social Boyz, Spartan Vets, and VFC.

After an interesting weekend of football including the opening rounds, the quarterfinals, the semifinals and then finals, one team was left standing: Mighty congratulations to Landover FC, the 2026 NEVT Tournament CHAMPIONS!!!





States that have hosted in the past are Maryland in 2024 and New Jersey in 2025. Previous Tournament Champions are VFC in 2024 and Delaware Progressives in 2025.

NEVT-USA provides the opportunity to use soccer as a foundation to come together as a community and grow stronger together. We get to exercise by playing soccer, but we are much more than soccer.

We provide the platform to network with each other, thus promoting our businesses and fostering local economic opportunities. We invest in each other, create friendships, as well as give back to our community via Humanitarian projects. We are all about local community activism.



This year in Delaware, we came together as a community and showcased our culture; we participated in a shoe-drive humanitarian project, providing shoes to the underprivileged in Cameroon; we promoted our local businesses by providing a platform to advertise their business/products at the field; we supported our community food vendors as they sold food at the tournament.

Our activities also support the local economy of the host city. We have over 600 participants that have to rent hotels, rent cars, use the local gas stations, shop at the local stores, and eat at the local restaurants.







Our mission is to keep using soccer as a platform to invest in each other and grow our local communities, practice good health via soccer, grow our businesses, network amongst ourselves and carry out Humanitarian projects. We have a population capacity numbering in the thousands, which allows for great potential and growth.



We also cherish every opportunity to work with other community groups like the NVT-USA FA and the other Regional Tournaments. We are one community/family.

The current administrators are: Dr. Mukong Adeso (President), Dr. Henry Atem (Vice President), Mr. Alfred Etinge (Secretary General); Dr. Chingor More (Treasurer), Mr. Kelly Saah (Financial Secretary), Mr. Benedict Amin (Operations Director), and Mr. Evans Evande (Match Delegate Chairman). If you reside along the Northeast corridor of the United States, or have a soccer team in the Northeast region, join us as we continue to grow this great organization and invest in each other.



See you all in Maryland, Memorial Weekend 2027.





# Mountain West Veteran Tournament 2026: Camsola Reigns Supreme

## Editorial Board, Staff Writer

The Mountain West Veteran Tournament 2026, played on May 23, brought together eight determined teams in a thrilling battle for championship glory: Washington Lions, Las Vegas Veteran, East Valley Veteran, Tucson Veteran, Camsola, New Mexico Veteran, Colorado Springs Veteran, and Colorado Veteran.

From the opening matches, the tournament delivered intense competition, with every team fighting hard for a place in the final. After a series of exciting encounters, Camsola, the defending champions, and Colorado Veteran emerged as the finalists.

In the championship showdown, Camsola demonstrated the experience, composure, and determination of a defending champion, defeating Colorado Veteran to retain the Mountain West Veteran Tournament crown.





Meanwhile, Washington Lions and Las Vegas Veteran battled for third place. Washington Lions finished strongly, securing third position with a victory over Las Vegas Veteran.

Overall, the 2026 tournament was a wonderful celebration of veteran football, bringing together teams in a spirit of competition, friendship, and sportsmanship.

The excitement now turns toward 2027, when the tournament will move to Seattle, Washington, with Washington Lions proudly set to host the next edition. If 2026 was any indication, the Mountain West Veteran Tournament 2027 promises to be another unforgettable football experience.







# The 2nd Edition of the South East Regional Tournament (SEVeRT 2026) – Tampa, Florida



**Dr. Chop Zama**  
*Social Committee*

From the opening whistle to the championship match, spectators were treated to exciting, high-quality football that showcased the talent, determination, and competitive spirit of veteran players. Every game was fiercely contested, reflecting the passion and love for the sport that continues to unite veterans long after their playing careers. More than just a soccer tournament, SEVeRT served as a reunion of friends and families, creating opportunities to reconnect, build new relationships, and celebrate the rich heritage of the Cameroonian diaspora.

After an exciting series of matches, Charlotte Veterans emerged as the SEVeRT 2026 Champions, dethroning defending champions Gwinnett Veterans and etching their name into the tournament's history. Displaying discipline, tactical brilliance, resilience, and exceptional teamwork throughout the competition, Charlotte Veterans rose to every challenge on their way to lifting the championship trophy. Their remarkable campaign was a testament to their preparation, determination, and winning mentality, making them deserving champions of the second edition of the South East Regional Tournament.

The 2nd Edition of the South East Regional Tournament (SEVeRT 2026) was successfully hosted in Tampa, Florida, bringing together veteran soccer teams from across the southeastern United States for an unforgettable weekend of competition, camaraderie, sportsmanship, and fellowship. Building on the success of the inaugural tournament held in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2025, SEVeRT 2026 continued its mission of strengthening relationships among veteran Cameroonian soccer clubs while promoting healthy competition, unity, friendship, and cultural pride.

Although the tournament was designed to feature 10 veteran teams, eight teams ultimately participated after Fayetteville Veterans and Alabama Veterans withdrew before the start of the competition. The participating teams included Charlotte Veterans, Triangle Veterans of Raleigh, Gwinnett Veterans, Pioneer Veterans, Atlanta Veterans, and Greensboro Veterans, and North East Florida Veterans, were the two new additions. The inclusion of North East Florida Veterans and Greensboro Veterans as the new participant marked another important milestone in the continued growth and expansion of the tournament throughout the southeastern United States.





Asong and the mighty Tampa

The Triangle Veterans of Raleigh also enjoyed an outstanding tournament, battling their way to the championship match before finishing as Runners-up. Their impressive performances throughout the competition showcased their quality, consistency, and fighting spirit, earning them the respect and admiration of players and supporters alike. While they narrowly missed out on the title, Triangle Veterans proved they remain one of the premier veteran soccer clubs in the southeastern United States.

Special recognition also goes to Gwinnett Veterans, Pioneer Veterans, Atlanta Veterans, Greensboro Veterans, and the newly formed North East Florida Veterans for their spirited participation and invaluable contribution to the success of the tournament. Every team competed with honor, respect, and integrity, embodying the true values of sportsmanship that define SEVeRT.

Beyond the action on the field, SEVeRT 2026 brought together families, supporters, community leaders, and soccer enthusiasts for a weekend of celebration featuring music, food, entertainment, and fellowship. The tournament reinforced the bonds that unite the Cameroonian community while creating lasting memories for players and fans alike. It once again demonstrated that SEVeRT is about far more than soccer—it is about community, friendship, cultural identity, and togetherness.

The overwhelming success of the 2nd Edition of SEVeRT would not have been possible without the unwavering dedication of



the organizing committee, volunteers, sponsors, referees, team officials, and the many supporters who worked tirelessly behind the scenes under the banner of President Asong of Tampa Veterans. Their commitment and professionalism ensured that every aspect of the tournament was executed successfully, setting an even higher standard for future editions.

As the tournament concluded, anticipation immediately turned toward the future. Excitement is already building for the 3rd Edition of SEVeRT, with the honor of hosting expected to be awarded to either Pioneer Veterans or Triangle Veterans of Raleigh. Whichever city is selected will have the privilege of continuing the tournament's tradition of excellence and community spirit.

The 2026 edition in Tampa, Florida will be remembered as another historic chapter in the growth of SEVeRT. From the successful participation of eight outstanding teams and the welcoming of a new club, to the thrilling championship run by Charlotte Veterans, the tournament once again fulfilled its mission of promoting unity through sport. As SEVeRT continues to grow in stature and participation, it remains one of the premier veteran soccer tournaments in the southeastern United States, bringing together communities, celebrating friendship, and preserving the enduring spirit of veteran football for generations to come.





# MIDWEST VETERANS' REGIONAL TOURNAMENT REPORT

## 1. TOURNAMENT INFORMATION:

The Midwest Veterans Regional Tournament is a highly anticipated annual event that unites veteran football clubs from the Midwest region of the United States. The 2026 edition was hosted by Michigan Veteran FC in Livonia, Michigan, at their state-of-the-art venue located at 36000 W Seven Mile Rd, Livonia, MI 48152. The tournament spanned three days, from May 22nd to May 24th, 2026, attracting 14 veteran teams from various states, creating a vibrant and competitive atmosphere.

Organized with meticulous planning, the event aimed to promote camaraderie, athletic excellence, and regional unity among veteran football enthusiasts. The infrastructure included multiple well-maintained soccer pitches, spectator seating, medical facilities, a golf course by the side and refreshment stands to ensure safety and comfort for all.



Dr. Ayuk Akat

## 2. TEAMS THAT PARTICIPATED

A total of 14 veteran soccer teams participated, representing states across the Midwest and beyond. The teams included: Vet-Star FC (Minnesota), West Michigan Veteran FC (Michigan), Newboys Veteran FC (Minnesota), Chicago Veteran FC (Illinois), Cin-Day Veteran FC (Ohio), Michigan Veterans FC (Michigan), M'mouck Veteran FC (Ohio), Cleveland Veteran FC (Ohio), Columbus Veterans FC (Ohio), Windy City Veteran FC (Illinois), Columbus Rangers FC (Ohio), Iowa Veterans FC (Iowa), Wisconsin Cheesheads FC (Wisconsin) and Ndamba Veterans FC (Indiana).

This diverse lineup of teams fostered healthy competition and regional pride, showcasing skill, experience, and camaraderie.

## 3. ACTIVITIES DURING THE WEEKEND

The weekend was filled with engaging activities promoting social interaction and cultural exchange:

**Pre-Tournament Meeting (Thursday, May 21):** 9:00 pm. Club presidents, match delegates, and officials came together at the Michigan veteran president house to discussed tournament rules, safety, and logistics.





**Welcome Party (Friday, May 22):** 8:00 pm – 3:00 am at Southfield, MI. Featuring performances by DJs Lugal, Basil, Willy International, and Yannick, it was a lively social gathering for players, officials, and supporters.

**Gala Night (Saturday, May 23):** 8:00 pm – 3:00 am at Southfield, MI. This elegant all white event included live performances by Salle John and continued DJ entertainment, with formal attire and recognition of outstanding contributions.

**Barbecue & Cultural Activities (Sunday, May 24):** Post-final celebrations with a relaxed barbecue, cultural performances, storytelling, and photo sessions, fostering camaraderie.

## 4. HOW THE TOURNAMENT WENT

**Opening Ceremony:** The tournament began with a word of prayer thanking the Lord for granting teams and their supporter's safe travel. It was followed by the national anthems of the United States. The tournament proceeded with a welcome address from the host team president Mr. Cromwell Zama followed by an inspiring speech by the Midwest President Dr. Ayuk Akat, emphasizing unity, sportsmanship, and veteran achievements. The Midwest Operations Manager Gino outlined safety protocols and schedules.

**Preliminary Rounds:** Teams displayed intense competition, with Vet-Star FC's resilience, Michigan Veterans FC's tactical discipline, and emerging talents from Wisconsin Cheeseheads FC standing out.

**Knockout Stages:** Semi-finals saw Columbus Veteran FC defeating Vet-Star FC 4-1, and New Boys Veteran FC beating Chicago Veteran FC 2-1.

**Final Match:** Columbus Veteran FC triumphed over New Boys Veteran FC with a 4-2 score, showcasing exceptional teamwork.

**Outstanding Moments & Fair Play:** The tournament highlighted dramatic saves, inspiring comebacks, and respectful conduct, with notable individual performances.

## 5. WINNING TEAM & TROPHY PRESENTATION

- Champions: Columbus Veteran FC
- Runners-Up: New Boys Veteran FC
- The trophy was presented by Dr. Ayuk Akat, with cheers and applause.

### Individual Awards:

- Top Scorer: Zuma Kuyateh (10 goals) (New-boys Vet)
- Best Goalkeeper: Jude Kum (Newboys Vet)
- Best Player: Viland Tabeng aka Abu (Columbus Vets)
- The ceremony celebrated team spirit and sportsmanship.

## 6. NEXT HOST OF THE TOURNAMENT:

The 2027 Midwest Veteran Tournament will be hosted by Iowa Veteran FC, scheduled for May 28–30, 2027. The event aims to bring new excitement, venues, and regional showcase opportunities.

## 7. REGIONAL EXECUTIVE & FUTURE PLANS:

The regional veteran football organization continues to grow under dedicated leadership:

- President: Dr. Ayuk Akat
- Secretary General: Mr. Valine Sanga
- Financial Secretary: Mr. Humphrey Achiri
- Treasurer: Mr. Daniel Tabah
- Operations Manager: Mr. Ernest Poufong (Gino)
- Advisers to the Exco: Mr. Kulling Abe and Mr. Raymond Agbor Etchu

Future plans include expanding teams' participation and enhancing community engagement through football. The goal is to increase the number of participating teams from 14 to 20 teams.

**Conclusion:** The 2026 Midwest Veterans Regional Tournament was a resounding success, celebrating competition, cultural exchange, and unity. It underscored football as a unifying force for veterans, and the regional community eagerly anticipates next year's tournament in Iowa to further elevate veteran football standards.





# Dr. Henry Atem: Building a Sustainable Future for the NVT Through Marketing, Partnerships and Sponsorship



**Dr. Henry Atem PHD**

*Marketing and Sponsorship Committee &  
East Coast Coordinator*

## Transforming Vision into Opportunity for NVT2026 and Beyond

As the National Veterans Tournament (NVT) prepares for NVT2026 in Tucson, Arizona, one of the most significant stories behind the tournament has been the deliberate effort to reposition the NVT as a professional, marketable, and financially sustainable organization. At the center of this transformation is the NVT Marketing, Partnership and Sponsorship Committee, under the leadership of its Chairman, Dr. Henry Atem.

Since its formation, the Committee went to work with a clear objective: to give the NVT the professional image, corporate visibility, and revenue-generating capacity that an organization of its size and potential deserves.

From professionally developed marketing materials and promotional videos to corporate outreach, sponsorship engagement, partnership development, and the creation of new business opportunities, the Committee has worked to establish a foundation upon which the NVT can build for years to come.

## Unlocking the Untapped Potential of the NVT

The philosophy driving the Committee's work is simple: the NVT has enormous untapped potential.

With its growing network of veteran football clubs, members, families, supporters, professionals, entrepreneurs, and businesses across the United States and beyond, the NVT represents much more than an annual football tournament. It is a community, a marketplace, a professional network, and a platform capable of generating significant value for its member clubs and members. Unlocking that potential, however, requires vision, dedication, professionalism, and like-minded individuals willing to build structures that extend beyond the excitement of the annual tournament.

Under Dr. Atem's leadership, the Committee has therefore approached sponsorship not merely as a means of financing NVT2026, but as part of a long-term strategy for the financial sustainability of the NVT. The goal is to create systems that can continuously generate resources for the organization while providing measurable value to sponsors, partners, member clubs, and the broader NVT community.

## The NVT Mobile App: A Legacy Investment

One of the Committee's most important priorities has been securing sponsorship and support for the development of a legacy NVT Mobile Application. The Committee considers the NVT App a critical pillar in leveraging the enormous potential of the organization.

Rather than developing an application that serves only tournament operations, the vision is to establish a year-round digital platform connecting clubs, members, supporters, sponsors, partners, and businesses.



Through advertising, business listings, sponsorship visibility, subscriptions, tournament services, and other potential revenue streams, the App can progressively become an important financial engine for the NVT. The Committee's long-term vision is ambitious but achievable: within the next three to five years, the NVT should be capable of generating substantial revenue through the App and its associated business platforms.

Such revenue could fundamentally change how the NVT finances its activities. Instead of relying heavily on participating clubs to carry the financial burden of organizing the annual tournament, sustainable revenue generated through NVT-owned platforms could substantially reduce tournament costs for clubs and create resources for broader organizational development. This represents a shift from simply financing tournaments to building assets that can finance the future of the NVT.

## Turning Sponsorship into Genuine Partnership

Another important element of the Committee's strategy has been changing the relationship between the NVT and its corporate sponsors. The Committee recognizes that sustainable sponsorship cannot simply be about asking companies for financial contributions. Successful partnerships must create value for both parties. Consequently, corporate engagement has focused on presenting the NVT as a platform through which businesses can reach a vibrant and growing community while building meaningful relationships with clubs, members, families, and supporters.

The Committee continues to engage corporate entities and businesses with the understanding that sponsors must see measurable value in associating their brands with the NVT. This approach is helping establish the foundation for longer-term relationships rather than one-time tournament sponsorships.

## Appreciating Those Who Believe in the NVT

Partnership also requires appreciation. The Committee has incorporated an exclusive Partners and Sponsors Appreciation Cocktail into the NVT's annual gathering. The event provides a distinguished environment in which NVT partners and sponsors can interact directly with the broader leadership of the organization. It gives corporate partners an opportunity to better understand the NVT, learn about emerging business and partnership opportunities, establish new relationships, and explore ways of deepening their engagement with the organization.

Most importantly, the cocktail provides the NVT with an opportunity to simply say thank you. Corporate organizations have choices about where they invest their resources. Those that choose to trust and support the NVT deserve to know that their partnership is recognized and valued.

The Committee believes that appreciation, communication, accountability, and demonstrated value are essential ingredients for converting today's sponsors into tomorrow's long-term partners.

## The Leadership Behind the Vision

The progress of the Marketing, Partnership and Sponsorship Committee would not have been possible without the steadfast and committed leadership of its Chairman, Dr. Henry Atem. He developed both the short-term and long-term vision that has guided the Committee's work, with a central objective of transforming the Committee into a revenue-generating machine for the NVT. His work has been particularly remarkable considering the multiple leadership responsibilities he carries within the NVT community. In addition to serving as Chairman of the Marketing, Partnership and Sponsorship Committee, Dr. Atem serves as President of Elite Veterans FC, Project Manager for NVT2026, and Coordinator of the NVT East Coast Golden Age Community.

Leading the organization of NVT2026 alone requires enormous commitment, coordination, and time. Combining that responsibility with leadership of his club, the Golden Age Community, and the Marketing, Partnership and Sponsorship Committee required extraordinary dedication.

Yet throughout these responsibilities, his vision of developing sustainable revenue streams for the NVT has remained relentless. For Dr. Atem, the objective is bigger than one tournament, one committee, or one sponsorship agreement. It is about establishing structures that future NVT leaders can inherit and continue to develop.

## From Tournament Organization to Institution Building

The work underway represents an important evolution in the NVT's development. Successful organizations do not depend solely on annual contributions or short-term fundraising. They build assets, cultivate partnerships, develop brands, invest in technology, and create sustainable revenue streams.

That is the future the Marketing, Partnership and Sponsorship Committee is working toward. NVT2026 provides an important opportunity to demonstrate what is possible when professional marketing, technology, corporate partnerships, and committed leadership come together behind a common vision.

The Committee understands that the journey is only beginning. There remains significant potential to be explored, partnerships to be developed, businesses to be connected, and revenue opportunities to be created.

But the foundation is being laid.

Under the leadership of Dr. Henry Atem, the NVT Marketing, Partnership and Sponsorship Committee is helping move the organization beyond the traditional model of an annual football tournament toward becoming a year-round platform for community, business, partnership, technology, and sustainable growth.

The ultimate measure of success will not simply be the amount of sponsorship secured for NVT2026. It will be whether the structures being developed today eventually reduce the financial burden on member clubs, increase opportunities for NVT members, provide greater value to corporate partners, and create sustainable resources for future generations of the NVT.

That is the legacy being pursued, an NVT that does not simply organize tournaments, but creates value, builds partnerships, generates resources, and invests in its own future.





# YOU WATCHING!!

BECOME A CATHOLIC FOR THIS IS THE ONLY CHURCH STARTED BY JESUS HIMSELF UNDER PETER AS FIRST POPE. ONLY THE POPE HAS THE KEYS TO HEAVEN. WHATEVER HE DECIDES ON EARTH IS CONSIDERED IN HEAVEN. NO OTHER HUMAN HAS THOSE POWERS. THERE IS NO SALVATION OUTSIDE THIS CHURCH . WE HAVE BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR 2000 YEARS AND WILL BE FOR EVER AS JESUS SAID NOTHING CAN STOP HIS CHURCH. DO NOT FEED YOUR EARS WITH PROSPERITY GOSPELS . LEARN TO CARRY YOUR CROSS AND FOLLOW JESUS. BILL GATES, ELON MUSK, WARREN BUFFETT AND THE 100 RICHEST PEOPLE ON EARTH DID NOT HAVE A PASTOR PRAY ON THEM. WE CATHOLICS BUILD SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES AND TRAINING CENTERS TO HELP YOU WORK ON WHAT EVER THY HANDS FINDED YOU TO DO. NO PRAYER WILL MAKE YOU A MILLIONAIRE IN THIS KINGDOM OF THE DEVIL. INVEST IN HELPING THE POORS AND SICK THEN YOU WILL HAVE WEALTH IN JESUS'S KINGDOM AND NOT TODAY. EAT THE BODY OF CHRIST FROM A CATHOLIC PRIEST SO THAT JESUS CAN RAISE YOU ON THE LAST DAY. DO NOT WASTE YOUR TIME SOWING SEEDS, CHASING MIRACLES. THE BIBLE SAYS THE DEVIL WILL DO MORE MIRACLES THAN JESUS EVER DID AND WILL MAKE FIRE FALL FROM HEAVEN.

## **Reference**

2 Timothy 4:3

Matthew 16:24

Matthew 19:21-24

Rev 13:13

Extra Ecclesiastical nulla salus by st. Cyprian as bishop of Carthage 3rd century. " No salvation outside the catholic church ".



# NVT 2026 GROUPS

SEPTEMBER 3RD- SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2026

## GROUP A



A1- ALLEN VETS (TX)



A2- DELAWARE VETS (DE)



A3-NEW JERSEY NDAMBA (NJ)



A4-KANSAS CITY VETS (MO)

## GROUP B



B1- WASHINGTON LIONS (WA)



B2- OKLAHOMA VETS ( OK)



B3- LOUISIANA (LA)



B4- LANDOVER FC (MD)

## GROUP C



C1-SAN ANTONIO (TX)



C2-ELITE VETS ( MD)



C3-BOSTON VET ( MA)



C4-LONESTAR PROG( TX)

## GROUP D



D1-NEW ENGLAND (NE)



D2- ATLANTA VETS (GA)



D3- NEW YORK LIONS (NY)



D4-CAMER SC (CN)

## GROUP E



E1- COLUMBUS VETERANS (OH)



E2-LEXINGTON VETERANS (KY)



E3-NEW MEXICO (NM)



E4-MILWAUKEE VETERANS (WI)



## GROUP F



F1-NEWBOYS VETERANS(MN)



F2-CIN-DAY VETS (OH)



F3- MICHIGAN VETS (MI)



G5-SOTA SC (MN)

## GROUP G



G1-FRISCO SC (TX)



G2-SPARTAN VETERANS (MD)



G3-CAMDAL FC (TX)



G4-HOLLYWOOD VETS (CA)

## GROUP H



H1-HOUSTON VETERAN (TX)



H2-VETERAN FC (MD)



H3-CLEVELAND AREA VETS (OH)



H4-CAMCALI VETS ( CA)

## GROUP I



I1- LANHAM VETERAN (MD)



I2- DELAWARE PROG (DE)



I3- ARLINGTON VETS (TX)



I4- WINDY CITY VETS (IL)

## GROUP J



J1- AUSTIN VETS (TX)



J2-CHICAGO VETS (IL)



J3-CAMSOLA (CA)



J4-BALISOA VETS (VA)

## GROUP K



K1- RALEIGH TRIANGLE (NC)



K2-RICHMOND VETS



K3-ARIZONA-EAST VALLEY(AZ)



K4-TAMPA VETERANS (FL)



# WHEN THE FINAL WHISTLE BLOWS...

## WHO TAKES CARE OF THE MAN?

You can win on the field, succeed in business, provide for your family... and still be carrying grief that no one sees.

For many Cameroonian men, grief is never talked about. It is carried quietly.



### THE REALITIES MANY MEN FACE (YET RARELY TALK ABOUT)



The death of a parent



A marriage that ended



Immigration and leaving home



Lost opportunities



Financial setbacks



Retirement



Children growing up and moving away



Health challenges



Dreams that never came true

### INSTEAD OF GRIEVING...



...we keep working.



...we keep smiling.



...we keep providing.



...we keep pretending everything is okay.

UNTIL THE SILENCE  
BEGINS TO COST US.

“

Ignoring grief does not make it disappear. It simply changes where it shows up.



In your body.



In your mind.



In your relationships.



In your purpose.



WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN CARRYING  
THAT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT?

You don't have to carry it alone.  
TURN THE PAGE. THERE IS HOPE.



## SILENT GRIEF DOESN'T STAY SILENT

Unresolved grief can contribute to:



Chronic stress and burnout



Anxiety and depression



Anger and irritability



High blood pressure and other health concerns



Relationship conflicts



Emotional withdrawal from loved ones



Increased alcohol or unhealthy coping behaviors



Difficulty finding purpose after major life transitions

### LIFE IS FULL OF TRANSITIONS.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO NAVIGATE THEM ALONE.



Facing loss or bereavement



Going through a major life change



Healing from a past that still hurts



Searching for purpose and meaning



Feeling stuck, overwhelmed, or uncertain

Support, guidance, and practical tools can help you heal, grow, and step into the next chapter of your life with clarity and strength.



*Antoinette Abe Okala Enohmbi*

**CERTIFIED GRIEF & LIFE TRANSITION COACH**

Spiritual Director | Author | Speaker

*"Helping individuals move from surviving to living with purpose, clarity, and hope."*



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- ✓ Develop practical tools for emotional and spiritual resilience
- ✓ Create a meaningful next chapter



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