

NAACP[®]

Merced Branch

August 6, 2023

City of Merced
Attention: Merced Parks & Recreation
678 W. 18th Street
Merced CA 95340

Dear Mayor Serratto and City Council,

The NAACP Merced County Branch is holding our 63rd Annual Freedom Fund Banquet on Saturday, October 7, 2023, at the Merced Senior Community Center at 755 W. 15th Street, Merced, CA. We are requesting the City of Merced co-sponsor rate for use of Center. Our program starts at 6 p.m. and ends at approximately 10 p.m.

NAACP Fighting Fund for Freedom (aka Freedom Fund Banquet) – The NAACP Freedom Fund began in 1953 (on a national level) as a ten-year program to intensify efforts to complete the job of emancipation. Near the culmination of this effort, Medgar W. Evers, a heroic NAACP Mississippi Field Secretary, was killed by an assassin's bullet. This prompted the NAACP Chairman Bishop Stephen Spottswood to pay tribute to this gallant warrior at the NAACP Convention in Chicago, Illinois in July 1963. He did so by proclaiming that the NAACP Fighting Fund for Freedom will continue until the job of emancipating our people is complete. (Source: The 96th Annual Thurgood Marshall Freedom Fund Dinner and Awards Ceremony) Branch of the NAACP for raising monies for its non-profit organization.


The NAACP was founded in 1909 in New York City by a group of citizens fighting for social justice to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights and there is no racial hatred or racial discrimination. As a 501c4 organization, we are organized for purpose, not profit. Our 501c3 partner organization, known as NAACP Empowerment Programs, accepts fully tax-deductible donations, as allowed by the IRS.

The Freedom Fund Banquet is our primary fundraiser, supporting programming, activism, and outreach, as well as branch scholarships, youth mentorship programs, economic development efforts, voter education and advocacy. In addition, it helps provide support to the NAACP's mission to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

City Of Merced: Mayor and City Council
The NAACP Merced County Branch 63rd Annual Freedom Fund Banquet

We hope that we can count on the City of Merced's continued support for our event and programs as we continue working together to improve the social determinants of health in our community.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:


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Allen Brooks
President
NAACP Merced County Branch

Attachments (3)