



Marilyn Balcombe
Montgomery County Council

Councilmember Marilyn Balcombe is a strong advocate for her community. Having lived in the Upcounty for nearly 30 years, Marilyn is not afraid to roll up her sleeves and do the hard work of community building.

Prior to joining the County Council, Marilyn was the President/CEO of the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce. As the CEO of the Chamber, Marilyn was actively involved in land use planning, transportation and economic development. She has worked with thousands of businesses, large and small to help create a vibrant local economy. On the Council, her focus will remain to strengthen the County's business climate and bring jobs to the Upcounty. Marilyn has been a strong voice for transportation and was a major advocate for building the Watkins Mill Interchange and remains committed to increasing capacity on the MARC rail system.

Marilyn is well known for her contributions to our community. She is a graduate of Leadership Montgomery (Class of 2000) and co-chaired the Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan Implementation Committee. She was most recently on the Board of Future Link and continues to be a mentor for students transitioning to Montgomery College. Marilyn is a past chair of the Committee for Montgomery and a prior member of the Leadership Group of Montgomery Moving Forward focusing on the important issue of Early Care and Education in Montgomery

County. Marilyn was also on the Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census where she was the lead liaison for Germantown, as well as the Upcounty Vaccination Outreach Committee.

Prior to being at the Chamber, Marilyn was with BlackRock Center for the Arts in Germantown as the Executive Director during the construction and the first year of operations. Marilyn was also a primary driver in the completion of the Germantown Library and the Germantown Town Center Park. She was also on staff at the Upcounty Regional Services Center as the Community Outreach Coordinator for the Germantown community.

Prior to her work in the community, Dr. Balcombe was an Organizational Psychologist with the U.S. Department of Energy. Her primary focus was the well-being of the contractor workforce and worked with psychologists across the country on issues such as substance abuse, mental wellness, and the safety and security of our federal facilities. In addition to her work in the United States, she worked in England at a newly opened medical school at the University of York, developing their organizational infrastructure.

Marilyn holds a Ph.D. in Organizational Psychology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; a Masters degree in Mental Health Counseling from the University of Florida, and a Bachelor's degree in Accounting also from the University of Florida. She is a long-time resident of Germantown. Her daughter Emily is a proud graduate of MCPS Northwest High School – Go Jags!

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

WLB

Women's Legislative Briefing

2024



Traci L. Anderson

Traci L. Anderson is the Director of Human Resources, for Montgomery County, Maryland. As the County's Chief Human Resources Officer, she provides strategic guidance and leadership on all aspects of the human resources function to more than 40 departments and agencies, and more than 10,000 employees. Traci works to drive organizational change, to build a strong and resilient workforce, in service to Montgomery County residents. A leader in governmental administration and management, Traci has led the work of senior teams in Montgomery County's Departments of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Recreation (REC), Public Schools (MCPS), and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). Her passion lies in creating collaborative, strategic approaches to solving challenging human resource problems. A certified public manager and lean six sigma green belt, Traci earned a bachelor's degree in government and politics from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in public leadership from the George Washington University.



Georgette "Gigi" Godwin

Georette "Gigi" Godwin has served as the president and CEO of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce since 2007. The Chamber is an association of regional, national, and international businesses with ties to Montgomery County. The Chamber's mission is to help members grow and to advocate for a vibrant regional economy.

Since 2008, Ms. Godwin has also served as the treasurer for the Montgomery County Chamber Community Foundation, which sponsors the National Center of the Veteran Institute for Procurement (VIP), the Public Safety Scholarship at Montgomery College, Economic Development Studies, and the Montgomery County Green Business Certification Partnership.

Ms. Godwin's background includes the federal government, business, nonprofit, and local community experience. She began her advocacy career as a Junior Sloan Fellow at the National Academy of Sciences' Climate Research Board in Washington, DC. Ms. Godwin served as the professional staff of the US House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee focused on Environmental and Transportation legislation. On Capitol Hill, she co-founded and served as the first president of the Women's Council on Energy and the Environment. She then served as the CFO of an alternative energy development company.

A longtime supporter of education in Montgomery County, Ms. Godwin served on Montgomery College's Board of Trustees from 2006 to 2011. She has also served as a board member on the Montgomery County Business Roundtable on Education, the Committee for Montgomery,

County Executive's Business Advisory Board, and Imagination Stage. Ms. Godwin received the 2023 Chairman's Award at MCCC's Annual Dinner.

Ms. Godwin earned a master's degree in public administration from George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Grinnell College. She is married to Jeff Godwin and has three children: sons Chris and Ross, daughter Hillary, and two grandchildren: grandson James and granddaughter Summer.



Secretary Portia Wu

Portia Wu serves as the Secretary of Labor for the State of Maryland. Maryland Department of Labor connects Marylanders to good jobs; protects workers, consumers, and the public; supports Maryland businesses; and fosters economic growth and competitiveness.

The Labor office envisions an equitable and inclusive Maryland where all residents have the opportunities and resources to earn fair pay, attain financial stability, reach their career potential, and contribute to their communities; where businesses have access to capital and the skilled workforce they need to succeed; where residents are safe where they live, work, and play; and where the economy is resilient and growing.

Secretary Wu is an experienced leader who has spent her career developing and implementing policies that benefit America's workers. Before joining the Moore Administration, Secretary Wu was Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training at the United States Department of Labor (DOL). During her time at DOL, Secretary Wu led the implementation of the bipartisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2015, which reformed federal workforce programs and instituted new accountability and reporting measures.

Before joining DOL, Secretary Wu served at the White House Domestic Policy Council as Special Assistant and Senior Policy Advisor to President Barack Obama for Labor and Workforce. Wu also previously served as Senate HELP Committee Labor Policy Director for the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy.