

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation Launches Creando Exitos’ 2023 Season on April 13

New 8-episode season provides informational programming geared toward the Latino Business Community returns

By PRESS OFFICER
PGCEDC

LARGO, Md. (April 5, 2023)—Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation (PGCEDC) announces the launch of the 2023 season of Creando Exitos or “Creating Success” on **April 13, 2023**. Now entering its fifth season of production, the Spanish language Creando Exitos is an informational program for the Latino Business Community designed to promote the services offered by PGCEDC and highlight other business resources available in Prince George’s County to support and grow their companies.

“We are excited to return with a new season of Creando Exitos to our emerging Latino business community of Prince George’s County,” said David Iannucci, President & CEO of Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation. “The program provides a platform for Latino businesses to learn more about the County’s Economic Development Incentive Fund, FSC First, Department of Permitting, Inspection and Enforce-



ment (DPIE), banking services, and other programs to help them create success and showcase why Expansion Starts Here.”

Nearly 20 percent of Prince George’s population is Hispanic, and the county has the second-largest number of Hispanic-owned businesses in Maryland, according to U.S. Census data.

“We are excited to bring a new season of Creando Exitos where we interview successful Latino entrepreneurs who have found opportunity and create a business right here in Prince George’s County,” said host Rocio Treminio-Lopez, Latino Business Liaison of PGCEDC.

The program will air weekly on Thursdays on the PGCEDC YouTube channel with topics for the Spanish language community that include:

- Financing/Access to Capital
- Properties/Permits
- Business registration
- Purple Line Project
- Tax Incentives
- Work Services

The first episode will feature Karla Bermudez, Assistant Vice President of M&T Bank. Bermudez along with Rocio Treminio-Lopez manage the Latino Business Accelerator Program. The seven-week Latino Business Accelerator Program, a partnership between M&T and PGCEDC, will focus on business planning, establishing credit, managing bank accounts, marketing, branding and licensing.

Sessions will be led by representatives of M&T and PGCEDC and held entirely in Spanish—the first such program M&T has offered in a language other than English.

Additional Creando Exitos guests include Jessica Rios, Board member of the newly created Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Prince George’s County promoting the sustainability of Hispanic commercial activity in Prince George’s County and many more.

View previous seasons here:
<https://youtube.com/@pgcedc>

Creando Exitos is an informational program for the Latino business community promoting the services offered by PGCEDC while informing about available business resources in Prince George’s County, MD. This is a platform for the Latino businesses to learn more about the EDI Fund, FSC First, DPIE, and more.

Prince George’s County Economic Development Corporation’s mission is to cultivate and promote a strong local economy that supports the growth and prosperity of entrepreneurs and businesses, dedicated to strengthening communities through business development and job creation. For more information about the services the Economic Development Corporation provides to local companies, visit www.pgcedc.com. Join the conversation: #CreandoExitos

REALTORS® Recognize Excellence in Sales Production

By ANIYAH WASHINGTON
PGCAR

LANDOVER, Md. (April 4, 2023)—On Thursday, March 30, 2023, the Prince George’s County Association of REALTORS® (PGCAR) recognized it’s “Top Producer” REALTOR® members for their 2022 sales production. The winners were honored at a gala event held at Martins Crosswinds in Greenbelt Maryland.

The 2023 Awards Showcase is the Association’s premier recognition of outstanding agent performance for the calendar year 2022. The event was preceded by red carpet interviews of attendees which aired on Facebook Live - <https://fb.watch/jlaDR23xul/>

Approximately 200 County REALTORS® received awards recognizing their “personal best” in sales production.

Taking home the top prize of the evening, First Place Platinum Individual General Brokerage, was Hazel Shakur of REDFIN, with \$66.4 million in sales activity. Placing first in the Platinum Team Competition was The Franklin-Anderson Group of Long and Foster Real Estate with \$ 41 million in team sales production.

Jaye Johnson of Compass was named 2022 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR for Highest Number of Transactions at six. Terika McDuffey of Keller



Williams Preferred Properties was named the 2022 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR for Highest Sales Volume at \$1.9 million.

The 2022 REALTOR OF THE YEAR title was awarded to Melanie Gamble, of 212 Degrees Realty, LLC, for her significant business accomplishments, faithfulness to the REALTOR® Code of Ethics, leadership, civic and community involvement, as well as local, state and National Association activity.

In recognition of her dedicated long-standing service and tireless dedication to PGCAR and the real estate industry, REALTOR® Shameeka Price with Capital Structures Real Estate LLC, was awarded the prestigious 2022 Distinguished Service Award.

The Distinguished Sales Associate

of the Year went to Christian Jackson with Keller Williams Preferred Properties for his unselfish professional knowledge, business accomplishments, and for his contribution to PGCAR, the Maryland REALTORS and the National Association of REALTORS.

Ryan Paquin with First Home Mortgage was named Affiliate of the Year in recognition of his many contributions to PGCAR in 2022.

Billy Okoye, Matene Okoye, Rahkiya Reid, and Arlanica Williams were recognized for their First Time Sterling “R”, \$1,000 RPAC contributions. Association Treasurer, Carlos Lancaster, of Exit Right Realty was entered into PGCAR’s RPAC Hall of Fame for his accumulative \$7500 in RPAC giving over the years.

Host of the event, Leisel Taylor, Chairwoman of the Awards Committee was excited. “Even with 2022 being a challenging year, REALTORS persevered, happily served their clients, and achieved their goals. I applaud them all”, said Taylor.

Thank you to our numerous sponsors who helped make the evening a resounding success.

Top Winners Included:

Individual General Brokerage—Platinum (Over \$12 million):

- #1. Hazel Shakur - \$66.4 Million



PHOTO COURTESY PGCAR

Winner Hazel Shakur, Individual General Brokerage—Platinum (Over \$12 million)

- #2. Wemmy Collins - \$35.8 Million
- #3. Nwabueze EZ Okwodu - \$29.2 Million

Team General Brokerage—Platinum (Over \$15 million):

- #1. The Franklin-Anderson Group - \$41 Million
- #2. The DAPO Group - \$27 Million
- #3. Synergy Properties Group - \$23.7 Million

Individual Commercial

- #1. Arlanica Williams - \$8.1 Million
- #2. Damian Howard - \$3.8 Million

To view photos of the “Top Producers” from the Awards Gala visit: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/4hn38>

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PGCAR is the voice for REALTORS® in Prince George’s County, Maryland. Representing more than 3,500 real estate professionals in the national capital area, PGCAR is an affiliate of the Maryland and National Association of REALTORS®. We are proud to serve our members and our community, and work to ensure professionalism in the industry. Our volunteers and staff work to offer services to real estate professionals and to provide avenues for our members to become more successful. We proudly work to promote and protect homeownership and private property rights.

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The City Council of the City of Hyattsville, Maryland proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2023, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 4.9%, from \$2,593,256,479 to \$2,719,789,984.
2. If the City of Hyattsville maintains the current tax rate of \$0.63 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 4.9% resulting in \$797,161 of new real property tax revenues.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.6007, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.63 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 4.9% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$797,161 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 6:30 p.m., on May 1, 2023. The meeting will be held remotely via video teleconference. Register in advance for this webinar:
https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN__IuTFERfQ8yKTzflJjvtfw. Meeting log in details including a phone number for audio only access will be provided upon registration. The meeting will also be broadcast on the City’s cable television channel (Comcast 71, Verizon 12).

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged. Participants who join the video/audio conference will be enabled to speak by the meeting chair. Speakers will be allowed to address the Council for two (2) minutes. Public Comment may also be made using the e-comment feature at hyattsville.org/meetings or emailing cityclerk@hyattsville.org. All electronic comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on May 1, 2023. Comments received will be read by City staff during the public comment portion of the meeting.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 301-985-5009 for further information.

County Council Adopts Legislation Creating Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program

Measure to Help Fight Poverty and Increase Equity in Prince George’s County

By ANGELA ROUSON
Prince George’s County Council Media

The Prince George’s County Council, during session on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, adopted CR-018-2023, legislation proposed by Council Member Krystal Oriadha (District 7), creating a Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program tailored to the needs and resources in the County in conjunction with aid from The Greater Washington Community Foundation. The Basic Income Pilot Program will be modeled after the Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstration (SEED) program in Stockton, California.

Under the measure, low-income families would be given direct cash assistance to support their basic needs, such as food and utilities, without strings attached or repayment requirements. Residents selected to participate in the program will receive monthly cash stipends for 24 months to ensure the financial security of families, reduce debt, and increase financial equity.

Council Member Oriadha says the Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program will help ad-

dress generational poverty, build economic stability, and broaden the scope of public safety services for residents.

“Quite simply, there are vulnerable populations within Prince George’s County who will benefit from this type of support, and The People’s Council is committed to providing them with resources to ease their economic instability. This is something being done in many jurisdictions around the country, including our neighboring jurisdictions, and I believe it will be beneficial for us in many ways. I also hope that our support of this measure provides a segue for policy change at the federal level.”

A committee comprised of Prince George’s County Council Members, and representatives from the County’s Department of Social Services, the Guaranteed Basic Income Coalition of Prince George’s County and the Greater Washington Community Foundation, will create and manage the Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program and provide the County Council with annual reports on the program’s progress.

CR-018-2023 became effective Tuesday, April 4, 2023.

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