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A Commemoration of Operation Life and 50 Years Since Black Women Stormed the Las Vegas Strip

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Event Registration: <https://hopin.com/events/storming-to-the-beat>

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A Commemoration of Operation Life and 50 Years Since Black Women Stormed the Las Vegas Strip

March 06, 2021, will be the 50th anniversary of the Welfare Mothers protests that shut down the world-famous Las Vegas Strip. This protest resulted in wholesale changes to the system of providing help to poor women in Nevada. In honor of this historic event MAKE IT WORK NEVADA is hosting a virtual event featuring remarks from one of the original organizers, Ruby Duncan, remarks from community leaders and music from DJ Dre Dae.

The protest on March 6, 1971, was led by Ruby Duncan who became an activist after the State of Nevada cut welfare benefits for poor mothers. Duncan began door-knocking in her local projects to educate her neighbors to fight back which resulted in several actions aimed at reducing tourism and gaming revenue. She began a series of actions including bringing mothers and their children to eat meals at Strip properties, refusing to pay, and telling the properties to "bill the state." She then reached out to feminist icons and Hollywood celebrities including Gloria Steinem and Jane Fonda. The resulting march and shut down of The Strip brought such bad publicity that the casinos pressured the state to immediately restore the cuts scoring a huge victory for the poor families of Nevada.

"It is an honor to be able to talk with Dr. Ruby Duncan and listen first hand to the stories that changed our landscape here in Nevada. Dignity, respect, and economic equity are still elusive to those who are continually pushed into the margins. It is imperative we continue on this journey using the roadmap given to us by these brave and fierce women", says Erika Washington, Executive Director.

The virtual event takes place on Saturday, Mar. 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration to attend is available at www.makeitworknevada.org

Media Opportunities will be available on Wednesday, 03 March 2021 with Ruby Duncan and Erika Washington from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. by contacting Derek Washington derekwashingtonlv@gmail.com / 702-325-5181

Make it Work Nevada is a policy-driven organization that is shifting the landscape of our community through advocacy and education to support the long-term health and vitality of Black families.

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