

HHS COMMITTEE #1  
April 11, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

April 8, 2011

TO: Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Linda McMillan, Senior Legislative Analyst 

SUBJECT: **FY12 Operating Budget: Department of Health and Human Services**  
Aging and Disability Services  
Special Needs Housing Services (Does Not Include Housing First)

***Those expected for this worksession:***

Uma Ahluwalia, Director, Department of Health and Human Services  
John Kenney, Chief, Aging and Disabilities Services  
Nadim Khan, Special Needs Housing Services  
Kim Mayo, DHHS Management and Budget  
Beryl Feinberg, Office of Management and Budget  
Trudye-Ann Durace, Office of Management and Budget

Excerpts from the County Executive's Recommended Budget are attached at © 1-4 for Aging and Disability and ©30-31 for Special Needs Housing

**1. Aging and Disability Services**

*As background for this discussion, attached at © 5-25 are an information sheet and the FY10 Annual Report from the Commission on People with Disabilities. The Annual Report notes that the Commission's top two budget priorities are: (1) County Housing Policy Impediments, and (2) the Higher Rate of Unemployment and Poverty Among People with Disabilities. Information included at © 21 shows that there are an estimated 139,705 people living with a disability in Montgomery County. Of those 540 are under 5 years of age, 7,805 are ages 5 to 17 years, 51,391 are ages 18 to 54 years old, and 79,969 are age 65 or older.*

## Overview

For FY12, Aging and Disabilities Services is organized into 11 program areas. The following tables show the changes in dollars and workyears for the program area since FY10. Overall from the FY11 original budget (before savings plan) to the FY12 recommended budget funding is proposed to decrease by \$1.482 million (-4.0%) and workyears to increase by 2.0 (1.3%). A part of the overall workyear increase is from the restoration of workyears associated with FY11 furloughs.

<b>Aging and Disability Services Expenditures in \$000's</b>	<b>FY10 Budget</b>	<b>FY11 Budget</b>	<b>FY12 Recommend</b>	<b>Change FY11 Budget to FY12 Rec</b>
Community Support Network for People with Disabilities	16,453	15,799	14,435	-8.6%
Assessment and Continuing Case Management Services	6,157	6,136	6,000	-2.2%
Assisted Living Services	1,973	2,008	1,978	-1.5%
Home and Community Based Waiver Services	-	1,353	1,400	3.5%
In-Home Aide Services/Home Care Services	4,615	4,467	4,689	5.0%
Aging and Disability Resource Unit	994	1,003	809	-19.3%
Omsbudman Services	664	637	644	1.1%
Respite Care	1,036	904	914	1.1%
Senior Community Services	3,936	2,316	2,225	-3.9%
Senior Nutrition Program	2,291	2,283	2,344	2.7%
Service Area Administration	487	458	444	-3.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38,606</b>	<b>37,364</b>	<b>35,882</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>

<b>Aging and Disability Services Workyears</b>	<b>FY10 Budget</b>	<b>FY11 Budget</b>	<b>FY12 Recommend</b>	<b>Change FY11 Budget to FY12 Rec</b>
Community Support Network for People with Disabilities	43.4	42.7	44.2	3.5%
Assessment and Continuing Case Management Services	54.2	51	52.2	2.4%
Assisted Living Services	6.8	6.7	6.8	1.5%
Home and Community Based Waiver Services	-	12.8	13.2	3.1%
Home Care Services	16.9	16.4	16.8	2.4%
Aging and Disability Resource Unit	9.8	9.6	8.7	-9.4%
Omsbudman Services	6.3	5.1	5.3	3.9%
Respite Care	-	-	-	0.0%
Senior Community Services	19.1	6.6	5.7	-13.6%
Senior Nutrition Program	4.4	3	3.0	0.0%
Service Area Administration	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>163.7</b>	<b>156.7</b>	<b>158.7</b>	<b>1.3%</b>

**A. Community Support Network for People with Disabilities**

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$14,434,750 and 44.2 workyears. This program area coordinates a wide range of services for people (adults and children) with disabilities including employment, services for the visually impaired, autism waiver services, and funding for community based and residential services.

<b>Community Support Network</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Client Advocacy Contract Serving 30 Residents	(51,010)	0.0	General
Single Point of Entry Grant	(130,530)	-0.3	Grant
Contract for Program for Developmentally Disabled	(324,020)	0.0	General
Reduce County DD Supplement by 5%	(388,250)	0.0	General
Resource Coordination Grant	(604,580)	0.0	Grant
Miscellaneous Adjustments	133,990	1.8	General and Grant

**1. Eliminate Client Advocacy Contract Serving 30 Residents (\$51,010)**

This reduction results in the elimination of the contract with Independence Now which assists clients in, among other things, finding apartments and filing applications for benefits in order to continue to live independently. The Council received testimony from Independence Now that this funding has been provided for 10 years and that each year the organization assists at least 159 people and respond to over 1,000 information and referral phone calls.

Council staff understands that the Department expects ending this contract would impact the ability of Independence Now to serve 30 clients. The Department is making this reduction because of the need to find General Fund savings and because there are resources within the Department that provide some of the same assistance that is provided through Independence Now. **Council staff recommends approval.**

**2. Reduction to Single Point of Entry Grant (\$130,530) and (0.3) workyears**

The Department has provided the following information on the impact of this grant funding reduction.

The Individual Support Services Grant provides individuals with a developmental disability support services that assist them with remaining in the community. Currently there are 78 individuals in the grant and they each have their own allocation of funds depending upon the approved services by the State of Maryland, Developmental Disabilities Administration. The services can consist of day program, nursing services, supportive equipment, transportation, therapies, respite and many more.

This reduction is due to seven clients leaving the ISS grant. These clients went into full services provided by DDA. This grant allocates funding by the individual. When a client

leaves, the money goes with the client. The client may leave the grant for many reasons that may include (but is not limited to) going into full residential services, moving out of the county and so forth. There was also a \$10,000 dollar cut to the Rolling Access account and a two-percent reduction to purchase of service funding that had that limited our purchase of service spending with minimal impact on clients due to available funding in the Service Coordination grant.

This decrease in the grant is a result of \$10,000 cut to the emergency funds (food, clothing, special supports during a crisis), 2% cut to the base \$16,729 and a loss of seven clients in this grant. These clients went into full services provided by DDA.

**Council staff recommends approval.**

***3. Contract for Program for the Developmentally Disabled  
(\$324,020)***

This budget reduction would come from eliminating the County funding to the Kennedy Institute's Community Options day program that serves people with multiple and severe disabilities. The Council has received correspondence and testimony from those with family members using this program and other concerned residents about the impact of the loss of this funding, as the program would most likely close.

The Director has told Council staff that when this recommendation was made, the Department understood that, while there would certainly be an impact from this reduction, the other funding sources that come from Medicaid or other client assistance would be sufficient to keep the program running. The Department and Executive did not intend for it to result in the total loss of the program. Council staff also understands that the Executive will recommended restoration of most of this funding as a part of amendments that will come to the Council after the General Assembly session ends.

**Council staff recommends deferring a recommendation on this item until the Executive forwards his amendments.**

***4. Reduce the DD Supplement by 5%  
(\$388,250)***

The FY11 original approved budget includes \$7,765,130 in funds to be allotted to 26 providers of direct services to the developmentally disabled. These funds are allocated to all DD providers in the same proportion as State funding, as State funding takes into account the number of clients, severity of disability, and services required. While Montgomery County has chosen to provide a county supplement in recognition of the higher cost of providing services in Montgomery County, the State payment is a full payment to the client. The County DD Supplement is not a direct supplement to a specific employee's pay but rather a payment to assist the entire organization in meeting its costs. The FY11 original funding was a 5% reduction from the FY10 approved funding of \$8,172,180. Assuming approval of the \$388,250 reduction,

\$7,376,880 would be provided in FY12. This would be a reduction of about 10.8% for the two-year period.

The Council has received testimony requesting that funding for the County DD Supplement be restored. Those testifying have noted the importance of this funding in allowing organizations to pay their employees an increased wage over what the State funding provides and that the county has not accounted for the new cases that are being handled by these providers.

Council staff understands why the Department has proposed this as a part of its budget reductions. While the County has provided this supplement for many years, it is a discretionary General Fund expenditure – it is not required by the State, but is in fact needed because the State does not recognize the higher cost of living in certain counties.

The Commission on People with Disabilities provided testimony (©26-27) in support of InterACC's request to add funds to the budget to reduce the reduction from 5% to 3% which would help to offset the cost associated with new clients. **Council recommends the Committee add \$155,300 to the reconciliation list for this purpose.** As the HHS Committee noted in its opening session, there is no certainty that any items on the reconciliation list will be funded in the Council's final actions.

**5. Reduction in Resource Coordination Grant  
(\$604,580)**

The Department has provided the following information about the impact of this reduction which actually went into effect at the end of FY10 is being annualized for FY12.

This reduction actually occurred at the end of FY10 and was fully annualized in FY11. The Program was able to mitigate adverse client impact by restructuring contracted client services, increasing resource coordinator caseloads (from 1:50 to 1:70), reducing or eliminating operating expenses (i.e., office supplies), and offsetting reductions in client support services and emergency funding from within the allocation with the State's permission. The caseload ratio will return to 1:50 with the imminent hiring of three Resource Coordination staff.

**Council staff recommends approval.**

**6. Miscellaneous Adjustments  
\$133,990 and 1.8 workyears**

Miscellaneous adjustments account for restoration of furloughs, FY12 recommended benefit changes, annualizations and other items impacting more than one program. **Council staff recommends approval.**

**B. Assessment and Continuing Case Management**

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$6,000,470 and 52.2 workyears for this program which provides multi-disciplinary assessments, care planning, and case management to frail seniors and adults with disabilities. This program area includes Adult Protective Services, Adult Evaluation and Review Services (AERS), and the public guardianship program.

<b>Assessment and Continuing Case Management</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Miscellaneous Adjustments	(135,580)	1.2	General and Grant

The only change recommended is a miscellaneous adjustment. **Council staff recommends approval.**

**C. Assisted Living Services**

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$1,977,530 and 6.8 workyears for this program that provides subsidies and case management to low-income seniors who live in group homes or in adult foster care homes.

<b>Assisted Living Services</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Group Senior Assisted Housing Grant	(34,090)	0.0	Grant
Miscellaneous Adjustments	3,320	0.1	General and Grant

**1. Reduction to Group Senior Assisted Housing Grant (\$34,090)**

This is amount expected from the State in FY12 to serve these low-income seniors. **Council staff recommends approval.**

**2. Miscellaneous Adjustments \$3,320 and 0.1 workyears**

Miscellaneous adjustments account for restoration of furloughs, FY12 recommended benefit changes, annualizations and other items impacting more than one program. **Council staff recommends approval.**

## D. Home Care Services

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$4,688,960 and 16.8 workyears for this program which provides in home assistance to senior and adults with disabilities that need help with daily tasks in order to remain independent and live in the community.

<b>Assisted Living Services</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Senior Korean Chore Services to 20 Clients	(25,000)	0.0	General
Case Management Intervention to 25 Clients	(29,000)	0.0	General
In Home Care Services to 8 New Clients	(100,000)	0.0	General
Miscellaneous Adjustments	375,570	0.4	General and Grant

### ***1. Senior Korean Chore Services to 20 Clients (\$25,000)***

This reduction will eliminate funding for the contract with the Korean American Senior Citizens Association which allows them to provide chore services for low income seniors in the Korean community. The Department has recommended this funding reduction because of the need to identify General Fund savings and not because there has been a problem with the delivery of service with this contract. This is the only remaining chore service contract to an individual group. The Department's general chore services program ended in FY09 as a part of the FY09 savings plan. Chore services are assistance with heavier housecleaning or trash disposal chores. It is not the same level of service as the in-home aide program provides.

**Council staff recommends approval.**

### ***2. Case Management Intervention Services to 25 Clients (\$29,000)***

This reduction will eliminate funding for the contract with the Jewish Social Service Agency to provide intensive case management assistance for frail seniors. Again, the Department has recommended this funding reduction because of the need to identify General Fund savings and not because there has been a problem with the delivery of service with this contract. It is expected that these seniors will be served through other services offered by the Department. **Council staff recommends approval.**

### ***3. In Home Care Services to 8 New Clients (\$100,000)***

Prior to FY09, the Department was able to provide in-home assistance to both people who need assistance with daily tasks (the in-home aide program) as well as people who needed occasional help with heavy housework (chore services). As a part of the FY09 original budget actions, the maximum number of hours for in-home aide services was reduced from 20 hours to 15 hours per week for about 120 clients. Some existing clients retained the higher hours of

service. The Council added \$100,000 to the Department’s budget to provide some flexibility for exceptional cases. The State of Maryland allows services to be provided up to a maximum of 20 hours but there is no minimum.

For FY11, further reductions were implemented that limited all in-home care clients to a maximum of 14 hours per of assistance per week. The total funding for contracts for in-home aide services in FY11 is \$2,401,870. The Executive is recommending a \$100,000 reduction that would come from not serving 8 new clients. No current clients would be impacted. As there is turnover in the program, 8 fewer people will be served. The budget shows that in FY12, the Department expects to serve 364 clients. In FY09, 473 were served.

The Council received testimony (© 28-29) from the Commission on Aging with their grave concerns about this reduction given the growing waiting list for services and the potential increased costs if people are no longer able to live independently.

**Council staff recommends that the Committee put two increments of \$50,000 on the reconciliation list to restore this funding. Council staff also wonders whether there is any benefit to lowering the maximum hour limit to 9 hours for new clients on the waiting list in order to maximize the number that can be served.**

**4. *Miscellaneous Adjustments***  
*\$375,570 and 0.4 workyears*

Miscellaneous adjustments account for restoration of furloughs, FY12 recommended benefit changes, annualizations and other items impacting more than one program. **Council staff recommends approval.**

**E. Home and Community Based Waiver Services**

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$1,399,830 and 13.2 workyears for this program which coordinates the Medicaid long-term care waiver. The waiver allows the funding of services in the community in order to avoid the need for placement in a nursing home.

<b>Home and Community Based Waivers</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Miscellaneous Adjustments	47,330	0.4	General and Grant

The only change recommended is a miscellaneous adjustment. **Council staff recommends approval.**

## F. Aging and Disability Resource Unit

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$809,070 and 8.7 workyears for this program that assists seniors, people with disabilities, and their families in defining needs, locating services, and facilitating any the application process.

<b>Aging and Disability Resource Unit</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Abolish Full-Time Policy and Compliance Position	(170,900)	-1.0	General
Miscellaneous Adjustments	(23,660)	0.1	General and Grant

### *1. Abolish Full-Time Policy and Compliance Position (\$170,900) and (1.0) workyears*

This is a filled Manager II position. Supervisory and other duties performed by this employee will be redistributed to other staff. **Council staff recommends approval.**

### *2. Miscellaneous Adjustments (\$23,660) and 0.1 workyear*

Miscellaneous adjustments account for restoration of furloughs, FY12 recommended benefit changes, annualizations and other items impacting more than one program. **Council staff recommends approval.**

## G. Ombudsman Services

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$643,590 and 5.3 workyears for this program that investigates and resolves complaints in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

<b>Ombusman Services</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Miscellaneous Adjustments	6,630	0.2	General and Grant

The only change recommended is a miscellaneous adjustment. **Council staff recommends approval.**

## H. Respite Care

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$914,080 and 0.0 workyears for this program that provides temporary, occasional care of frail seniors, adults and children with disabilities, and children with severe behaviors and/or medical conditions in order to give relief to family members and primary care givers.

<b>Respite Care</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Miscellaneous Adjustments	9,700	0.0	General and Grant

The only change recommended is a miscellaneous adjustment. **Council staff recommends approval.**

## **I. Senior Community Services**

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$2,225,420 and 5.7 workyears for this program that provides a variety of services that help senior remain independent and active in the community such as legal services, senior transportation to recreations centers and to grocery shopping, and health insurance counseling.

<b>Senior Community Services</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Reduce Senior Information and Assistance Grant	(8,420)	0.0	Grant
Miscellaneous Adjustments	(82,080)	-0.9	General and Grant

### **1. Senior Information Technology Grant (\$8,420)**

This item reflects an adjustment to the Senior Information and Assistance Grant. \$75,810 in grant funding is expected in FY12. **Council staff recommends approval.**

### **2. Miscellaneous Adjustments (\$82,080) and (0.9) workyears**

Miscellaneous adjustments account for restoration of furloughs, FY12 recommended benefit changes, annualizations and other items impacting more than one program. **Council staff recommends approval.**

## **J. Senior Nutrition Program**

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$2,343,890 and 3.0 for this program that provides lunches to seniors at sites around the county, as well as providing home-delivered meals, nutrition education, and physical fitness activities.

<b>Senior Nutrition Program</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Miscellaneous Adjustments	61,150	0.0	General and Grant

The only change recommended is a miscellaneous adjustment. **Council staff recommends approval.**

Last spring the Committee discussed the senior nutrition in part because of the reduction of hours to the senior and recreation centers and senior transportation. The Department has provided the following update on the program:

The Nutrition program received \$49,010 in reductions in FY11. This included a \$25,000 cut in its base budget, and an additional \$24,010 taken as part of the across-the-board DHHS contract funding reduction. As planned, these reductions were spread across the program, with no single provider taking a dramatic decrease. In addition, as planned, the cuts were only applied to the congregate meals program; home delivered meals were not affected. Two additional mid-year changes also impacted the program. A small increase in nutrition grant funds (\$11,000) helped offset the reductions. And Friday closures at the Schweinhaut senior center beginning in January 2011 reduced the demand for meals (by approximately 100 meals/month).

**K. Service Area Administration**

Total FY12 recommended funding for this program is \$444,210 and 2.8 workyears for this program that provides service wide administration.

<b>Service Area Administration</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Miscellaneous Adjustments	(13,700)	0.0	General and Grant

The only change recommended is a miscellaneous adjustment. **Council staff recommends approval.**

**2. Special Needs Housing**

*(Housing First related items will be reviewed jointly by the HHS and PHED Committees on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.)*

**Overview**

For FY12, Special Needs Housing is organized into 5 program areas. The following tables show the changes in dollars and workyears for the program area since FY10. Overall from the FY11 original budget (before savings plan) to the FY12 recommended budget funding is proposed to decrease by \$683,620 (-3.8%) and workyears to increase by 1.9 workyears (3.5%). A part of the overall workyear increase is from the restoration of workyears associated with FY11 furloughs.

At this session, the HHS Committee will only review the issues in Rental and Energy Assistance, the SuperNOFA (HUD) cash match, and service area administration. Rental assistance programs, shelter services, and transitional housing are all a part of the County’s Housing First effort. In general, the actual rental subsidy payments are budgeted in the Housing Initiative Fund which is administered by the Department of Housing and Community Affairs. The HHS and PHED Committees will jointly review Housing First.

<b>Special Needs Housing Services Expenditures in \$000's</b>	<b>FY10 Budget</b>	<b>FY11 Budget</b>	<b>FY12 Recommend</b>	<b>Change FY11 Budget to FY12 Rec</b>
Rental and Energy Assistance	5,286	5,062	4,109	-18.8%
Shelter Services	5,997	5,753	6,219	8.1%
Permanent Supportive Housing Services	1,748	2,069	2,080	0.5%
Housing Stabilization Services	4,713	4,862	4,652	-4.3%
Service Area Administration	247	243	245	0.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17,991</b>	<b>17,989</b>	<b>17,305</b>	<b>-3.8%</b>

<b>Special Needs Housing Services Workyears</b>	<b>FY10 Budget</b>	<b>FY11 Budget</b>	<b>FY12 Recommend</b>	<b>Change FY11 Budget to FY12 Rec</b>
Rental and Energy Assistance	12.5	12.3	11.7	-4.9%
Shelter Services	2.8	2.7	3.2	18.5%
Permanent Supportive Housing Services	9.6	9.3	9.2	-1.1%
Housing Stabilization Services	29.5	28.4	30.4	7.0%
Service Area Administration	1.8	1.7	1.8	5.9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>56.2</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>56.3</b>	<b>3.5%</b>

## **A. Rental and Energy Assistance**

Total FY12 recommended funding is \$4,109,930 and 11.7 workyears for this program that provides assistance to low-income households with utility costs and rental subsidy programs.

<b>Rental and Energy Assistance</b>			
Eliminate County Tax Rebate Program		(479,500)	0.0 General
Miscellaneous Adjustments		(473,000)	0.6 General and Grant

### **1. Eliminate County Tax Rebate (\$479,500)**

The FY11 budget includes \$479,500 for county energy rebates to households that receive assistance through the Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP). This rebate is meant to help offset some of the impact of the county's energy tax on low-income households. The \$479,500 was expected to provide a \$50 rebate to about 9,590 households. The rebate is not required by law or regulation. The County Executive proposed eliminating this rebate as a part of his FY11 Savings Plan. The Council chose to retain the program for FY11.

Attached at ©31 is an update on the requests and people served through energy assistance programs. It is expected that in FY11, 9,915 households will receive MEAP assistance and 12,600 will apply. Demand is not expected to decline in FY12, although it is unclear what amount of funds will be available through Federal programs.

**Council staff recommends approval of this reduction.** This would be a large item to try to restore through the reconciliation list (\$500,000 if 10,000 household are to be served). In addition, Council staff believes a more critical need is for sufficient funding to help with eviction prevention (to be discussed with PHED) which is sometimes the result of large utility arrearages.

**2. *Miscellaneous Adjustments***  
***\$436,050 and 0.5 workyears***

Miscellaneous adjustments account for restoration of furloughs, FY12 recommended benefit changes, annualizations and other items impacting more than one program. **Council staff recommends approval.**

**B. Shelter Services**

Total FY12 recommended funding is \$6,218,860 and 3.2 workyears for this program that provides shelter and transitional housing services to families and single adults, as well as community outreach and case management.

<b>Shelter Services</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Increase Cost: SuperNofa Mandated Cash Match	30,000	0.0	General
Miscellaneous Adjustments	436,050	0.5	General and Grant

**1. *SuperNOFA Cash Match***  
***(\$30,000)***

The HUD SuperNOFA program provides funding for supportive housing. When a new project is added, the new required cash match is requested in the budget. This match is for a proposed project for The Dwelling Place to provide priority housing to chronically homeless families. HUD had not yet made a decision on this project.

**Council staff recommends approval so that this money is available should HUD provide approval as expected.**

There are 18 SuperNOFA projects in the base of the DHHS budget. A listing is attached at ©32-33. There is about \$1.619 million in County funds and \$6.097 million in HUD funds for these projects.

**2. *Miscellaneous Adjustments***  
***\$436,050 and 0.5 workyears***

Miscellaneous adjustments account for restoration of furloughs, FY12 recommended benefit changes, annualizations and other items impacting more than one program. **Council staff recommends approval.**

**C. Service Area Administration**

Total FY12 recommended funding is \$244,950 and 1.8 workyears for this program that provides service wide administration.

<b>Service Area Administration</b>	<b>Dollars</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Fund</b>
Miscellaneous Adjustments	2,190	0.1	General and Grant

The only change recommended is a miscellaneous adjustment. **Council staff recommends approval.**

# Aging and Disability Services

## FUNCTION

The staff of Aging and Disability Services shares the Montgomery County vision, where seniors, persons with disabilities, and their families are fully participating members of our Community. The mission of this service area is to affirm the dignity and value of seniors, persons with disabilities, and their families by offering a wide range of information, home and community-based support services, protections, and opportunities, which promote choice, independence, and inclusion.

## PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Jay Kenney of the HHS - Aging and Disability Services at 240.777.4565 or Trudy-Ann Durace of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2778 for more information regarding this service area's operating budget.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

### Community Support Network for People with Disabilities

This program area provides supported employment for adults with developmental disabilities; service coordination; services for people with visual and hearing impairments and physical disabilities; summer camp for children with multiple disabilities; crisis management and intervention; school-to-work transition assistance, and the Home and Community Based Services Waiver for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (Autism Waiver). This program area also provides financial assistance to State-funded providers who serve adults with developmental disabilities.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY09	Actual FY10	Estimated FY11	Target FY12	Target FY13
Percentage of adults with developmental disabilities provided community living services who remain at the same level of independence after receiving supportive services	95	94	95	95	95

FY12 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>15,799,150</b>	<b>42.7</b>
Decrease Cost: Client Advocacy Contract Serving 30 Residents	-51,010	0.0
Reduce: Single Point of Entry Grant	-130,530	-0.3
Decrease Cost: Developmentally Disabled Contract Partially Offset by Medicaid Payment	-324,020	0.0
Reduce: Developmentally Disabled (DD) Supplemental Payments to Providers by 5%	-388,250	0.0
Reduce: Resource Coordination Grant	-604,580	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	133,990	1.8
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>14,434,750</b>	<b>44.2</b>

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustments include the shift of 1.0 workyear from Senior Community Services to this program.

### Assessment and Continuing Case Mgmt Svcs

This program area provides multi-disciplinary assessments, care planning, and case management services to frail seniors and adults with disabilities to remedy and prevent abuse, neglect, self-neglect, exploitation, or inappropriate institutionalization. Services include Adult Protective Services, Adult Evaluation and Review Services (AERS), Statewide Evaluation and Planning Services, Social Services to Adults, and the Public Guardianship Program.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY09	Actual FY10	Estimated FY11	Target FY12	Target FY13
Number on Social Services to Adults (SSTA) waiting list	249	238	150	150	150

FY12 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>6,136,050</b>	<b>51.0</b>
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-135,580	1.2
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>6,000,470</b>	<b>52.2</b>

1

## Assisted Living Services

This program area provides subsidies and case management for low-income seniors who live in group homes for the frail elderly and adult foster care homes for frail seniors and adults with disabilities.

<b>Program Performance Measures</b>	<b>Actual FY09</b>	<b>Actual FY10</b>	<b>Estimated FY11</b>	<b>Target FY12</b>	<b>Target FY13</b>
Percentage of clients remaining in community placement (i.e., not entering institutional setting)	94	95	95	95	95

<b>FY12 Recommended Changes</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>2,008,300</b>	<b>6.7</b>
Decrease Cost: Group Senior Assisted Housing Grant	-34,090	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	3,320	0.1
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>1,977,530</b>	<b>6.8</b>

## Home Care Services

This program area provides personal care assistance to seniors and eligible adults with disabilities who are unable to manage independently due to physical and/or mental impairments. In-home aide services prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable adults, and enhance overall quality of life by providing personal care, chore assistance, therapeutic support, self-care education, and escorted transportation.

<b>Program Performance Measures</b>	<b>Actual FY09</b>	<b>Actual FY10</b>	<b>Estimated FY11</b>	<b>Target FY12</b>	<b>Target FY13</b>
Number of clients served annually <sup>1</sup>	473	407	372	364	364
Percentage of clients with no unmet personal care needs	95	95	95	95	95

<sup>1</sup> The program has absorbed a series of budget reductions resulting in a continuing decline in the number of individuals that can be served.

<b>FY12 Recommended Changes</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>4,467,390</b>	<b>16.4</b>
Reduce: Senior Korean Chore Services to 20 Clients	-25,000	0.0
Reduce: Case Management Intervention Services to 25 Clients	-29,000	0.0
Reduce: In Home Care Services to Eight (8) New Clients	-100,000	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	375,570	0.4
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>4,688,960</b>	<b>16.8</b>

## Home and Community Based Waiver Services

This program area administers and operates the Home and Community Based Waiver for Older Adults (Medicaid Long-Term Care Waiver) that provides a continuum of services designed to allow frail seniors to live in the community, rather than in nursing homes.

<b>FY12 Recommended Changes</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>1,352,500</b>	<b>12.8</b>
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	47,330	0.4
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>1,399,830</b>	<b>13.2</b>

## Aging and Disability Resource Unit

This program area assists seniors, persons with disabilities, and their families, in defining service needs, locating required services, and facilitating the application process to access services.

<b>Program Performance Measures</b>	<b>Actual FY09</b>	<b>Actual FY10</b>	<b>Estimated FY11</b>	<b>Target FY12</b>	<b>Target FY13</b>
Percentage of callers that received referrals/information they need	89	89	90	90	90

<b>FY12 Recommended Changes</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>1,003,630</b>	<b>9.2</b>
Decrease Cost: Abolish a Full-time Policy and Compliance Position	-170,900	-1.0

	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-23,660	0.1
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>809,070</b>	<b>8.7</b>

### **Ombudsman Services**

This program area investigates and resolves complaints in nursing homes and assisted living facilities for seniors and people with disabilities made by residents, staff, and family members.

<b>Program Performance Measures</b>	<b>Actual FY09</b>	<b>Actual FY10</b>	<b>Estimated FY11</b>	<b>Target FY12</b>	<b>Target FY13</b>
Percentage of complaints resolved	81	89	85	85	85

<b>FY12 Recommended Changes</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>636,960</b>	<b>5.1</b>
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	6,630	0.2
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>643,590</b>	<b>5.3</b>

### **Respite Care**

This program area provides temporary, occasional care of frail seniors, adults and children with disabilities, and children with severe behaviors and/or medical issues to give relief to families and other primary caregivers.

<b>Program Performance Measures</b>	<b>Actual FY09</b>	<b>Actual FY10</b>	<b>Estimated FY11</b>	<b>Target FY12</b>	<b>Target FY13</b>
Number of unmet requests for service in Respite Care <sup>1</sup>	428	1,246	1,500	1,500	1,500
Percentage of customers with disabilities that remain in the community	90	92	90	90	90

<sup>1</sup> Growth in unmet need is a result of a combination of budget constraints and changes in need. The number of individuals who are eligible for respite care is increasing due to increasing documentation of developmental disabilities and the growth in the older adults population.

<b>FY12 Recommended Changes</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>904,380</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	9,700	0.0
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>914,080</b>	<b>0.0</b>

### **Senior Community Services**

This program area provides funds for services that help seniors to remain independent in the Community including: legal services; representative payee services; health insurance counseling; "visitor" services; grocery shopping; transportation to senior centers; subsidized employment, and socialization for seniors with visual impairments.

<b>Program Performance Measures</b>	<b>Actual FY09</b>	<b>Actual FY10</b>	<b>Estimated FY11</b>	<b>Target FY12</b>	<b>Target FY13</b>
Percentage of clients receiving Representative Payee program whose bills are all paid on time	100	100	100	100	100

<b>FY12 Recommended Changes</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>2,315,920</b>	<b>6.6</b>
Decrease Cost: Senior Information and Assistance Grant	-8,420	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-82,080	-0.9
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>2,225,420</b>	<b>5.7</b>

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustments include the shift of 1.0 workyear from this program to Community Support Network for People with Disabilities.

### **Senior Nutrition Program**

This program area provides lunches to seniors at sites around the County and provides home-delivered meals, nutrition education, and physical fitness activities. It is administered in cooperation with a variety of public, private, and nonprofit organizations.

<b>Program Performance Measures</b>	<b>Actual FY09</b>	<b>Actual FY10</b>	<b>Estimated FY11</b>	<b>Target FY12</b>	<b>Target FY13</b>
Number of duplicated customers served in the Senior Nutrition Program <sup>1</sup>	5,601	8,606	5,200	5,200	5,200

<sup>1</sup> Large increase in FY10 was due to one time infusion of ARRA funds. Future years are projected to show reduction in number of individuals and/or meals served as ARRA funds disappear and unit cost of meals increases.

<b>FY12 Recommended Changes</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>2,282,740</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	61,150	0.0
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>2,343,890</b>	<b>3.0</b>

### Service Area Administration

This program area provides leadership and direction for the administration of Aging and Disability Services.

<b>FY12 Recommended Changes</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>457,910</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-13,700	0.0
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>444,210</b>	<b>2.8</b>

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>FY11 Approved</b>		<b>FY12 Recommended</b>	
	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>WYs</b>
Community Support Network for People with Disabilities	15,799,150	42.7	14,434,750	44.2
Assessment and Continuing Case Mgmt Svcs	6,136,050	51.0	6,000,470	52.2
Assisted Living Services	2,008,300	6.7	1,977,530	6.8
Home Care Services	4,467,390	16.4	4,688,960	16.8
Home and Community Based Waiver Services	1,352,500	12.8	1,399,830	13.0
Aging and Disability Resource Unit	1,003,630	9.6	809,070	8.7
Ombudsman Services	636,960	5.1	643,590	5.3
Respite Care	904,380	0.0	914,080	0.0
Senior Community Services	2,315,920	6.6	2,225,420	5.7
Senior Nutrition Program	2,282,740	3.0	2,343,890	3.0
Service Area Administration	457,910	2.8	444,210	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,364,930</b>	<b>156.7</b>	<b>35,881,800</b>	<b>158.7</b>



# Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities

Promoting Choice and Independence

Trish Gallalee, Chair • Charlie Crawford, Vice Chair



**Visit our Website!!!!!!**

**[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/disability](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/disability)**

Find out information on our website about programs and services benefiting people with disabilities.



**Design for Life Montgomery** – Learn how you can make your home accessible so you can live there throughout all ages and stages of life, and welcome visitors with differing abilities. This is a voluntary certification program for Visit-Ability and Live-Ability in single family attached and detached home for new construction and renovation. It is a program of the County and the Maryland-National Capital Building Industry.



**Personal Emergency Preparedness Planning** – Montgomery County has emergency response plans in place for dealing with emergencies from snow storms to terrorist attacks. However, each person is strongly encouraged to have a personal plan. Montgomery County has developed the Plan 9 guide for residents. It is a simple guide to nine essential items to help residents shelter in-place during emergencies. For more information about Plan 9 or personal emergency preparedness plans, call the Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Information line: 240-777-3000 (V), 240-777-2545 (TTY), or visit the website: [www.makeaplan.org](http://www.makeaplan.org).

**Community Support Network for People with Developmental Disabilities** – The Community Support Network (CSN) is a unit within the Department of Health and Human Services and Aging and Disability Services that provides services and support to children and adults with developmental disabilities (ages 3 years through adulthood). CSN provides individuals with supports that enable them to fully participate in all aspects of community life by assisting them in making choices, securing natural supports and services. In addition, CSN provides community education through workshops, quarterly newsletters, educational seminars and public forums. For more information, please call 240-777-1216 (V), 240-777-1217 (TTY).

## Publications Provided by the Commission



### **TRANSPORTATION GUIDE FOR SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES:**

A comprehensive listing of public, private and non-profit transportation in the Washington Metropolitan Region, State of Maryland and beyond. The guide was compiled to assist County residents to better coordinate their transportation needs.



### **DISABILITY NETWORK DIRECTORY:**

A directory of provider agencies, businesses and advocacy organization. The directory is provided upon request to people seeking local, state and national resources for people with disabilities.

**Both publications are available on our website!**

## About the Commission

### **HISTORY & MISSION**

The Commission on People with Disabilities was established by County legislation in 1978 to advise the County Executive and County Council on the coordination and development of the County's policies affecting residents with disabilities. The Commission provides advice, counsel, and recommendations to the Government of Montgomery County, Maryland in general, the County Executive, and the County Council in particular.

Department of Health and Human Services

401 Hungerford Dr. Rockville MD 20850 • 240-777-1246 (V) • 240-777-1236 (TTY)

Betsy Luecking, Disability Policy Specialist, [Betsy.Luecking@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Betsy.Luecking@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Carly Clem, Office Services Coordinator, [Carly.Clem@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Carly.Clem@montgomerycountymd.gov)

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cpwd](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cpwd)



MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND  
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
 AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES

**COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2010**  
*"Promoting Choice and Independence"*



Letter of Transmittal to: November, 2010

Honorable Isiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive  
 Honorable Nancy Floreen, President Montgomery County Council  
 Uma S. Ahluwalia, Director, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

The Commission on People with Disabilities is pleased to present a summary of its activities for the past year. We continue to advise and consult with you on issues of concern to the safety and well-being of the estimated over 180,000 people with disabilities who live in the County. The Commission continues to work to improve the lives of people with disabilities who work, visit or live here. Under your leadership and with your support, the Commission is mandated to ensure that the County government complies with all Federal, State and local laws that guarantee the rights of people with disabilities, particularly the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Supreme Court's 1999 Olmstead Decision which upheld the "integration mandate" of the Americans with Disabilities Act requiring public agencies to provide services "in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of qualified individuals with disabilities."

This year the Commission was proud that both the Executive and legislative branches of the County supported and passed Bill 46-09, which established a hiring preference for veterans and persons with disabilities for a vacant County merit system position if the candidate is among the highest rated candidates in a normal competitive process. We value the relationship we have with the Office of Human Resource and will continue to meet with them on increasing employment of people with disabilities in its diversity outreach efforts. From efforts to comply with the Olmstead Decision to Therapeutic Recreation to MetroAccess to accessibility on the fixed route transportation system, we have taken positions and given advice on how best to ensure greatest access.

We wish to recognize and give our personal thanks to all Commissioners, the many community members, and the agency staff who participate in our meetings for their commitment and dedication in promoting the civil rights and independence of people with disabilities. We would like to acknowledge DHHS Director Uma Ahluwalia for continuing to meet with the Boards, Commissions, and Committees to keep us informed of important health and human services issues; Jay Kenney, Ph.D., Chief, Aging & Disability Services, Betsy Luecking, Disability Policy Specialist, and Carly Clem, OSC, for their outstanding support in providing the Commission with the resources needed to carry out our mission. This report is the result of our combined efforts.

It has been a pleasure to work with you and members of the Commission during our term of service. We are confident that you will continue to support the Commission's efforts to enhance the lives of people with disabilities. Our meetings are open to the public, and we invite you to join us for any meeting.

Sincerely,



*Mark Maxin*  
 Mark Maxin  
 Chair

*Aaron Kaufman*  
 Aaron Kaufman  
 Vice Chair



# MEMBERSHIP LIST

2009 - 2010

## VOTING MEMBERS

### PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Cindy Buddington	John Miers
Charles Crawford	Seth Morgan
Harry Eisenberg	Marcie Povitsky
Trish Gallalee	Kamran Rasul
Aaron Kaufman	Sandra Sermons
Tim Markwood	Isabel A. Torres-Davis
Paul Meyer	

### PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

Sharon Freiman  
Irving Shapiro  
Jackie Simon

### PRIVATE AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Kim Alfonso, *Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind*  
Lauren Feuerstein, *Jewish Social Service Agency*  
Lise Hamlin, *Hearing Loss Association of America*  
Janeth Kamala, *Inwood House*  
Edmund Kenny, *Handicap International*  
Mark Maxin, *Special Olympics*  
Daphne Pallozzi, *Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Institute of Catholic Charities*  
Stephen Riley, *Potomac Community Resources*

## NON-VOTING MEMBERS

### PUBLIC AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Francie Gilman, *Disability Resource Center, Department of Public Libraries*  
Nancy Greene, *ADA Compliance Officer, Department of Health and Human Services*  
Richard Jackson, *Division of Facilities Management, Department of General Services*  
Mark Winan, *Department of Recreation*  
Kathy Kolan, *Montgomery County Public Schools*  
Judy Hanger, *Division of Transit Services, Department of Transportation*  
Rose Sachs, *Montgomery College Disability Support Services*  
Susan Smith, *Housing Opportunities Commission*  
Darlene Taper, *Department of Health and Human Services, School Health Services*  
Angela Washington, Esq., *Office of Human Resources, Equal Employment & Diversity*  
Betsy Jett, *Human Rights Commission*

### STAFF

Betsy Luecking, *Disability Policy Specialist*  
Carly Clem, *Office Services Coordinator*  
John (Jay) Kenney, Ph.D., *Chief, Aging and Disability Services*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Membership List	2
Commission Presentations for 2009 - 2010	3
Bill 46-09 Press Release	4
Summary of Key County Employment Programs	5
FY11 Operating Budget Testimony	6 - 7
Top Two Policy Priorities for FY12	8
Accessible Parking: Everything You Need To Know	9
Accessible Parking Abuse - Montgomery County, 2010	10 - 11
Spotlight on Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind	12
Submitted By Commissioner John Miers	13
Metro ADA E-News	14
MetroAccess Update	15
Who Has A Disability In Montgomery County, MD? - An Overview	16
Montgomery County Public Schools Special Education	17
Publications Provided By The Commission	18
About the Commission	19

## COMMISSION PRESENTATIONS FOR 2009 - 2010

- October 2009:** **Update on Montgomery County Government's Website Accessibility** – *The Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Technology Services and Public Information Office - Rob Todd, Ivan Galic, Christopher Daniel and Kyung Lee*
- 
- December 2009:** **Advocacy for Programs Serving People with Developmental Disabilities** – *Tim Wiens, Executive Director, Jubilee Association of MD and Chair of Montgomery County Inter ACC/DD (Interagency Coordinating Committee for People with Developmental Disabilities); and Lauren Newman, Administrator, Community Support Network, Aging and Disability Services*
- 
- January 2010:** **"Overview of Glaucoma"** – *Dr. Marietta Dawson and Kim Alfonso, Senior Vice President, CLB*
- 
- March 2010:** **Overview of Montgomery County's Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (OEMHS) and Multi-Departmental Participation in Planning and Response** – *Chris Voss, Director, OEMHS / Shelter Task Force History of Emergency Sheltering for the Past 15 Years and What Residents Can Expect Prior to and at Emergency Shelters* – *Mike Fitzgerald, Emergency Response Planner / Evacuation Considerations & Training* – *Bill Delaney, Program Manager - Community Safety Education, Division of Community Risk Reduction Services, Montgomery County Fire & Rescue / Proposal for Training of Paramedics and Fire and Rescue Workers on Evacuation of People with Spinal Cord Injury and Traumatic Brain Injury* – *Dr. Terrence Sheehan, Medical Director, Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital / Emergency Planning Advisory Panel & Follow up* – *Mike Fitzgerald*
- 
- April 2010:** **FY11 Budget Issues Impacting People with Disabilities** – *Duchy Trachtenberg, Councilmember, Montgomery County Council*
- 
- May 2010:** **The White Flint Plan** – *Barnaby Zall, Of Counsel Weinberg & Jacobs, LLP*
- 
- June 2010:** **Montgomery County Council Budget on Disability Programs** – *The Honorable Phil Andrews, Councilmember, Montgomery County Council*
- 
- September 2010:** **ADA Update and Introduction of ADA Compliance Team** – *Nancy Greene, ADA Compliance Officer*

## BILL 46-09 PRESS RELEASE

### **Leggett Celebrates Signing of Disability and Veteran Hiring Bill Into Law; Establishes County as Local Leader Montgomery County Press Release February 28, 2010**

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett today celebrated the signing into law of Bill 46-09, which establishes a hiring preference for veterans and persons with disabilities for a vacant County merit system position if the candidate is among the highest rated candidates in a normal competitive process. (The bill signing was postponed due to last week's snowstorm. Bill 46-09 was signed by the County Executive and returned to the County Council earlier this week.)

The new law alters an existing hiring preference for veterans, giving the same advantage to people with disabilities. It also creates a new classification -- veterans with disabilities. "Giving preference to qualified persons with disabilities is simply the right thing to do," said Leggett. "Helping out veterans, who have returned home and are facing financial hardship and high unemployment rates, is something I believe we all want to do. These brave men and women have given so much to their country, and this is one way for us to give back to them and to provide hope and opportunity."

Bill 46-09 requires the County Executive to adopt regulations establishing and maintaining a hiring preference for certain qualified persons with disabilities who apply for an initial appointment to a County merit system position. The Council's Management and Fiscal Policy Committee recommended amending the bill to place a veteran with a disability first in the order of hiring preference and to give a veteran without a disability and a non-veteran with a disability an equal preference. The law relies on the definition of disabled used in federal hiring programs, not the broader definition used to prevent discrimination under the Americans With Disabilities Act. The applicant must have proof of the disability, certification of job readiness, and meet all required qualifications for the position.

"With this action, Montgomery County is opening wider the door to qualified applicants with disabilities," said Councilmember Phil Andrews (D Gaithersburg-Rockville), the measure's chief sponsor. "This law in combination with other initiatives to hire qualified persons with disabilities will, over time, reduce the very high unemployment rate of people with disabilities, and enrich the diversity of the County government workforce."

"This bill shows that the County appreciates the service veterans have given for our County and country, and the hardships they have endured," said Chairman of the Commission on Veterans Affairs Bill Gray. "It will help them tremendously and ideally to start a career working for the County."

"I applaud the County Executive and members of the County Council for their vision and commitment towards the hiring of individuals with disabilities in Montgomery County Government," said Chair of the Commission on People with Disabilities Mark Maxin. "This bill acknowledges the extraordinary service and sacrifice of our disabled veterans. Individuals with disabilities are a largely untapped pool of talent and ability who can perform a wide range of jobs. The myths, fears, bias and stereotypes associated with these individuals can be far more limiting than the medical condition itself."

Bill 46-09

Executive Regulation 3-10

## SUMMARY OF KEY COUNTY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

### **Disability and Veteran Hiring Bill Into Law Establishes County as Local Leader**

On February 28, 2010 Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett signed into law of Bill 46-09, which established a hiring preference for veterans and persons with disabilities for a vacant County merit system position if the candidate is among the highest rated candidates in a normal competitive process. The new law alters an existing hiring preference for veterans, giving the same advantage to people with disabilities. It also creates a new classification -- veterans with disabilities. Bill 46-09 required the County Executive to adopt Executive Regulation 3 -10 to establish and maintain a hiring preference for certain qualified persons with disabilities who apply for an initial appointment to a County merit system position. The Council's Management and Fiscal Policy Committee recommended amending the bill to place a veteran with a disability first in the order of hiring preference and to give a veteran without a disability and a non-veteran with a disability an equal preference. The law relies on the definition of disabled used in federal hiring programs, not the broader definition used to prevent discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The applicant must be certified as having a disability by the Division of Rehabilitation Services or by the Veterans Administration, certification of job readiness, and meet all required qualifications for the position. This bill action was a result of the long time advocacy of the Commission on People with Disabilities and later the Commission on Veterans Affairs who are administered out of HHS, Aging and Disability Services.

### **Quest Intern Partnership Provides 10 Internship Opportunities**

The Montgomery County QUEST Intern Partnership was launched in October 2009 with the Maryland Department of Education Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS). The Quest Intern partnership is designed to provide opportunities for individuals to serve as volunteer interns in County Departments and help them obtain job skills by working on a special project(s) in your department. The goal for this initiative is to achieve a minimum of ten (10) QUEST Internship placements by the close of Fiscal Year 2010. Participating departments identify internship projects suitable for QUEST Intern placements and submit the project(s) for consideration by the DORS QUEST Intern Coordinator. DORS representatives will work with county department staff to recruit, identify, and recommend qualified individuals for the approved department projects. The DORS Coordinator recommends qualified intern candidates for consideration and selection by department staff. Department staff will interview internship candidates and select individuals to work in the department for a three month or six-month period. The QUEST internship placements will not impact departmental fiscal requirements, since DORS will handle all the pre-intern placement arrangements and provide the intern stipends. DORS provides QUEST Interns with a stipend for the duration of their service plus help interns gain job experience needed to help them achieve their goal of obtaining gainful employment after completing the intern placement with Montgomery County. This program was developed in partnership with OHR, HHS and the Commission on People with Disabilities.

**Montgomery County Government Customized Employment Public Intern Project: *Cutting Edge Employment Model for Other Counties and Private Employers***—In partnership with other disability advocates, the Commission on People with Disabilities advocated for and is pleased to see that the Customized Employment Public Intern Project funded in FY08 is continuing to provide part-time employment for 20 people with significant disabilities for up to two years per person. As an employer, Montgomery County recognizes that there are many job candidates with significant disabilities who have much to offer but have difficulty competing for traditional jobs within the government. The County established this initiative to create flexible work opportunities for individuals to fulfill the work requirements of County departments. All County departments have the opportunity to work with a customized employment career specialist to identify and create part-time position descriptions based on the department's need. Individuals with significant disabilities are matched to work tasks based on their interests, skills and competencies. The goal is for public interns to gain job experience and training to be able to compete for merit positions within the County, as well as in the private sector. The Commission's OHR Employment Workgroup is advisory to the project and receives updates regarding its implementation and on-going efforts. Dr. Jay Kenney, Chief, Aging and Disability Services, and Joe Adler, Office of Human Resources Director, were instrumental in working with other County departments to get this program started.

# FY11 OPERATING BUDGET TESTIMONY

**Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities  
FY11 Operating Budget Forum – before the Montgomery County Council  
April 8, 2010**

**Mark Maxin, Chair | Aaron Kaufman, Vice- Chair**

Good Evening, my name is Mark Maxin and I am speaking on behalf of the Commission on People with Disabilities. We recognize that these are severe economic times and request and trust that you will sustain or increase programs as possible. We ask for consideration of the following:

- Currently, it appears that the services provided by HHS are mostly serving people in crisis or adult protective services or what is known as the “safety net”. We ask that you consider persons who have developmental disability and who are on the Developmental Disabilities Administration Waiting list as being in crisis. The County’s “crisis” in serving this population is due to the State’s poor record of funding programs and services for this population. According to End the Wait Now, Maryland is the wealthiest state in the nation yet ranks 43rd in terms of state spending on developmental disability services. Only eight states rank lower: Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Nevada, Texas and Virginia. Maryland devotes 21% less resources for community services than the average state. Children and adults with significant developmental disabilities throughout Maryland need essential services to remain with their families and in their communities. These services have not been adequately funded, so individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have been placed on a Waiting List for community services kept by the Developmental Disabilities Administration. The list has grown to crisis proportions with over 19,000 people statewide with over 3,300 being from Montgomery County.
- We encourage/need you to consider an intake and service coordination system to provide more preventative and maintenance versus crisis only services. There is a need for more service coordinators for people with developmental disabilities to serve as a Safety Net for those that do not and will not get services from the Developmental Disabilities Administration. As the County reduces In Home Aide Services, and Respite the DD waiting list number of people that need assistance getting through the system will increase, and there will be no one able to assist them while they wait for services.
- The Commission joins with Inter ACC/DD in requesting that you include the \$600,000 for the annualization of last year’s new services and for coverage of services to new clients who have a developmental disability in FY11. Agencies providing residential, day and support services for adults who have developmental disabilities in Montgomery County took a 7% cut in the County Executive’s proposed FY11 budget. The DD Supplement/Match which is designed to pay a living wage for direct service employees was cut by about \$580,000. This is on top of a Maryland State Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) cut of 2% in FY10 which cost our Montgomery County Agencies an estimated \$1,847,041. Since there is not additional funding in the proposed budget to pay for an expansion of services, the result means that the cuts per person served are more than 7%. InterACC/DD is willing to accept the 7% cut, because they realize the difficult situation that the County is in and feels that they need to bear the pain along with everyone else. DD providers are not willing to accept a 14% cut for services, which is what this budget would result in.
- Restore \$100,000 in the In-Home Aide Care Program which would allow for the provision of more than 14 hours per week, on a case-by-case basis after an updated evaluation, for those 120 identified persons who would be adversely affected by the proposed reduction in hours per week from 20 to a maximum of 14.

## FY11 OPERATING BUDGET TESTIMONY CONTINUED

- Continue funding for the Customized Employment Internship Program.
- Provide additional resources the Senior Nutrition program to provide additional home delivered meals for **people who have disabilities under age 60 years old** who have a difficult time leaving their home and need assistance with food preparation.
- Restore funding for the Library's Disability Resource Center and at minimum not cut anymore from the library. The library serves an important function for disabilities: On a basic level, the library provides computer/internet access to those who cannot afford it in their homes. Further, libraries have specialized assistive technology for people with disabilities. Much of this technology is necessary for people to access the computer but is too expensive for them to purchase on their own. The library also provides training on technology. The library also provides additional services, including a homebound service, for patrons who cannot physically get to the library. Moreover, books, whether hard copy, digital, audio, etc., are for everyone to enjoy. The library should be a place that everyone can access, regardless of ability or disability. Already due to the budget cuts, the talking books collection is being moved from the Rockville library to the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, in Baltimore. People who use these books, such as people who are blind or have low vision, cannot no longer go to the Rockville library, browse and check out a book like everyone else can. Talking books are now ordered from Baltimore and mailed to the person's house. Further cuts would limit, and possibly even eliminate even more services for people with disabilities. We ask that the Council not overlook the fact that people with disabilities have the right to use the libraries and **DO** use the libraries. Services that allow people with disabilities equal access are important and need to be maintained.
- The Commission on Aging is requesting funding a Geriatric Mental Health Treatment Team for low-income seniors with mental health and substance abuse problems. We support their request for this much needed program, and request that you **extend** this program to also serve **people with disabilities who are under age 60** who have a difficult time or are unable to leave their home to receive needed mental health and substance abuse services.

The Commission worked with the Commission on Veterans Affairs, Office of Human Resources, Health and Human Services and the County Council to work to have Bill 46-09 Hiring Preference for People with Disabilities signed into law. We thank you for your outstanding leadership in unanimously supporting this milestone local legislation.

In closing, we recommend that you sustain or increase services as you can in County programs for people with disabilities, including the County's support for community based service providers who do so much to enrich the lives of so many. The County has had a long-standing, laudable policy that enables people with disabilities to live as independently, productively and safely as possible. In order to maintain this policy, the County needs to adequately fund disability programs. We thank HHS and the County for all you have done to make our community a better place to live for people with disabilities.

*"A Community's Budgetary Choices and Policies Reflect its Values"*

# TOP TWO POLICY PRIORITIES FOR FY12

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MEETING WITH THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mark Maxin, Chair  
Aaron Kaufman, Vice-Chair  
September 23, 2010

### County Housing Policy Impediments\*

- Lack of currently available affordable housing
- Lack of available, especially affordable, housing for residents with a disability

**1. We recommend a housing policy that provides more opportunity for people to live independently in their own homes. We recommend that the Council work to have more accessible and affordable housing and supports for people with disabilities by:**

- Increased education and outreach for the Design for Life Montgomery "visit-ability" program in cooperation with permitting services by creating a resource there to help market the program more than they are now able when folks come in for building permits.
- The County work with HOC and the MPDU program to require that units that were built to be accessible are offered first to those that require accessibility (ie., needing no step entry)
- Technical assistance to families of cost effective ways to modify their homes after a stroke, accident or a returning disabled Veteran, in consultation with the American Institute of Architects (AIA).
- Replicating the current program for people with spinal cord injury that has been demonstrated at Metro-pointe; as we have identified 900 people living in MC nursing homes under the age of 60 who have signaled they want out.

\*See Montgomery County, Maryland Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) Fiscal Year 2010 Mid-Year Update, January, 2010

### Higher Rate of Unemployment and Poverty Among People with Disabilities

- Among all adults age 21+, people with disabilities are almost 3 times more likely to be below the Federal Poverty Level (11.4% vs. 3.6%). In Montgomery County, 31% of working age adults (ages 18 - 54) with disabilities report that they are unemployed.

**2. We recommend increased employment of people with Disabilities within County government and the private sector.** Support the monitoring and full implementation of Bill 46-09 that required the County Executive to adopt regulations establishing and maintaining a hiring preference for certain qualified persons with disabilities who apply for an initial appointment to a County merit system position. The bill places a veteran with a disability first in the order of hiring preference and to give a veteran without a disability and a non-veteran with a disability an equal preference. We also recommend that the County continue to have and support the Customized Employment Internship Program and the Quest Program for interns with disabilities.

The housing and employment needs of people with disabilities also require a **reliable transportation system** for people with disabilities. Metro Access needs better monitoring and the fixed route needs to be continued to serve people with their transportation needs.

## ACCESSIBLE PARKING: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

Everyone recognizes “handicapped” parking spaces, correctly known as accessible parking for persons with disabilities, by the sign with the universal symbol of accessibility. We know that they are reserved for certain persons with disabilities, but we may not be sure about the details. The Montgomery County Commission on Disabilities receives many inquiries about accessible parking, such as:

- Who is eligible to park in the spaces?
- How do I apply for the special parking placard and registration plates?
- Do I have to feed a parking meter if I have a special parking placard for motorists with disabilities?

The Commission encourages all motorists with disabilities to learn more about parking accommodations for persons with disabilities, the use of special parking placards and registration plates, temporary disabilities, etc. **Maryland drivers with disabilities who qualify for special parking placards and registration plates have several parking accommodations available to them:**

- Maryland’s registration plates and placards for individuals with disabilities display the wheelchair symbol and are recognized nationwide.
- You are exempt from paying parking meter fees in Maryland if the parking meters do not meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and can park up to twice (not to exceed four hours). **Please note:** Areas outside of Maryland, including the District of Columbia, have different parking meter exemption laws. Please check with their local government to obtain parking meter exemption information. **Note: The Americans with Disabilities Act does not prevent payment of parking meter fees by an individual with a disability. Therefore, you should verify requirements of feeding parking meters and the time limit allowed in the jurisdiction you are visiting.**

### **Penalties for Misuse of Parking Accommodations for People with Disabilities**

Anyone committing fraud or misrepresenting themselves when applying for or using a parking placard for people with disabilities is subject to a fine of up to \$500. If disability conditions are not met, the plate/placards may be revoked. For more information and the complete “Everything You Need to Know” for Maryland Motorists with Disabilities, visit the MVA website at <http://www.marylandmva.com/AboutMVA/DISABILITIES/default.htm>.

Failing to display the parking placard and license may result in a \$250.00 fine. It is important to note, in addition to the placard or license plate, drivers are also required to produce their MVA issued ID.

In the upcoming year, the Commission will be reviewing Montgomery County parking rules and enforcement as they pertain to people with disabilities who have a disability placard/plate.

Consideration of possible new approaches to disabled parking abuses by those who park in the spaces who do not have placards or using a placard that is not issued to you will be considered and recommendations will be made to the County parking enforcement office.

# ACCESSIBLE PARKING ABUSE - MONTGOMERY COUNTY, 2010

Submitted by Commissioner Seth Morgan, M.D.

## I. Overview:

Nationally, accessible parking abuse is rampant and worsening. In 2007, an investigation in Boston, Mass concluded that, of nearly 1,000 placards observed, approximately a third appeared to be used by someone other than the disabled person for whom it was intended. Further, forty-nine placards were registered to people who had died with nine having been renewed after the person's death.

Maryland does not keep track to ensure that placards are returned despite the state regulation that placards be returned once need for them ends or upon the death of the individual to whom they are issued.

Disabled parking placards permit holders to park at metered parking spots free of charge for up to twice the allotted time limit (up to 4 hours). The value of placards has made them the target of theft and at least one recent case of sale of counterfeit placards by a parking enforcement officer in Alexandria, Virginia.

Data suggests that the trend is most probably worsening; in Maryland, disabled parking placards issued jumped from 129,044 last year to 179,420 this year.

## II. Current Maryland Disabled Parking Placard Rules

- a. Eligibility: requires physician, nurse practitioner, chiropractor, optometrist or podiatrist certification or applicant must be a veteran with 100% disability as per the Veterans Administration.
- b. The vehicle owner must be the individual with the disability for a disabled license plate; if not the owner of the car, the individual with the disability can apply for a handicapped placard for use when he/she is riding a car.
- c. The disabled individual must always have his/her medical certification in their possession whenever disabled plates or placard are being used.

## III. Current Problems with Maryland Disabled Parking Enforcement

- a. Low priority: Enforcement is felt to be of lower importance in the current financial crisis and cutback of resources. This is felt to be a minor infraction within the spectrum of criminal activity and felt to be hard to prove; "not worth the time".
- b. Lack of interest: In the words of one DC police officer, "Asking them [persons parking in disabled parking spots] if they have a disability is not appropriate." This despite the legal requirement in Maryland that the disabled individual carry medical certification of disability whenever using a placard (see above) and the District of Columbia stating in their municipal regulations dealing with disabled parking law that "the person with the disability shall be in the motor vehicle displaying special license tags or a special parking permit when that motor vehicle is driven into or out of the parking space".
- c. Parking enforcement officer difficulty accessing records in the field to verify that the individual using a placard is, in fact, permitted to use that placard also is a factor.

## IV. Potential Solutions & Approach of Other States/Jurisdictions to Improved Monitoring

### Should placard renewal be required more frequently?

- Currently, Maryland placards are valid for four years.
- The state should keep track of and collect expired placards and those no longer needed.

### Should the state change the placards themselves?

- In North Carolina, new disabled placards have an expiration date printed on the placard in a font large enough to be easily read from 20 feet away.
- In South Carolina, a recent law went into effect requiring the placard to have a photo of the disabled person to whom it is issued for enforcement simplification.
- Advocates in other states are proposing placing the drivers license number or the personal ID number of the person issued the placard on the placard itself (these are numbers of public record and not confidential).

## ACCESSIBLE PARKING ABUSE - CONTINUED

### **Should volunteer programs be used in Maryland to enforce disabled parking laws?**

- This has been used in various jurisdictions nationally already (Miami, FL; Kent, WA; Denver, CO; Phoenix, AZ; Escambia County, FL; Huntington, Long Island, NY; and others).
- During the 2005 session, Maryland's General Assembly passed Senate Bill 630 which has provisions pertaining to parking for individuals with disabilities and authorizes the initiation of public outreach to enhance public awareness and to assist in disabled parking enforcement.
- Several volunteer programs assisting law enforcement in Maryland are already active.
- Programs require training and supervision, however the use of volunteers to police disabled parking abuse frees up police officers to concentrate on more serious crimes and generates revenue from parking tickets at a time when revenue streams are drying up. Potential revenues from such a volunteer program, by estimates, could reach into the millions of dollars county-wide.

**Should disabled parking enforcement be outsourced?** Added incentive to enforce laws by for-profit companies may result in more aggressive and effective enforcement. This would eliminate the concern about volunteer training and potential legal risks of a volunteer program to the county.

**Should fines for disabled parking violations be increased?** A California law went into effect this year giving cities the authority to increase fines for disabled parking violations up to \$1,000. Assembly Majority Whip Fiona Ma (who authored the bill) commented that, if you go for a pizza and park in a disabled spot for the convenience of doing so, "and come back, and you've got a ticket for \$750, I think you'll think twice about doing that again". [Note: San Francisco increased the maximum fine for disabled parking violations in its jurisdiction to \$750]

**Should fines and penalties for altering disabled placards be stiffened?** Some jurisdictions double or triple fines for altering placards (changing expiration date, etc.) or using placards that have been issued to individuals who are deceased; some carry the potential for the guilty party to be given a jail sentence as well.

**In private parking lot disabled spaces, should the burden of enforcement be on businesses or law enforcement? Who is responsible?** (As example, when a disabled motorist recently complained to a manager at COSTCO in Pentagon City about a car in a disabled parking spot not having a placard, the manager stated that the lot was managed by a separate company. The parking officer he was referred to said that he didn't have his ticketing book. Someone needs to be held accountable in private lots based on the ADA law).

**Should disabled parking laws be changed?** The practice of allowing those with disabled placards to park free of charge at metered parking spots has already been an issue of discussion in Maryland but any policy change will necessitate that all parking meters be made accessible for those with disabilities. Currently this is not the case and the cost of making all parking meters accessible is not an option on a county/state budgetary basis. As new ADA compliant lots are designed and built, such a policy may be possible on a case by case basis.

### **A Cautionary Comment**

Frustration over parking abuse of disabled spots has led to websites that document possible cases of such abuse as perceived by the public. The dangers of injury to those who take it upon themselves to confront those that they perceive as abusing the system raises risks for injury from altercation and endangers those with disabilities that are not readily apparent to such vigilante groups.

Controlling the risk by establishing police department trained and sponsored volunteer enforcement teams, outsourcing to aggressive private companies or other means of demonstrating a serious interest in effectively addressing disabled parking abuse is essential.

**Clearly, we need changes in Montgomery County to disabled parking use and enforcement. What other options should we consider? Please contact the Commission with any recommendations.**

Reference data provided upon request.

## SPOTLIGHT ON COLUMBIA LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

Submitted by Commissioner Kim Alfonso

Every seven minutes someone becomes blind or visually impaired in the United States. There are estimated to be 15,000 blind and visually impaired consumers in Montgomery County. However, this trend is significantly growing due to the aging baby boomers (macular degeneration), increase in diabetes (Diabetic Retinopathy), increase in our veterans who are losing their vision and/or returning home with vision loss/blindness (over 4,600 in the greater Washington region) and the increase in the numbers of senior citizens in Montgomery County. Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind has been provided programs, services, training and employment to these consumers for over 100 years. Over the past few years, based on the economy and aging population there has been a significant need for independent living skills (working with seniors to remain independent in their own homes or at assisted living centers), and job training/employment (working with working age adults who are visually impaired/blind in securing employment).

Based on the funding we receive from Montgomery County DHHS we have been able to (just to name a few):

- Provide independent living skills to seniors, staff training at assisted living centers/nursing homes, orientation and mobility training
- Increase our Circle of Friends support groups to include one at Holy Cross Hospital/Senior Source and in Silver Spring
- Provide low vision services to consumers with diabetes and seniors in need of care
- Provide transportation to consumers (primarily seniors) who are in need of social interaction and activities (get them out of their homes)
- Provide ASL interpreters to deaf-blind residents (we are also seeing an increase in requests for services from this population) who are in need of our services
- Launch a Montgomery County teen support group in collaboration with Montgomery County Public Schools
- Provide job training to our veterans returning home with vision loss (17% of veterans are returning home with vision loss)

This funding is critical to consumers who are visually impaired or blind in Montgomery County as their needs continue to increase and the numbers continue to increase. We are only meeting the needs of few due to limited funding but also due to community outreach. Many of the consumers who are in need of our services may not be aware of our services. We need to continue to reach out to the communities, primarily the senior citizen communities to make sure that they know we are here to serve them. This is of particular importance in low income, under-insured markets. We have been working with the local blind organizations, community organizations that serve the disabled (Easter Seals, etc.), churches, school systems as well as with the local media. Montgomery County should continue to do the following:

- Provide funding to non-profit organizations serving this community to provide programs, services and training,
- Assist non-profit organizations in marketing/communicating to communities their services and programs,
- Support the hiring preference to assist in increasing the numbers of job ready blind or visually impaired consumers (our employment rate is remains steady between 55% - 70% which is unacceptable),
- Hold annual panels to provide this community an opportunity to voice their concerns and needs,
- Work diligently to address and fix issues with MetroAccess (we cannot continue to allow MetroAccess to operate as they do),
- Provide funding to support workforce development training for our veterans who suffer from vision loss,
- Support seniors losing their vision in remaining in their homes and,
- Continue to always have a voice from this community on the Commission.

## SUBMITTED BY COMMISSIONER JOHN MIERS

I have worked on several projects this year which will assist the CPWD with its various goals and objectives. Public awareness is the major thread in all of this.

**Workgroup on Houses of Worship:** I have inspected one church in Montgomery County and made recommendations as to its accessibility to persons with disabilities. I have also made a presentation on Disability for "Disability Awareness Sunday" to another church in the County.

**Health and Wellness Committee:** I have served on this CPWD committee, planning liaisons with other County commissions and planning for Health Tips for the CPWD. These Tips are particularly selected to be of maximum use for persons with disabilities.

**Inter-group Liaison** is an essential part of being on a commission in Montgomery County. In this time of economic difficulty, it is important for each commission to be aware of, and assist, other relevant commissions. This will not only make the other commission aware of the interests and needs of the CPWD, but will also allow the CPWD to work with them on potential projects and to support their budget requests. One plus one equals three.

**CHIP (Community Health Improvement Program):** This is a broad ranging, numerically based view of Montgomery County and its regions. Various data are loaded into this Program, and statistical charts and tables are developed to assess, track, and ask questions about health topics in Montgomery County. It is essential for CPWD to have a voice on this Program, and I have done so.

**MHAC (Mental Health Advisory Committee):** Mental Illness is one of our most prevalent disabilities. Having a voice on this MHAC is valuable in both directions. MHAC needs to be aware of just what is being done for all citizens with disabilities; CPWD needs to include mental illness in all its planning.

**Emergency Preparedness Advisory Panel:** This newly formed panel assists Montgomery County in planning for emergencies of all sorts. It is essential that the CPWD be included in ensure that citizens with disabilities are included in all their plans. I have done so.

**Committee on Aging:** John Miers served on two projects connected with the Commission on Aging. First was a study on the provision on mental health care to seniors in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. As noted above, mental illness is a major cause of disability, and the adequate provision of this care is essential to this population. Second was participation on a Summer Study on Transportation in Montgomery County. While this was focused on the Aging population, many of the needs and resources closely parallel those of the disability community. My participation led them to closely consider the needs of both communities.

## METRO ADA E-NEWS

by Rikki Epstein, ADA Operations Manager, Office of ADA Programs  
Department of Access Services  
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

### **MetroAccess Riders to Prepay by Phone, Online or Use Cash for Trips**

#### **Tokens, Paper Fare Cards Phasing Out Effective January 31**

In an effort to simplify and save customers time in paying fares, Metro is encouraging its MetroAccess riders to use remaining tokens and paper fare cards before January 31, 2011, when they will be discontinued for use. The Metro Board of Directors voted yesterday, October 28, to approve the elimination of the tokens and paper fare cards.

The transition is being planned in preparation for new distance based fares that are being implemented on December 5, as part of the 2011 budget fare changes authorized earlier this year. Under the new fares, continued use of tokens and paper fare cards will add handling time to each trip.

While paper fare cards and tokens are being phased out, Metro is encouraging MetroAccess customers to prepay for trips by phone or online using a credit or debit card with MetroAccess EZ-Pay. The service has been available to customers since May 2009. SmartBenefits customers may also take advantage of MetroAccess EZ-Pay. Customers can receive step-by-step instructions on how to use EZ-Pay online, or they can call 301-562-5360 to request information. In addition to EZ-Pay, MetroAccess fares also may be paid in cash in the exact amount at boarding.

Starting December 5, MetroAccess fares will be based on the distance and time of day that a customer travels. The MetroAccess fare will be twice the amount of what the fare would cost on the fastest comparable trip if the same trip were taken on fixed-route services (Metrobus and Metrorail), up to a maximum fare of \$7.

MetroAccess customers will be informed of the exact fare that they are expected to pay for a trip when they book a trip online or with a MetroAccess reservations agent.

Effective July 1, the MetroAccess service area was changed to provide paratransit service to locations within ¼ mile of fixed route service (Metrobus and Metrorail) during the same hours that fixed route transportation services are available. Customers who traveled outside the ADA service area or hours in FY2010 are permitted to continue to do so under a grandfathering provision adopted by the Metro Board of Directors. All grandfathered trips outside the ADA service area will be charged the maximum fare.

## METROACCESS UPDATE

Submitted by Commissioner Paul Meyer

The Commission continues to support a MetroAccess Program that is reliable, available and affordable to those individuals with disabilities who cannot use the fixed route system. Commissioner Paul Meyer continues to represent the Commission to the Transportation Planning Board Access for All (AFA) Advisory Committee and the Human Service Transportation Coordination (HSTC) Task Force. Both Committees, which are under the Council of Government's (COG) umbrella are tasked with making recommendations to support the rights of people with disabilities to accessible transportation services in the DC Metropolitan area.

While anecdotal comments and some basic studies show that the reliability of the MetroAccess Program continues to improve, huge deficits in the WMATA budget have resulted in some cuts in the MetroAccess service area and fare increases for many MetroAccess users that are well over 100% for this year. These changes are legal under the ADA, however they represent a fundamental change in the way WMATA provides for and charges for services to those individuals who use the MetroAccess Program.

While the Commission supports programs that encourage the use of fixed route systems for those who can use them, it is very concerned that these huge fare increases and cuts in service will result in major hardships for a large number of people with disabilities. It is hoped that in the coming year the County can work with State to review how these changes have impacted people with disabilities and lobby WMATA to review and modify these changes. Information regarding the current policies and fares can be viewed at [http://www.wmata.com/accessibility/metroaccess\\_service/](http://www.wmata.com/accessibility/metroaccess_service/).

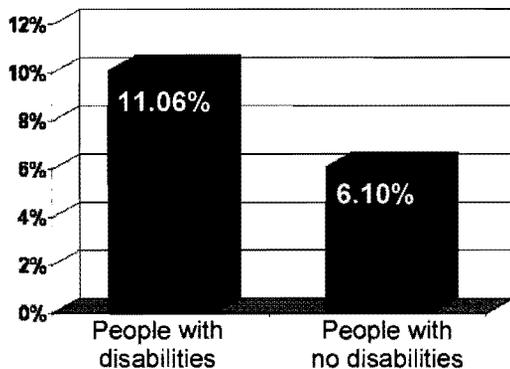
# WHO HAS A DISABILITY IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD? AN OVERVIEW

The U.S. Census Bureau Census, 2000, estimated that there were 186,580 persons living in Montgomery County with a disability. Nationally, it is estimated people with disabilities make up 19.8% of the total population. According to a 2009 American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, 12% of Americans self-reported as having a disability. These figures excluded individuals who reside in nursing homes or other institutions. The Census Bureau defines disability as a long-lasting sensory, physical, mental, or emotional condition or conditions that make it difficult for a person to do functional or participatory activities such as seeing, hearing, walking, climbing stairs, learning, remembering, concentrating, dressing, bathing, going outside the home, or working at a job.

<b>Social Security Recipients (SSI)</b>	
As of December, 2009, there are <b>12,479</b> people receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in Montgomery County. Of those individuals, <b>6,958</b> have a disability.	
People under 18	1,077
People 18 - 64	4,718
People 65 or older	6,684
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,479</b>
Social Security Insurance recipients also receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	3,106
<b>Total Amount of Payments</b>	<b>\$6,211,000</b>

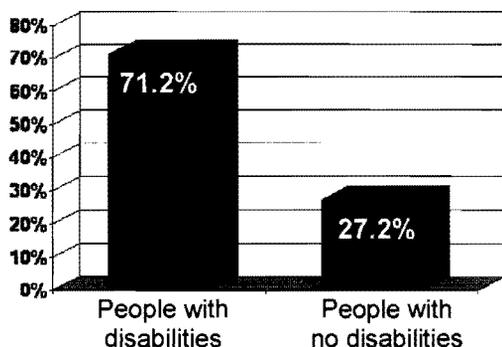
Source: Social Security Administration, 2009

## Poverty Status - Montgomery County, MD Population 18 to 64 years



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009

## Unemployment Status - Montgomery County, MD Population 18 to 64 years



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009

<b>2009 Disability Characteristics - Montgomery County</b>	
Subject	Total
<b>Population under 5 years</b>	<b>69,772</b>
With a disability	540
With a hearing difficulty	381
With a vision difficulty	159
<b>Population 5 to 17 years</b>	<b>167,431</b>
With a disability	7,805
With a hearing difficulty	495
With a vision difficulty	869
With a cognitive difficulty	4,419
With an ambulatory difficulty	563
With a self-care difficulty	1,459
<b>Population 18 to 64 years</b>	<b>605,601</b>
With a disability	51,391
With a hearing difficulty	6,425
With a vision difficulty	3,997
With a cognitive difficulty	11,296
With an ambulatory difficulty	13,188
With a self-care difficulty	5,435
With an independent living difficulty	11,050
<b>Population 65 years and over</b>	<b>114,917</b>
With a disability	79,969
With a hearing difficulty	11,561
With a vision difficulty	5,914
With a cognitive difficulty	11,127
With an ambulatory difficulty	21,758
With a self-care difficulty	9,169
With an independent living difficulty	20,440
<b>Total Population With A Disability</b>	<b>139,705</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2009

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPECIAL EDUCATION

## Number of Montgomery County Public School Students with Disabilities Ages 3 - 21 Receiving Special Education Services

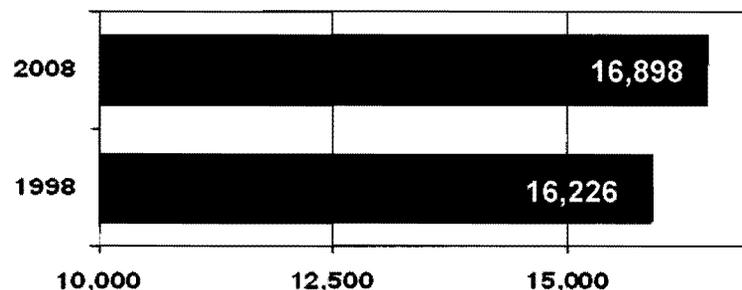
As of September, 2009, there were 16,898 students with disabilities enrolled in Special Education. This population makes up 11.9% of the County's total school enrollment of 141,722 students.

Disability Type	# of Students 2008	# of Students 2009
Autism	1,308	1,501
Deaf	110	101
Deaf-Blind	2	1
Developmental Delay	1,197	1,415
Emotional Disturbance	635	684
Hearing Impairment	152	163
Intellectual Disability	649	652
Multiple Disabilities	220	256
Orthopedic Impairment	62	59
Other Health Impairment	2,592	2,755
Specific Learning Disability	5,615	5,608
Speech and Language Impairment	3,838	3,613
Traumatic Brain Injury	31	27
Visual Impairment	73	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,485</b>	<b>16,898</b>

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 10/2009

## Montgomery County School Enrollment - Special Education Ages 3 to 21

Special Education enrollment has increased by 672 students over the last ten years.



Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 10/2009

## Students with Disabilities By Race Compared with General Education Students by Race - Ages 3 to 21

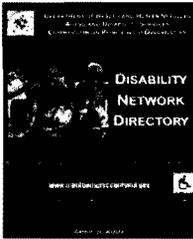
SWD = Students with Disabilities / GE = General Education

	Grand Total	American Indian/Alaskan Native		Asian/Pacific Islander		African American		White		Hispanic	
		Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
<b>SWD</b>	16,898	52	0.3%	1,371	8.1%	4,798	28.4%	6,451	38.2%	4,226	25.0%
<b>GE</b>	141,722	432	0.3%	22,176	15.6%	32,864	23.2%	54,035	38.1%	32,215	22.7%

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Maryland Special Education Census Publication 10/2009

# PUBLICATIONS PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSION

## Publications Provided by the Commission on People with Disabilities



**DISABILITY NETWORK DIRECTORY:**  
A directory of provider agencies, businesses and advocacy organizations. The directory is provided upon request to people seeking local, state and national resources for people with disabilities.

(Both publications are also on the County website - See website location below)

### TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS FOR SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES:

A comprehensive listing of public, private and non-profit transportation in the Washington Metropolitan Region, State of Maryland and beyond. The guide was compiled to assist County residents to better coordinate their transportation needs.



Visit the Disability Services Website:  
[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/disability](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/disability)

## DON'T GET STUCK IN TRAFFIC, IF THERE IS AN ACCIDENT!!!!

You are encouraged to sign up for emergency alerts from **Alert Montgomery**. Let Montgomery County contact you using the Roam Secure Alert Network during a major crisis or emergency. Alert Montgomery can deliver important emergency alerts, notifications and updates to you on all of your devices at once:

- e-mail account (work, home, other)
- cell phone
- text page
- Blackberry
- wireless PDA

<https://alert.montgomerycountymd.gov>



Montgomery County encourages all residents to put together a plan for emergencies. The County has emergency response plans in place for dealing with emergencies from snow storms to terrorist attacks.

However, each person is strongly encouraged to develop their own personal plan. Montgomery County has developed the Plan 9 Guide for residents. It is a simple guide to nine essential items to help residents shelter in-place during emergencies.

We also encourage people to request a File of Life that allows you to fill out your medical history and rescue personnel are trained to look for this File on your refrigerator. To request a File of Life, call the Health and Human Services Aging and Disability Resource Unit: 240-777-3000 (V), 240-777-2545 (TTY), or visit the websites:

[www.makeaplan.org](http://www.makeaplan.org)

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov)



Collect these **nine essential items** to help you shelter-in-place in the event of an emergency.



**1. Water:** *One gallon* per person per day for three days. Replace the water every 6 months.



**6. Can Opener:** Manual can opener in case there's no electric power. Buying foods with pull-open cans is also helpful.



**2. Food:** *Non-perishables* such as canned or packaged food. Enough to last 3 to 5 days per person.



**7. Radio:** Battery-powered radio and extra batteries. Crank operated or solar powered radios are also helpful.



**3. Clothes:** *One change* of clothes and footwear per person. Consider packing blankets, rain-gear, and outerwear in case of severe weather.



**8. Hygiene Items:** Basics like soap, toilet paper and a toothbrush. Moist toiles are useful.



**4. Medications:** *Three days worth* of prescription medications. Be sure to mark the expiration dates and change as needed.



**9. First Aid:** Basics like antiseptic, gloves, bandages, and non-prescription medicines. Many stores have pre-made kits.



**5. Flashlight:** *A bright flashlight* and extra batteries. Do not use candles as they are fire hazards.

# ABOUT THE COMMISSION

## HISTORY

The Commission on People with Disabilities was established by County legislation in 1978 to advise the County Executive and County Council on the coordination and development of the County's policies affecting residents with disabilities.

## MISSION

The Commission provides advice, counsel, and recommendations to the Government of Montgomery County, Maryland in general, the County Executive, and the County Council in particular. Its responsibilities involve those matters influencing the provision of services, County policies and procedures, development and implementation of state and federal laws, and any other issues affecting the lives, rights, and welfare of the people it represents. The Commission operates in belief that people with disabilities have the right to the same opportunities in life as people without disabilities; and that this right can best be ensured by a commitment to enhancing the image, status, and quality of life of all children and adults with disabilities.

## MEMBERSHIP

The Commission on People with Disabilities is composed of 25 voting members who serve in a volunteer capacity. Members are appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council.

The Commission includes:

- ▶ 13 people with disabilities,
- ▶ 3 parents of people with disabilities, and
- ▶ 9 representatives of public and private service providing agencies

The Commission also includes ex-officio members that are appointed to represent the Departments of Health and Human Services, Transportation, Recreation, Libraries, Office of Human Resources, and the Human Rights Commission. There are also members who represent Montgomery College, Montgomery County Public Schools, and the Housing Opportunities Commission.

## MEETINGS

All Commission and Committee meetings are open to the public. The Commission welcomes visitors to join us as we serve the County and its residents. Meetings are subject to change without advance notice. Please call to confirm day and time of meetings and to request any special accommodations. As possible, we adjust meeting dates in order to accommodate days of major religious observances. You can view the Commission meeting minutes online at:

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cpwd](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cpwd)

## MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2010 - 2011

### Full Commission Meeting

2nd Wednesday of the month,  
except for July & August.  
101 Monroe Street, Lobby Auditorium  
Rockville, MD 20850  
6:00pm - 7:30pm

### Steering Committee Meeting

3rd Wednesday of the month  
401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20850  
1st Floor Tan Conference Room  
5:30pm - 6:30pm

### Workgroups

Meet, as needed, at differing locations.

## COMMISSION STRUCTURE

The Commission operates through a structure that is re-evaluated annually to respond to changing needs. The Steering Committee is responsible for planning and directing the activities of the Commission and for overseeing the activities of the committees.

The work of the Commission is done by Commission members and interested persons from the community. In addition, coordinators are assigned to take lead responsibility for public relations and legislation. The Nominating and Selection Committees, required for administration purposes, were also established.

*Be an advocate!!! The Commission encourages that all residents with disabilities and their families communicate with their elected officials about their needs for programs and services. The following pages include contact information for you to use in contacting your elected officials.*

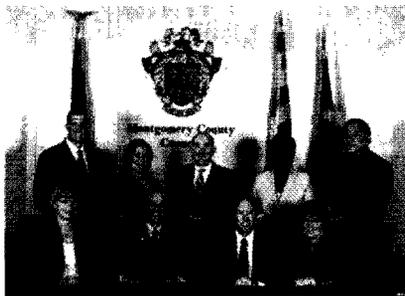
## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS



**County Executive  
Isiah Leggett**

The **County Executive** can be reached at:

Executive Office Building  
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850  
240-777-2500 (V)  
240-777-2544 (TTY)  
[ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov)



**Montgomery County Council**

The **County Council** can be reached at:

Stella B. Werner Council Office Building  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850  
240-777-7900 (V)  
240-777-7914 (TTY)  
240-777-7888 (FAX)  
[county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov)

*Standing, left to right: Mike Knapp, Nancy Navarro, George Leventhal, Vice President Valerie Ervin, and Marc Elrich.  
Seated, left to right: President Nancy Floreen, Roger Berliner, President Phil Andrews, and Duchy Trachtenberg.*

**Isiah Leggett, County Executive**  
**Uma S. Ahluwalia, Director**  
**John J. Kenney, Ph.D., Chief**  
**Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Aging and Disability Services, Commission on People with Disabilities**  
**401 Hungerford Drive, 4th Floor**  
**Rockville, Maryland 20850**  
**240-777-1246 (V) ♦ via MD Relay at 711**

**Language translation and alternative formats of this report are available upon request.  
For additional information on the Commission, please call the telephone numbers or write to the  
address listed above or e-mail via the contact information listed below.**

***Montgomery County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in  
employment or in the admission or access to its programs or services.***

2009 - 2010 Annual Report Prepared By:

Betsy Luecking, *Disability Policy Specialist*  
[betsy.luecking@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:betsy.luecking@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Carly Clem, *Office Services Coordinator*  
[carly.clem@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:carly.clem@montgomerycountymd.gov)

5

Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities  
FY12 Operating Budget Testimony before the Montgomery County Council  
April 5, 2011

Patricia Gallalee, Chair | Charlie Crawford, Vice-Chair

Good evening, my name is Patricia Gallalee and I am speaking on behalf of the Commission on People with Disabilities. We recognize the County's fiscal crisis and know that tough decisions are going to be made. This may be the right time to rethink how long term care services are provided, and to whom. This may also be the time to do more "means" testing so that the most needy are served, and those that have the ability to pay are required to do so. As you eliminate staff positions, and while funds may be short, the demand for services is growing, and will continue to grow. I am concerned about the adverse impact on employees whose workloads have dramatically increased and at the same time you are decreasing employee benefits. I foresee your most talented employees leaving to take better positions.

Please allow me to offer a few recommendations from the Commission which we believe will assist you with your difficult deliberations.

- 1) To provide for greater service integration, we recommend a single point of entry with a single intake application that asks the right questions so that if people are eligible for federal or state funding they are referred to those programs and County dollars are only used until they obtain those benefits.
- 2) Medicaid Waivers are a main source of funding for people with significant disabilities. The Medicaid waiting lists for children with severe disabilities is long and the County needs to fund these children for emergency support services and staff to assist them until they come off the waiting list. Another problem is that those who do not qualify for Medicaid but who are the working poor are mostly left out of needed services. Prevention and case management for those not in crisis or needed protective services has been vanishing forcing people to go into crisis to receive services. We ask that the department develop a plan to address the needs of those who may just need some assistance before they are forced into a crisis.
- 3) We want to thank the Executive for maintaining respite and the additional Call 'N' Ride coupon book. We ask you to support the Executives Budget but with these recommendations.
  - We support InterACC- DD's request to reduce the 5% cut to 3%. The 5% cut did not take into account the 2% increased costs of new consumers which would create a defacto 7% cut. Hence a real 3% cut is what can be absorbed.
  - Increase AP1-10 supported employment contracts that go to non-profits that employ people with disabilities to do work for the county.
  - As revenues increase, add the money back into the In-Home Aide Services Program.
  - We also ask that you restore service and funding, or at least not impose further cuts in services and funding to the Montgomery County Public Libraries. Libraries are a vital resource to residents who have disabilities, particularly in terms of employment readiness and employment opportunities. Libraries not only provide job skills and literacy training, but also offer employment and volunteer opportunities (work experience) for people with disabilities. The libraries are already operating on a severely reduced budget from cuts over the past three years, which have already forced libraries to reduce their hours and staff, as well as give up services, such as the Talking Books Collection, for people who have visual impairments and learning disabilities.

- 4) While we applaud the enhanced funding for Ride On, it is essential that MetroAccess be fully maintained and improved. The State has the contract for Metro Access but we believe the County must take some responsibility to ensure that safe and satisfactory service be provided to those residents of Montgomery County who are so dependent on this service. We have tentatively supported the increased cost of MetroAccess, but we must have improved service in return. There is a strong connection between the availability of a reliable transportation system to the ability of persons with disabilities being able to get to and from work so their dependency on other financial assistance is diminished.

As noted above, the full provision of fairly distributed services for persons with disabilities must be a priority of Montgomery County in FY12. Montgomery County must do better for its citizens with disabilities. Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you.

***“A Community’s Budgetary Choices and Policies Reflect its Values”***



COMMISSION ON AGING

March 4, 2011

### Fiscal Year 2012 Testimony

My name is Elaine Binder, Chair of the Commission on Aging (COA), and I appreciate the opportunity to speak on behalf of the nearly 120,000 seniors residing in Montgomery County.

The Commission is gratified that **preserving safety net services is one of the three priorities of the County Executive**, and, therefore, we support those aspects of his budget that **maintain the core services** that we believe are **essential for frail, vulnerable seniors**. These include nutrition programs, respite care, transportation to senior centers, and long-term care ombudsman services.

We recognize fully the challenges faced in creating a budget with reduced financial resources. However, we have **grave concerns about the proposed reduction of \$100,000 in providing Home Care Services**.

The In Home-Aide Program provides personal care assistance to seniors and eligible adults with disabilities who are unable to manage independently due to physical and/or mental impairments. In-Home Aide Services prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable adults and enhance overall quality of life by providing personal care, chores assistance, therapeutic support, self-care education, and escorted transportation.

As a result of the proposed budget reduction, this program therefore will **serve eight fewer seniors** in the coming year – adding eight more people to the 109 seniors who could not be served in the past two years. This represents a 30 percent decrease in the number of individuals able to be served by In-Home Services (473 in FY09 down to a projection of 364 in FY12). The cascading effect of this will be to add more seniors to the already significant and growing waiting list. Ultimately these seniors will either be institutionalized, at a greater cost to the community, or will die without proper care!

We have seen an increase in need as demonstrated by increases in applications for service and in the numbers on the HHS waiting lists. The growing need and demand for services is illustrated by the Respite Care Program. While this program has not been reduced, the projection is for a 300 percent increase in unmet requests for service (from 428 to 1,500).

Furthermore, how can we justify the increasing number of our most vulnerable people (from 789 in July 2007 to 1632 today!) who are on a waiting list just to be evaluated for both County and Medicaid funded services, services which already have long waiting lists?

- Among those waiting for in-home service is an 89 year-old woman with many illnesses including congestive heart failure, who lives with a niece and requires aide services six hours a week to help with personal hygiene, dressing and preparing breakfast on days when her niece works.
- Waiting to be evaluated for help to maintain their independent living status is a couple, both of whom are in frail health and on a limited income. If and when they are evaluated, will they then be placed on a waiting list for services?

There is a high cost to not providing necessary services for these and the more than 1,000 others on waiting lists – the cost of increased Emergency Room use and hospital and nursing home admissions, as well as financial and emotional costs to caregivers.

The members of the Commission on Aging know that budgets are related to specific programs. However, we believe it is critical to focus attention on the **interconnected nature of programs** and the **total impact of cuts in individual programs on the lives of a single older adult**.

There are two additional areas that the COA wishes to address. We are pleased that neither of them is targeted for reductions in the County Executive's budget, but we want to call your attention to their importance to older adults:

- **Senior Center programs** based in the Recreation Department; and
- **Ride-on fares** in the Transportation Department.

Isolated older adults are more vulnerable to physical and mental deterioration, which limits their ability to age well in our community. Reducing transportation of an able senior to a Senior Center where she/he can engage in both physically and mentally stimulating programs and enjoy a healthy congregate meal leads to a socially isolating life, where even transportation for grocery shopping may not be available. Another example of the potential for social isolation is the combination of reducing public transportation, eliminating access to volunteer programs, and closing or reducing library hours for the more vital senior.

The Commission on Aging believes in the cost effectiveness of programs that prevent such decline in the quality of life for seniors. Enabling older adults to live safely and healthily in their homes for as long as possible reduces the need for expensive treatment and care.

Although we are in the midst of a difficult economic situation, we must not lose sight of the long-term impact of shortsighted budget cutting. We must maintain core programs and the knowledge base of vital staff so that we can more easily rebuild once more resources are available.

In short, we urge you to “**Do No Harm!**”

# Special Needs Housing

## FUNCTION

The mission of Special Needs Housing (SNH) is to provide oversight and leadership to the County's efforts to develop new and innovative housing models to serve special needs and homeless populations and maintain housing stability for vulnerable households. SNH is responsible for collaborating with public and private agencies to develop and implement strategies, to address the County's plan to remedy and prevent homelessness, and increase the development of supportive, accessible, and affordable housing for special needs populations. Special needs populations include homeless individuals and families, persons with mental health and substance abuse issues, individuals with developmental disabilities, transitioning youth, and seniors with disabilities.

## PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Nadim Khan of the HHS - Special Needs Housing at 240.777.1179 or Trudy-Ann Durace of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2778 for more information regarding this service area's operating budget.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

### Rental & Energy Assistance Program

The Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) and Electric Universal Services Program (EUSP) provide financial assistance for eligible low-income households to pay home heating and energy costs. The Rental Assistance and Handicapped Rental Assistance Programs provide subsidies to low-income renters, handicapped persons, and families with dependent children.

The Housing Initiative Program (formally Supportive Housing Rental Assistance Program (SHRAP) provides housing and service coordination to special needs families/individuals and also provides funding for the Partnership for Permanent Housing (PPH) program.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY09	Actual FY10	Estimated FY11	Target FY12	Target FY13
Average number of households receiving a rental subsidy each month <sup>1</sup>	1,727	1,678	1,425	1,425	1,425

<sup>1</sup> Beginning in FY10, all rental subsidy funds are budgeted in DHCA, except for \$600,000, which remains in the DHHS budget for \$200/month Rental Assistance Program subsidy.

FY12 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>5,061,890</b>	<b>12.3</b>
Eliminate: County Energy Tax Rebate Program to 9,600 Households	-479,500	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-473,000	-0.6
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>4,109,390</b>	<b>11.7</b>

### Shelter Services

Shelter Services provides emergency and transitional shelters to homeless families and single adults. Shelter Services include community outreach, comprehensive needs assessments, and case management services to address behavioral health needs and housing barriers with the goal of placing individuals and families in stable and permanent housing as rapidly as possible.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY09	Actual FY10	Estimated FY11	Target FY12	Target FY13
Average length of stay by homeless families in emergency shelter <sup>1</sup>	89	75	83	83	83
Number of families placed in emergency shelters	148	152	160	160	160

<sup>1</sup> Under the Housing First Initiative, the goal is to have families in a shelter for a maximum of 30 days. Due to the large number of families with housing needs, the Department does not believe that goal is attainable in the next few years.

FY12 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>5,752,810</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Increase Cost: SuperNofa Mandated Cash Match	30,000	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	436,050	0.5
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>6,218,860</b>	<b>3.2</b>

## Permanent Supportive Housing Services

Permanent Supportive Housing Services provides permanent housing to single adults and families. The single adult or head of household must have a documented disabling condition which could include mental health, substance dependence, or co-occurring disorder. Case management is provided to monitor compliance and assist clients in becoming more self sufficient.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY09	Actual FY10	Estimated FY11	Target FY12	Target FY13
Percentage of households remaining housed at least 12 months after placement in permanent supportive housing	99.5	98	95	95	95

FY12 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>2,069,930</b>	<b>9.3</b>
Decrease Cost: Abolish a Part-time Income Assistant Program Specialist III Position in Transitional Housing Services	-38,660	-0.5
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	49,120	0.4
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>2,080,390</b>	<b>9.2</b>

## Housing Stabilization Services

Housing Stabilization Services provides intake and assessment for County households who are experiencing a housing-related emergency. The program's focus is on crisis intervention and prevention. State and County grants are provided to prevent evictions and utility cut offs, as well as burial assistance. Additionally, referrals are made for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA). Case management services are provided to help at risk households develop and implement plans to prevent future housing crisis.

FY12 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>4,861,500</b>	<b>28.4</b>
Decrease Cost: Temporary Clerical Staff	-13,100	0.0
Eliminate: Burial Assistance to Low-Income Households	-39,300	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	-157,420	2.0
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>4,651,680</b>	<b>30.4</b>

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustments include adjustments to HB669 chargeback workyears.

## Service Area Administration

This program provides leadership and direction for the administration of Special Needs Housing.

FY12 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	WYs
<b>FY11 Approved</b>	<b>242,760</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Miscellaneous adjustments, including restoration of employee furloughs, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	2,190	0.1
<b>FY12 CE Recommended</b>	<b>244,950</b>	<b>1.8</b>

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Name	FY11 Approved		FY12 Recommended	
	Expenditures	WYs	Expenditures	WYs
Rental & Energy Assistance Program	5,061,890	12.3	4,109,390	11.7
Shelter Services	5,752,810	2.7	6,218,860	3.2
Permanent Supportive Housing Services	2,069,930	9.3	2,080,390	9.2
Housing Stabilization Services	4,861,500	28.4	4,651,680	30.4
Service Area Administration	242,760	1.7	244,950	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,988,890</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>17,305,270</b>	<b>56.3</b>

1. Please provide an update to the Home Energy Assistance information that was provided to the Committee last year.

Households submit one application for both MEAP (Maryland Energy Assistance Program) and EUSP (Electric Universal Service Program). MEAP helps with heating bills. EUSP helps with electric bills. Households can receive a grant from either program or both, depending on their housing situation and utility expense responsibility.

	<b>FY11 7/1/10 3/31/11</b>	<b>FY10 7/1/09- 3/31/10</b>	<b>FY11 estimated</b>	<b>FY10 Actuals</b>	<b>FY09 Actuals</b>	<b>Estimated Change 2010-2011</b>
Applications Received	11,528	11,350	12,600	12315	10,437	+2.3%
<b><u>Number of Grants Issued</u></b>						
<b>MEAP</b>	6,926	6567	9,915	9406	7,826	+5.1%
<b>EUSP</b>	6,744	6425	9,526	9073	7,583	+4.8%
<b>Electric Arrearage</b>	1,004	1081	1,129	1214	801	-7.5%

<b><u>Grant Funds Issued</u></b>						
<b>MEAP*</b> (Federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) funds & County Tax Rebate***)	\$2,773,863 Average grant \$400	\$1,893,060	\$3,949,750	\$2,752,738	\$3,000,977	+30.3%
<b>EUSP</b> (Commercial and residential rate payer fees)	\$2,562,420 Average grant \$380	\$3,310,680	\$3,619,880	\$4,924,596	\$4,568,290	-36.0%
<b>Electric Arrearage**</b>	\$1,381,966 Average grant \$1,374	\$1,634,455	\$1,551,246	\$1,818,088	\$1,114,079	-17.2%

\*FY11 MEAP estimate assumes that 325 households will not receive County Tax Rebate due to lack of funding.

\*\* In FY11, State limited electric arrearage assistance to only those applications received prior to 2/14/11.

\*\*\* The proposed elimination of the County Energy Tax Rebate in the FY12 CE Recommended budget will impact these numbers in FY12.

<b>HB669</b>	<b>Total F10 Administrative Funds</b>
<b>MEAP Administrative Funding</b>	\$799,354

HB669 provides funds for 6 merit staff, temp staff and operating expense to determine application eligibility and some outreach activities.

**Shelter Services –**

SuperNOFA – update the listing provided last year that lists all matches and the associated SuperNOFA information.

See the chart below for FY12 funding levels.

Grantee Name	Program	Families Served	Individuals Served	Project Type	Annual HUD Amount	FY12 Base Budget County Match
Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County	Permanent Supportive Housing, McKinney 8 Merged	25	35	permanent supportive housing	1,085,259	\$75,169
Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County	Permanent Supportive Housing, McKinney 10 Merged	37	33	permanent supportive housing	1,151,722	\$210,885
Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County	Permanent Supportive Housing, McKinney 3	10		permanent supportive housing	79,533	included in above
Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County	McKinney 12		14	permanent supportive housing	235,903	\$49,525
Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless	Home First 3		10	permanent supportive housing	136,238	32,167
Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless	Personal Living Quarters - Seneca Heights Apartments		40	permanent supportive housing	359,232	\$526,255
Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless	Hope Housing	2	40	permanent supportive housing	500,974	\$86,980
Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless	Home First		12	permanent supportive housing	138,183	\$47,113
Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless	Home First 2		10	permanent supportive housing	131,260	\$16,479
Montgomery Avenue Women's Center	Montgomery Avenue Women's Center, Inc.			supprtive services only	138,183	\$0.00
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington	Carroll House		32	transitional	235,903	\$202,315
City of Gaithersburg - Well/Robertson House Program	Wells/Robertson House		14	transitional	128,247	\$9,234
Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless	Safe Haven		40	transitional	824,127	\$218,295
National Center for Children and Families (NCCF)	Rapid Re-Housing Demonstration Project	9		transitional	180,579	Combined w/Below
National Center for Children and Families (NCCF)	Supportive Housing Program (SHP)	24		transitional	640,965	\$74,689
<b>TOTAL SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAMS</b>					<b>5,325,343</b>	

Grantee Name	Program	Families Served	Individuals Served	Project Type	Annual HUD Amount	Annual County Match
<b>SHELTER PLUS CARE PROJECTS</b>						
Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County	Housing Opportunities Commission - Shelter Plus Care	3	39	permanent supportive housing	575,184	43,290
Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County	New Neighbors	3	15	permanent supportive housing	142,524	29,140
Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County	New Neighbors 2		4	permanent supportive housing	54,293	combined above
<b>TOTAL SHELTER PLUS CARE</b>					<b>772,001</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>					<b>6,097,344</b>	
All grants are renewable except for NCCF Rapid Re-Housing which is a 3 year demonstration project						