



# 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](mailto: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:** Prince George's County Council – District 9

**Candidate's Name:** Sherman Hardy

**Current Occupation:** Acquisition Specialist

**Party:** Democrat

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

P.O. Box 241, Clinton, MD 20735

240-858-1102

[Sherman@Hardy4PG.com](mailto:Sherman@Hardy4PG.com)

[www.hardy4pg.com](http://www.hardy4pg.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

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

As a councilmember, I would maintain regular engagement through community roundtables, partnerships with cultural organizations, and consistent communication with faith leaders, small business owners, civic groups, youth leaders, and other stakeholders, to remain abreast of issues and setting the rhythm that Caribbean-Americans can count on.

I also want to use tools that the county already has. I would partner with the office of Multi-Cultural Affairs to improve two-way communication, identify trusted community messengers, and ensure my office is tapping into existing networks across the Caribbean diaspora.

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?

Caribbean immigrants face real barriers, and not all of them are created locally. On healthcare, many of the biggest barriers come from federal eligibility rules and immigration status issues, so at the county level my focus is making sure residents can still access local clinics, preventative care, and navigation support without getting lost in red tape. On housing, it fits directly into my "housing for all" approach: expand housing options, use county land and mission-driven partners, speed up delivery in the right



## The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee

*1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C., 20036 | 202-349-1498 | [www.CaribbeanPac.org](http://www.CaribbeanPac.org)*

places. For education and social programs, my approach is straightforward: fully fund the agencies and nonprofits that do the work, but tie funding to measurable outcomes we can see – my jobs is to ensure systems perform, and residents can access services without needing insider connections.

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

By ensuring we have representation at the decision table and in the frontline service delivery. That means partnering with the County's Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs to strengthen language access, culturally competent outreach, and trusted community messengers. It also means requiring agencies to track measurable services – so that data can provide opportunities to detect areas which may need processing improvements.

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?

For Caribbean-American small business owners and workers, I'm focused on removing the practical barriers that keep good businesses small and workers stuck. First, I want the County to be easier to do business with clear permitting timelines, fewer runarounds, and accountability when agencies delay. Second, I want procurement to work for local businesses, not against them. That means hands-on help to bid, get insurance and bonding ready, and fair enforcement so legitimate firms are not undercut by wage theft and misclassification. Finally, we need incubators that connect owners to customers, mentors, and capital, plus targeted, limited grants for things that block growth like licensing and compliance. And because federal rules can cut off capital and work authorization, I want the Office of Multicultural Affairs to be a true front door for immigration entrepreneurs, including trusted referrals and clinics to help people navigate immigration paperwork legally and avoid scams, so businesses are not knocked out over process barriers.

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

Prince George's already has interpreting services and a language access office. So, the issue is not whether the services exist, it's whether they work for families when it counts. I want accountability on response times, coverage at key meetings, and clear communication so parents are not



## The Caribbean-American Political Action Committee

1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C., 20036 | 202-349-1498 | [www.CaribbeanPac.org](http://www.CaribbeanPac.org)

chasing answers or relying on their kids to translate serious issues. The County does not run PGCPs, but we can partner with the Office of Multi-Cultural Affairs and trusted community groups to bring information into the community and track whether families are getting results with fewer runarounds.

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

I'd treat community organizations as delivery partners, not just people we call when we need a photo opportunity. I would work with the Health Department and MCA to fund and coordinate trusted groups already doing the work, local nonprofits and other stakeholders.

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 is earned; it comes from consistency and accountability. I support community policing that is visible and respectful but also support clear rules and real oversight when things go wrong. As a former law enforcement officer, I know good officers want standards because they protect them too. My approach is to strengthen reporting and transparency around stops, use of force, and complaints, and to ensure the complaint process is easy to access and taken seriously. Safety and civil rights aren't competing goals, we can do both by setting clear expectations and enforcing them equally and consistently.

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

I'm going to build on what we already have, not pretend we're starting from zero. Prince George's has an Office of Multicultural Affairs and a network of agencies and nonprofit partners. The problem is people still get bounced around and services don't always feel coordinated. I want Multicultural Affairs to operate as a true front door that connects residents to wraparound supports, with trusted partners. I also want funding tied to measurable outcomes we can see. Other jurisdictions have done this well by creating centralized resource hubs and legal support networks and by tracking results publicly.