



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
AFRICAN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION**



2008

ANNUAL REPORT

AAAC Mission Statement – Mandates - Acknowledgement

AAAC Mission Statement

To improve and promote the economic development, education, health and political well-being of the African-American community in the State of Connecticut, through advocacy, information sharing, cultural awareness, community networking and influencing legislation.

AAAC Legislative Mandates

- *Maintain a liaison between the African-American community and governmental entities;*
 - *Review and comment on any proposed state legislation that would affect the African-American population in the state;*
 - *Encourage African-American representation at all levels including state boards and commissions;*
 - *Advise and provide information to the Governor on state policies concerning the African-American communities;*
 - *Advise the Governor concerning the coordination and administration of state programs serving the African-American population;*
 - *Secure appropriate recognition of the accomplishments and contributions of the African-American population of the state; and*
 - *Prepare and submit to the Governor an annual report concerning its activities with appropriate recommendations concerning the African-American population in the state.*
-

2008 Acknowledgement

The African-American Affairs Commission (AAAC) is indebted to the many organizations and individuals that supported the AAAC's Legislative Agenda and ongoing advocacy concerns. We are grateful for our many partners including but not limited to the Black and Hispanic Caucus, Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission, Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, Commission on Children, NAACP and the Urban League of Greater Hartford. The AAAC also acknowledges the support and technical assistance provided by the Office of Legislative Management, Information Technology Services and the Capitol Police.

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Fred Pierre-Louis, Vice-Chairperson

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Letter to the Governor



Fred Pierre-Louis
AAAC Vice Chairperson

The Honorable M. Jodi Rell
Governor of the State of Connecticut
State Capitol
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Rell,

On behalf of the African-American Affairs Commission (AAAC), I am pleased to submit our 2008 Annual Report for your review.

In addition to maintaining our steadfast focus on improving health outcomes for African-Americans statewide, the AAAC continued to strengthen partnerships with the Department of Public Health through participation in the Connecticut Multicultural Health and Connecticut Cancer Partnerships. Most notably, the AAAC was instrumental in the passage of legislation creating the Commission on Health Equity. We believe that this holistic and interdisciplinary approach to increase better health outcomes for the State's most vulnerable populations, will improve the health status of all Connecticut residents.

In an effort to advise the public of how to safeguard their civil rights, the AAAC hosted information sessions on October 3, 2008, at the Legislative Office Building, to focus on the activities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) related to its civil rights and hate crimes programs and continued to serve as a resource for related matters.

The Commission would like to express its appreciation for your solidarity and support by signing Senate Bill 604 - An Act Concerning Hate Crimes. The AAAC views this legislation as a significant step in preserving the civil rights of African Americans, and all other state residents who would likely otherwise be threatened by the use of such instruments of intimidation. Additionally, the AAAC was a staunch advocate on behalf of independent taxi cab drivers in efforts to pursue fairness, increased oversight of livery regulations and further examination by the Program Review and Investigation Committee.

For the second consecutive year, the AAAC was a leader in the planning and implementation of KnowHow2Go Connecticut. This initiative in partnership with the State Department of Education and Department of Higher Education focuses on increasing awareness and preparation of middle and high school students for post-secondary education and careers.

The AAAC also led efforts and helped launch College Goal Sunday, to assist students in applying for college financial aid. More than 360 high school students and their parents were assisted with the federal financial aid process at sites in Bridgeport, Hartford, Middletown, New Haven New London and Norwalk.

As evidence of its broadening commitment to education, at our annual Classic Awards the AAAC proudly presented its Youth of the Year Award Winners each with an \$1,800 scholarship. This year marked the a philanthropic milestone, with more than \$11,000 awarded in scholarship grants to deserving academically excellent and community & public service oriented students.

Our Commission looks forward and deems it an honor to serve Connecticut's African-American community and to participate at all levels of state government. Our goal and daily practice is to ensure that all policies and every agency and branch of government serves the needs and protect the rights of all Connecticut residents. Your continued support and partnership along with that of the Connecticut General Assembly are appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Fred Pierre-Louis
Fred Pierre-Louis
AAAC Vice Chairperson

2008 Legislative Information



Governor M. Jodi Rell signs Senate Bill 681 - An Act Establishing a Commission on Health Equity,



*Governor M. Jodi Rell signs Senate Bill 604
An Act Concerning Hate Crimes.*



*Governor M. Jodi Rell signed on May 27th, 2008 Senate Bill
5145 An act concerning environmentally stressed communities.*

AAAC Highlights of the 2008 Legislative Session

OVERVIEW

The 2008 legislative session was a short one. With a weakening economy, soaring energy prices the focus of the session was centered on fiscal restraint. In spite of this distraction the Commission still managed to record some notable gains in the passage of legislation. This narrative summarizes legislative activities the Commission was proactively involved in.

EDUCATION

The Commission supported House Bill (HB) 5826 – An act concerning a school learning environment. This bill strengthens state law on school bullying by requiring schools to develop effective bullying prevention strategies. The measure also makes bullying prevention, a required in-service training topic for teachers. In addition the Commission led an effort in strengthening multicultural education in school curricula. Although a bill wasn't raised to address this issue the Commission was successful in building awareness and broad based support for the issue.

HEALTH

The AAAC was instrumental in the passage of legislation creating a new Commission on Health Equity. The Commission's charge is to eliminate disparities in health outcomes based on race, ethnicity and linguistic ability. As a member of this Commission, the AAAC is in pole position to help shape policies that will improve the health and well-being of underserved communities.

CIVIL RIGHTS

In the latter part of 2007 a number of noose incidents in the state and indeed the country urged a response from the Commission. The Commission supported by the Anti-Defamation League championed legislation aimed at strengthening Connecticut's hate crime statutes. Senate Bill (SB) 604 – An act concerning hate crimes, makes it a discriminatory practice and crime, to hang a noose on public or private property, with the intent to intimidate and harass.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Since 2003 the Commission has successfully supported periodic minimum wage increases. The 2008 legislative session was no different. Initially the Governor vetoed a bill to raise the minimum wage during the regular legislative session. However in a subsequent special legislative session, pressure from the Commission and community advocates led to the passage of (HB) 5105 – An act concerning the minimum wage. The law raises the minimum wage from \$7.65 to \$8.00 in 2009 and \$8.25 in 2010.

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

As a member of Connecticut's Anti-predatory Lending Taskforce, the Commission played a proactive role in addressing rising foreclosures in the state. The AAAC was successful in advocating for funding for the emergency mortgage assistance program (EMAP), a program designed to provide financial relief to homeowners facing foreclosure. Prior to the passage of this bill EMAP had not been funded since 1995.

AAAC Legislative and Administrative Priorities

EDUCATION

Closing the Achievement Gap – Develop classroom assessment tools to enhance instruction and learning, strengthen parental involvement, strengthen mentorship programs statewide and strengthen reading programs.

Strengthen multicultural education into school curricula – Ensure that all children have adequate knowledge of their history.

HEALTH

Support a universal health care plan – Ensure that all residents of the state particularly underserved populations have access to affordable and quality health insurance.

Instituting cultural competency requirements in health care – Ensure that medical providers are culturally competent.

Support HIV/AIDS prevention initiatives – Ensure that youth are adequately knowledgeable about responsible sexual behavior.

Support initiatives for combating diabetes – Support funding prevention and awareness initiatives aimed at stemming the onset of diabetes.

Support initiatives for combating cardiovascular disease and stroke – Support funding prevention and awareness initiatives aimed at stemming the onset of cardiovascular disease and stroke.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Increase funding for post incarceration initiatives – Ensure that ex-offenders have adequate access to employment, housing and transportation

Increase minority representation of state prosecutors and judges – Address the need to increase minority judges and prosecutors through financial incentives.

FAMILY AND CHILD WELFARE

Strengthen families through effective fatherhood initiatives – Ensure that fathers are connected and involved with their children.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Support initiatives to promote minority businesses in the state – Ensure that minority businesses have equal access to state contracts.

HOUSING

Strengthen anti-predatory lending laws – Ensure that low-income families are protected from predatory lenders.

Increase funding for public housing units – Ensure that public housing units are not further depleted.

Strengthen laws to combat racial discrimination in housing rentals – Support funding to uphold the fair housing laws.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Enhance work support systems for recipients transitioning from welfare to work – Provide ex- welfare recipients with the skills needed to secure sustainable employment.

Establish a State Earned Income Tax Credit – Improve the earnings potential for poor working families

Increase the minimum wage – Ensure that workers receive fair wages.

ENVIRONMENT

Prevent environmental pollution in the state especially in urban communities – Address the incidence of asthma and other airborne illnesses prevalent in low-income communities. Continue efforts to reduce childhood lead poisoning in the state especially in urban communities – Address the incidence of autism and developmental disabilities in children.



CONNECTICUT AFRICAN-AMERICAN FACTS AT A GLANCE

Education

Connecticut has the highest achievement gap between poor and non-poor students than any other state¹

Findings on:

- Education
- Health
- Housing
- Business and Economic Development
- Labor
- Civil Rights
- Criminal Justice
- County Demographics
- Environment

- **11%** of the school age population (5-24) in Connecticut is African-American²
- Of all the Advance Placement (AP) test takers less than **4%** were African-American³
- Roughly **61%** of African-American high school students are estimated to finish with a regular diploma in 4 years⁴
- African-American students are disproportionately underrepresented in Gifted and Talented programs in the public school system⁵
- On the 2008 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) an average of **33.9%** of African-American elementary students reached goal, compared to **74%** of white students⁶
- High school dropout rates for African-Americans have been twice that of whites since 1998⁷
- During the 2007-2008 school year there were **257** African-American administrators out of **3,150**⁸
- During the 2007-2008 school year there were **97** schools without African-American teachers⁹

	Percent of Public School Enrollment	Percent in Gifted and Talented Program	Percent of Total Suspensions
African American	14%	6%	20%
White	69%	84%	36%

Higher Education

Connecticut's public colleges and universities populations are not reflective of the racial makeup of the state

- African-American students make up **15.6%** of the undergraduates in the state's community colleges compared to **7.5%** at the University of Connecticut and the four Connecticut State Universities¹
- **10.0%** of African-Americans over 25 have a bachelors degree or higher against **25.3%** of whites²

Health

African-Americans experience the highest rates from the major leading health indicators such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease, homicide and sexually transmitted diseases

- In 2006, the infant mortality rate among whites was 4.2 per 1,000 live births whereas for African-Americans the rate was 12.9¹
- The sickle disease affects approximately 1 in 6000 African American births in the state²
- Compared to the white population the probability of being uninsured among African-American is 2.79 times higher³
- African-Americans had rates twice as high than other races for the following preventable diseases: asthma, type 1 and 2 diabetes, hypertension and lower extremity amputations⁴
- African-Americans represent 30.2% of the dialysis population in Connecticut yet are 9.8% of the total population⁵
- In Connecticut 64.5% of African-American adults are overweight while 33.6% are considered obese⁶
- 45% of the newly infected people with HIV are African-American⁷



Housing

Due to financial obstacles and an unavailability to resources African-American's are grappling with a housing crisis

- Homeownership rates for African-Americans in the state are 41.2% compared to 76.6% for whites in the state¹
- Rejection rates for conventional mortgage loans for African-Americans with similar incomes to whites are twice higher
- A 2005 study identified 157 towns unaffordable based on the median income needed to qualify for a mortgage

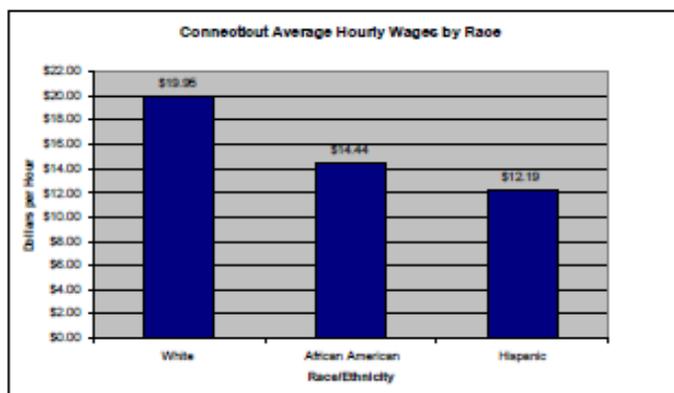
Business and Economic Development

The asset poverty level of minorities in Connecticut is almost 4 times that of white families

- The median household income for white households in Connecticut is \$67,852 compared to \$41,648 for African-American households²
- Of the 301,571 businesses in Connecticut 3.4% are owned by African-Americans³

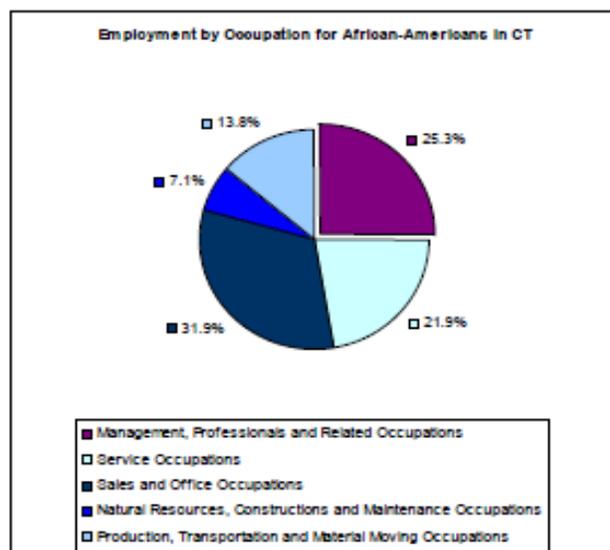
Labor

Connecticut's wage disparity by race exceeds the median wage disparity at the national level¹



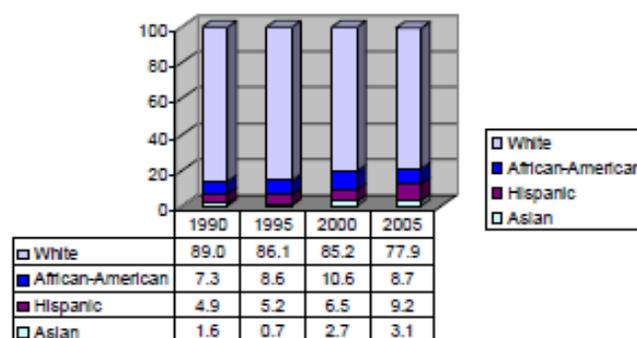
- The median hourly wage for white workers is **\$19.95** compared to **\$14.44** for African-American workers²
- Due to an **8%** increase in real median wage from **\$13.36** in 2006 to **\$14.44** in 2007 the wage gap for African-Americans is slowly closing in Connecticut³

- The unemployment rate for minorities is twice as high as the rate among whites
- African-American unemployment rate in the state is around **11.2%** compared to the state average of **6.3%**⁴
- Approximately **15%** of the states' African-American population consider themselves underemployed (a disproportionately high statistic compared to whites)⁵
- **39.3%** of the states population is employed in the management or professional field compared to **25.3%** for African-Americans⁶



2003 Data

Connecticut's Labor Force by Race/Ethnicity (1990-2005)



Criminal Justice

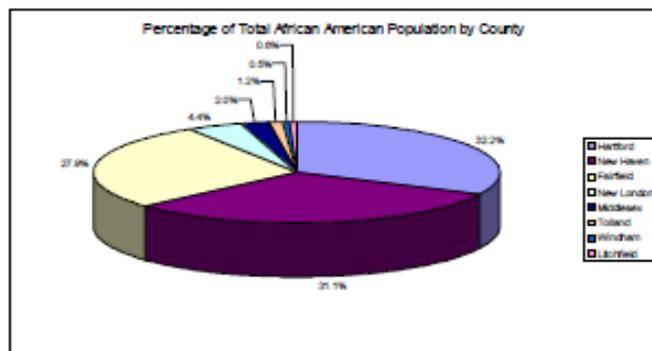
African-Americans are disproportionately represented in the states prison and jail populations

- African-Americans make up about **44%** of the state's prison population¹
- Per 100,000 residents **2532** African-Americans are incarcerated compared to **211** for whites (the national average for African-Americans is **2290** and **412** for whites)²
- Connecticut has the fourth highest black-to-white incarceration ratio in the nation³
- During the 2006 fiscal year, in an effort to create more diversity in the correctional department, the number of minorities in the department increased from **2,118** to **2,204**⁴
- Violation of parole and drug related offenses are the most frequent offenses cited in Connecticut's criminal justice system⁵
- **75%** of the inmates in Connecticut Correctional facilities lack a high school diploma⁶
- **35%** of the children referred to the juvenile court system are African-American⁷
- **44%** of the children represented in detention centers in the state are African-American⁸
- Although women account for **6%** of the youthful offenders (under 19) in the correctional facility more than half are African-American⁹

County Demographics¹

County	Total Population	African-American Population	Percent
Hartford	876,824	106,898	12.5%
New Haven	845,494	101,621	12.3%
Fairfield	895,015	90,344	10.2%
New London	267,376	14,403	5.6%
Middlesex	164,150	6,964	4.3%
Tolland	148,139	4,077	2.8%
Windham	117,038	1,966	1.7%
Litchfield	188,488	2,128	1.1%

+/- 6,222



Environment

Poor environmental conditions affect African-American health in the state

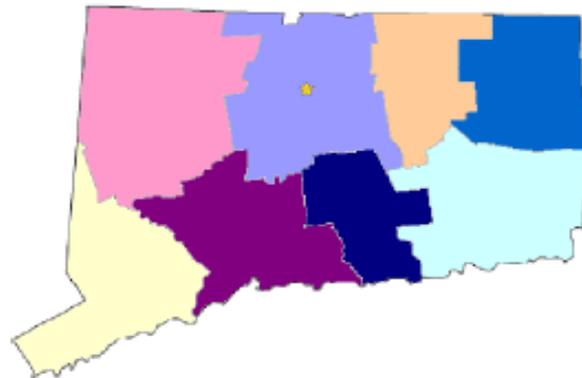
- Air pollution greatly affects urban minorities in Connecticut¹
- Due to high levels of pollution Connecticut citizens in urban areas are disproportionately at risk for asthma
 - African-Americans are twice as likely to die from asthma than whites¹
 - Asthma hospitalizations are **2 to 3** times higher in Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven²

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TO IMPROVE AND
PROMOTING THE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION,
HEALTH AND THE POLITICAL
WELL-BEING OF THE
AFRICAN AMERICAN
COMMUNITY IN THE STATE



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- ²⁻⁴Education Trust In. "Education Watch Connecticut 2006". *Student Demographics*. Available from <http://www2.edtrust.org/edtrust/summaries2006/Connecticut.pdf>. (accessed November 3, 2008).
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Health:

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Business and Economic Development:

- ¹*Asset poverty* is defined as the lack of sufficient net worth to survive at the poverty level for three months without any support.
- ²U.S Census Bureau. "2007 American Community Survey". *Selected Population Profile: Black Alone: Median Household Income (Dollars)*. Available from http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/TPCharIterationServlet?_ts=246546223724. (accessed November 24, 2008).
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Criminal Justice:

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- ⁷⁻⁹The Social State of Connecticut 2008. November 20, 2008 Edition. 67-78

County Demographics:

- ¹All graphs developed from data found in the 2007 American Community Survey. http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/IPCharIterationServlet?_ts=246546223724

Environment:

- ¹The Connecticut State Conference of NAACP Branches Health Committee Housing. "A Health Status Report on African Americans in Connecticut". *Preventable Hospitalizations*. Available from http://research.yale.edu/datainitiative/reports/Health_Status_Report_AFAMCT.pdf. (accessed November 7, 2008).
- ²Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice. "Environmental Justice Law Passed in Connecticut". Available from <http://www.environmental-justice.org/EJ%20Bill%20Passed.htm>. (accessed December 4, 2008).

2008 Racial Profiling

Public Act 03-160 known as the “Alvin W. Penn Racial Profiling Prohibition Act” mandates each municipal police department and Department of Public Safety to provide annually summary reports of traffic stops made by law enforcement to the African-American Affairs Commission. In addition a copy of complaints submitted by persons stopped and written notification of the review and disposition of the complaint must be provided to the Commission by departments.

The AAAC continued to collect and file reports submitted from twenty-seven (27) of the one hundred and ten (110) departments in Connecticut. The reports received from the departments have been submitted in several formats. Some were received electronically while others were received in several paper formats. The reports have not been reviewed by the African-American Affairs Commission. No funding was provided by the General Assembly to manage the data and the Commission did not have resources to analyze the reports. Barely twenty-five percent of the required law enforcement agencies have submitted reports during this reporting year. The Commission did receive two copies of complaints made by persons from two departments.

The Commission made efforts to seek resources to efficiently analyze the data. Through the Connecticut Department of Transportation the AAAC pursued a grant funded by the Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHTSA-2006-23772) Incentive Grant Program to Prohibit Racial Profiling. A grant from NHTSA will enable the AAAC have the resources required to accomplish the mandates in P.A. 03-160. Acceptance of the grant application is still pending.

The towns that were in compliance with P.A. 03-160 and who submitted reports during the year were:

Ansonia	Guilford	Ridgefield
Bethel	Middletown	Simsbury
Bloomfield	Naugatuck	Stonnington
Bristol	New Canaan	Trumbull
Cheshire	New London	Vernon
Coventry	New Milford	Watertown
Danbury	Newtown	Westport
Enfield	Painville	Willimantic
Greenwich	Putnam	Woodbridge

2008 Programs, Issues and Activities

- COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY
- BLACK HISTORY MONTH - BLACK WOMEN BEHIND THE LENS
- BLACK HISTORY MONTH - A WORK IN PROGRESS
- 2008 AAAC CLASSIC AWARDS
- COALITION OF INDEPENDENT TAXI CAB DRIVERS
- TRIBUTE TO THE NEGRO BASE BALL LEAGUE
- 2008 ANNUAL TASTE OF THE CARIBBEAN
- KNOWHOW2GO
- 2008 HARMONY CLASSICS
- PROSPERING FAMILIES
- FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS (FBI) CIVIL RIGHTS FORUM
- BREAST CANCER AWARENESS
- AAAC HOST ST. JOSEPH COLLEGE PRESIDENT, DR. PAMELA TROTMAN REID
- COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

2008 College Goal Sunday



For African-American families applying to college is stressful. Next to selecting a college, applying for financial aid is probably the most important challenge facing students and their families. To help navigate this process, the African-American Affairs Commission joined educators to sponsor College Goal Sunday - Connecticut 2008 (CGS). On Sunday, February 8, 2008 more than 360 high school students and their parents/guardian visited sites in Bridgeport, Hartford, Middletown, New Haven, New London and Norwalk to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). With funding support from the Lumina Foundation and sponsorship from the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, the Connecticut Association of Professional Financial Aid Administrators and the Connecticut Association of Equal Opportunity Programs free professional services were provided. Twelve scholarships were awarded to students who completed their FAFSA and attended college in the fall 2008. Nationally CGS began 19 years ago but this was the first year that Connecticut participated in the program. Once completed and submitted the FAFSA is used by colleges and universities to determine how much financial aid a student will be eligible to receive. Without a completed FAFSA, it will be very difficult for a student attending college in the fall to receive financial aid. College Goal Sunday – CT was so successful that it will be expanded to six additional sites and will continue for at least two more years.



Norwalk Connecticut



New Haven Connecticut



New London Connecticut

BLACK WOMEN BEHIND THE LENS



In celebration of Black History Month, the African American Affairs Commission sponsored the presentation *BLACK WOMEN BEHIND THE LENS*. The exhibit of 23 movie posters from the *Separate Cinema Archive*® featured selections highlighting the richness of African-American female cinematic contributions.

BLACK WOMEN BEHIND THE LENS was available for public viewing in the State Capitol/Legislative Office Building Concourse from Monday through Friday February 1-14, 2008 from 8:00-5:00 p.m.. The exhibit celebrated African American women filmmakers who determined to create truthful portrayals of varying subject matters while defying stereotypical images of black women found in mainstream media. Their films addressed the challenges encountered and eventually overcome by themselves and their community.

Some of the films in the exhibit have been directed or produced by recognizable names include: **Oprah Winfrey, Queen Latifah, Halle Berry, Maya Angelou, and Debbie Allen are among the display's most recognizable movie makers.** Many more are obscure, like **Tressie Souders** who directed the film *A Woman's Error* in 1922. Among the contemporary directors and titles were **Darnell Martin's** 1994 Columbia Pictures' release, *I Like it Like That* (the first major studio movie directed by an African-American woman) and *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (ABC, 2005), **Julie Dash's** *Daughters of the Dust* (Kino International, 1992), **Gina Prince Bythwood's** *Love & Basketball* (New Line Cinema, 2000), and **Euzhan Palcy's** *Sugar Cane Alley* (Orion Pictures 1984).

In 1989, Palcy broke gender and color barriers when she directed MGM's *A Dry White Season* (the story of the 1976 Soweto Massacre in South Africa), making her the first woman of African descent to direct a major studio film.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY: A WORK IN PROGRESS

A Work In Progress held in the Capitol/Legislative Office building concourse, provided an opportunity for more than 26 organizations to gain greater visibility and to display their contributions to the African American community.

Held during the week of February 25, 2008 – February 29, 2008 in celebration of Black History month, during the busy Legislative Session, the exhibit afforded staff, visitors, and legislators the chance to become familiar with governmental, nonprofit, historic and cultural organizations that have service connections and/or historical significance to the African American community. African American history panels, memorabilia and ephemera were prominently featured as was information about health and wellness, environmental justice, breast and prostate cancer, heart disease, diabetes and stroke prevention.

2008 Concourse Exhibit Participants

- African Caribbean American Parents of Children with Disabilities (AFCAMP)
- American Heart Association
- Amistad America
- Amistad Foundation
- Bill Costen Sky Endeavors
- Bone Marrow Foundation
- Connecticut Pre-Engineering Program (CPEP)
- Charter Oak State College
- Citizen for Quality Sickle Cell Care
- Connecticut Association Against Domestic Violence
- Department of Public Health Heart Disease/Stroke Chronic Maladies
- Dr. Caldwell McCoy Jr. Memorial Engineering Scholarship Foundation
- Foundation for Educational Advancement / Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention
- Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut
- John E. Rogers Foundation
- Connecticut Association of Educational Opportunity Programs (CAEOP)
- National Kidney Foundation
- Prostate Screening Program
- Sickle Cell Disease Association of America of Southern Connecticut
- Small/Minority Biz Showcase
- Urban League of Greater Hartford

2008 Classic Awards

The Annual AAAC Classic Awards gives all of us a rare opportunity to acknowledge the contributions, achievements, and service of individuals who are not often recognized for their efforts and positive impact on our communities.

The following individuals were chosen as recipients of the Ninth Annual Classic Awards, held on May 2, 2008 at the Legislative Office Building. Honors were bestowed on Connecticut residents who contributed to the quality of life of Connecticut's African-American communities. Honorees were selected from a distinguished pool submitted by the public. More than 225 people celebrated the event.

AAAC Woman of the Year

Dr. M. Natalie Achong

AAAC Man of the Year

Dr. Calvin Woodland

AAAC Youths of the Year

Neal Stewart and Toddchelle Young

Business and Economic Development

Community Renewal Team, Inc.

Lifetime Achievement Awards

Mrs. Elsie W. Coe field

Mr. Howard Hunter

Dr. Raymond B. Johnson

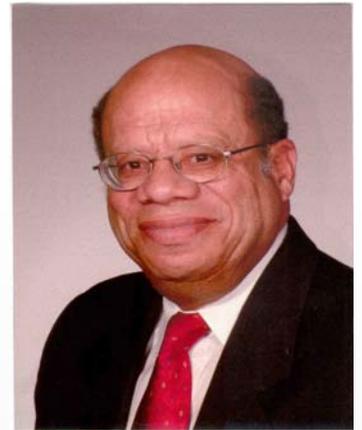
2008 Classic Award Recipients



Man of the Year
Dr. Calvin Woodland



Woman of the Year
Dr. M. Natalie Achong



Lifetime Achievement
Dr. Raymond B. Johnson



Youth of the Year
Neal Stewart



Youth of the Year
Toddchelle Young



Lifetime Achievement
Mr. Howard Hunter



Business and Economic Development
Community Renewal Team, Inc.



Lifetime Achievement
Mrs. Elsie W. Cofield

Coalition of Independent Taxi Cab Drivers

The AAAC was a key advocate on behalf of the Coalition of Independent Taxi Cab Drivers. After discussing concerns and experiences of unfair treatment with the Commission and working diligently with AAAC Commissioners and staff, the Program Review and Investigation a Committee of the State Legislature held a public hearing on the matter. The AAAC testified at this public hearing for increased oversight, transparency, and for fairness in the treatment of cab drivers across the state.



Senator Martin Looney and AAAC Commissioner Michael Jefferson and cab drivers during rally press conference

Tribute to the Negro Baseball League



Sean Gibson, Stan Simpson and AAAC Executive Director, Glenn A. Cassis

On Monday evening, June 23rd, the African-American Affairs Commission (AAAC) joined the New Britain Rock Cats in a tribute to the Negro Baseball League at New Britain Stadium. A commemorative souvenir featuring Negro League standout and National Baseball Hall of Famer Josh Gibson (12/11/1911 - 1/20/1947), widely regarded as the greatest Negro League baseball player ever, was distributed to fans. During the pre-game ceremony a proclamation issued by Governor M. Jodi Rell was read by AAAC Executive Director Glenn Cassis and presented to Sean Gibson, grandson of Josh Gibson, and William Dowling, President and CEO of the Rock Cats.

Taste of the Caribbean

On Saturday, August 2, 2008 AAAC took part in The 3rd Annual Taste of the Caribbean Festival at Mortensen Riverfront Plaza in Hartford, CT.



Members of the American Airlines African-American Professionals group and AAAC's Sr. Legislative Secretary, Denise Drummond

KnowHow2GO

For many African-American families attending college is a new experience. Often students and their families have limited information on how to prepare for college. Although it can be daunting a college education is the first step in pursuing a successful and fulfilling career. It is where students explore different career options and where young adults can learn essential job skills. Planning takes time and there are a lot of things students need to know and do. The African-American joined forces with the Departments of Education and Higher Education to launch Know How To Go – Connecticut (KH2GO-CT). KH2GO-CT is a four step media and web campaign that directs middle and high school students to successful paths to get into college. **Step 1** tells students to “Be a Pain” in a good way by letting everyone know that they want to go college, and to find an adult who will help you get into a college. **Step 2** directs students to “Push Yourself” and take challenging classes in middle school and high school. **Step 3** says “Find the Right Fit” which means explore your options when looking for colleges. Find one that offers programs that interest you and campuses that appeal to your activities. Finally **Step 4** says “Put Your Hands on Some Cash”. This means investigate all opportunities to obtain financial aid. Take advantage of resources available in Connecticut including College Goal Sunday.

KH2GO-CT was launched on January 17, 2008 in schools in Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven. Students, teachers, counselors, educators and Lt. Governor Fedele helped demonstrated the user friendly website www.knowhow2goct.org . During the remainder of the year tens of thousands students and families from all corners of the state visited the site for helpful information and advice.



KNOWHOW2GO STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Glenn A. Cassis**, *Executive Director* - African-American Affairs Commission
- Gail Stevens** - *Director*, College Pathways Initiative Norwalk Community College
- Ann R. Gaulin** - *High School Program Manager*, CT State Department of Education
- Donna Thompson** - *Director*, Wesleyan Upward Bound/ConnCap
- Carolyn M. Stanek** - *Project Associate*, National Initiatives American Council on Education
- Arthur Poole** - *Director*, GEAR UP and Educational Opportunity
- Susan Hanchard** - *Early Awareness and College Planning Officer*, CT Student Loan Foundation
- Constance Fraser** - *Director of Communications*, CT Department of Higher Education
- Gloria Ragosta** - *Vice President*, CT Conference of Independent Colleges
- Bernard L. Kavaler** - *Assistant Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs*, Connecticut State University System

2008 Harmony Classics

The year 2008 marked the continuation of a successful partnership between the AAAC and the Connecticut State Conference of NAACP Branches. Both groups worked to address a number of initiatives involving civic engagement and appreciation of diversity. Connecticut NAACP and Central Connecticut State University football hosted North Carolina Central University, (NCCU) a historically black university in the NAACP Harmony Classic. The game took place at Veterans Memorial Stadium in New Britain's Willow Brook Park on September 20, 2008. The Classic was the highlight of a week filled with programs and celebrations related to diversity and racial harmony. The AAAC cosponsored the event.

The NCCU Marching Sound Machine provided both halftime and post-game entertainment. Aside from the excitement of the event, Central's 35-23 win, and the crowd of more than 8,000, the NAACP reported success in accomplishing its voter registration goals, particularly among young and first time voters.

In its first game off campus since the 2000 season, Central Connecticut State University played in front of a home crowd of 8,322 people. Central Connecticut (2-1) defeated North Carolina Central (0-4), 35-23, to win the inaugural NAACP Harmony Classic at Veterans Memorial Stadium in New Britain's Willow Brook Park.



*Former AAAC Intern
Dominique Rose - CCSU # 28*



North Carolina Central Marching Sound Machine

The crowd was treated to North Carolina Central's Sound Machine. The band is nationally recognized and consists of about 250 members.

This was the centerpiece of the Harmony Classic and the halftime show was as much of an attraction as the game for many fans.

Prospering Communities, Thriving Families



The AAAC co-sponsored and participated in the *“Prospering Communities, Thriving Families”* Conference. The conference discussed solutions and initiatives underway in the state to address poverty. The event gave further insight into the problem of poverty and provided the Commission with guidelines for the development of its legislative priorities for the 2009 Legislative Session.



Civil Rights Informational Forum



CIVIL RIGHTS ARE HUMAN

Your Civil Rights
USE THEM OR LOSE THEM

After becoming aware of a number of incidences involving civil rights violations and an increase in the number of hate crimes, the African-American Affairs Commission (AAAC) hosted a civil rights information forum on October 1, 2008 at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford, Connecticut.

The event focused on the efforts and activities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) related to its civil rights and hate crimes programs. Special Agents Walter W. Grattan and Kimberly K. Mertz of the FBI’s New Haven Division were featured speakers.

The FBI receives the highest number of complaints related to claims of use of excessive force by law enforcement personnel. The second most common FBI investigated violations involve hate crimes, including threats against persons or their property because of race, religion, or ethnicity. Generally investigations involve racially motivated physical assaults, homicides, verbal or written threats, or desecration of property. The Forum was important for the public to get information about where to go for help.

Breast Cancer

On October 8, 2008, the AAAC partnered with the Visiting Nurse Association of New Britain and the Connecticut State University Ruthe Boyea Women’s Center for the breast cancer awareness event, “Learn What You Need to Know about Breast Cancer Prevention, Treatment and Services.” The presentation at Central’s Memorial Hall was facilitated by WFSB Channel 3 reporter Aleesha Chaney and featured St. Francis Hospital Connecticut Breast and Cervical Cancer Outreach Educator Barbara Smith, a 12-year breast cancer survivor.



Pictured from left to right are: WFSB Reporter – Aleesha Chaney, Cheryl Harris Forbes-AAAC Public Affairs/Special Projects Coordinator, St. Francis Hospital Outreach Educator and breast cancer survivor – Barbara Smith, Bertha Burkes, and Visiting Nurse Association Program Supervisor – Shonya Harrison

AAAC Welcomes St. Joseph College President Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D.



PAMELA TROTMAN REID, Ph.D.

The African-American Affairs Commission (AAAC) welcomed Dr. Pamela Trotman Reid to Connecticut on Wednesday, October 22, 2008 at the State Capitol.

The reception marked a significant event, not only in the life of St. Joseph College, but in the course of Connecticut history. Dr. Reid is the first African-American president of the 76 year-old institution.

Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D., was appointed the eighth President of Saint Joseph College in January, 2008. With her guidance, and commitment to increased enrollment and educational opportunity, St. Joseph College's freshman class is the largest in its history. Throughout her career, Dr. Reid has worked with faculty and administrative colleagues alike to enhance academic quality and promote diversity. Dr. Reid's has a national reputation for promoting partnerships with community colleges, service organizations and public schools. She has also been an advocate of global education, working to establish international connections with universities in China, India and Russia.



Glenn Cassis, Executive Director-AAAC, Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D, President of St. Joseph College, Nancy Wyman, Connecticut State Comptroller and Michael Jefferson, AAAC-Chairman



Scott X. Esdaile, President Connecticut State Conference of NAACP Branches, Pamela Trotman Reid, Ph.D, President St. Joseph College and Michael Jefferson, AAAC-Chairman

Outreach Events & Activities

- African-American Women's Summit – New Haven
- Black and Latino Male Student Achievement Gap - SERC
- Capitol Preparatory Magnet School Presentation
- Citizenship Forum
- Commission on Children – Poverty Council and Child Obesity Council
- Connecticut Health Foundation Multi-Cultural Health Forums
- Department of Environmental Protection / Black History Presentation
- Juvenile Justice Issues Forum
- National Council of Black Males
- Permanent Commission on the Status of Women - Trafficking in Persons Council
- Permanent Commission on the Status of Women - Making Women Visible Day
- Reflecting Connecticut Forums
- Small & Minority Business Showcase
- Taste of The Caribbean
- Know How To Go – Connecticut
- College Goal Sunday – Connecticut
- Black History Month Presentation – Department of Public Health
- Black History Month Presentation – Inmates at Bergin Correctional Institution
- Symposium Intersection of Race and Education – SERC
- African –American Male National Conference
- Greater Hartford Male Youth Leadership Program
- Greater Hartford Jazz Festival
- Urban League of Greater Hartford
- New Haven Festival of the Arts
- Community Collaboration for Change
- NAACP Harmony Classic Football Game
- 2008 Jazz Festival
- International Festival of Arts & Ideas

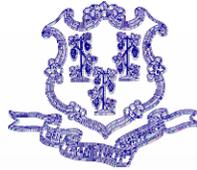
Issues of Interest

- Appointive Boards and Commissions
- Black Male Development
- CT Public Interest Law Journal/ Center for Children Advocacy
- Charter Oak College
- Childcare
- DMV Immigrant Concerns
- Department of Developmental Services
- Department of Public Health
- Disparate Criminal Justice
- Economic and Business Development
- Educational Achievement
- Election Day Registration
- Environmental Justice
- Greater New England Alliance of Black School Educators
- Health Programming
- Health Status Disparities
- Juvenile Justice
- Juvenile Violence
- National Correctional Center
- Organ Transplants
- Pay Equity
- Predatory Lending
- Prison Reform
- Secondary School Reform
- Sickle Cell Association
- Sickle Cell Treatment Disparities
- Social Service Program Reductions

Partnerships

- The African-American Affairs Commission would like to thank the following organizations whose partnerships helped to support AAAC activities.
 - Central Connecticut State University
 - Commission on Racial & Ethnic Disparities
 - Connecticut Department of Education
 - Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
 - Connecticut Department of Higher Education
 - Connecticut Department of Labor
 - Connecticut Department of Transportation
 - Connecticut State Chapter of NAACP Branches
 - DemocracyWorks, Inc.
 - Department of Administrative Services
 - Freedom of Information Commission
 - Greater Hartford Interfaith Coalition for Equity & Justice
 - Groton Sub Base
 - Help Educate Lead Poisoning Initiative
 - Indiana Commission on Black Males
 - Latino & Puerto Rican Affairs Commission
 - Manchester Community College
 - Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
 - Salvaging the African-American Village
 - Secretary of the State's Office
 - Small Business Administration
 - State Education Resource Center

State of Connecticut



African-American Affairs Commission

Commissioners:

Michael Jefferson, Chairperson

Fred Pierre-Louis, Vice Chairperson

George Logan, Secretary

Alphonse Wright, Treasurer

Kristen M. Clark

Brenda DelGado

Rosetta Jones

Derrick McBride

Ngozi Taffe

Staff:

Glenn A. Cassis,
Executive Director

Cheryl Harris Forbes,
Public Affairs / Special Projects Coordinator

Frank Sykes,
Senior Legislative Analyst

Denise Drummond,
Senior Legislative Secretary

AAAC Commissioner Profiles



Michael Jefferson

Chairperson – Commissioner Michael Jefferson is a criminal defense attorney and community activist. He earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1995 after completing a Masters degree in Child Welfare from Saint Joseph College (1991) and a Bachelors degree in Computer Science from Southern Connecticut State University (1986). In addition to his role as founder of New Haven’s Black Parent Teacher’s Organization and the AIDS Brigade, an organization to fight the effects of AIDS in the African-American community, Attorney Jefferson established New Haven’s first ever All Civilian Review Board as a means of combating police brutality. For two years he hosted WNHC-1340 AM’s radio public affairs show “*Inside the Community*”. Attorney Jefferson continues to advocate for reform of Connecticut’s criminal justice and juvenile justice systems. He was appointed in September 2003 by Senate Majority Leader, Martin M. Looney.



George Logan

Housing Member – Secretary George Logan is Director-Capital & Planning at Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut. In this role he is responsible for the entire range of Capital and Planning activities, including water resource planning, project management, new services, purchasing and inventory for Aquarion's facilities in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. A resident of Ansonia, Mr. Logan completed undergraduate study at Trinity College where he received a Bachelor of Science degree, and he received a Masters degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Bridgeport. In addition to serving on the AAAC, he is a member of the Griffin Health Services (Derby-CT) Board of Directors / Griffin Hospital Board of Trustees, Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce-Inc. Board of Directors, Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut-Inc. Board of Directors and Trinity College Engineering Advisory Council. A native of New Haven-CT, Mr. Logan has an extensive record of community service within the Bridgeport and New Haven areas. In 1998, House Majority Leader Moira Lyons appointed Mr. Logan as a Commissioner of the African- American Affairs Commission. In 2005, he was reappointed by House Majority Leader, James Amann.



Rosetta Jones

Human Services - Commissioner Rosetta Jones retired in 2001 as Warden of Brooklyn Correction Institution. Her career began with the Connecticut Dept of Corrections as a Correction officer. Spanning 22 years Ms. Jones ascended through the ranks as Lieutenant at Niantic Correctional Institution for Women; Executive Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner of Operations, Commissioner, Deputy Warden, and Warden. The Connecticut General Assembly, Association of Police Commissioners, Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, Connecticut College, CPTV, have recognized her. Ms. Jones holds a Master’s Degree in Organizational Management and Leadership from Springfield College, and was recently elected as a Councilwoman, in the town of Montville, CT. She was appointed to the African- American Affairs Commission in November 2003 by Governor John G. Rowland.

AAAC Commissioner Profiles



Derrick McBride

Public Safety - Commissioner Derrick McBride is a native of Bridgeport. He currently resides in Willimantic. Mr. McBride holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Benedict College, Columbia, South Carolina. He has worked in law enforcement since 1987 at Eastern Connecticut State University's Police Department, and is currently the department's Executive Officer/2nd in Command. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA. He served in the United States Army Reserves for 10 years as a Captain and member of a Civil Affairs Unit. Mr. McBride is involved in many roles at the University and within the Windham community. As a reflection of this commitment, he is a recipient of Eastern's Martin Luther King Community Service Award and the Excellence in Service to the University Award. He was appointed by the Windham First Selectman to serve on Windham's Affirmative Action Commission. He is deeply devoted to his family and church. Mr. McBride has served on the Commission since 2001. He was reappointed in 2008 by the Speaker of the House, Jim Amann.



Kristen M. Clark

Member of the Public - Commissioner Kristen M. Clark is the Village for Families and Children, Inc.'s Community Ambassador. During her fourteen years with the agency, Ms. Clark has worked as a supervisor, therapist, and case manager in the Village's foster care program. As part of her community involvement, Ms. Clark participates as an officer with several organizations in the Greater Hartford area. She is currently the President of the Howard University Alumni Club of Greater Hartford, an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and member of the Board of Directors for Community Health Center in Hartford. Additionally, Ms. Clark serves as a member of the National Association of Black Social Workers, the Greater Hartford Alliance of Black Social Workers, the NAACP, past member of Hartford Communities that Care Advisory Board and the Neighborhood Enforcement and Stabilization Team (NEST). She is involved with the Development Committee of the Open Hearth as well as the Corporate Intern and Young Professionals Committee of the MetroHartford Alliance Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Clark was appointed to the AAAC Board in 2007 by Representative Christopher G. Donovan.



Brenda DelGado

Commissioner Brenda DelGado, worked in the area of health care administration for over 30 years and is currently the Executive Director of the Central Area Health Education Center, Inc in Hartford. She is the past Chief of HIV Prevention Clinical Services for the CT Department of Public Health AIDS Division. She received a Fellowship in Long term Care Administration from the National Black Caucus on Aging to become one of first African American licensed Nursing Home Administrators in CT. Ms. DelGado has a Bachelors degree in Biology and Medical Technology, a Masters in Health Administration and is completing a PhD in Educational Psychology. Mrs. DelGado was appointed to the Commission in 2008 by Senate President Pro Tempore, Donald E. Williams.

AAAC Commissioner Profiles



Ngozi Taffe

Commissioner Ngozi Taffe a Business Manager at Hamilton Sundstrand, a division of United Technologies Corporation. She is responsible for driving development and growth of the international supply base and executing cost reduction initiatives. Prior to her current position, Ms. Taffe worked for Info Tech Enterprises American where she managed on and off-shore resources and spearheaded best practice efforts for process improvement initiatives. Ms. Taffe received her Bachelors degree in Management Information Systems and Masters in Business Administration and International Business Strategy from the University of Connecticut. Ms. Taffe is committed to enriching the lives of young children in the State of Connecticut. With the support of the Connecticut Valley Adventist Church, she runs a week-long summer day camp aimed at strengthening moral values, developing intellectual abilities and encouraging service to others. She chairs several nonprofit organizations and was appointed to the African-American Affairs Commission in February of 2008 by Governor M. Jodi Rell.



Fred Pierre-Louis

Member of the Public – Vice Chairperson Fred Pierre-Louis is a proven leader in both community and professional arenas. He is a passionate team player with a keen understanding of group dynamics. Mr. Pierre–Louis has fourteen years of combined business development and project management experience. He is pursuing a doctorate degree in educational leadership at the University of Hartford. His academic achievement include: a Sixth Year Degree in Secondary Education from the University of Bridgeport, an Executive Masters of Business Administration (EMBA) from the University of Connecticut, an Advanced Business. Executive Program from the Amos Tuck Business School at Dartmouth College, a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from the University of Connecticut, and Business Computer Programming credentials from **the** Computer Processing Institute, in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Commissioner Pierre-Louis is committed to continuous self-improvement and actualization. He is a member of Stamford Republican Town Committee, the vice-chairperson of the Smith House (for elderly citizens in Stamford), a member of Kappa Delta Pi International Education Honor Society and the chairman of the Education Committee of AAAC. Commissioner Pierre-Louis was appointed in 2006, by House Minority Leader, Robert M. Ward.



Alphonse Wright

Member of the Public - Treasurer Alphonse Wright has more than twenty years of Human Resources experience and eleven years as a mortgage broker, dedicated to meeting the needs of small business. As part of his commitment to give back to the community, he participates on a number of inner-city boards as well as the Connecticut State Board of Education. In Norwalk, he was Excel’s Chairman of the Board. Excel is an organization that helps at-risk students graduate high school. As a result of Mr. Wright’s willingness to represent his community and engage the political process, he received a letter of recognition from President George W. Bush, Congresswoman Nancy Johnson and Governor M. Jodi Rell. In addition to serving on the AAAC Board, Mr. Wright is Chairman of the New Britain Commission on Community Neighborhood and Development, Board Member of the New Britain Human Resources Agency and a Trustee of McCullough Temple. Mr. Wright is a graduate of Boston University. He was appointed to the African-American Affairs Commission by House Republican Leader, Lawrence F. Cafero, Jr. in 2007.

AAAC Staff Profiles



Glenn A. Cassis

Executive Director - Glenn A. Cassis has served as the Executive Director of the State of Connecticut African-American Affairs Commission since August 2006. Prior to joining the AAAC, Mr. Cassis, a New York native and Bloomfield resident, worked for nearly 20 years as the executive director of the Connecticut Pre-Engineering Program, Inc.(CPEP). Under his leadership, the statewide program expanded from a single school district serving 43 students, to 12 urban school districts serving more than 9,000 students. CPEP is a non-profit educational program that encourages underrepresented minority and female middle and high school students to pursue careers in math, science, and engineering. Mr. Cassis is an active member of several professional and non-profit organizations, including but not limited to the American Society of Engineering Educators, the Southern New England Association of Technical Professionals, and Hartford NAACP. He serves as a board member or officer in the following organizations: Connecticut Council for Philanthropy, Bloomfield Raiders Youth Football, treasurer of the National Association of Pre-College Directors, Connecticut Academy for Education Fellow, vice-president of the Bloomfield Education Foundation and reviewer for National Science Foundation and NASA. Mr. Cassis attended the University of Connecticut where he earned his undergraduate degree in political science and his graduate degree in arts administration.



Cheryl Harris Forbes

Public Affairs/Special Projects Director - Cheryl Harris Forbes is a Connecticut native and graduate of Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. Prior to her current position, she worked as a Writer/Editor in the University Relations Office at Eastern Connecticut State University. Some of her accomplishments include the creation of Connecticut State University's first institutional advertisements, and collaborative efforts with the State Department of Environmental Protection, the Governor's Office, and WFSB-TV3 to produce a statewide water conservation campaign, including television public service announcements.



Frank Sykes

Legislative Analyst II - Franklin Sykes is a resident of Rocky Hill and holds an MBA degree from the University of New Haven. Mr. Sykes spent the earlier part of his youth outside the U.S. including England. His parents finally settled in their native Ghana where he completed high school with an emphasis in Liberal Arts. Mr. Sykes is also a veteran and served in the U.S. Army in Germany. Mr. Sykes has a well rounded background. He has worked in the financial industry, briefly in academia and has always had passion for humanitarian work. Mr. Sykes main functions in his position are research, policy analysis and advocacy. He also serves as liaison between the Commission and the legislature. Frank understands the socio-economic challenges facing minority populations in the state. To this end he has been proactive in forging relationships with legislators, has worked in partnership with individuals and community groups, to improve the welfare of the African-American community. Mr. Sykes provides testimony at public hearings and forums, to present the Commission's position in influencing state policy and legislation.



Denise Drummond

Senior Legislative Secretary - Denise Drummond is a native of Connecticut. Prior to joining the African-American Affairs Commission, Mrs. Drummond worked for Allegheny Ludlum as an Executive Secretary, Payroll Analyst, and Materials Management Coordinator.

The African-American Affairs Commission maintains a talent bank of applications from African-Americans who are interested in appointment to state boards, councils, commissions, or task forces. The African-American Affairs Commission serves as a resource by forwarding these applications to appropriate appointing authorities. (Generally, positions on state boards and commissions are unpaid, and are appointed by the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House or other state officials in accordance with State law.)

The Connecticut Secretary of State's published report, *Gender and Racial Diversity on Connecticut State Appointive Boards, (2005)* revealed of the 1,859 appointed members of the 189 reporting state boards and commissions, 89.0% were White, 6.7% Black, 3.1% Hispanic and 1.2% were classified as "Other". Consequently, the African-American Affairs Commission worked to increase the participation of African-Americans on state boards and commissions.

The Commission is aggressively utilizing its online capabilities and outreach efforts to increase the number of African-American constituents who are referred to appointing authorities with the goal of making our government more representative of the population.

Talent Bank Application



AFRICAN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION

TALENT BANK FORM

Name: _____
Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial

Address: _____
Street City or Town State/Zip Code

Telephone: _____
Home phone Work phone fax E-mail address

Employer: _____

Gender: Male Female - U.S. Citizen: Yes No - Racial/Ethnic Background: _____

Registered Voter: Yes No - Political Affiliation: Democrat Republican Independent

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE / BACKGROUND / OR ATTACH RESUME

Education: _____
Degree Major/Concentration Institution Graduation Year

(Areas of interest for appointment):

_____ *Education* _____ *Human Services* _____ *Health* _____ *Housing*
_____ *Public Safety* _____ *Children / Youth* _____ *Economic Development* _____ *Other*

Briefly describe your community experience. Please include organizations purposes, your role/title and dates served.



African-American Affairs Commission

The African-American Affairs Commission (AAAC) is located in Room 509 (5th Floor) of the State Capitol in Hartford, Connecticut.

The African-American Affairs Commission maintains a website that includes information about our Commission, our Legislative and Administrative Priorities, Resource Links, Talent Bank Information and Forms, Commissioner and Staff Profiles, Internship Program Information, Service Providers, News Items, a College Search, a listing of regional employment opportunities and a Calendar of Events. Our website address is www.cga.ct.gov/aaac.

If you would like to request additional information, or to correspond with the AAAC, please feel free to contact us:

**State of Connecticut
African-American Affairs Commission
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue - Room 509
Hartford, CT 06106-1596**

(860) 240-8555 (Phone)
(860) 240-8444 (Fax)

[aac@cga.ct.gov](mailto:aaac@cga.ct.gov)

www.cga.ct.gov/aaac

We look forward to hearing from you.



AAAC

African-American Affairs Commission

Tel: 860 240 8555 Web: www.cga.ct.gov/aaac