

Emily Wilson
Montgomery College Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus Alumni
Testimony
Montgomery County Council
FY24 Operating Budget Hearing
April 11, 2023, at 7 p.m.

Good evening, Council President Glass and members of the County Council. Thank you for the honor of testifying before you.

My name is Emily Wilson and I am here as a proud Montgomery College alum.

I am a lifelong Montgomery County resident and a Montgomery County Public Schools graduate. Today, I live in Gaithersburg and I work here in the county as a nurse at Suburban Hospital.

After I graduated from Poolesville High School in 2000, I went on to earn my bachelor's degree. I immediately took a job at MCPS' Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents, where I worked to help children with severe emotional struggles. After 17 years at RICA, I decided to make a career change. I wanted to become a nurse and continue to serve my community.

Like so many of the nurses I now work with, I turned to Montgomery College for the education I needed to begin my nursing career. I had to be able to continue working while also getting my degree. And I needed an affordable option.

Additionally, I wanted to be sure I gained a quality education. MC has a great reputation with four-year nursing programs. Schools really like MC nursing graduates because we are so well-prepared—they know we will be successful students at their institutions.

With access to affordable tuition, locations close to home, amazing nursing labs, and strong stature, it was an easy decision to attend Montgomery College to pursue my dream of becoming a nurse.

My time at MC was fantastic. The College supported nursing students so much, especially during the pandemic. Professors were always available to students. And the College even offered supplemental clinical experiences during the summer—after many clinical opportunities were on hold during the pandemic—so we would be fully prepared to work with patients.

I graduated from MC in 2021. Then, I began my career as a nurse at Suburban Hospital over a year ago, where I get to serve Montgomery County residents.

I am here tonight to thank you for your support of the College.

I ask you to please support MC's budget requests.

Access to MC's affordable tuition and high quality facilities changed my life.

Please support MC so that graduates, like me, can pursue our dreams and serve our community.

Thank you.