

**NAACP  
SANTA MARIA-  
LOMPOC BRANCH**

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**OFFICERS:**

**Lawanda  
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*President*

**Pam Gates**  
*3rd Vice-President*

**Beverly Washington**  
*Secretary*

**Gloria Mantooth**  
*Treasurer*

**MISSION**

Our mission is to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well-being, education, and economic security of Black people and all persons of color.

**VISION**

We envision an inclusive community rooted in liberation where all persons can exercise their civil and human rights without discrimination.

# NAACP

*Santa Maria/ Lompoc Branch*

March 13, 2026

**PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Santa Maria, CA

Santa Maria-Lompoc Branch of the National Association For the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), its Officers, Executive Committee and members, are pleased to announce that they were recently awarded a Grant in the amount of \$32,000 for one year from The Racial Equity Grant of Santa Barbara County (REGSBC), which will support an annual gathering celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; two annual Black History Celebrations; their Juneteenth Celebration; and culturally competent programming in schools.

“The Racial Equity Grant of Santa Barbara County (REFSBC), funded and supported by the County of Santa Barbara and administered in collaboration with The Fund For Santa Barbara, is an initiative that came directly from grassroots organizing by Black Female leaders in Santa Barbara County who demanded that the County of Santa Barbara invest in the Black community in the wake of the killing of George Floyd and the ongoing racial justice movement. Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors (the “County”) passed a resolution declaring racism a public health crisis, made a commitment to racial justice and pledged \$500,000 to begin to address equity issues in the county. Roughly half of the funds were allocated to internal/institutional County equity development with the remaining funds to be distributed through” The Fund for Santa Barbara participatory grant-making process.

On behalf of the Santa Maria-Lompoc NAACP Branch, president, Lawanda Lyons-Pruitt, expresses her appreciation and gratitude to the REGSBC, The Fund For Santa Barbara, and their Grantmaking Committee, noting funding will help the organization continue their mission and vision to dismantle racism, achieve equity and disrupt inequality creating a just society for all people.

Founded in 1909 in response to the ongoing violence against Black people around the country, the NAACP is the largest and most pre-eminent civil rights organization in the nation with over 2,200 units and branches across the nation, along with well over 2 million activists.

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