



**The Center for Public and Corporate Governance and the Municipality of Caguas jointly presented the Transparency and Accountability website**



With the aim of implementing a system of transparency, accountability and fiscal responsibility in municipal management, the Center for Public and Corporate Governance, with the Autonomous Municipality of Caguas, presented the Transparency and Accountability portal that worked together with the Center for Public and Corporate Governance (CGPC). In addition, as part of the project an ordinance was adopted, approved by the Municipal Legislature, to establish the public policy of the Autonomous Municipality of Caguas on transparency, access to public information and accountability, as well as procedures to guarantee its exercise.



This ordinance imposes on the municipality the responsibility for the disclosure of the detailed budget proposal, including the specific computation of projected revenues; reports of results obtained during the previous year; the approved budget; quarterly review documents and transfers of budget items; end of fiscal year report; reports of internal or external audits on the executed budget; and any other document related to budget management.

"It is our obligation to publish, in a dynamic and continuous manner, all information of public interest that is related to our municipality. Favoring access to public information



increases the level of credibility and trust of private companies and citizens towards governments. I thank the Center for Public and Corporate Governance, who, beyond evaluating and diagnosing the condition of the municipalities with respect to these issues, have been together with us, hand in hand, advising us for free to move from theory to execution", expressed Miranda Torres when presenting the project.

This project arises as a result of a study carried out by the CGPC and that analyzed the administrative and fiscal management practices and the legal framework of the regulatory principles that regulate the transparency, accountability and fiscal responsibility of the municipal governments. "The implementation in the Municipality of Caguas of the indicators related to transparency and accountability practices elevates the municipal governance

system to the next level," said Dr. Saúl Pratts Ponce de León.

"With the implementation of transparency and accountability practices, the Municipality will achieve greater confidence and credibility among entrepreneurs and investors to promote an increase in economic activity," said Rafael Durand Aldea, MBA.

The mayor of Caguas added that "the objective of this project is to promote the principle of Transparency and Accountability in municipal management in Caguas, not from the political discourse but from practice, and serve as an example and motivation for other public entities In Puerto Rico. To be a transparent municipality is to guarantee the flow of information between the citizens and the administration, to promote the participation of the citizen in public affairs " .

"The transparency portal developed by the Municipality's executive team, under the advice of the researchers of the Governance Center, allows for the implementation of the guiding principles of good public governance and guarantees transparency and access to public information in a built-up technological platform. based on the results of the findings and the recommendations that emerge from the study, "said Dr. Eneida Torres de Durand.

In the mentioned portal information will be published in several categories: Municipal Organization, Citizen Inclusion, Fiscal Transparency, Transparency in Contracting and Urban Planning, Public Works and Environment.



"Now citizens have more mechanisms to get involved in the management of municipal affairs and trains them to oversee municipal management," said Dr. Torres de Durand. Meanwhile, Durand Aldea affirmed that "the work team of officials appointed to implement the results of the study managed to comply in an outstanding manner with the work plan outlined and the quality of the information established."

"We are convinced that this initiative to make public matters transparent, maximizing the use of technology, allows us to address current challenges from a democratic perspective and promotes the excellence, efficiency and productivity of our Municipal Administration," the mayor concluded. of Caguas.

The Municipality of Caguas is the first with its own project of transparency and accountability in which, using international standards, through technology, citizens are given all the information about their finances, budget issues, contracts, auctions and other topics of interest.

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