



The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee

1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C., 20036 | 202-349-1498
| www.CaribbeanPac.org

Caribbean-American Political Action Committee (C-PAC) Montgomery County - 2022 Candidate Questionnaire

Please upload the completed form here:

<https://www.caribbeanpac.org/news-candidate-responses.php> and submit it by 11:59 PM (EST) on Friday, June 13, 2022. Responses will be shared with C-PAC's membership.

Office Sought: County Council At-Large

Candidate's Name: Laurie-Anne Sayles

Current Occupation: Senior Project Manager

Party: Democrat

Campaign contact information (Address, Phone, Fax, Email, Website):

Sayles for Montgomery County

Website: www.LaurieAnneSayles.org

Address: 12118 Livingston Street, Silver Spring, MD 20902

Email: info@laurieannesayles.org

Phone: 240-292-9754

1. What have you done, or will you do to ensure the interests of the Caribbean community in Montgomery County are being adequately addressed?

- I am a proud Caribbean American. I am a first-generation Jamaican American born and raised in Maryland. I am the youngest of six children to Hilda and Perry Sayles, public servants who dedicated their lives to their country and community and inspired my commitment to the community.
- My father, a retired Oncology Nurse, and veteran of the U. S. Army, served our country with honor and bravery. My mother, a retired Montgomery County social worker, dedicated her life to counseling victims of domestic violence and substance abuse with fairness and compassion.
- These values will guide my service as one of your next Councilmembers at-large.
- Through my community outreach efforts, I have ensured the interests of the Caribbean community by being an efficient advocate for the Caribbean community. By being the first Caribbean heritage member of the Gaithersburg City Council, we now recognize this national holiday annually in June with a proclamation, programs, and events to better understand the diversity of the Caribbean. I hope to continue my trailblazing efforts by being the first Caribbean heritage member of the Montgomery County Council.



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2. The Caribbean- American Advisory Group (CAAG) was established by former County Executive Isaiah Leggett and continued by the current County Executive Marc Elrich. If you are elected, will you support the continuity of CAAG in its current form as an autonomous group
 - Yes. I am supported and endorsed by former County Executive Isaiah Leggett. I would be proud to continue Mr. Leggett's legacy of supporting our vibrant and diverse community. County Executive Leggett stated that "as our county emerges from the pandemic, it will require steadfast leadership from our council. I am confident Laurie-Anne Sayles is prepared to meet the moment as our next At-Large Council member.
3. Will you proactively encourage and facilitate members of the Caribbean community of Montgomery County to be appointed to County Boards? Please explain what mechanism your office would establish to effect this policy.
 - Yes. I would educate the Caribbean community about the various County boards, how they can apply for and attain appointments, and how they can positively impact the Caribbean community and overall county in such roles.
4. Explain what policies you would espouse and implement to make Montgomery County **a safe haven** for undocumented Caribbean immigrants.
 - I will make information and resources available—sponsor and support pro-immigrant legislation and pathways to citizenship. Provide job placement assistance. Support immigrants through social service referrals and be responsive and open-minded. I would also ensure someone from our staff is knowledgeable and responsive to the needs and priorities of the undocumented community.
5. Will you support continuity of Montgomery County as welcoming Caribbean immigrants and settlement of the Region's refugees?
 - Yes
6. Will you support availability of books by Caribbean authors and about the Caribbean in libraries and in the schools?
 - Yes.



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7. It is difficult to balance crime prevention and community safety with trust and improved relations with local law enforcement. How will you work to strike this balance?
- Police officers who live in the community of their schools would be the best public safety officers. In addition, schools are places of learning and for children to develop intellectually and emotionally. However, school violence, as seen across the country, cannot be ignored. The reality is that there is a deep distrust between the police and the Black community at large. We must get these stakeholders together to meet regularly - to foster trust and respect while working towards the common goal of improving public safety.