New York, N.Y. Congressman Charles B. Rangel was honored by The James Jay Dudley Luce Foundation with its Humanitarian Award for his decades of work to encourage development in Haiti. Among his many contributions, Rangel created the Haiti Economic Lift Program (HELP) Act of 2010, which provides additional trade preferences to Haitian textile and apparel imports, which is currently helping Haiti recover from the devastation of the earthquake.

"I am thankful to receive this recognition for my work on behalf of the Haitian people, who have maintained a special place in my heart over a number of decades," said Rangel. "I strongly believe that America must continue to lead an aggressive, coordinated effort to aid Haiti's ongoing recovery. We must continue to extend tax breaks and encourage trade and development that will not only generate jobs, but also to create the kind of local and global partnerships that will empower Haitians to break the cycle of poverty."

The HELP Act of 2010 provides important protections for products considered sensitive by American textile producers and improves incentives to use U.S.-origin inputs. This legislation helped usher the development of the 600-acre Caracol Industrial Park in Northern Haiti, announced last month by Secretary of State Hillary R. Clinton and former President and U.N. Special Envoy to Haiti Bill Clinton during their visit to the Caribbean island.

Rangel also brought the Ways and Means Committee together to extend the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) and the Haitian Hemispheric Opportunity through Partnership Encouragement Act (HOPE) through September 30, 2020.