



COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2018

October, 2018

Via Letter of Transmittal Electronically to:

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

The Commission on People with Disabilities is commemorating its 40th year since its enabling legislation was enacted in 1978. We are pleased to present highlights since the Commission began and a summary of its activities for the past year for your review. We continue to advise and consult with you on issues of concern to the safety and well-being of an estimated 90,000 people with disabilities who live in the County, according to the 2017 US Census Bureau. The Commission continues to work to improve the lives of people with disabilities who work, visit or live here. Over the past year:

- 1) The Commission is pleased to see the outcomes of the hiring initiatives for people with disabilities and Veterans. Since 2010, the Montgomery County Government has hired 37 people with disabilities, 220 Veterans of which 14 have a disability, and 27 people with disabilities who were hired non-competitively.
- 2) We continue to advise the County on the Transportation Improvement Fund (Executive Order No. 1-17) which is a County 25¢ tax on Uber and Lyft rides for the purpose of making accessible taxi cabs available 24/7 and funding for low income persons and people age 65+.
- 3) The ongoing Design for Life Property Tax Incentive Program administered by the Department of Permitting Services continues to provide financial incentives for property owners and builders to renovate or build accessible homes and was awarded a NACO award in October, 2018.

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; Betsy Tolbert Luecking, Community Outreach Manager, and Carly Clem, Administrative Specialist, for their outstanding support in providing the Commission with the resources needed to carry out its 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.



Seth A Morgan
Seth Morgan, MD
Chair



Patricia A. Gallalee
Trish Gallalee
Vice-Chair

ABOUT THE COMMISSION

HISTORY

The Commission on People with Disabilities was established by County legislation October 17, 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 or check meeting schedules times online at: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cpwd.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2018 - 2019

Full Commission Meeting

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

Steering Committee Meeting

3rd Wednesday of the month
401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20850
1st Floor Conference Room
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

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.

The Commission encourages that all residents with disabilities and their families communicate with their elected officials about their needs for programs and services. Go to the Office of Governmental Relations website for information on how to contact your elected officials: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OIR.



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[Facebook.com/MCCPWD](https://www.facebook.com/MCCPWD)



Sign up for eSubscribe to receive emails about disability information and resources:
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/govdelivery

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About the Commission	2
Commission on People with Disabilities Commemorates 40th Year	4
Montgomery County, MD Employment Data on Hiring of Veterans, Disabled Veterans and People with Disabilities	5
Council Work Group on Needs of Residents with Developmental Differences	6
Developmental Disability Advisory Committee	7
Montgomery County's Waiting List for DDA Services	8
Autism Waiver Registry and Current Enrollment Information	8
Community Support Network (CSN) Role with Waiting List	8
Community Support Network (CSN) FY19 Budget by Program	9
CSN Breakdown by Program	9
Design for Life Property Tax Incentive Program	10
Design for Life Property Tax Incentive Program - At A Glance	11
HOC Awarded Housing Vouchers	12
Department of Transportation Key Efforts and Program Updates for 2018	12
Montgomery College Update	13
Who Has A Disability in Montgomery County, MD? An Overview	14
Montgomery County Public Schools Special Education	15
Bike Lanes and People with Disabilities	16 - 17
Transition Plan for Elected Officials	18 - 19
National Disability Employment Awareness Month Proclamation	20
FY19 Operating Budget Priorities	21
CDBG Funding Priorities for 2018	22
Policy Priorities for Fiscal Year 2020	23
Disability Network Directory	24
Publications Provided by the Commission	25
Commission Presentations for 2017 - 2018	26
Commission Membership List	27
How to Contact Your County Elected Officials	28

COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES COMMEMORATES 40TH YEAR

The County Commission on Handicapped Individuals was established by the County Council on October 17, 1978. In October of 1977, County Executive James Gleason established a Task Force on Concerns of the Handicapped. Their Task Force report in June, 1978 later led to the County Council taking this action. This month the Commission celebrates 40 years of advising the County on disability issues and concerns. The Commission was located in the Office of Family Resources and at that time Chuck Short was the Director of that Office.

Effective November 9, 1990, the Commission was renamed in Bill 49-90 to the Commission on People with Disabilities and added four more slots for people with disabilities. Over the years, the Commission has benefitted greatly from the strong support of all County Executives and County Council Members to have this County become a leader in the nation on disability issues. We have also benefitted greatly from our many citizens/former Commissioners who have worked for the federal government on disability issues. Former Commission member Larry Roffee went on to be the first Executive Director of the US Access Board, and now David Capozzi who is also a former Commissioner is now the Executive Director there. The Commission has served under County Executives James Gleason, Charles Gilchrist, Sidney Kramer, Neal Potter, Douglas Duncan and Isiah Leggett.

Commission's Key Advocacy/Advisory Highlights:

- [Bill 46-09 - Personnel - Regulations - Persons with Disabilities - Hiring Preference](#) (effective February 2, 2010 and applies to persons with disabilities, Veterans, and Veterans with disabilities) - **NACO 2014 Achievement Award Winner** - Mark Maxin, Assistant General Counsel for Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and former Commissioner was instrumental in making legal cases on both employment bills for the Commission
- [Bill 32-12 - Personnel - Regulations - Persons with Disabilities - Noncompetitive Appointment](#) (effective February 5, 2013 - 80% of voters voted to adopt) Noncompetitive hiring preference for people with severe disabilities
- [Bill 5-13 - Property Tax Credit - Accessibility Features](#) (enacted November 19, 2013 - **Design for Life Property Tax Incentive Program** that provides property tax credits up to \$10,000 for levels of accessibility installed in new construction and existing homes - **NACO 2018 Achievement Award Winner**
- HOC and Adventist Rehabilitation Hospital in the establishment of 6 accessible apartments at **Metro Pointe** for younger adults who were living in nursing homes **Montgomery's Best Honor Awards Recipient 2008**
- [Zoning Text Amendment 06-17](#) permits by right vs a zoning variance unroofed and open structure in an easement including a ramp and chairlift that allows a person with a physical disability access to a one family dwelling and is exterior to the one family dwelling
- [Resolution 16-931 - Policy Regarding the Use of Brick and Other Pavements in the Public Right-of-Way](#) for County sidewalks **particularly red brick pavers**
- County purchasing **accessible Ride On busses in 1978** before the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- [Pedestrian Winter Safety Act of 2001](#) - Snow removal legislation
- [Respect the Space](#) program to assess proper parking signage so it can be enforced by the police department
- Establishment of a Center for Independent Living or **Independence Now**
- Installation of the **elevator at the Marc Train station** in Rockville
- **Scattered site housing** for people with mental illness and other disabilities
- Department of Transportation on **access issues for people who are blind** in downtown Silver Spring
- Evaluating and working closely with the **Strathmore** on making the Music Center and Mansion accessible and user-friendly for people with disabilities
- Assessing ADA compliance in 200+ **polling places** in partnership with the Montgomery County Board of Elections
- **Assistive Listening Systems** in County buildings
- **Community Support Services** for people with developmental disabilities reinstated to provide 500 persons with Coordination of Community Services
- Montgomery County Government on **compliance with the ADA**
- **US Department of Justice Project Civic Access Settlement Agreement** including Montgomery Parks
- **Waivers from the Maryland Accessibility Code** per State law as recognized local disability advisory group

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD EMPLOYMENT DATA ON HIRING OF VETERANS, DISABLED VETERANS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Commission on People with Disabilities was instrumental in advocating for the implementation of employment initiatives through input, testimony and outreach. These include several internship programs for persons with disabilities: Customized Employment Public Intern Project, Quest, and Project SEARCH Montgomery.

The Commission on People with Disabilities and Commission on Veterans Affairs worked with the County's Office of Human Resources to establish employment initiatives which include hiring preferences for veteran, veteran with a disability, and person with a disability and a non-competitive hiring process for persons with disabilities, which was passed into law by Montgomery County voters in 2012.

Karen Hochberg, OHR, has reported that since the hiring preferences and non-competitive hiring process were implemented approximately:

July, 2017	June, 2018
282 new employees cumulatively hired:	289 new employees cumulatively hired
24 non-competitive hires,	27 non-competitive hires
36 people with disabilities	37 people with disabilities
14 veterans with disabilities	14 veterans with disabilities
203 veterans, and	206 veterans
3 not identified	3 not identified

A Better Bottom Line - Montgomery County Government video regarding the employment of people with disabilities and veterans. (YouTube):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-2A_PbxrqA (6 minutes 27 second version)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWOYNkEWE5s> (11 minute 42 second version)

Montgomery County Government Procurement and Contracts that Employ People with Disabilities

Pam Jones, CPPO, CPPB, MBA, CPM, Division Chief, Procurement

The MFD program includes businesses that employ people with disabilities. Under the MFD program (Minorities, Females and Disabled), a business is eligible for the Disabled business certification if 51% of its employees are persons with disabilities. Businesses that have a Disabled Business Certificate are eligible to participate in the MFD program in the same manner as other certified MFDs. All certified MFDs are counted in a prime contractor's MFD subcontracting plan submission. If an MFD seeks a contract through an RFP, the MFD receives additional points during the evaluation process.

Additionally, Montgomery County uses some contracts that are set aside specifically for businesses that employ people with disabilities. These set-aside contracts are called AP 1-10 contracts. The FY17 updated figures are below:

- There were 46 active contracts to Disabled owned businesses. POs for FY17 totaled \$8,183,641. This amount may include the purchase of goods.
- The FY17 figure represents an increase over POs for FY16 (\$7,736,712).
- There were 7 active AP 1-10 contracts for the amount of \$343,843.
- All AP1-10 contracts were with non-profits that employ people with disabilities.

COUNCIL WORK GROUP ON NEEDS OF RESIDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DIFFERENCES

Council Approves Resolution to Create Work Group on Needs of Residents with Developmental Differences

Councilmember Leventhal says, "Council must do its utmost to ensure developmentally different community is treated equitably and fairly in all aspects of life."

ROCKVILLE, Md., December 12, 2017 - Montgomery County Councilmember George Leventhal, who chairs the Health and Human Services Committee, introduced a resolution at the Council meeting on Tuesday, December 5 directing the Council Administrator to designate appropriate members of the Council staff to form a Work Group on Meeting the Needs of Residents with Developmental Differences. The Council unanimously approved the resolution today.

"The goal of this work group is to provide a blueprint to address many of the important issues facing, not only individuals with developmental differences, but their family members and care givers," said Councilmember Leventhal. "Members of the work group will provide an in-depth examination of how individuals with developmental differences and their loved ones navigate services for things like housing assistance, transportation, job training and education and help us to identify areas that need improvement."

The goal of the work group is to advance the fair and equitable treatment of County residents with developmental differences (also called developmental disabilities). The group will include representatives from major County departments – Health and Human Services, Transportation, Housing and Community Affairs, Recreation, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), and Montgomery College – as well as the Maryland Developmental Differences Administration, community organizations, and the public at large.

While there is no exact estimate of the number of County residents with developmental differences, the 2016 American Community Survey reports that 29,614 people identify as having a cognitive disability; with about 70% of those being less than 65 years of age. MCPS reported that for 2016, there were 2,386 special education students with Autism; 3,387 with a Developmental Delay; and 653 with an intellectual disability. Other national models estimate that the County has about 15,000 to 16,000 people with developmental disabilities.

Councilmember Leventhal has been a consistent and long-time advocate for developmentally different residents of the County. In October he hosted a town hall meeting for people with developmental differences that focused on education, housing, job skills training, health care, and recreation. Since 2003, he has advocated for supplementing the wages of service providers for people with developmental differences, and this year cosponsored a bill that would require that a payment be made each year to such providers.

The full text of the resolution can be viewed at: http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7511&meta_id=147208.

For more information, contact Walton Harris in the Office of Councilmember Leventhal at 240-777-7945 or at walton.harris@montgomerycountymd.gov.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Submitted by Susan Hartung, Co-Chair, Developmental Disability Advisory Committee

In 2009, two reports were released from the Department of Health and Human Services with findings and recommendations from an 18-member Workgroup concerned that residents with severe developmental disabilities were waiting five to fifteen years for services, many with families in crisis and many with aging or elderly caregivers, who may also have disabilities. The 2009 Workgroup on the Future for People with Severe Developmental Disabilities, including Autism – Call to Action and Partnerships for a Positive Future identified specific areas of concern. At the request of the Health and Human Services Committee of the County Council, the Developmental Disability Advisory Committee spent the majority of this year devoting meetings to advising Health and Human Services and Council staff on the current status of the 2009 recommendations included in the this report. The work group provided information on the following topics, providing data and trends, identifying gaps, concerns and innovations, and recommendations. White Papers were prepared on each area, and a summary will be presented to the Health and Human Services Committee on November 15, 2018.

1. Coordination of Community Services
2. Employment
3. Funding (Developmental Disabilities Administration and County Government)
4. Health Services (Medical and Dental)
5. Housing
6. Law enforcement and Public Safety
7. Recreation
8. Respite
9. Transitioning Youth
10. Transportation
11. Waivers

Meeting agendas and past meeting minutes can be found online at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cpwd under the tab DDAC.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S WAITING LIST FOR DDA SERVICES

Data from Judith Pattik, Regional Director, DDA - As of August 1, 2018 – fluctuates day by day

Montgomery County:

- 1,058 on State DDA waiting list – these persons currently receive no services
- 9 in crisis resolution (need services within 3 months)
 - ⇒ 9 requested residential
- 59 in crisis prevention (need services within a year)
 - ⇒ 56 requested residential
- 757 current request
 - ⇒ 724 request residential

Notes: Developmentally Disabled only; Supports Only excluded.

AUTISM WAIVER REGISTRY AND CURRENT ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Per Daniel Hammond, Coordinator, The Medicaid Home & Community-Based Autism Waiver Program, Montgomery County Public Schools

Autism Waiver Registry - As of February, 2018

Statewide number of students on the Registry: About 5,300

Registry for Montgomery County: 1,150 (This does not include enrolled students)

Note: Not all students on the Registry will qualify for the Autism Waiver Program and not all students on the Registry are enrolled in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). As a sample, out of the next 100 students 32 students were either no longer enrolled in MCPS or did not have an IEP (Individualized Education Program).

The students that came into the program this summer registered during the spring of 2010 so there was an 8-year wait. The Montgomery County Autism Waiver Program currently has 275 participants and statewide there are 1,200 students in the program. The Registry and the Wait List are not the same. No diagnosis is made prior to being put on the waiting list.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK (CSN) ROLE WITH WAITING LISTS

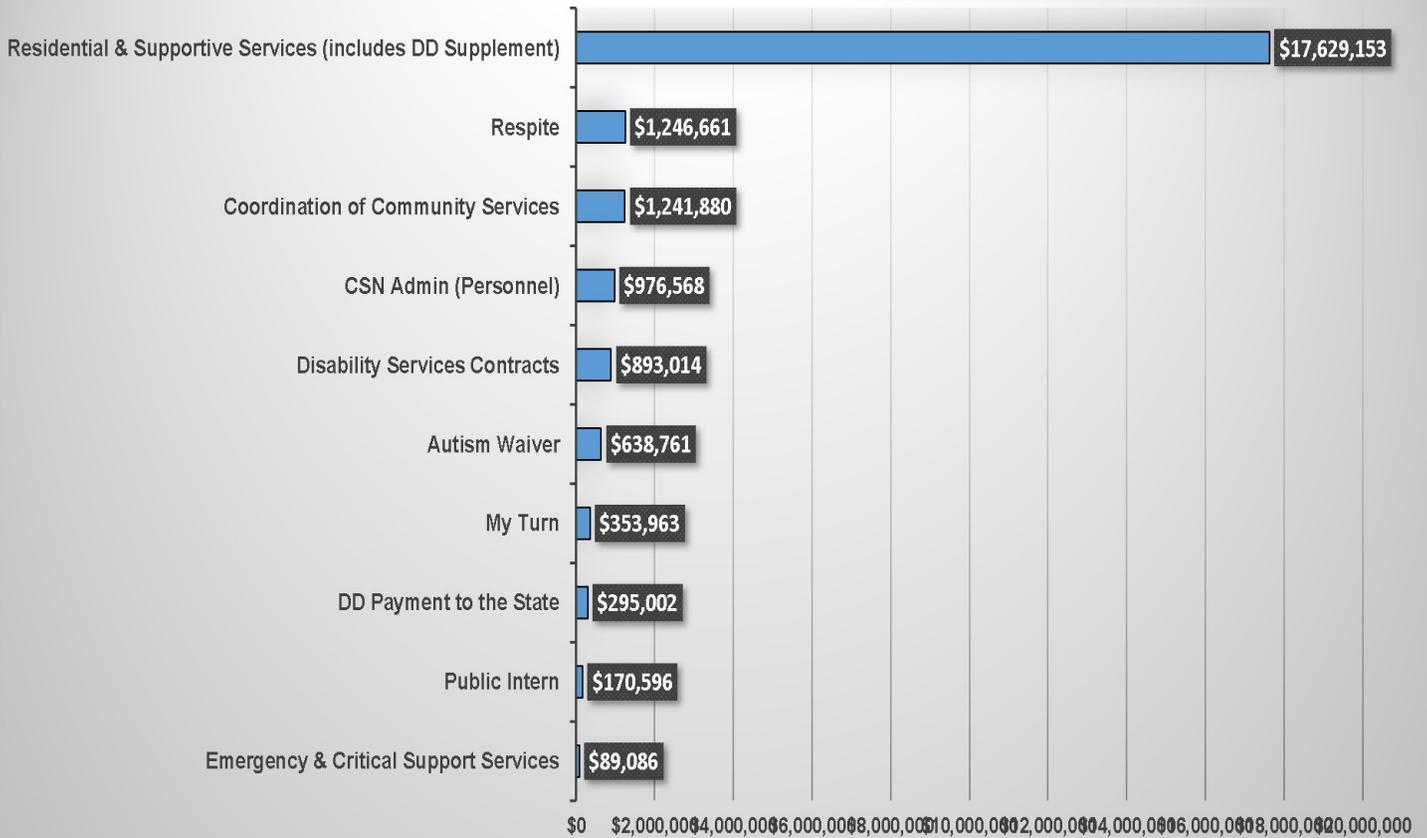
For children on the Autism Waiver waiting list - outside of the school day - there are some after-care programs in the community. In addition, the My Turn Program is an option for most children (ages 3 to 13) that have been diagnosed with DD and are not connected to another case management service. CSN does not provide ongoing case management in this program - it's more of an information and referral source for families (along with limited financial assistance for programs and camps). One reason why the Autism Waiver Waiting list numbers are high is because there isn't an assessment done before children are placed on the list and some are ineligible or have moved out of the County.

In terms of the DDA waiting list, the CSN Coordinators serve as part of the safety net - all individuals on the Waiting List, except those designated as "Supports Only" by DDA and therefore not eligible for DDA Medicaid Waivers, have a Coordinator that is helping them access supports and services in the community (non DDA funded) and monitoring them at varying intervals (depending on their service category) during the year.

The Autism Waiver has 267 clients with 37 more being added.

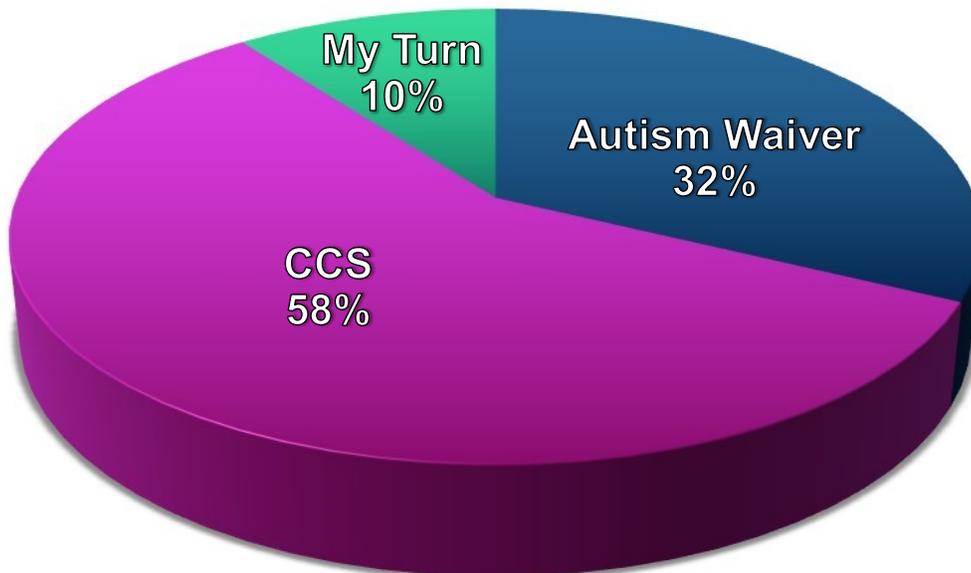
COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK (CSN) FY19 BUDGET BY PROGRAM

Total CSN Budget: \$23,534,684



CSN BREAKDOWN BY PROGRAM

Total CSN Clients: 829
Coordination of Community Services (CCS): 477 clients
Autism Waiver: 267 clients
My Turn: 86 clients



Data as of September 2018

DESIGN FOR LIFE PROPERTY TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Make your home accessible with a Montgomery County Tax Credit



DESIGN FOR LIFE

Every home accessible for everyone.



designforlifemc.org

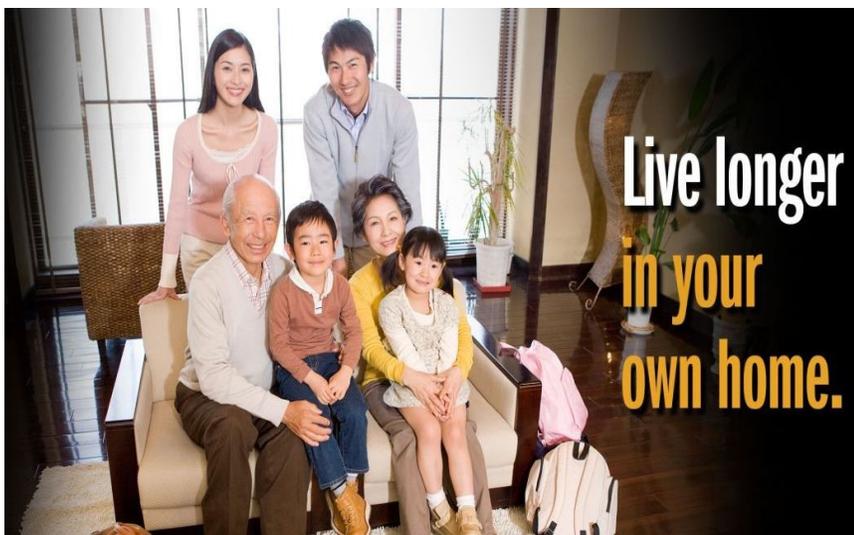


The Design for Life (DFL) Property Tax Incentive Program provides 3 tiers of property tax incentives to make homes more universally accessible. The target audience is all homeowners and buyers, not a specific audience or segment of our community.

1. **Accessible Feature tax incentives** are for certain features that are permanently installed to improve access to or within an owner's principal residence (not limited to single-family homes).
2. **Level I (VISITable) tax incentives** are available for permanent installations to any new or existing single-family homes, townhomes and duplexes that meet Level I accessibility threshold.
3. **Level II (LIVEable) tax incentives** are available for permanent installations to any new or existing single-family homes, townhomes and duplexes that meet Level II accessibility threshold. For new home construction a school impact tax credit may be available for projects meeting Level I and Level II Accessibility standards.

Whether you are a first time homebuyer, young family, active adult, or person living with a temporary or permanent impairment, these additional design elements will enhance your home — and at the same time, meet your needs and your visitors' needs throughout your life.

The Design for Life **Accessibility Standards for Level I (VISITable) and Level II (LIVEable)** incorporate design elements such as a no-step entrance, which make it easier and safer to accommodate a person living with a temporary or permanent disabilities, accommodate friends or relatives who have mobility disabilities or even bring in a baby stroller or move in large furniture. Ultimately, homes that incorporate these features will help people live in their homes for their lifetime more comfortably, conveniently and cost effectively. In 2018 this program was awarded a National Association of Counties (NACO) Achievement Award.



Who Needs An Accessible Home? You Do!

1. Live longer in the home you love.
2. Welcome all guests with diverse mobility.
3. Increase the value of your home.
4. Qualify for property tax credits.
5. Make everyone feel welcome.

DESIGN FOR LIFE PROPERTY TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM - AT A GLANCE

Accessibility	Property Tax Credit—runs with property	School Impact Tax Credit	Applicability	Program annual limit	Type of residence ownership
Feature 1. no-step front door entrance or a no-step entrance to another location providing access to the main living space 2. ramp creating a no-step entrance 3. interior doorway w/32-inch clear opening 4. exterior doorway w/32-inch clear opening + exterior lighting controlled from inside the residence or automatic or continuously on; 5. walls around a toilet, tub, or shower reinforced and properly installed grab bars 6. maneuverable bathroom or kitchen 7. an exterior or interior elevator or lift or stair glide unit; 8. accessibility-enhanced bathroom, including a walk-in or roll-in shower or tub 9. alarm, appliance, and control structurally integrated to assist with a sensory disability	50% of eligible costs Up to \$2500 less other subsidy Amount of credit that exceeds tax imposed carries over	NA	Expenditures in excess of \$500 Incurred within 12 months of application	\$100,000	Multi-family condo Attached sf Detached sf
Level I (Visible) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> permanent addition single family residence at least one no-step entrance connected to an accessible route to a place to visit on the entry level a usable powder room or bathroom, and a 32-inch nominal clear width interior door 	Up to \$3000 less other subsidy including school impact tax credit Maximum credit to be applied in any tax year is \$2000 and excess credit carries over	5% of the single family houses in project- \$500/Level I house 10% of the single family houses in project- \$1,000/Level I house 25% of the single family houses in project- \$1,500/Level I house 30% of the single family houses in project- \$2,000/level I house Applies only where there is no bonus density for DFL units	Expenditures in excess of \$500 Incurred within 12 months of application	\$500,000	Attached or detached single family
Level II (livable) Visitable criteria above PLUS Accessible circulation path that connects the accessible entrance to an accessible kitchen, a full bath, and at least one accessible bedroom	Up to \$10,000 less other subsidy including school impact tax credit Maximum credit to be applied in any tax year is \$2000 and excess credit carries over	NA	Expenditures in excess of \$500 Incurred within 12 months of application	\$500,000	Attached or detached single family

HOC AWARDED HOUSING VOUCHERS

HUD AWARDS \$99 MILLION TO PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

NEW vouchers to provide permanent housing to additional 12,000 low-income disabled residents

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) today awarded \$98.5 million to 285 local public housing authorities across the country to provide permanent affordable housing to nearly 12,000 additional people with disabilities ages 18-62.

The housing assistance announced today is provided through the HUD's *Section 811 Mainstream Housing Choice Voucher Program* which provides funding to housing agencies to assist non-elderly persons with disabilities who are transitioning out of institutional or other separated settings; at serious risk of institutionalization; homeless; or at risk of becoming homeless.

"HUD is committed to making sure people with disabilities have a decent, safe and affordable place to call home," said HUD Secretary Ben Carson. "Working closely with our local partners, we help residents with disabilities live independently and fully enjoy the use of their homes."

This program helps to further the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act by helping persons with disabilities live in the most integrated setting. The program also encourages partnerships with health and human service agencies with a demonstrated capacity to coordinate voluntary services and supports to enable individuals to live independently in the community.

Public Housing Agency	City	Vouchers	Amount
Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County	Kensington	99	\$960,891

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION KEY EFFORTS AND PROGRAM UPDATES FOR 2018

Submitted by Denise Isreal, Program Specialist II, Transit Special Transportation and Medicaid

1. Continued Ride On Bus Sides, Shelter and Interior Advertisements.
2. Mass mailing of Senior Transportation informational flyers to Senior Centers, Libraries, Hospitals and County Health Clinics.
3. Outreach events and presentations at Senior Recreation Centers, Senior Residential Facilities, Nursing Homes and Community Forums.
4. Increase in the number of Senior SmarTrip card sales.
5. Seniors Ride free ridership increased by 10%.
6. There are 4,467 ADA compliant bus stops in the County.

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE UPDATE

The Graduate Transition Program, (GTP)

The [Graduate Transition Program](#) at Montgomery College, Rockville Campus, is a custom-tailored learning community program that offers students a unique post-secondary opportunity to further their formal education. The objective of the program is to enable students, while in a supportive college environment, to transition to greater independent living through developmentally appropriate educational, vocational, and life-skill services. This two-year, tuition-based, credit-free certificate program focuses on basic academic skills, and enhances students' potential success as productive citizens in the community.

The College schedule consists of two 14-week semesters, for two years. Students receive academic instruction 3 hours per day, Monday through Friday. Small class sizes, experienced faculty and staff, and individual classroom assistants encourage an interactive and dynamic learning environment designed specifically for students with special needs. Classes offered include Reading and Writing, Science, Health, Anatomy, World History and Current Events, Communications and Public Speaking, Art, Computers, and more. During the student's two-year period, Montgomery College works with the DDA providers to offer volunteer position, internships, and paid employment. This program is offered on the Rockville campus of Montgomery College.

Connecting Reading and Writing Program

This program connects [Reading and Writing Skills](#) students need to prepare for college level course work. The program is designed to enhance reading comprehension, writing skills, and build vocabulary. Students learn and practice reading and writing skills by enrolling in both courses.

During 25 sessions, students receive instruction in reading comprehension and vocabulary building. Students learn to identify the main idea, follow a sequence of events, and recognize supporting details. Students improve their writing and speaking skills when they learn to summarize and outline reading materials, take better notes, and build your vocabulary. The program offers students the tools necessary to develop better writing skills. Reading and writing skills are combined in this class in a comprehensive, systematic process. Students learn to write descriptive and narrative paragraphs, use punctuation correctly, and compose demonstration speeches. The program helps prepare students for the college's assessment test, Accuplacer.

This program is offered on the Rockville and Takoma Park campuses of Montgomery College.

Drivers Education, Special Needs Classes

The goal of [special education programs](#) is to make learning easier through individualized and differentiated instruction. Special education in driver education is possible too, by incorporating differentiated instruction to make learning to drive easier. With proper supports, rookie drivers can have the opportunity to access the State Driver Education curriculum regardless of placement on the learning development spectrum. We have recognized the present exclusion of differentiated instruction in driver education, and have carefully developed programming tenants to support students with learning disabilities to at a minimum, provide them the opportunity to experience driving skills and expectations.

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

The U.S. Census Bureau, 2017, estimates that there are approximately **87,611 persons living in Montgomery County, MD with a disability**. According to a 2017 American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, 12.7% of Americans self-reported as having a disability. These figures excluded individuals who reside in nursing homes or other institutions.

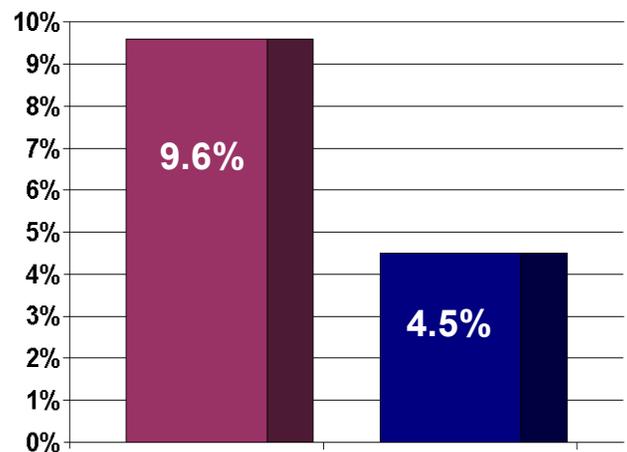
2017 Disability Characteristics - Montgomery County, MD

Total Population With A Disability: 87,611

Subject With A Disability	Total	Subject with a Disability	Total
Population under 5 years	47	Population 65 to 74 Years	13,750
With a hearing difficulty	47	With a hearing difficulty	4,329
With a vision difficulty	0	With a vision difficulty	2,349
Population 5 to 17 years	6,408	With a cognitive difficulty	2,081
With a hearing difficulty	561	With an ambulatory difficulty	7,413
With a vision difficulty	611	With a self-care difficulty	1,517
With a cognitive difficulty	5,599	With an independent living difficulty	4,072
With an ambulatory difficulty	325	Population 75 and older	29,588
With a self-care difficulty	739	With a hearing difficulty	10,940
Population 18 to 34 Years	10,219	With a vision difficulty	3,609
With a hearing difficulty	1,797	With a cognitive difficulty	8,946
With a vision difficulty	1,575	With an ambulatory difficulty	19,018
With a cognitive difficulty	6,285	With a self-care difficulty	9,011
With an ambulatory difficulty	1,837	With an independent living difficulty	16,488
With a self-care difficulty	2,031		
With an independent living difficulty	4,697		
Population 35 to 64 years	27,599		
With a hearing difficulty	6,967		
With a vision difficulty	6,115		
With a cognitive difficulty	7,734		
With an ambulatory difficulty	12,732		
With a self-care difficulty	3,987		
With an independent living difficulty	7,701		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017

Unemployment Data - Montgomery County, MD 16 Years and Older - Labor Force Participation



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2017

0 - 17 year olds with a disability = 6,455
 18 - 64 year olds with a disability = 37,818
 65 and older with a disability = 43,338

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPECIAL EDUCATION

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

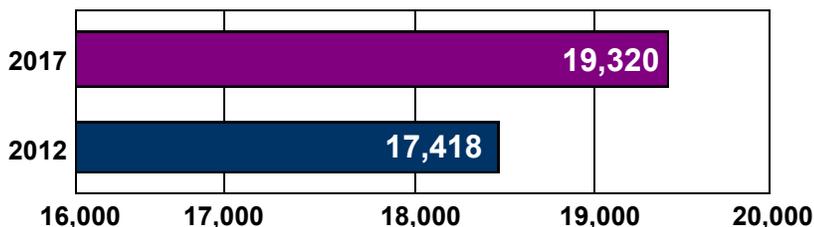
As of October, 2017, there were **19,320** students with disabilities enrolled in Special Education. This population makes up **12.0%** of the County's total school enrollment of 161,546 students.

Disability Type	# of Students 2017	# of Students 2016	% Between 2016 and 2017
Autism	2,525	2,386	+ 5.6%
Deaf	72	72	0%
Deaf-Blind	3	3	0%
Developmental Delay (Ages 3 - 9)	3,442	3,282	+ 4.7%
Developmental Delay (Extended IFSP)	133	105	+ 23.5%
Emotional Disability	752	737	+ 2.0%
Hearing Impairment	164	156	+ 5.0%
Intellectual Disability	643	653	- 1.5%
Multiple Disabilities	409	367	+ 10.8%
Orthopedic Impairment	21	30	- 35.2%
Other Health Impairment	3,202	3,108	+ 2.9%
Specific Learning Disability	5,924	5,686	+ 4.0%
Speech and Language Impairment	1,959	2,112	- 7.5%
Traumatic Brain Injury	19	21	- 10.0%
Visual Impairment	52	48	+ 8.0%
Total	19,320	18,766	

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 10/2017

Montgomery County School Enrollment - Special Education Ages 3 to 21

Special Education enrollment has **increased by 1,902 students or 10.3%** over the last five years.



of students ages 3 - 21 enrolled in Special Education in Montgomery County Public Schools

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 10/2017

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

SWD = Students with Disabilities / GE = General Education (includes students with disabilities)

	Grand Total	Asian		African American		White		Hispanic		Two or More Races	
		Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
SWD	19,187	1,473	7.7%	4,970	25.9%	5,262	27.4%	6,672	34.8%	762	4.0%
GE	161,546	23,253	14.4%	34,615	21.4%	45,769	28.3%	49,704	30.8%	7,842	4.9%

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 10/2017

BIKE LANES AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

July 23, 2018

The Honorable Isiah Leggett
Montgomery County Executive
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Mr. Leggett:

On behalf of the Commission on People with Disabilities, we are commenting on the Montgomery County Department of Transportation's expansion of new designs for bike lanes throughout the County. The Commission is concerned about how space is designated for bike lanes. When car lanes are compressed, then it is just more opportunities for accidents and other issues. There are many roads in the County that were not designed to handle the amount of traffic that they currently do. Sandra Brecher with the MCDOT Bikeshare program made a presentation to the Commission about the plans to expand the development of bikeways or bike lines throughout the County. We appreciated the amount of time spent to describe the programs and efforts and to answer our numerous questions. Although we support efforts to reduce traffic and focus on providing safe areas for people to commute, we are deeply concerned about how these designs may create unsafe conditions for individuals with disabilities and all pedestrians. The following are some of our concerns:

1. The plans did not show designated parking for persons with disabilities in one of the test areas on Nebel Street in Rockville as no parking spaces for person with disabilities exist.
2. In some areas, the bike lanes share the sidewalk.
 - a. The sidewalk may now be narrow for safe passage for person using a wheelchair or a person using an assistance dog.
 - b. The design has green lines designating the bike lane. However, if you have low vision or are blind and use a cane the lines do not provide a warning surface to those individuals who may end up in a bike lane.
 - c. A person using a guide dog, trust the dog to lead them across an intersection by following the crosswalk lines. Dogs see green as white and therefore may lead their partner into the bike lane.
 - d. The United States Access Board has a series of videos entitled, "Accessible Sidewalks – Video Series (<https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/streets-sidewalks/public-rights-of-way/guidance-and-research/accessible-sidewalks-video-series>). The videos show common problems on sidewalks that affect persons with disabilities.
3. Universal safety for all pedestrians is a concern because the design of the street parking moves the car closer to the traffic making it difficult and unsafe to exit the vehicle. The reason for the change is to protect the person on a bike. However, the safety of drivers and pedestrians has not been a consideration in the design of the parking.
4. The bike lane markers are spaced close together and have a reflective surface. At night, the spacing of these markers creates a strobe effect that could cause seizures and a distraction for the driver.
5. The designs are complex and require a costly advertising and education campaign for drivers, pedestrians, and those using bikes.

BIKE LANES AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES CONT.

6. Building and maintenance costs do not have a significant return on the investment for most people in the County who will never use these lanes.
7. The bike lane markers create unsafe intersection because they extend to the corner making it more difficult for large vehicles to turn without crossing the centerline into on-coming traffic. Example: Metro buses cannot turn right from Old Georgetown Road onto Nebel Street without crossing over into the traffic trying to turn left from Nebel Street to Old Georgetown Road.

Finally, when asked about the number of people expected to use these lanes we were surprised when they said “2% at peak rush-hour.” Given budget constraints and the small number of people expected to use these lanes the Commission opposes the development of these bike lanes and any further investment in studies. Respectfully, the Commission on People with Disabilities request the County use these funds to provide effective, efficient, and safe transportation and pedestrian options that benefit and have a higher return on the investment for the entire population versus this small percentage of the population that will utilize these lanes a portion of the year. The Commission would welcome further discussion with you or the County Council on this matter.

Sincerely,



Seth A. Morgan, MD
Chair



Patricia A. Gallalee
Vice Chair

c: Hans Riemer, President, Montgomery County Council
Al Roshdieh, Director, Department of Transportation

TRANSITION PLAN FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Name of BCC: Commission on People with Disabilities

Clear statement of the BCC's purpose and charge. In what ways does the BCC bring value to the County?

The Commission 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 who have a disability. 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 who have a disability.

Number and types of members. Also, describe the qualities needed in members and from Department Leadership:

The Commission on People with Disabilities is composed of 25 voting members who serve in a volunteer capacity. The Commission includes:

- 13 people who have a disability,
- 3 parents of people who have a disability, and
- 9 representative of public and private service providing agencies.

HHS Department leadership provides staff support to CPWD. Department Managers and staff share their expertise and display a willingness to assist CPWD in any of our activities, by their own initiative, and/or, as requested. HHS also provides administrative support.

Key issues (please use bullets or a short 2-3 sentence paragraph):

Each year, CPWD selects several issues that we consider our priorities for that year. In general, the priorities fall within these key areas:

- Affordable and Accessible Housing
- Caregiver Support
- Employment
- Health and Social Services (including Recreation)
- Transportation and Mobility
- Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance
- Developmental Disability Services

Description of current relationship with county government and County Council; relationship with the State, if applicable. Please also note where improvements are recommended, i.e. what would an optimal relationship look like? Is contact with these CE or Council members or State Delegation frequent enough?

CPWD enjoys a positive and productive relationship with the County Executive and Departments, County Council, and State Delegation. Examples of our interactions with these offices include:

County Executive and Departments:

- County Executive has been an invited speaker at CPWD meetings/Public Forums
- Department Directors and Managers regularly participate in CPWD meetings
- CPWD is often invited to participate in relevant County task forces and other activities including Design for Life Property Tax Credit, advisory to County on Project Civic Access Settlement Agreement

Potential Improvements:

- Meet with the County Executive one-on-one at least annually.
- Meet with selected Department Directors one-on-one, as needed.
- Encourage more Department Directors to appoint a liaison to CPWD monthly meetings.

TRANSITION PLAN FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS CONT.

County Advocacy:

- CPWD comments on budget priorities and bills through letters, written testimony, and oral testimony at hearings.
- CPWD members meet one-on-one w/Councilmembers on budget priorities and on other matters pending before a Council committee.
- Councilmembers have been invited speakers at CPWD meetings/Public Forums.

Potential Improvements:

- Meet more frequently w/individual Councilmembers.
- More frequent participation of Councilmembers at CPWD meetings/Public Forums.
- More frequent interactions with Council Committees' senior legislative assistants.

State Advocacy:

- CPWD if approved by intergovernmental relations on proposed legislation within our priorities through letters, written testimony, and oral testimony at hearings.

Potential Improvements:

- Have more frequent interactions with selected MC State Delegates on specific topics/pending legislation and on matters of CPWD interest.
- Seek opportunities for specific delegates to be invited to speak at CPWD meetings/Public

Develop a plan to build relationships with newly elected officials:

CPWD will be sharing its annual report with newly elected officials and will be offering to meeting one on one with them. This will provide an opportunity to meet them personally, build a relationship, introduce the key topics, provide additional details, and to answer any questions.

Proclamation

Montgomery County Maryland

WHEREAS, the theme for National Disability Employment Awareness Month this year is “America’s Workforce: Empowering All” and is an opportunity to educate about the importance of empowering all, especially when it comes to employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of workers with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, in Montgomery County we strive to be a model for local jurisdictions and private sector employers in the increased hiring of qualified people with disabilities, including Veterans with disabilities, as demonstrated by the Office of Human Resources in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services initiating 8 years ago the Hiring Preference for Veterans and People with Disabilities including Veterans with Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on People with Disabilities and the Commission on Veterans Affairs will continue to advise the County on promoting a more inclusive disability friendly work culture; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County is taking significant steps to address the high unemployment rates of individuals with disabilities by providing more inclusive career development and training programs which lead to increased levels of employment;

NOW, THEREFORE DO I, Isiah Leggett as County Executive hereby proclaim the month of October 2018 as

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH



ISIAH LEGGETT
County Executive

Signed 11th day of October in the year 2018.

FY19 OPERATING BUDGET PRIORITIES



Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities
FY 19 Operating Budget Priorities
Montgomery County Council
Seth Morgan, M.D., Chair
April 12, 2018

Good Afternoon, My name is Seth Morgan and I am Chair of the Commission on People with Disabilities. With the goal supporting and inclusive community, here are our budget priorities for FY19

The Arc of Montgomery under contract provides short term relief for caregivers of children and adults with disabilities. Respite can be provided in the home or approved respite homes or facilities. The Respite provider agencies are challenged in meeting the County's new minimum wage requirements and not having to reduce hours of service for families. We are requesting \$89,000 for wages to direct care respite workers to meet the County's minimum wage for respite caregiver support. The Respite House needs additional funding to cover the cost of providing hours and also needs funding to meet the County's minimum wage for its direct care. We are requesting an additional \$50,000 for the respite care house.

People with disabilities who require an accessible taxi too often face long wait times or no ride at all. We request that the Council work with the Department of Transportation to increase funding from the Transportation Services Improvement Fund collected by the 25 cent tax on Uber and Lyft rides to increase the number of accessible taxis on the road. It is clear from the lack of numbers on the road, the current subsidy is insufficient. Commissioners have been told by drivers that the money is being given to the taxi companies with no financial incentives for drivers. There are 797 taxis to regulate in the County and of that 60 are accessible, and only 20 of those are on the road at any given time. We recommend that this money be given to taxi companies for drastically reducing the daily rental rate of accessible vehicles. Perhaps to ½ of what a sedan rents for.

Montgomery County Government continues to be the leader on employment of people with disabilities, including disabled veterans. The Montgomery County Public Intern Program (MCPIP). Funding has been pretty much flat-lined since its initiation 10 years ago. The County Executive added \$61,756 that is required for the MCPIP program to get back to the original program level. We ask that the Council support this.

Thank you for your on-going support for people with disabilities.

CDBG FUNDING PRIORITIES 2018



Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities CDBG Funding Priorities 2018 October 17, 2018

Seth Morgan, MD – Chair
Patricia Gallalee – Vice Chair
Betsy Luecking, Community Outreach Manager

1. We believe in a housing first model. There are people with disabilities living in nursing homes, with aging parents or in an inappropriate housing setting who could benefit from a housing locator specialist. Many people with disabilities do not have a case manager and could benefit from having someone assist them to locate housing, requesting a needed reasonable accommodation, negotiating with a landlord, learning how to be a good tenant and connecting to local resources. The people living in nursing homes may be eligible for Medicaid Waiver dollars but would still need assistance in the transition to living in a community setting.
2. Our second priority would be to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Many folks do not meet the priority level for employment services from the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS), Developmental Disabilities Administration or Behavioral Health Administration. For instance, DORS dedicates 50% of its budget to transitioning youth too often leaving older adults with waiting lists, and no services. We support funding for agencies that provide job training and supports to obtain and retain employment.
3. We support funding for any program that would provide adaptive equipment, ramps and funding to make a vehicle accessible.
4. People with disabilities too often have limited access to cultural resources. We support funding for any program that would assist people with disabilities to places like Arena Stage, Strathmore, Kennedy Center, etc.

POLICY PRIORITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020



**Commission on People with Disabilities
Meeting with Montgomery County Council HHS Committee
Policy Priorities for FY20
October 22, 2018**

Seth Morgan, MD, Chair

Caregiver Support

Caregivers families/volunteers will be supported in ways that maximize their capacity and strengths to best nurture and support individuals/family members who have a disability to achieve their goals. (respite) Recently Level I rate was raised from \$14.50 hr. to \$20 an hour and Level II from \$25/hr to \$40/hr. Additional funding is requested to offset rate increases and funding for those who require 24 hour care in respite home.

Employment

With current proposed changes to Medicaid Waivers and Division of Rehabilitation funding there is a need to increase funding for employment opportunities for people with disabilities in the County and the private sector. There is a need to supplement funding for training and supports for those who are not a priority or will not qualify. Both DDA and DORS (50% funding) make transitioning youth a priority for funding and there is a need for funding for those who have an adult onset disability.

Increase Recreational Opportunities

It is our understanding that Therapeutic Recreation has only one accessible bus and many people who use wheelchairs are not afforded the opportunity to attend recreation events. We would recommend that all busses be accessible. And, in addition, increase recreational opportunities.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety

Many of the Commissioners have become quite concerned about the increase in bicycle lanes, floating bus stops, parking along a bike lane, two stage turn queue and bike boxes and concern about the safety of pedestrians who have a disability. Consideration of the needs of people who are blind, have mobility limitation or use wheelchairs, or are deaf need to be considered when planning pedestrian walking and bike lanes. Our mostly older roads can barely handle the dense traffic we have. Plans are made to paint some of the intersections white and green. Service animals cannot tell color. One has to ask how safe is cycling or Montgomery County? We recommend that if you are going to build bike lanes to make them separate and not mix them with pedestrians and cars. It is observed that many bicyclists do not obey traffic rules such as stopping at stop signs. We are going to request that the Commission on People with Disabilities be consulted from departments for input on disability concerns regarding any safety issues or large projects particularly transportation. There also needs to be an aggressive community education about when cars need to stop to allow someone to cross the street.

DISABILITY NETWORK DIRECTORY



An online directory of providers, agencies, businesses and advocacy organizations.

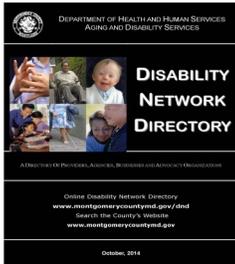
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dnd

Find resources and information on the following topics:

- Access & ADA-Related Issues including Curb Cuts & Sidewalks
- Adaptive & Medical Equipment
- Adult Day Centers
- Advocacy
- AIDS/HIV Resources
- Assistive Technology
- Autism Resources
- Blind/Low Vision Resources including Macular Degeneration
- Brain Injury Resources
- Case Management
- Child Care including Arc Programs
- Children & Youth Services
- Clothing
- Commissions on People with Disabilities (Statewide & Regional)
- Computer Support/Training
- Conflict Resolution
- Consumer Protection
- Counseling
- Deaf Resources including Sign Language Interpreting Services & Cart Reporting
- Deaf-Blind Resources
- Dental Services
- Developmental Disabilities
- Disability Specific Resources
- Education Resources - Adults
- Education - Children & Youth including Assessment Services
- Emergency Resources
- Employment including Employment Funding, Business Assistance & Job Lines / Websites
- Estate Planning
- Evacuations & Disaster Resources
- Faith-Based Resources
- Family Supports
- Financial including Financial Assistance, Financial Counseling & Financial Loans / Grants for Accessibility
- Food including HELP, Food Warehouses, Pantries and Soup Kitchens, Home Delivery & Preparation
- Furniture
- Government - Local Depts of Social Services
- Hard of Hearing Resources
- Health & Wellness
- Health Insurance
- Home Care Services - Funding Resources
- Home Care and Home Health Providers
- Hospice Services
- Hospitals
- Housing including Housing Providers, Financial Assistance, Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC), Legal Issues, Home Modifications & Design Consultation, & Ramp, Lift, Elevator & Automated Door Providers/ Installation
- Independent Living Skills
- Learning Disabilities including Testing & Diagnostic Services
- Legal Services including Disability Law Attorneys, Estate Law Attorneys, & Free, Low Cost & Pro Bono
- Legislation
- Loan Closets
- Long Term Care
- Medicaid Waivers
- Medical Care Services
- Medication Resources
- Mental Health Resources
- Parenting Supports
- Parking
- Recreation including Day & Summer Camps
- Respite Care
- Service Animals
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Substance Abuse
- Support Groups including Sibling Support
- Transitioning Youth
- Veterans
- Volunteer Services

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 that offer local, state and national resources for people with disabilities. The Disability Network Directory is available online at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dnd.

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK DIRECTORY : A comprehensive listing of public, private and non-profit transportation in the Washington Metropolitan Region, State of Maryland and beyond. Includes information for people with disabilities and adults 50+. This guide was compiled to assist County residents to better coordinate their transportation needs. To download a copy of the guide visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/tnd.



To request alternative formats of these publications, please call 240-777-1246 (V), MD Relay 711, or e-mail DHHSWebsite@montgomerycountymd.gov.

STAY ALERT!

You are encouraged to sign up for emergency alerts from **Alert Montgomery**. Montgomery County officials can use this alerting system to contact you before or during a major crisis, emergency, or severe weather alert. Alerts MAY be broadcast via the following delivery methods:

- E-mail account (work, home, other)
- Cell phone (SMS Text)
- Everbridge Mobile Member App
- Home phone (Voice)
- Cell phone (Voice)
- TTY device
- Twitter: Following “@ReadyMontgomery”
- Facebook: Add “Montgomery County MD Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security” in friends

While signing up for Alert Montgomery is free of charge, your wireless carrier may charge you a fee to receive text messages.

<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 www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OEMHS.



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.

COMMISSION PRESENTATIONS FOR 2017 - 2018

- Oct, 2017:** **Montgomery County Government Customized Employment Public Intern Project (MCPIP) 10 Year Anniversary Celebration** – Marie Parker, Program Manager for TransCen, Inc. / Staff Liaison to MCPIP along with Stephanie Sawyer, Supervisor, Controller Division, Montgomery County Department of Finance
-
- Nov, 2017:** **Snow Removal on Sidewalks, Parking Lots and Streets** – The Honorable Hans Riemer, Council Vice President, Montgomery County Council
-
- Dec, 2017:** **Strengthening Communities to Support Neighbors Living at Home** – Pazit Aviv, Villages Coordinator, Aging & Disability Services, and Miriam Kelty, President of the Washington Area Villages Exchange & President of Bannockburn Neighbors Helping Neighbors
-
- Jan, 2018:** **The Maryland Technology Assistance Program** – Denise Barton Schuler, MS, APT, Assistive Technology Specialist
- Young Stroke Group and IP Relay Service for Stroke Survivors** – Susan Emery, Executive Director, Circle of Rights, Inc.
-
- Feb, 2018:** **Overview of the Montgomery County Adult Protective Services Program** – Mario Wawrzusin, LCSW-C, ACSW, NCG-Assessment, Adult Protective Services and Case Management Services, Department of Health & Human Services, Aging and Disability Services
-
- March, 2018:** **Respect the Space Update** – Loretta Garcia, JD, MS, Manager of Enforcement Programs, Montgomery County Government Office of Human Rights
- Overview of Accessibility Issues of Route 29 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project** – Corey Pitts, Planning Section Manager, Montgomery County Department of Transportation
-
- April, 2018:** **Montgomery County Parks and Playground Surfacing** – Kathy Dearstine, Project Manager, and Patricia McManus, PLA, ASLA, Design Section Supervisor
-
- May, 2018:** **The Maryland General Assembly Overview on Legislation of Interest** – Delegate Kirill Reznik, Maryland General Assembly, District 39
-
- June, 2018:** **Update on Early Childhood Disability Screenings** – Avner Shapiro and Larry Bram
- Progress in Complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act** – Nancy Greene, ADA Title II Compliance, and Dennis Pillsbury, AIA, Title II Compliance, Department of General Services, Montgomery County Government
-
- Sept, 2018** **Discussion on Accessible Taxi Service** – Michael Pollard, Program Manager, Taxicab Operations, Montgomery County Department of Transportation (DOT), and Fred Lees, Chief, Management Services, DOT

COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP LIST

2017 — 2018
EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

PUBLIC VOTING MEMBERS

Seth A. Morgan, M.D., Chairman
Patricia Gallalee, Vice-Chair
Deena (Day) Al-Mohamed
Cindy Buddington
Neal Carter
Myra Coffield
Benjamin DuGoff
Susan Hartung
Scott Hunger
Luis Hurtado
Hilary Kaplan
Kathy Mann Koepke
Jenn Lynn
Carl Prather
Teri Roe
Avner Shapiro

ORGANIZATION / AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES VOTING MEMBERS

Larry Bram, *Easter Seals*
Asha Clark, *The Arc of Montgomery County*
Richard Kienzle, *College Living Experience*
Tom Liniak, *Jewish Social Services Agency*
Karen Morgret, *Treatment and Learning Centers*
Anne Peyer, *Cornerstone Montgomery*
Steve Robinson, *Madison House Autism Foundation*
Marcia Rohrer, *Maryland State Dept. of Education, Division of Rehabilitation Services*
Joel Snyder, *Audio Description Associates, LLC*

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

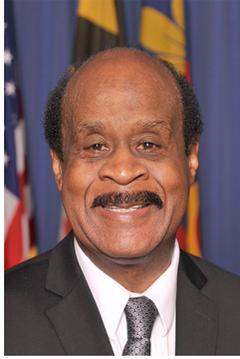
PUBLIC AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Charlie Butler, *Department of Recreation*
Okianer Christian Dark, *Commission on Human Rights*
Rita Gale, *Montgomery County Public Libraries*
Simone Geness, *Montgomery County Public Schools*
Nancy Greene, *ADA Compliance Officer, Department of General Services*
John (Jay) Kenney, Ph.D., *Chief, Aging and Disability Services*
Faisal Khan, *Department of Transportation*
Christopher Moy, *ADA Compliance, Montgomery College*
Susan Smith, *Housing Opportunities Commission*
Angela J. Washington, Esq., *Equal Employment & Diversity, Office of Human Resources*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - STAFF MEMBERS

Betsy Tolbert Luecking, *Community Outreach Manager*
Carly Clem, *Administrative Specialist I*

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
240-777-0311 (V)
240-773-3556 (TTY)
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)
MD Relay 711 (TTY)
240-777-7989 (FAX)
county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov

*Seated, left to right: Sidney Katz, Craig Rice, Hans Riemer and George Leventhal.
Standing: Marc Elrich, Roger Berliner, Nancy Floreen, Nancy Navarro and Tom Hucker.*

**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.*

2017 - 2018 ANNUAL REPORT PREPARED BY:
Betsy Tolbert Luecking, *Community Outreach Manager*
Carly Clem, *Administrative Specialist I*