



FANNIE LOU HAMER STATUE COMMITTEE

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Former Secretary
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Patricia M. Thompson
Committee Coordinator
Saint Paul, MN

Dr. Stacy J. White
Indianola, MS

Dr. Conrad Worrill
Chicago, IL

HONORARY MEMBERS*

Mr. William Buckley

**Former Mayor
Shirley Franklin**

Dr. Davis W. Houck

Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

**Rep. Eleanor
Holmes Norton**

Mr. Tracy Sugarman

Ms. Susan Taylor

**Prof. Ekwueme
Michael Thelwell**

Ms. Iyanla Vazant

**As of January 31, 2010*

For Immediate Release: February 1, 2010

Former Hamer Campaign Manager and fellow SNCC member, Charles McLaurin, and MFDP Chairman and Hamer friend, Lawrence Guyot, are part of a National Committee Launching Campaign to Honor Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer

Ruleville, MS. Charles McLaurin and Lawrence Guyot are among a distinguished group of scholars, educational leaders, community and civil rights activists who have joined forces to help launch a national fundraising campaign to honor human and civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer. **The Fannie Lou Hamer Statue Committee (FLHSC)**, established in summer 2009, exists solely for the purpose of supporting efforts to pay tribute to Mrs. Hamer by commissioning the construction of a full-length statue of the civil and human rights leader, to be placed on permanent display at the Fannie Lou Hamer Memorial Garden in Ruleville, Mississippi. The Board of Alderpersons of the City of Ruleville passed a resolution on April 17, 2008 to lend its support to the project by designating the "tract of property owned and maintained by the City of Ruleville where Mrs. Hamer and her late husband are buried," as the permanent location for the monument.

The FLHSC is a not-for-profit, non-political organization comprised of local, regional and national civil rights activists, scholars and community leaders who serve as fundraising and educational ambassadors in conjunction with the City of Ruleville, and public and private initiatives to help achieve the goals of the FLHSC. The Committee's secondary objective is to further educate the public and future generations about the tremendous sacrifices and achievements made by Mrs. Hamer during her lifetime in an effort to gain freedoms and social justice for African Americans and other disenfranchised groups. Committee members include Dr. Molefi Kete Asante (PA), Dr. Francine C. Childs (OH), Vergie Hamer Faulkner (TN), Lawrence Guyot (DC), Hakim Johnson (DC), Hattie Jordan (MS), Margaret Kibbee (MS), Rev. Vester Lobbins (TN), Dr. Julianne Malveaux (NC), Charles McLaurin (MS), Susan Reep (CA), Patricia M. Thompson (MN), Rev. Regena Thomas (NJ), Dr. Stacy J. White (MS) and Dr. Conrad Worrill (IL). Dr. Patricia Reid-Merritt (NJ) serves as National Committee Chairperson. In addition, a number of renowned national public officials, celebrities and social advocates serve as members of the Honorary Committee, including William Buckley, former Mayor Shirley Franklin, David W. Houck, the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr., Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton, Tracy Sugarman, Susan Taylor, Ekwueme Michael Thelwell and Iyanla Vanzant.

The FLHSC is appealing to the public to support this worthy cause. The Committee has set a goal of \$125,000 for the completion of the first phase of the fundraising project and hope to achieve this goal by October 6, 2010, the 93rd anniversary of Mrs. Hamer's birth. **The National Black United Fund (NBUF)**, a 501 (c) 3 Black philanthropic organization, has been designated as the fiscal sponsor for the FLHSC. Tax-deductible donations can be made via check, credit card or electronic transfer through the NBUF website at: www.nbuf.org. Additional information on NBUF and its affiliate sponsored programs and projects can also be found at the website, as well as a listing of current donors. For more information on the legacy of Mrs. Hamer please visit: www.fanniелouhamer.info. You can also access on [Twitter@HamerStatueFund](https://twitter.com/HamerStatueFund).

For further information, interviews or assistance with educational fundraising projects contact the FLHSC at (336) 517-1393 or email us at info@fanniелouhamer.info.

**"I am sick and tired of
being sick and tired."**

- FANNIE LOU HAMER

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