Macedonia Human Services
Cultural Training Center, Inc.

411 E. Charlotte Avenue ◆ Punta Gorda, FL 33950

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

October 15, 2026

Macedonia Human Services Cultural Training Center, Inc. & First Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church are co-organizers of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Parade & Rally Celebration for 2027, celebrated on the third Monday in January (January 18, 2027).

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 Cooper Street Recreation Center-YMCA, 650 Mary Street in Punta Gorda, FL

The parade route will be the same as last year's route. Staging will be near the Charlotte Harbor Event Center, located at 75 Taylor Street in Punta Gorda, FL. Staging time for parade float participants will be at 9:00am and walkers at 10:00am. The parade will begin promptly at 11:00am at 75 Taylor St in Punta Gorda, traveling south on Taylor St to Charlotte Ave, east on Charlotte Ave, then south on Mary St. to the Cooper Street Recreation Center-YMCA for disbanding.

The theme for the 2027 parade is "From the Dream to the Doing-FAITH IN ACTION"
Scripture: James 2:19

A **parade entrance form** must be returned by **January 11, 2027**. Also, if you wish to be a vendor, a **vendor application form** is required and to be returned by **January 11, 2027** for all vendors at Cooper Street Recreation Center-YMCA. For your convenience these forms are available to **download online at macedoniaservices.org** under the MLK PARADE & RALLY INFO tab. Once downloaded you can then save the form on your device, type or print in the boxes on the form, save again and then attach application or information forms to your email email to MHSCTC.MLK@gmail.com. Or you also return the application(s) by **FAX** to (941) 637-0846 or **mail** to **411 E. Charlotte Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950**. Please return your completed. Vendor form with payment by mail to **MHSCTC**, 411 E Charlotte Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. **Vendor fees** must be paid to MHSCTC before **January 17, 2027.**

Please direct inquiries to:
General Chairperson, Sister Zelda Smith (941)286-3849
Parade General Vice Chairperson, Rev. Kevin Shaw, Sr. (910) 238-6844
General Secretary, Sister Cheryl LaVecchio, (941) 204-7359

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 & Rally
CEO, Macedonia Human Services Cultural Training Center, Inc.
Pastor, Rev. Dr. Carl F. Brooks, First Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church

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