

Office: (941) 637-7907 • Fax: (941) 637-0846

November 11, 2022

Macedonia Human Services are the organizers of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade for 2023, celebrated on the third Monday in January (January 16, 2023).

During this event we organize and implement a county-wide parade in honor of the extraordinary efforts, influences, and accomplishments of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. toward peace, justice, and equal opportunity for all (The youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize). The parade is followed by a rally program where a local citizen is recognized with the MLK award, as well as dignitaries, sponsors, and a theme speaker. The program will be held at the New Operation Cooper Street Recreation Center, <u>650 Mary Street</u> in Punta Gorda, FL

The parade route will be the same as the 2020's event route. Staging will be near the Charlotte Harbor Event Center, located at <u>75 Taylor Street</u> in Punta Gorda, FL. Staging time for parade float participants will be at 9:00 AM and walkers at 10:00 AM. The parade will begin promptly at 11:00 AM at <u>75 Taylor St</u> in Punta Gorda, traveling south on Taylor St to Charlotte Ave, east on Charlotte Ave, then south on Mary St. to the New Operation Cooper Street Recreation Center for disbanding.

The theme for the 2023 parade is "The Dream is Ongoing"

A parade entrance form is required. This form is available by request through email to MHSCTC.MLK@gmail.com OR return by mail to MHSCTC, 411 E. Charlotte Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. Please submit all applications by Thursday, January 12, 2023.

A vendor application form is required for anyone wanting to be a vendor at New Operation Cooper Street. For your convenience, you may request the application form to be sent through email to MHSCTC.MLK@gmail.com and return either by **email** to same address, **FAX to (941) 637-0846** or **mail** to above listed address. **Vendor fees must be paid to MHSCTC before January 12, 2023.**

Please direct inquiries to:

Parade Chairman, Gerald Anderson <u>(941) 875-0038</u> Parade Vice Chairperson, Zelda Smith (941)286-3849 General Chairperson, Rev. Ellison Haddock <u>(941) 916-0202</u>

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at the event!

Sincerely,

Rev. Carl F. Brooks

Reverend Dr. Carl F. Brooks, Executive Chairman MLK, Jr. Parade & CEO, Macedonia Human Services and Cultural Training Center /cal