



MAXITIA PROJECT INC.

June 6, 2025

Since June 2024, Maxitia Project Inc and The Hope and Esperanza Community Health Center of Newark NJ, have been working with L.A.C.A. (Latin/African American Chaplain Association) International New Jersey to provide Community Health Education seminars to the L.A.C.A. International Pastors in New Jersey. This takes the form of monthly seminars in varying church and community settings.

L.A.C.A. International New Jersey Regional director Pastor Marcelino Nieves wishes to inform the L.A.C.A. International Pastors on health issues that the general community must struggle with daily. Pastors with a better understanding of health issues can foster stronger community connections by becoming more relatable and empathetic, offering more effective pastoral care, and promoting health initiatives within the community.

The L.A.C.A. International member Pastors assist all of those in need in the United States of America, ministerially, emotionally, physically, and materially. The goal is to help their fellow citizens in facing any disaster, natural or otherwise.

L.A.C.A. had its genesis during the devastating tragedy of the World Trade Center. L.A.C.A., since day one, has provided numerous chaplains to assist firefighters and police officers in dealing with the traumatic events which surrounded this tragedy. L.A.C.A. was also instrumental in



assisting families of American Airlines flight 587. L.A.C.A. chaplains were the first to be present in helping these families through their grief. Presently L.A.C.A. is working with police precincts, fire stations, City of New York Cadets Corps, Rikers Island correctional facility, rehabilitation programs and several hospitals along with many similar organizations throughout the entire U.S.A. through its many chapters.

L.A.C.A. has Chapters in:

Bronx NY, Brooklyn NY, Queens NY, Staten Island NY, Long Island, Yorkers NY, New Jersey, Philadelphia PA, Maryland, California, Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico S.O., Tennessee, Santiago - Rep. Dom.

The mutual goals of L.A.C.A. International New Jersey, Maxitia Project Inc and The Hope and

Bringing Communities Together Through Education





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Esperanza Community Health Center of Newark NJ, have at the core developing programs that can improve pastor health, which may ultimately improve the health of their congregations.

The strategy is the following:

Relatability and Empathy:

When pastors have a personal understanding of health issues, they can connect with individuals facing similar challenges on a deeper level. This shared experience can build trust and make it easier for congregants to about their own struggles, creating a more supportive and compassionate environment.

Pastoral Care:

A pastor's knowledge of health conditions allows them to provide more tailored and informed pastoral care. They can offer practical advice, resources, and emotional support to individuals and families facing health crises.

Community Health Initiatives:

Pastors with a baseline health issue understanding can advocate for community health initiatives, such as screenings, education programs, and partnerships with healthcare providers. This can lead to improved health outcomes for the entire community.

Promoting Healthy Behaviors:

Pastors can use their influence from the pulpit and in pastoral settings to promote healthy

behaviors and lifestyles. They can encourage members to prioritize their physical and mental well-being, leading to a healthier community.

Building Trust and Authority:

By demonstrating genuine care and concern for the health and well-being of their congregation, pastors can build trust and establish their spiritual authority within the community.

Isabel Leticia Castro
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Maxitia Project Inc.



L.A.C.A. International

www.lacasny.org

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