

March 28, 2022

Council President Gabriel Albornoz Council Vice President Evan Glass Councilmember Craig Rice 100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Councilmembers Albornoz, Glass, and Rice,

I am writing in favor of the special appropriation to create a Pediatric Mobile Medical Vehicle in partnership with Casa Ruben, Inc. and the Robert I. Schattner Foundation.

For too many of our low-income neighbors, transportation is a major barrier to accessing services essential for health and wellbeing. This challenge is especially acute for many children of low-income, single parents for whom taking off time from work often means less money to pay the rent and keep food on the table. Furthermore, children who cannot access essential vaccines and health services are more likely to miss school and struggle to catch up with their more affluent peers.

We are eager to talk further with Casa Ruben, Inc. and Health & Human Services about how this new resource might be maximized to close gaps across our community, ensuring that every child can access the healthcare needed to truly thrive.

If you should have any follow-up questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at 301-495-3036 x161 or ahargrave@thecommunityfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

Anna Hargrave Executive Director for Montgomery County Greater Washington Community Foundation