

Hello, my name is Nushrat Zaima, and I am a high school immigrant student from the Montgomery County Green New Deal Internship. I am writing to urge Montgomery County to fund \$9,475,427 to cover the costs of sheltering and housing of an estimated 642 current clients and 200 new clients in 2026, so that there is enough to fund everyone's exit from homelessness.

I have seen family members who work long hours and still struggle to afford their rent. This issue impacts many in Montgomery County as the total number of homeless people has increased by 54% since 2022. This needs to be addressed so this number does not continue to grow and affect the lives of our fellow residents.

Respectfully, I ask the Council to vote in favor of allocating \$50 million for rental assistance and \$2.4 million for expanded moving assistance. Thank you.