

Haitian American Community Agenda Conference 2020

Nou La Pi Rèd!

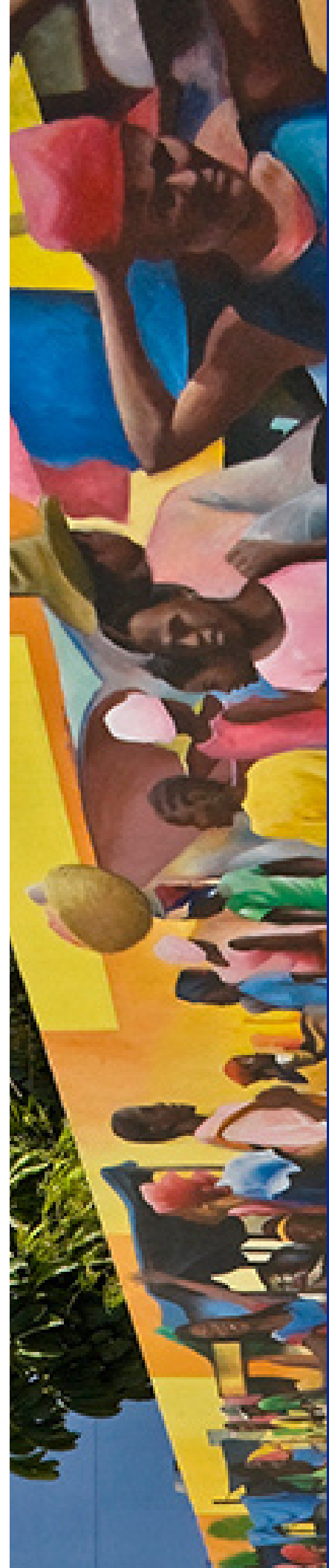
Setting priorities and strategies for the advancement of South Florida's Haitian American community.

FEBRUARY 15, 2020 | 8AM-6PM

LITTLE HAITI CULTURAL COMPLEX

212 NE 59TH TERRACE

MIAMI, FLORIDA 33137




Welcome

DISTINGUISHED PARTICIPANTS,

The Haitian American Community Agenda 2020 Planning Committee is pleased to welcome you to the 2020 South Florida Haitian American Community Agenda Conference. Nearly 20 years ago, over 100 engaged community stakeholders came together to cast an honest and deliberate look at our beloved community. Through a process of introspection and bold visioning, our trailblazers examined the issues and challenges we faced as a community. The robust agenda which emerged from this gathering put forth a set of achievable solutions which were undoubtedly reflected in our community's collective progress and accomplishments.

The strategies set forth 20 years ago have yielded powerful results. The examples of successful collective efforts abound, whether in the arena of community empowerment, immigration reform and political representation. Concerns expressed about the meager representation of Haitian Americans in governmental institutions, steered our resolve and today we have more than 30 elected officials in South Florida. Sant La, Haitian Neighborhood Center, as well as the Little Haiti Cultural Complex were conceived at the first Community Agenda Conference. Haitian Americans have achieved increased visibility, because we have channeled our voices to speak in unison.

While we celebrated our successes, the state of the community as documented through Census 2010 data, raised grave concerns. Thus, we organized our second Community Agenda Conference, convening pioneers and new participants, younger stakeholders, organizations in Dade, Broward and Palm Beach; all united in the vision of a strong and successful community.



The strategies set forth in 2014 have also yielded very impactful results. In 2015, Sant La launched the Sant La Fellows leadership development program; Avanse Ansanm emerged as the powerful voice of Haitian American Millennials; the Haitian American Professional Coalition strengthened its capacity to address the needs of its member organizations, representing lawyers, doctors, nurses, pharmacists and the business community. The Haitian American Faith Based Network emerged as an organization representing the powerful, yet silent faith network. And our communities in Broward and Palm Beach are making great strides increasing political representation and engagement.

As a community we recognize that in 2020 the rules of engagement have changed. Our needs and issues stubbornly persist as does our determination to address them. So much has changed. We communicate differently; whether its Facebook, Instagram or WhatsApp, we are all connected to powerful and at times disjointed communications networks. While we can enumerate many success stories, we know that there is more to be done. Our community is reeling from many local issues, including the cost of housing, gentrification, employment and immigration. Our complicated relationship with Haiti endures as we continue to define our role in shaping its destiny.

Twenty years later, our plate is still full! But we are up to the task! Our ranks have been reinforced by an army of young, multi-talented stakeholders. We are excited!

Thank you for joining us and let's get to work!

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GOLD SPONSOR

The Honorable Jean Monestime, Miami Dade Commission,
District 2



SILVER SPONSOR

Avanse Ansanm



Planning Committee

JEAN BELIZAIRE
HACCOF

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HACCOF

SANTRA DENIS
Avanse Ansanm

SANDY DORSAINVIL
LHCC

LEONIE HERMANTIN
Sant La

KENTA JOSEPH
Sant La

THAMARA LABROUSSE
Live Healthy Miami Gardens

MARJORIE LOZAMA
HANA

GEPSIE M. METELLUS
Sant La

CARL MOMPLAISIR
HACCOF

PAOLA PIERRE
HACCOF

DR. SHIRLEY PLANTIN
U-Turn Youth Consulting

DEBORAH SAINT-VIL
HLA

JEAN SOUFFRANT
Nortre Dame d'Haiti

DODARD ST. JEAN
Compu-Design, USA

Presenting Organizations

AVANSE ANSANM

AYITI COMMUNITY TRUST

**DEMOCRATIC HAITIAN
AMERICAN CAUCUS OF
FLORIDA**

**HAITIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE OF FLORIDA
(HACCOF)**

**HAITIAN AMERICAN FAITH
BASED NETWORK**

**HAITIAN AMERICAN NURSES
ASSOCIATION (HANA)**

**HAITIAN AMERICAN
PROFESSIONALS COALITION**

**HAITIAN LAWYERS
ASSOCIATION (HLA)**

**LITTLE HAITI CULTURAL
COMPLEX (LHCC)**

NOTRE DAME D'HAITI

**ROBERT PHILIPPEAUX
EPILEPSY ORGANIZATION**

SANT LA

U-TURN YOUTH CONSULTING

Program

8:00 AM

REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST

9:00 AM

WELCOME

Santra Denis, Avanse Ansamn

OPENING REFLECTIONS

Fayola Delica, Haitian American Professionals Coalition

ORDER OF THE DAY

Sandy Dorsainvil, Little Haiti Cultural Complex

9:15 AM

CONCURRENT SESSION I

NEW HAITIAN AMERICAN FAMILY

Roy Clement, Danna Demezier, Dr. Shirley Plantin
Mirva Cadet (Moderator)

CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Stephanie Chancy, Anna Etienne, Joann Millord, Marie Vickles
Sandy Dorsainvil (Moderator)

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Dr. Valencie Exceus, Mathew Jeanius, Josette Josue, Kenneth Victor
Marjorie Lozama (Moderator)

10:45 AM

CONCURRENT SESSION II

PARENT ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Dr. Andrée Bazile, Dr. Josée Gregoire, Patrick Lacouty
Dr. M. Rose Bléus (Moderator)

THE ECONOMY OF THE FUTURE

Rasha S. Cameau, Sheri Colas-Gervais, Beatrice Louissaint,
Djenane St. Fleur
Jeff Lozama (Moderator)

Program

THREATS & OPPORTUNITIES

Vanessa Joseph, Nancy Metayer, Katia Saint Fleur
Karen Andre, Esq. (Moderator)

FAITH BASED ENGAGEMENT

Dr. Celucien Joseph, Dr. Adenet Medacier
Dr. Marie Etienne (Moderator)

12:15 PM

LUNCH

1:30 PM

CRITICAL ISSUES SESSION

DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT & REIMAGINING HAITI

Alix Cantave, Johnny Celestin, Emmanuela Douyon, Michelle
Pierre-Louis
Santra Denis (Moderator)

CULTURE & IDENTITY

Rudy Jean-Bart, Dr. Charlene Desir, Gerard Metellus
Leonie Hermantin (Moderator)

ASSET BUILDING & PROTECTIONS

Vania Laguerre, JP Michel, Alix Alexis
Sabrina Solomon, Esq. (Moderator)

4:45 PM

WRAP UP SESSION

Workgroup Reports
Recommendations & Resolutions

5:30 PM

CLOSING REMARKS

Gepsie M. Metellus, Sant La

CLOSING RECEPTION

Panels/ Sessions

NEW HAITIAN AMERICAN FAMILY

This session will examine the state of the Haitian American family in South Florida. Panelists will explore and assess the quality of resources available to families including children, teens, women and parents. Participants will be encouraged to identify strategies and programs that work and discuss assets or barriers. The objective of this session is to offer a vision of stable and thriving Haitian American families uplifted by culturally competent community strategies.

CULTURAL PRESERVATION

This session will address the conservation, promotion and evolution of artistic and cultural practices in South Florida. Panelists will offer an overview of the current landscape, business models, culinary assets and artistic expressions. Participants will contribute to the formulation of a blueprint for a more integrated and prosperous community.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

This session will report on the status of the community's health. Are we better off now than we were 20 years ago? What are the issues which still impede the attainment of positive health outcomes? Panelists and participants will consider strategic action goals to promote healthy behaviors, wellness, good nutrition and physical activity in the Haitian community.

PARENT ENGAGEMENT & EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

This session will offer an overview of South Florida's educational landscape. Are our children's overall educational outcomes improving? In a culture where parental engagement is closely tied to positive educational outcomes, are parents more engaged in their children's education? The group will discuss the circumstances (home, social, personal, community, etc.) that impact achievement among Haitian students and explore long and short-term strategies to address these issues. Panelist will also examine available educational opportunities for the adult population.



THE ECONOMY OF THE FUTURE

This session will address the state of the economy within the Haitian community. We will look at Haitian-run businesses as well as investments and resources needed, focusing on nurturing entrepreneurship and wealth-building strategies for young Haitian entrepreneurs. Panelists will also consider employable skills desired in the Haitian workforce.

THREATS & OPPORTUNITIES

This session will analyze the Haitian presence at the local, state and federal levels of government. It will address policies that affect the community, as well as policies needed to move the Haitian community forward. It will also examine the channels available and/or needed to support policies that benefit the Haitian community through the Census, civic engagement and advocacy. Panelist will also look at critical issues such as climate change and gentrification.

FAITH BASED ENGAGEMENT

This session will focus on the role of our faith based institutions in nurturing a greater sense of civic engagement in the Haitian community.

DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT & REIMAGINING HAITI

This session will focus on Haiti and the role of the Diaspora. Panelists will offer an assessment of Haiti's current situation and will share a vision of a stable and productive nation. They will also discuss the role of the Haitian Diaspora in supporting that vision.

CULTURE & IDENTITY

This session will discuss Haitian culture and identity in the Diaspora, exploring the nuances related to self-conception and self-perception as they relate to religion, gender, social class and colorism.

ASSET BUILDING & PROTECTIONS

This session will focus on proven strategies for creating, maintaining and protecting wealth. The group will consider strategies and tactics to enable the community to evolve from savings to asset-building.

Speakers

ALEX ALEXIS

Financial Advisor, Merrill Lynch

DR. ANDRÉE BAZILE

Principal, Arch Creek Elementary

RASHA S. CAMEAU

Director, North Miami Community Redevelopment Agency

JOHNNY CELESTIN

Executive Director, Future Leaders Foundation

DR. MARLENE CESAR

Nurse Practitioner

STEPHANIE CHANCY

Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC) Fellow

SHERI COLAS-GERVAIS

Vice President Economic Development and Urban Initiatives, Beacon Council

ROY CLEMENT

Mental Health Counselor

ALIX CANTAVE

Program Officer, Kellogg Foundation

DANNA DEMEZIER

Mental Health Counselor

DR. CHARLENE DESIR

Professor, Nova Southeastern University

EMMANUELA DOUYON

Founder, Policite

ANNA ETIENNE

Director, StartUP FIU Food

DR. VALENCIE EXCEUS

Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine

DR. JOSÉE GREGOIRE

Professor, University of Miami

MATHEW JEANIUS

Marriage & Family Therapist, Beach Stone Counseling

RUDY JEAN-BART

Professor, Broward College

DR. CELUCIEN JOSEPH

Professor, Indian River State College

VANESSA JOSEPH

Attorney, Catholic Legal Services

JOSETTE JOSUE

Community Health Worker, Sant La

PATRICK LACOUTY

Principal, North Miami Senior High


VANIA LAGUERRE

Senior VP, Local Market
Executive of Miami, Bank of
America

BEATRICE LOUISSAINT

President, Florida State
Minority Supplier
Development Council

DR. ADENET MEDACIER

Attorney & Pastor, Shalom
Broward

NANCY METAYER

Environmentalist &
Community Advocate

GERARD METELLUS

Political & Cultural Analyst

JP MICHEL

Chairman & CEO, Santé Nou
Health

JOANN MILLORD

Executive Director, Northeast
Second Avenue Partnership

MICHELLE PIERRE-LOUIS

Former Prime Minister of
Haiti/ President, FOKAL

DR. SHIRLEY PLANTIN

CEO, U-Turn Youth
Consulting

KATIA SAINT FLEUR

Census 2020

DJENANE ST. FLEUR

Board, Broward County
Cultural Division

MARIE VICKLES

Resident Art Curator, Little
Haiti Cultural Complex

KENNETH VICTOR

Aministrator, Chen medical
Center, North Miami

Moderators

KAREN ANDRE, ESQ.
Attorney

MIRVA CADET
Youth Advocate & Consultant

SANTRA DENIS
President, Avanse Ansanm

SANDY DORSAINVIL
Director, Little Haiti Cultural
Complex

DR. MARIE ETIENNE
Professor, Miami Dade
College

DR. M. ROSE BLÉUS
Principal, Lakeview
Elementary

LEONIE HERMANTIN
Director of Development,
Communications & Strategic
Planning, Sant La

JEFF LOZAMA
President & CEO, CMS
International Group

MARJORIE LOZAMA
Nurse Practitioner

SABRINA SOLOMON, ESQ.
Attorney

Rapporteurs

NEW HAITIAN FAMILY
Kenta Joseph, Sant La

CULTURAL PRESERVATION
Denick Geffrard, Avanse
Ansanm

HEALTH & WELLNESS
Katia Philippeaux, R.
Philippeaux Epilepsy
Organization

PARENT ENGAGEMENT
Paola Pierre, HACCOF

**THE ECONOMY OF THE
FUTURE**
Deborah Saint-Vil, HLA

THREATS & OPPORTUNITIES
Nadjejda Chapoteau, HACCOF

FAITH BASED ENGAGEMENT
Fayola Delica, HAPC

DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT
Marie Arago, Foto Konbit

ASSET BUILDING
Gepsie M. Metellus, Sant La

CULTURE & IDENTITY
Bertholette Pardieu, Avanse
Ansanm

Sant La
Haitian Neighborhood Center

YOU COUNT

2020 CENSUS COMING SOON

RESANSMAN 2020 AN AP RIVE SOU NOU

AYISYEN JWÈT POU NOU!

NOU PAP KITE YO KRAPONNEN NOU

HAITIAN PHILANTHROPY

ANN EDE TÈT NOU

**HAITIAN AMERICAN PHILANTHROPY
BEGINS WITH YOU AND ME!**



Commissioner
Jean Monestime

Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners



Congratulations to



&



in celebration of your
2020 Annual Haitian American Community Agenda
Conference

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*Presenting partners of the Haitian
American Community Agenda
Conference 2020*



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