

**board of
directors**

Dana Pauley

*Leadership Montgomery
Board Chair;
Executive Committee*

Rose Garvin Aquilino

*Montgomery College
Board Vice Chair;
Chair, Grants Committee*

Ryan Lorey

*EDENS
Chair, Finance Committee,
Board Treasurer,
Public Arts Trust
Steering Committee*

Elaine Robnett Moore

*Elaine Robnett Moore Collection
Board Secretary
Grants Committee*

Alan Heymann, Esq., ACC

*Founder, Peaceful Direction
Governance Chair;
Audit Committee*

Regina Oldak

Audit Chair

Eleanor Park Choi

*Bell Architects
Chair, Public Arts Trust
Steering Committee*

Ruby Lopez Harper

*Americans for the Arts
Chair, Advocacy Committee;
Grants Committee*

Raesharn Spain Beam

*Project Design Manager
Advocacy Committee*

Eric L. Siegel, Esq.

*Kalbian Hagerty LLP
Governance Committee*

Mamie Bittner

*Executive Coach
Communications Strategist
Advocacy Committee*

Lauren Cook

*Visual Artist
Public Arts Trust*

Norman Rogers

*American Gene Technologies
Advocacy Committee*

Suraya Mohamed

*NPR Music
Grants Committee*

ex officio

Suzan E. Jenkins, MBA

Chief Executive Officer

Kenneth A. Lechter, Esq.

Legal Counsel

November 29, 2021

Montgomery County Council

100 Maryland Ave,
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Councilmembers -

Good afternoon. I hope this message finds you and your families well. I'm writing today in my capacity as a member of the board of Nonprofit Montgomery, and in my capacity as a member of the Leadership Group of Montgomery Moving Forward. I am writing today to ask for your explicit support of Bill 42-21 in support of Nonprofit Montgomery/Montgomery Moving Forward's proposal for a Public-Private ECE Coordinating Entity.

The pandemic exposed the vulnerability of the existing child-care business model, exposing an already untenable situation. And as I am certain you know all too well; Montgomery County's recovery will require strategic investments in real and lasting systems changes that address and resolve existing inequities intersectionally and county-wide. As we design our recovery, we have a historic opportunity to choose bold change which, at its core, must include a focus on early childhood education and workforce development in all sectors. It is here, at this critical inflection point, that I ask for your support of a ECE Coordinating Entity.

As the CEO of the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County -- the county's coordinating entity for the arts and humanities sector -- I support the transformation of Montgomery County's ECE system through the establishment of a stand-alone public-private ECE Coordinating Entity. I can personally attest to the power of coordinating entities in addressing inequities in access, affordability, and quality which in turn can address and influence economic recovery.

I'm writing today to humbly ask for your support of Bill 42-21 as we forge our future together and am hopeful that we can count on you for your support.

In peace and progress,

Suzan Jenkins