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The African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (AACCNJ)
Hosted a Standout Event "Women Who Empower" 2026 Awards Luncheon

TRENTON, NJ — May 15th, 2026. The African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (AACCNJ) hosted the Women Who Empower Award Luncheon, on **May 14th from 11:30 a.m. –2:30 p.m., at the Princeton Marriott at Forrestal, Princeton, NJ.**

The Keynote Speaker, **Marilyn D. Davis, Founder & CEO, MDD Connections LLC**, gave a transformative and impactful Keynote address, which was very well received by the diverse audience of entrepreneurs, dignitaries from state government, former honorees, and corporate and community partners**. Ms. Davis shared powerful insights on women's empowerment, resolve and the importance of civic engagement.**

"Women make the impossible - possible," said **John E. Harmon, Sr., IOM, Founder, President & CEO, AACCNJ**. "**We recognized this distinguished group of women for their intentional commitments to improving the positive trajectory of their families, associates, businesses, and society**," said Harmon.

2026 Honorees
Regina Appolon, Government Affairs Advisor, McCarter & English
Jeannine Frisby LaRue, Partner, Moxie Strategies
Ferlanda Fox Nixon, Esq., IOM, CAE, President & CEO, Newark Regional Business Partnership (NRBP)
Funke Olayinka, MD, Chief Executive Officer, GHIT Consulting, inc.
Glenda Thomas, President & CEO, Electra Grid Solutions
Abbey True Harris, Partner, Connell Foley

Senior Leadership of the AACCNJ
Jacqueline E. Baptiste – 15 year anniversary, Executive Advisor to President & CEO & Brand Ambassador
Nicole Baptiste, IOM, Vice President, Membership Acquisition & Financial Administration
Mary Griffin, IOM, PMP, Vice President, Membership Retention and Programs
Carmen Gates, Vice President, Community Development & External Affairs Officer
Vivian Harmon, M.Ed., MSW, LSW, Executive Director, Training & Development Institute
Special Recognition to AACCNJ Staff & Adjunct Staff Members

Sponsors for the 2026 Awards Luncheon include Silver Sponsor Connell Foley, Bronze Sponsors: Capital Health, Elizabethtown Gas, SJI and McCarter & English.

Live Musical Entertainment by international Soul Singer, Songwriter & Producer, Showtyme Brooks, elevated the event; his performance was enjoyed by everyone in attendance.

About the African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey

The AACCNJ performs an essential role in the economic viability of New Jersey. While providing a platform for New Jersey's African American business leaders, to speak with a collective voice, the AACCNJ advocates and promotes economic diversity fostering a climate of business growth through major initiatives centering on education and public policy. The Chamber serves as a proactive advocacy group with a 501(c) 3 tax exemption, which is shared by the National Black Chamber of Commerce.