



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) 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: Montgomery County Council District 1

Candidate's Name: Debbie Spielberg

Current Occupation: Special Assistant to Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich

Party: Democratic

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

Debbie Spielberg for County Council

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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?

a. For more than 15 years I have worked closely with community organizations and residents across Montgomery County. As a Councilmember, I would continue meeting regularly with Caribbean-American community leaders, cultural organizations, faith institutions, and advocacy groups to understand their priorities. Engagement must be ongoing, not limited to election season. My office would ensure open communication and regular outreach so Caribbean-American residents are heard and represented in county decisions.

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

a. Many immigrant families face barriers navigating complex government systems. I support improving outreach through trusted community organizations and ensuring agencies provide



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culturally competent services. I will continue supporting policies that preserve and produce affordable housing, access to healthcare, and community-based programs so that immigrant families - and all families - can access the services they need to thrive.

3. How do you ensure culturally responsive services for Caribbean-American residents across agencies (e.g., health, education, law enforcement, etc.)?
 - a. County agencies must work closely with community organizations that understand the cultural and linguistic needs of residents. I support language access, training for county employees, and ensuring agencies partner with community groups to deliver services in ways that are accessible and respectful. It is in everyone's best interest that the government serve all the communities.
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?
 - a. Small businesses are the backbone of Montgomery County's economy. I support improving the county's business permitting process, using the Business center to support small businesses, and strengthening workforce development opportunities. I also will work with small business owners to identify barriers to growth and ensure workers have access to fair wages, safe workplaces, and opportunities for advancement.
5. What support would you provide for Caribbean-American students and parents, including language assistance and help navigating the school system?
 - a. Families need clear information and support to successfully navigate the school system. I would want to work with the community to understand the barriers and where language access needs to be improved. Families need to be informed of all the available programs and have access to counselors, after-school programs, and other resources that help students succeed.



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Schools work best when families feel welcomed, informed, and empowered to participate in their children's education.

6. How would you advance partnerships with Caribbean-American community organizations to promote mental health, chronic disease prevention, or other wellness initiatives?
 - a. Community organizations are often the most trusted partners for outreach and support. I would work with public health agencies to strengthen partnerships with Caribbean-American organizations, faith institutions, and nonprofits to expand mental health awareness, preventative health programs, and community wellness initiatives. These partnerships are essential for ensuring programs reach the residents who need them most.
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?
 - a. Public safety requires accountability and strong relationships with the community. I support community policing and transparency to ensure all residents are treated fairly and respectfully. At the same time, we must continue investing in prevention, youth programs, and social services that strengthen community safety and trust.
8. What programs, funding opportunities, or policy efforts will you champion that are aimed at improving outcomes for Caribbean-American communities?
 - a. I will support policies that expand access to affordable housing, strengthen small business opportunities, invest in education and youth programs, and ensure equitable access to healthcare and social services. I will also support the continued partnering with community organizations to ensure that policies and funding decisions reflect the needs and priorities of Caribbean-American residents.