



The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee

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

www.CaribbeanPac.org

The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee (C-PAC) District of Columbia – 2026 Candidate Questionnaire

Please return the completed form via email to cpac.dmv@gmail.com by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2026. Responses will be shared with C-PAC's membership.

Office Sought: WARD 6 COUNCILMEMBER

Candidate's Name: GLORIA ANN NAUDEN

Current Occupation: PHILANTHROPY

Party: DEMOCRATIC

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

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1. If elected, how would you proactively and consistently engage with Caribbean-American constituents, groups, local leaders, and organizations in your constituency?

If elected, I would treat Caribbean-American engagement as an ongoing governing responsibility, not an occasional outreach exercise. That means regular listening sessions, attendance at community events, direct relationships with Caribbean clergy, nonprofit leaders, tenant leaders, educators, and small business owners, and intentional inclusion of Caribbean-American voices in policy development. My office would maintain a standing community advisory table that includes Caribbean-American stakeholders, ensuring engagement is structured, consistent, and tied to action. I believe people should see their government show up before there is a crisis, not only after one.

2. How would your office address the barriers Caribbean immigrants face when accessing public services such as healthcare, safe, affordable housing, education, or social programs that disproportionately affect them?



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My office would focus on navigation, accountability, and access. Too often, the problem is not that a program exists on paper, but that residents cannot easily access it, trust it, or understand how to move through the system. I would push agencies to simplify intake, improve language access, expand culturally competent outreach, and track where residents are falling through the cracks. I would also use my oversight role to identify delays, denials, or agency practices that create barriers for immigrant families seeking healthcare, housing support, school-based services, and workforce opportunities. Constituents should not need insider knowledge to receive public services.

3. How do you ensure culturally responsive services for Caribbean-American residents across agencies (e.g., health, education, law enforcement, etc.)?

Culturally responsive service starts with leadership expectations, staff training, community partnership, and measurable accountability. I would press agencies to work with trusted Caribbean-American community organizations and leaders when designing outreach, training frontline staff, and evaluating service gaps. It also means making sure agencies understand the linguistic, cultural, and historical diversity within Caribbean communities rather than treating them as a monolith. Good government should not just be available; it should be understandable, respectful, and relevant to the people it serves.

4. What initiatives will you lead and/or support that benefit Caribbean-American small business owners and workers, particularly in industries where they are heavily represented?

I will support practical small business policies that help entrepreneurs survive, scale, and build wealth. That includes stronger access to capital, more transparent procurement pathways, commercial rent stabilization tools where possible, technical assistance, storefront support, permitting help, and targeted workforce development. Many Caribbean-American entrepreneurs and workers are concentrated in food service, retail, transportation, personal care, construction, healthcare support, and hospitality. My focus would be on reducing bureaucratic friction, expanding contracting opportunities, and making sure economic development programs actually reach neighborhood businesses, not just the most connected applicants. I also believe we need to frame support for immigrant-owned and Caribbean-American businesses as economic development and community stabilization, not charity.



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5. What support would you provide for Caribbean-American students and parents, including language assistance and help navigating the school system?

Families deserve a school system that is accessible and easy to navigate. I would advocate for stronger language access, better navigation of family resources, and more consistent communication between schools and parents. I would also push for culturally competent parent engagement, stronger support for students adjusting to new school environments, and partnerships with community-based organizations to help families understand enrollment, special education rights, after-school options, mental health supports, and college pathways. Parents should never feel locked out of their child's education because the system is too complex or communication is inadequate.

6. How would you advance partnerships with Caribbean-American community organizations to promote mental health, chronic disease prevention, or other wellness initiatives?

I would support a public-health model that starts with trusted messengers. That means partnering with Caribbean-American churches, nonprofits, neighborhood groups, health advocates, and culturally grounded service providers to deliver education, screenings, prevention efforts, and referrals. We know that mental health, hypertension, diabetes, maternal health, and other chronic conditions require trusted relationships and community-centered outreach. I would work to connect public dollars and agency partnerships to organizations already doing trusted work on the ground so that wellness efforts are not generic, but culturally relevant and community-based.

7. How will you build trust and conduct robust oversight on local law enforcement to protect the rights, security, and safety of Caribbean-American residents?

Trust requires both safety and accountability. I support strong oversight of law enforcement, constitutional policing, language access, fair treatment, and clear complaint and follow-up processes when residents experience mistreatment or profiling. My role as a Councilmember would be to ask hard questions, demand data, elevate constituent concerns, and ensure agencies are responsive to communities that may be reluctant to report harm because of fear, mistrust, or prior negative experiences. Public safety works best when residents believe they will be treated with dignity and protected equally under the law.



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8. What programs, funding opportunities, or policy efforts will you champion that are aimed at improving outcomes for Caribbean-American communities?

I would champion investments in small business growth, workforce pipelines, affordable housing preservation, tenant support, youth development, violence prevention, culturally responsive public health, and immigrant service navigation. I also support grant and partnership opportunities for community-based organizations that have real credibility and relationships in Caribbean-American communities. More broadly, I will push for data-informed policymaking so that we can better identify disparities, target resources, and measure whether programs are actually improving outcomes.

9. How will you ensure that the Mayor's Office of Caribbean Community Affairs is fully funded, adequately staffed, and realizes its mission?

The Mayor's Office on Caribbean Community Affairs exists to provide constituent services and information to the District's Caribbean community, serve as a liaison among the Mayor, the Caribbean community, and District agencies, and support outreach and access to resources. The Executive Office of the Mayor's recent performance plans also describe the office's role in awareness campaigns, events, and constituent engagement.

As a Councilmember, I would treat that office as an essential access and accountability function, not a symbolic one. That means budget scrutiny, staffing scrutiny, performance scrutiny, and public expectations around measurable outcomes. I would ask: Is the office adequately staffed? Is it reaching residents where they are? Are agencies responding when the office raises constituent issues? Are partnerships producing results? I would fight to ensure the office has the resources and authority it needs to fulfill its mission and that the Council receives enough information to evaluate whether it is succeeding.

10. Washington, D.C., adopted the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022, which permits noncitizens who reside in D.C. for at least 30 days before the election and are at least 18 years old to vote for local offices and ballot initiatives. How will you support awareness and implementation of this law?



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DC law now permits eligible noncitizen residents to register and vote in local DC elections, and the DC Board of Elections has already conducted voter education specifically on implementation of that law, including registration, voting rights and responsibilities, and language access.

I support full, lawful, and well-communicated implementation. That means public education in multiple languages, direct outreach through schools, trusted community organizations, tenant associations, houses of worship, and immigrant-serving groups, and clear guidance so eligible residents understand exactly what this law does and does not cover. I would also support close oversight of implementation so the process is accessible, accurate, and not intimidating. Democracy is stronger when eligible residents understand their rights and can participate with confidence.