



Stamford NAACP NEWSLETTER

Issue 1

July, 2011

Message from the President

President Jack Bryant stated that his experience at the NAACP National Convention in Los Angeles last week was “*very informative and powerful!*” During the Presidents’ Meeting Chairman Roslyn Brock and President/CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous gave directives as to what needs to be every unit’s priority when they returned to their respective communities. The priorities should be Education and Voter Registration.

As you know there will be a very important election in 2012. The NAACP does not endorse or engage in partisan political activity. However, the NAACP has a long and proud history of engaging in non-partisan voter registration and “*Get Out the Vote*” efforts. The Stamford NAACP will be visiting local congregations to speak about the importance of voting and to conduct voter registration drives.

On the Education front, the Stamford NAACP is currently working with Stamford High School and Westhill High School in a collaborative effort to education students as well as parents about appropriate behavior, language, racial

tolerance and respect of self and others. It is our desire and intent to work together as a community with parents, teachers, pastors, and community leaders to make a positive impact on the future of our children.

The Branch’s Website

Welcome to the first issue of the Stamford NAACP’s Newsletter. We plan to issue the newsletter at least twice a year, and they will be available as a link on our website at www.stamfordnaacp.org. Check the site for branch information, community events, job openings, etc. Don’t forget to check out our Press Room for the latest press releases.

Freedom Fund & Awards Dinner

The 2012 Freedom Fund and Awards Dinner will be held on Thursday, November 3rd, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2701 Summer Street in Stamford, CT. Our theme this year is “Education: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.” Our speaker for the evening will be Dr. Benjamin Foster, Jr., Distinguished Practitioner of Public School Administration. This year’s honorees are:

Khairi Fortt
Dudley Williams
Rev. Kate Heickler
The Fellas, Inc.
GE Foundation, Inc.
Pitney Bowes, Inc.
100 Black Men, Inc.

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Committees

The Stamford NAACP serves the community through the following committees:

Communications Committee

The objective of the Communications Committee is to develop a public relations strategy to enhance the public's awareness of the Stamford NAACP and its mission. In the course of this work the Committee intends to communicate the Stamford NAACP's agenda to the public and the membership; develop and maintain formal lines of communication with local community organizations and churches; build and maintain a website of accurate, useful, and relevant information; publish a newsletter at least twice a year; and collaborate with other community groups to ensure that clear, timely and accurate information is available to the Stamford community.

Community Coordination Committee

The Community Coordination Committee shall seek to enlist the support of other community organizations on issues affecting the interest of African Americans and other communities of color. The committee is currently in the process of identifying initiatives and projects that involve the interest of the community.

Education Committee

The Education Committee works to ensure all students have access to an equal and high-quality public education by promoting school resource equity, increasing teacher quality, promoting parent engagement, and enhancing early childhood literacy initiatives. We improve the effectiveness, accountability and accessibility of the Stamford public school system. We work to reduce undue placement of minority youth in special education programs. We promote affirmative action and funding equity in higher education. We lobby to maintain and expand financial aid and PELL grants for higher education. Overall, the NAACP strives to eliminate education related racial and ethnic disparities.

Freedom Fund Dinner Committee

The Freedom Fund Banquet is an annual event which features the work and achievements of the local branch. It is a time to honor community leaders and provide scholarships to area youth. Insightful guest speakers engage and inspire guests to continue promoting the organization's mission.

Housing Committee

The Housing Committee studies housing conditions in the local community, receives and seeks to address complaints of discrimination; opposes all restrictive practices whether public or private; and disseminates information and renders such other assistance, which may eliminate discrimination in housing.

Legal Redress Committee

The purpose of the Legal Redress Committee is to document, investigate, and if possible, mediate any and all complaints brought to its attention by the residents of Stamford pertaining to any form of discrimination. Our ultimate goal is to reach an equitable resolution.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee assists prospective members by providing necessary forms and information. The committee also provides support to existing members regarding the maintenance of membership information, the updating of address/telephone data and the acquisition of membership cards, as well as The Crisis magazine.

Political Action Committee

The Political Action Committee seeks to increase registration and voting, and it also works for the enactment of municipal, state and federal legislation designed to improve the educational, political and economic status of minority groups. The Political Action Committee is nonpartisan and does not endorse any candidates for public office.

Membership

Membership Fees

	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Life</u>
Adult (21+)	\$30	\$750
Under 21	\$15	\$400

2011 General Membership Meetings

6:00 pm – Gov't Center – 2nd Floor

January 19	July 20
February 16	August 17
March 16	September 21
April 20	October 19
May 18	November 16
June 15	December 21

If you have any questions or comments concerning the newsletter or the website, please email them to communications@stamfordnaacp.org or mail to:

Stamford NAACP
Attn: Communications
P.O. Box 885
Stamford, CT 06904

You may view our website at www.stamfordnaacp.org.

Website

www.stamfordnaacp.org

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