



COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ANNUAL REPORT

October 8, 2021

Via Letter of Transmittal Electronically

Honorable Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive
Honorable Thomas Hucker, President, Montgomery County Council
Raymond Crowel, Psy.D., Director, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

The Commission on People with Disabilities is pleased to present a summary of its activities for the past year. We continue to advise and consult with you on issues of concern to the safety and well-being of an estimated 85,000 people with disabilities who live in the County, according to the 2019 US Census Bureau. We continue to work to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

1. The safety of all pedestrians remains a major concern of our Commission. The recently updated Vision Zero data showing a rise in severe injuries and deaths amongst pedestrians despite a pandemic-related decrease in vehicular traffic is alarming. The Commission is willing and able to provide input to help assure that pedestrian travel-way design changes include consideration of the needs of all pedestrians including those with disabilities. Our input early in the design process will permit a thorough consideration of the challenges faced by people with disabilities before plan development and subsequent finalization. We can help with proposed changes in sidewalks, bicycle lane design, scooter use planning and program design, sidewalk construction and all other pedestrian transportation design considerations. We recognize that plans developed by MCDOT attempt to take into consideration the safety needs of people with disabilities but recognize an unintentional, ableism bias that limits the effectiveness of proposed plans as currently being developed. Our early involvement may avoid the need for costly retrofitting and reconstruction.
2. We also appreciate the ongoing review of the Transportation Services Improvement Fund Disbursement guidelines. Use of this fund to promote availability of accessible taxi service in the County requires reconsideration and revitalization.
3. The Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee provides enhanced communication between the Executive and legislative branches, the Developmental Disabilities Administration and non-profits. We will be facing employment challenges as during the pandemic over half of the persons who are funded for employment by the Developmental Disabilities Administration have lost their employment in the private and public sector.
4. With input from the Commission, we are proud of the work of the staff who have created a new and informative Disability Site on the County website. If you are looking for information available to you on a broad range of disability issues including such information as how to apply to the Developmental Disabilities Administration to Caregiver Support go to www.montgomerycountymd.gov/disability.

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. It has been a pleasure to work with you and members of the Commission. We are confident that you will continue to support the Commission's efforts to enhance the lives of people with disabilities in our County. Our meetings are open to the public, and we invite you to join us for any and all meetings.



Seth A Morgan
Seth Morgan, MD
Chair



Patricia A. Ballalee
Trish Gallalee
Vice-Chair

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Aging & Disability Services - Aging & Disability Resource Unit



Provides hands-on assistance, referrals to service, and information to adults 60+, caregivers and persons with disabilities of any age. It is the primary entry point for most DHHS Aging and Disability services.

240-777-3000 (Voice) • MD Relay 711 • 240-777-4000 (Emergency After Hours)

Email: ADS@montgomerycountymd.gov • www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs

Hours: Monday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP LIST - 2021

PUBLIC VOTING MEMBERS

Seth A. Morgan, M.D., Chair
Patricia Gallalee, Vice-Chair
Deena (Day) Al-Mohamed
Jametia Anderson
Neal Carter
Myra Coffield
Mario Damiani
Kaylee Davis
Marissa Ditkowsky

Tonya Gilchrist
Michael Greenberg
Luis Hurtado
Mandy McCarthy
David Rice
Teri Roe - Resigned
Avner Shapiro
Jeneva Stone

ORGANIZATION / AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES VOTING MEMBERS

Marcus Bolston, *Easterseals*
Larry Bram, *Easterseals*
Eric Cole, *Dandy-Walker Alliance, Inc.*
Tom Liniak, *Jewish Social Services Agency*
Karen Morgret, *Treatment and Learning Centers*
Eric Salzano, *Community Services for Autistic Adults & Children*
Richard Shermanski, *American Speech-Language Hearing Association*
John Whittle, *Consultant, Service Coordination, Inc.*
Najla Wortham, *The Rock Creek Foundation*

NON-VOTING MEMBERS - PUBLIC AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

Matthew Barkley, *ADA Title II Compliance Manager, Department of General Services*
Maria Buckley, *Maryland Department of Rehabilitation Services*
Charlie Butler, *Department of Recreation*
Marybeth Dugan, *M-NCPPC, Montgomery Parks*
Simone Geness, *Montgomery County Public Schools*
Angelisa Hawes, *Montgomery County Public Libraries*
Karen Hochberg, *Targeted Recruitment Specialist, Office of Human Resources*
Denise Isreal, *Department of Transportation*
Christopher Moy, *ADA Compliance, Montgomery College*
Susan Smith, *Housing Opportunities Commission*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - STAFF MEMBERS

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

Online Disability Resources Provided by the Commission

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DISABILITY WEBSITE: If you are looking for information available to you on a broad range of disability issues including such information as how to apply to the Developmental Disabilities Administration to Caregiver Support go to www.montgomerycountymd.gov/disability

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 240-777-1252 (V), MD Relay 711, or email Carly.Clem@montgomerycountymd.gov.

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, General Services, Office of Human Resources, and the Human Rights Commission. There are also members who represent Montgomery College, Montgomery County Public Schools, Housing Opportunities Commission, Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services, and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission/Montgomery Parks.

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 2021 - 2022

Full Commission Meeting

2nd Wednesday of the month,
except for July and August

Via Zoom

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Steering Committee Meeting

3rd Wednesday of the month

Via Zoom

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.



Like us on Facebook!

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



Sign up for eSubscribe to receive emails about disability information and resources:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/govdelivery

COMMISSION PRESENTATIONS FOR 2020 - 2021

Oct 2020: **Status of Employment Programs Serving People with Disabilities** – *Beth Lash, Regional Director, Region VI Maryland Department of Education, Division of Rehabilitation Services; and Cynthia Grissom, Director, Business Solutions Worksource Montgomery, Inc.*

COVID-19 Pandemic Critical Program Issues – *Michael Greenberg, John Whittle*

Nov 2020: **State-wide Transportation Issues** – *Christian J. Miele, Esq., M.A., Deputy Secretary, Maryland Department of Disabilities, and Bong Delrosario, Director of Transportation Policy and Programs, Maryland Department of Disabilities*

Dec 2020: **Update on Vision Zero** – *Wade Holland, Vision Zero Coordinator*

Visually Impaired Urban Transportation Study – *Matt Johnson, AICP, BiPPA Project Manager, Division of Transportation Engineering, Montgomery County Department of Transportation*

Jan 2021: **Update on Coronavirus-19 Vaccinations** – *Beth Shuman and Linda McMillan, County Council Dr. Michael Greenberg*

Increasing Inclusive Housing Options for People with Developmental Disabilities – *Tim Wiens, Executive Director, Maryland Inclusive Housing*

2021 Community Health Needs Assessment Planning – *Christopher Rogers, PhD, MPH Policy & Strategy Officer, Public Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services, Montgomery County, Maryland*

Feb 2021: **Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) School Resource Officers and Emotional & Safety Supports for Students** – *Officer Laurie Reyes, Special Operations Division, Autism/IDD, Alzheimer's/Dementia Outreach Unit, Montgomery County Police; Dr. Christina Conolly, Director, Division of Psychological Services, MCPS; Jasmine Williams, MCPS student and Police Advisory Commission member; Dalbin Osorio, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County Police Advisory Commission, and Program Manager, Collaboration Council*

March 2021: **The Developmental Disability Supplement** – *Rick Callahan, Executive Director of Compass Maryland, Co-Chair of InterACC/DD*

Montgomery Lane/Avenue Separated Bikeway in Bethesda – *Patricia D. Shepherd, A.I.C.P., Capital Projects Manager/Bikeways Coordinator, Montgomery County Department of Transportation*

April 2021: **Update on MetroAccess Services** – *Christiaan Blake, Managing Director of Access Services, MetroAccess, WMATA*

May 2021: **Evictions and People with Disabilities** – *Marissa Ditzkowski, Esq., Commissioner and Alice Mutter, Esq., Maryland Legal Aid - CDC Eviction Moratorium to end June 30, 2021*

June 2021: **Low Vision Urban Navigation Study Briefing & Discussion** – *Matt Johnson, AICP, BiPPA, Project Manager, Division of Transportation Engineering, Montgomery County Department of Transportation*

Sept 2021: **Use of Transportation Services Improvement Fund to Ensure Equity in Taxicab Services** *The Honorable Tom Hucker, President, Montgomery County Council; Sam Oji, Chief, Enhanced Mobility and Senior Services Section, Division of Transit Services, MCDOT; Walton Harris, Policy Analyst, Taxicab Regulation, Montgomery (MCDOT); and Peter Ibik, President, Montgomery County Union Taxi Cooperative*

FY23 OPERATING BUDGET PRIORITIES

Commission on People with Disabilities Montgomery County Council FY23 Operating Budget Priorities Seth Morgan, MD, Chair

1. Accessible and Safe Transportation

- The County needs to ensure that the Transportation Service Improvement Fund is used only for its intended purpose. We ask that the County ensure equity in taxi pick up times for all residents regardless of whether they need use an accessible vehicle or not. As of April 2021, MCDOT reports that since the twenty-five-cent surcharge on Transportation Network Companies (Uber, Lyft, etc.,) rides was imposed in FY16, the fund has received \$9M of which only \$1.5M has been spent to improve accessible taxi services. People who need an accessible vehicle too often are told there are no accessible taxis available or are given wait times of over three hours. This is a civil rights inequity that must be aggressively addressed by the County.
- We recommend that the County prioritize pedestrian safety over all other MCDOT projects (such as installation of bicycle lanes and floating bus stops). Sidewalk installation should be a priority in all neighborhoods and especially on the roads leading to schools where there is no bus service. This may require County legislation to make sidewalks mandatory preventing homeowners from blocking sidewalk installation. Being forced to walk in the street amongst car traffic should not be the only option. The County needs to provide for a safe way for all people to walk including for people with disabilities, children and seniors.
- The County has set as a priority opening up County roads to bicycles. After over fifty years of construction focusing exclusively on car-based traffic, our roads are too congested to accomplish this safely. We ask that rather than forcing designs that endanger pedestrians, that dedicated bike lanes not be built in these areas. In the State, there are four different designs of floating bus stops making them both unpredictable and inconsistent. The installation of bike lanes and floating bus stops present a serious safety concern for people who are blind, have low vision, are hard of hearing or who have a mobility disability. We recommend a simplified and more detailed safety review encompassing all transportation initiatives to assure uniformity of goals and inclusiveness of concerns of people with disabilities before plans are implemented. We continue to call for an immediate moratorium on construction of floating bus stop and sidewalk design changes. We believe that MCDOT has adopted an ableism bias and we recommend that all transportation projects include input from our Commission before design and implementation.
- MCDOT is promoting scooters and bicycles as transit options but unfortunately, they too often block sidewalks, impact outdoor seating and endanger people with disabilities as a tripping hazard or barrier to passage. We suggest investigating dockable solutions with the ability for specific locations to lock scooters and bikes. More effective development, monitoring and enforcement of rules with appropriate fines for violators is needed.

2. Housing Locator for People with Disabilities

We recommend establishing a "Housing Locator" staff position to assist people who have a disability find appropriate housing when they are new to the Voucher program or people need to relocate because of a change in their disability status. In the Housing First model, people can easily relocate because of landlord or community complaints. It's not that easy in the Voucher program. HOC had a "temp" Housing Locator when they were awarded some of the "NED" vouchers but the position only lasted 6 months. However, the position remains needed. People are always having to relocate and many people with disabilities have a hard time finding places on their own, especially accessible apartments. A full-time position, including benefits, is needed and would cost an estimated \$100,000 per year.

3. Early Intervention Screening Program for Children ages 0-3

We support early intervention screening initiative for this year's budget of \$99,200 (\$592,000 over five years). This would give access to forty new pediatricians per year for five years to the software program called CHADIS for training, certification and support to allow screening and data management of infants. We appreciate previous expressions of support for this initiative, but funding is now needed. While our efforts have already resulted in well over twenty percent of the area's pediatric practices to use an electronic tool to screen and refer infant for developmental disabilities, County funding is now essential to further the project. [See Attachment.](#)

FY23 OPERATING BUDGET PRIORITIES CONTINUED

**Commission on People with Disabilities
Montgomery County Council
FY23 Operating Budget Priorities
Seth Morgan, MD, Chair**

4. Funding to Supplement Programs Serving People with Developmental Disabilities

The Commission recommends the funding of the Developmental Disability Supplement. Last year it was \$19.1M. The supplement also helps providers pay minimum wage to direct care staff.

5. Increasing Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities

People with disabilities face disproportionate barriers because of COVID-19. It is critical to ensure appropriate protections and supports to promote opportunities for safe and ongoing work. There appears to be a need to coordinate/oversee the outcomes for all County funded employment programs under a County staff person with overall goals and results. We recommend that each County funded organization have the goal to have 3-5 performance measures related to outcomes for each contract, along with annual budget amount, so that better more coordinated decisions can be made in the budgeting and contracting process for the employment of people with disabilities. Currently, there is a County special assistant that oversees Worksource Montgomery but not all employment agencies serving people with disabilities. The County spends millions of dollars with no overall oversight of funding used for the purpose of employment of people with disabilities. dedicated bike lanes not be built in these areas. In the State, there are four different designs of floating bus stops making them both unpredictable and inconsistent. The installation of bike lanes and floating bus stops present a serious safety concern for people who are blind, have low vision, are hard of hearing or who have a mobility disability. We recommend a simplified and more detailed safety review encompassing all transportation initiatives to assure uniformity of goals and inclusiveness of concerns of people with disabilities before plans are implemented. We continue to call for an immediate moratorium on construction of floating bus stop and sidewalk design changes. We believe that MCDOT has adopted an ableism bias and we recommend that all transportation projects include input from our Commission before design and implementation.

Submitted on September 30, 2021

FY22 OPERATING BUDGET TESTIMONY

Commission on People with Disabilities Montgomery County Council FY22 Operating Budget – April 6, 2021 Seth Morgan, MD, Chair

1. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety as it Relates to People with Disabilities

- Montgomery County has embarked on various programs to open up accessibility of County roads to bicycles. The dilemma is that after over fifty years of construction focusing exclusively on car-based traffic decisions, our roads are too congested to accomplish this safely. Construction of high rises adjacent to roads makes expansion of the roadway impossible so instead the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) has attempted to wedge bike lanes into the roadway system by altering sidewalks in a way that is not only dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists but are likely in violation of the ADA, setting the County up for legal action as we have seen elsewhere in the US and internationally. We ask that in high congestion areas where a car lane is not possible to be converted to a bike lane that rather than forcing designs that endanger pedestrians, that dedicated bike lanes not be built. In the State, there are 4 different designs of floating bus stops making them both unpredictable and inconsistent. The installation of bike lanes and floating bus stops present a serious safety concern for people who are blind, have low vision, are hard of hearing or who have a mobility disability. We recommend a simplified and more detailed safety review encompassing all transportation initiatives to assure uniformity of goals and inclusiveness of concerns of people with disabilities before plans are implemented. We continue to call for an immediate moratorium on current construction of floating bus stop and sidewalk design changes. We ask that all transportation projects include input from our Commission before design and implementation.
- The County's adoption of Vision Zero to prevent serious and fatal accidents should be focusing on the basics of pedestrian safety. The County needs to provide for a safe way for people to walk particularly for vulnerable populations including people with disabilities, children and seniors. Being forced to walk in the street amongst car traffic should not be the only option. We recommend that the County make sidewalks a priority in all neighborhoods allowing people with disabilities to safely live and creating safe pedestrian access to schools. This aligns with the Vision Zero strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. We recommends that the MCDOT pursue greater sidewalk installation as it promotes pedestrian safety. This may require County legislation to make sidewalks mandatory rather than having homeowners be able to block sidewalk installation.
- MCDOT is promoting scooters and bikes to increase transit options but unfortunately, they too often block sidewalks and endanger people with disabilities as a tripping hazard or barrier to passage. More effective development, monitoring and enforcement of rules with appropriate fines for violators is needed.

2. COVID-19 Pandemic and People with Disabilities

The Pandemic has had a detrimental impact on all residents but even more on people with disabilities. We encourage the Council to fund and monitor programs that promote mental and physical health and wellness. We recommend the following:

1. Grants or other monetary support for expanded mental health services for children and adults with disabilities including their caregivers.
2. Continuation/enhancement of monetary support for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to providers of services to adults with disabilities.
3. Maintenance/enhancement of the annual supplement to providers of services to adults with developmental disabilities by fully funding the InterACC supplement request.
4. Many individuals with disabilities have lost jobs due to the pandemic. We recommend planning and monitoring to ensure that people who need help securing employment get the help they need.
5. Respite Care for Caregiver Support continues to be needed.
6. Food insecurity necessitates continued dissemination of information to the public on food distribution sites. At the suggestion of the Council, a new Disability Site was created to enhance communication with the public on disability issues.

3. Housing and Housing First Opportunities

HOC recently received 100 HUD vouchers for non-elderly disabled persons, ages 18-62. We need to ensure Fair Housing Compliance and non-discrimination

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

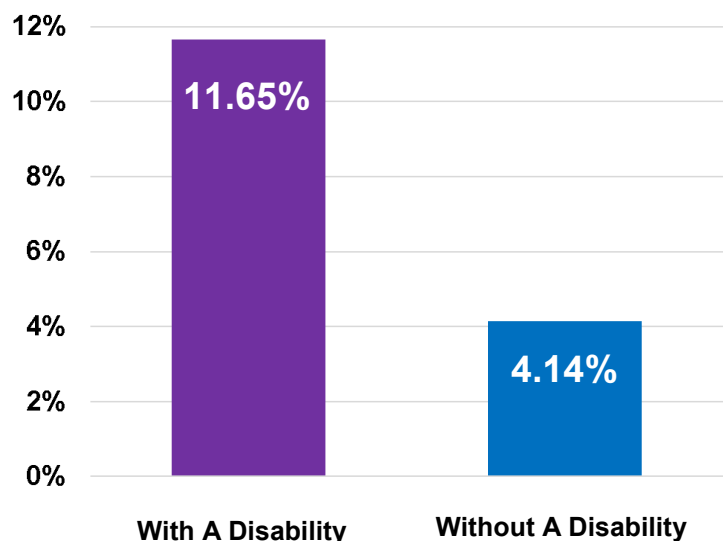
Please note: Updated information is not available at this time. The U.S. Census Bureau, 2019, estimates that there are approximately **85,852 persons living in Montgomery County, MD with a disability**. According to a 2019 American Community Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, 12.7% of Americans self-reported as having a disability. These figures excluded individuals who reside in nursing homes or other institutions. **Please note:** Some individuals may have identified as having multiple disabilities and age population totals will not equal disability type totals.

2019 Disability Characteristics - Montgomery County, MD

Total Population With A Disability: 85,852

Subject With A Disability	Total	Subject with a Disability	Total
Population under 5 years	44	Population 65 to 74 Years	14,612
With a hearing difficulty	44	With a hearing difficulty	5,229
With a vision difficulty	0	With a vision difficulty	2,611
Population 5 to 17 years	7,594	With a cognitive difficulty	2,072
With a hearing difficulty	663	With an ambulatory difficulty	8,813
With a vision difficulty	596	With a self-care difficulty	1,282
With a cognitive difficulty	6,188	With an independent living difficulty	4,697
With an ambulatory difficulty	844	Population 75 and older	28,607
With a self-care difficulty	1,290	With a hearing difficulty	12,028
Population 18 to 34 Years	10,507	With a vision difficulty	6,057
With a hearing difficulty	993	With a cognitive difficulty	7,476
With a vision difficulty	1,835	With an ambulatory difficulty	18,703
With a cognitive difficulty	7,854	With a self-care difficulty	8,024
With an ambulatory difficulty	1,575	With an independent living difficulty	16,283
With a self-care difficulty	1,736	Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019	
With an independent living difficulty	4,664		
Population 35 to 64 years	24,488		
With a hearing difficulty	4,897		
With a vision difficulty	3,922		
With a cognitive difficulty	9,727	Unemployment Rate - Montgomery County, MD 18 Years to 64 Years - Labor Force Participation	
With an ambulatory difficulty	9,859		
With a self-care difficulty	4,760		
With an independent living difficulty	8,523		

0 - 17 year olds with a disability = 7,638
 18 - 64 year olds with a disability = 34,995
 65 and older with a disability = 43,219



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPECIAL EDUCATION

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

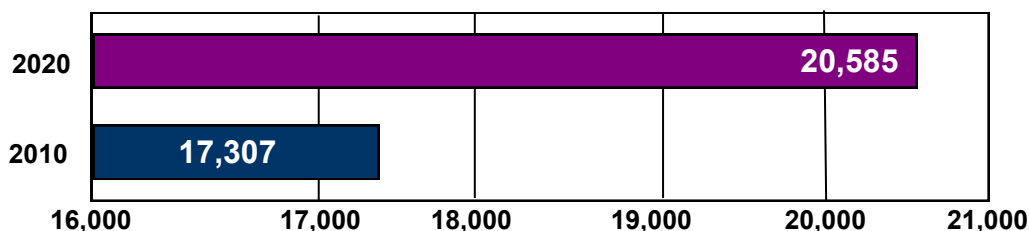
As of October 2020, there were **20,585** students with disabilities enrolled in Special Education. This population makes up **12.8%** of the County's total school enrollment of 160,564 students.

Disability Type	# of Students 2020	# of Students 2019	% Between 2020 and 2019
Autism	3,049	2,918	+ 4.5%
Deaf	82	79	+ 3.8%
Deaf-Blind	3	4	- 25%
Developmental Delay	3,442	3,598	- 4.3%
Developmental Delay (Extended IFSP)	310	99	+ 213.1%
Emotional Disability	816	883	- 7.6%
Hearing Impairment	141	139	+ 1.4%
Intellectual Disability	599	616	- 2.7%
Multiple Disabilities	550	506	+ 8.7%
Orthopedic Impairment	15	17	- 11.8%
Other Health Impairment	3,441	3,377	+ 1.9%
Specific Learning Disability	6,234	6,389	- 2.4%
Speech and Language Impairment	1,831	1,821	+ 0.5%
Traumatic Brain Injury	20	17	+ 17.6%
Visual Impairment	52	48	+ 8.3%
Total	20,585	20,511	

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 10/2020

Montgomery County School Enrollment - Special Education Ages 3 to 21

Special Education enrollment has **increased by 3,278 students or 18.9%** over the last ten 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 10/2020

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		Black or African American		White		Hispanic		Two or More Races	
		Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
SWD	20,585	1,625	7.9%	5,469	26.5%	5,122	24.9%	7,387	35.9%	929	4.5%
GE	160,564	22,941	14.3%	34,993	21.8%	41,455	25.8%	52,628	32.8%	8,097	5.0%

Source: Maryland State Department of Education - Special Education/Early Intervention Services Census Data 10/2020

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

- [Developmental Disabilities - Montgomery County Disability Network Directory](#)
- [Autism Resources - Montgomery County Disability Network Directory](#)

Montgomery County Public Schools Programs for Children with Developmental Disabilities/Delays

- [Infants & Toddlers](#)
- [Child Find](#)
- [Autism Waiver](#)
- [School to Work Transition Services Unit](#)
- [Connecting School and Adult Life Brochure](#) (PDF)

Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)

301-362-1500 (Voice) • 301-362-5131 (TTY) • 1-888-207-2479 (Toll Free)

To determine eligibility for DDA funded services, individuals must apply to Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration for these programs that are then administered by local [Coordination of Community Services Agencies](#).

- Behavior Support
- Individual and Family Support
- Coordination of Community Services
- Employment
- Housing
- Low Intensity Support Services
- Nursing
- Self-Directed Services
- Transitioning Youth with Disabilities



COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

Community Support Network - Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

Aging and Disability Services

1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20850 • 240-777-1216 (Voice)

Community Support Network for People with Disabilities (CSN) provides services that enable individuals to remain in their home or in the least restrictive environment and provides general support, guidance, and assistance to clients with developmental disabilities and their families. This program area coordinates and monitors services and supports (including crisis management, intervention, and school-to-work transition assistance) to people with developmental disabilities eligible to receive services through the State Developmental Disabilities Administration (Coordination of Community Services Program); provides service coordination to eligible young people funded under the Maryland Home and Community Based Services Waiver for Children (ages 0-21) with Autism Spectrum Disorder (Autism Waiver Program); and provides financial assistance to State-funded providers who serve adults with developmental disabilities.

- The **My Turn program** provides support and assistance to families with children ages three to thirteen who have developmental disabilities and are not connected with State of Maryland resources. Services include outreach, assistance with summer camp placements and other programmatic and financial assistance.
- CSN also **conducts site visits to group homes** that serve developmentally disabled clients in the County and monitors contracts that provide services to people with various disabilities including visual and hearing impairments.
- CSN **Autism Waiver** staff coordinate with Montgomery County Public Schools staff and monitor services for children (ages 0 - 21) in the program who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Through the Autism Waiver Program, students and families receive respite care, environmental accessibility adaptations, family training, supported adult life planning, and intensive individual support services in the home and community, therapeutic integration service, service coordination and, in some cases, residential habilitation.
- The **Coordination of Community Services (CCS)** program is one of six agencies in the County that provides case management services to eligible school to work transition students and adults people who have developmental disabilities and are eligible for the Maryland DDA Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver services.
- CSN provides County financial assistance to State-funded providers who serve adults with developmental disabilities.

MARYLAND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION WAITING LIST

Data from Onesta Duke, Southern Maryland Regional Director, Developmental Disabilities Administration, Maryland Department of Health

From Montgomery County - As of September 13, 2021 – fluctuates day by day

- 862 on State DDA waiting list – these persons currently receive no services
 - 18 in crisis resolution (need services within 3 months)
 - 31 in crisis prevention (need services within a year)
 - 813 current request

Notes: Developmentally Disabled only; Supports Only excluded.

AUTISM WAIVER WAITING LIST

The Autism Waiver is administered by the Maryland Department of Education through local schools. Data from Daniel Hammond, Coordinator, The Medicaid Home & Community-Based Autism Waiver Program, Montgomery County Public Schools

Autism Waiver Registry - As of February 2021

Statewide number of students on the Registry: About 6,200

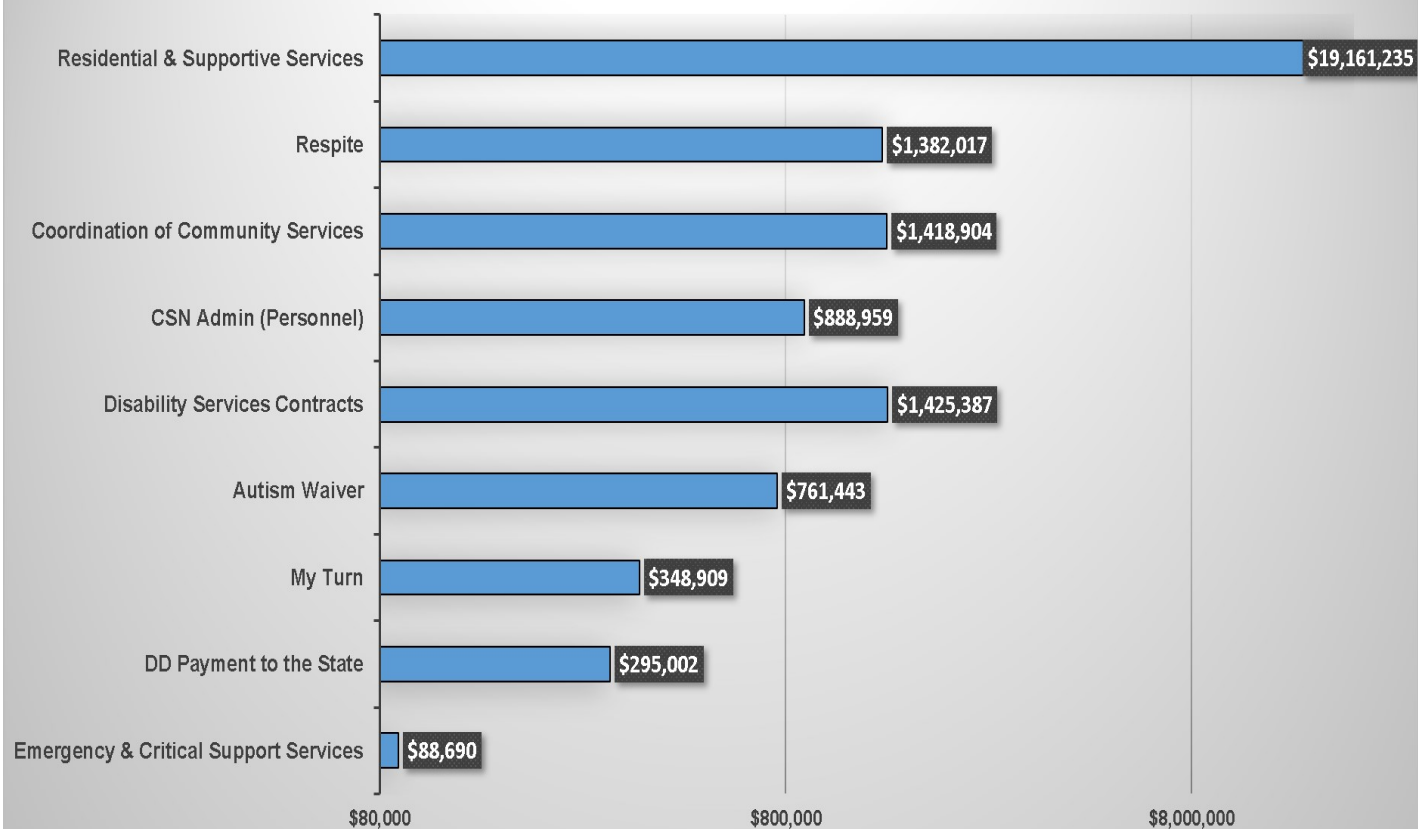
Registry for Montgomery County: 1,450 (This does not include enrolled students)

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).

The students that came into the program this summer registered during the fall of 2011 so there was an 8 year wait. The Montgomery County Autism Waiver Program currently has 310 participants and statewide there are 1,300 students in the program. No diagnosis is made prior to being put on the waiting list.

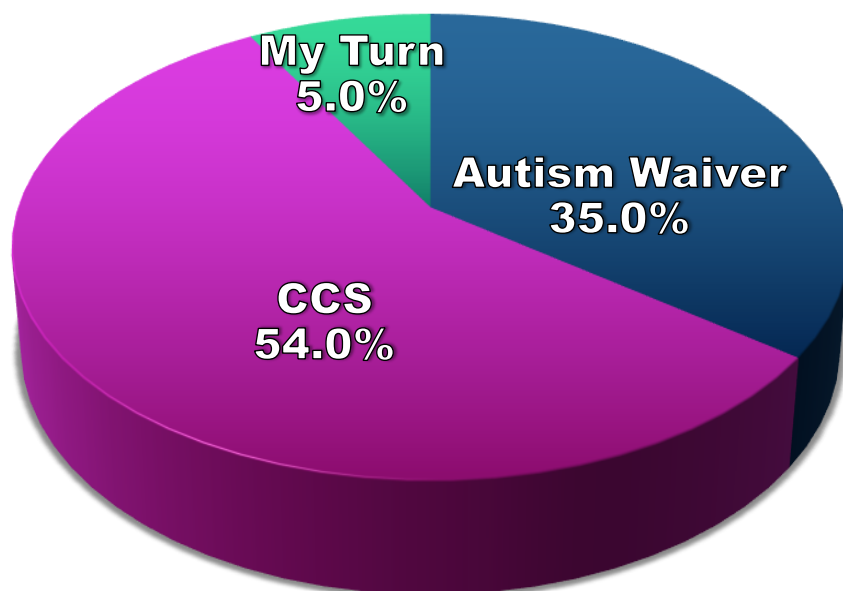
COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK (CSN) FY22 BUDGET BY PROGRAM

Total CSN Budget: \$25,770,546



CSN BREAKDOWN BY PROGRAM

Total CSN Clients: 821
 Coordination of Community Services (CCS): 470 clients
 Autism Waiver: 304 clients
 My Turn: 47 clients



Data as of October 2021

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & CONTINUING EDUCATION

240-567-5188 (V) • E-mail: wdce@montgomerycollege.edu
www.montgomerycollege.edu/workforce-development-continuing-education

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.

Driver's Education with Additional Support

This course provides the exact same MVA curriculum as SFT-043 Driver Education, but with built-in supports. Montgomery College's Driving School and its instructors are Maryland MVA licensed and certified. Their additional support instructors are dually certified in Special Education. This course, in a small classroom environment, prepares rookie drivers to test for a Maryland driver's license. Additional Supports include, but are not limited to:

- Differentiated instruction, supplemental aides and supports including a multi-sensory approach to learning.
- Behind the wheel is one-on-one instruction with a dually certified MVA and MSDE Special Education Educator
- Smaller class size
- Quizzes and tests are read aloud
- Extra time is granted to students for quizzes and tests
- Manipulatives (by cars) are used to better explain situations
- A copy of all PowerPoints and instructor notes are provided to the student.

If you have a Disability Support Request you need to call Natalie Martinez, Disability Support Services Counselor at 240-567-4118 (V) or e-mail Natalie.Martinez@montgomerycollege.edu at least four weeks prior to the start of the class to arrange for accommodations and/or assistive technology.

DESIGN FOR LIFE PROPERTY TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Make your home accessible with a Montgomery County Tax Credit



DESIGNFORLIFE
Every home accessible for everyone.



designforlifemc.org



View [Home Modification & Design Consultation](#) for a resource listing of Government /Building Codes, Assessment and Consultation, Architects, and Renovation and Construction

Design for Life, managed by the Department of Permitting Services, provides partial tax credits to property owners or home builders who install measures that improve accessibility, visit-ability and/or live-ability of residential homes. This legislation was promoted through efforts of the Commission for People with Disabilities and embraced by the County Council and the County Executive. For retrofits to existing single family homes, such accessibility measures can include things like installing entry doors wide enough for wheelchairs, providing a no-step entry into the home, improving bathroom access with grab bars or roll-in showers, wider doorways, etc. This model program was initiated in Montgomery County to improve the ability of all residents to manage more successfully in homes, to improve people's ability to age in place and to make homes more accessible to visitors of all ages.

Credits are available for accessibility features added to single family homes and condominiums. Tax credits for improvements that make a home qualify as a visitable or livable home are available for single family homes and townhouses. If you add a feature and it costs at least \$500 up to \$2,500 you get a 50% credit. If you make your home visitable the credit is \$3,000 and if you make it livable the credit is \$10,000, credit max is \$2,000 per year. For more information view www.montgomerycountymd.gov/design/Resources/Files/PDF/DFLTaxCreditIncentiveTable.pdf.

The process for building permits with Design for Life (DFL) features is as follows:

1. When a building permit with Design for Life (DFL) features has received the final inspection for the project from the Department of Permitting Services (DPS), the homeowner/applicant must complete and submit the DFL tax credit application (see attached).
2. The applicant must submit the required documentation along with tax credit application, which consists of contracts, receipts, and invoices to demonstrate the cost or amount of money spent for the project along with a complete list of features and costs of each feature.
3. The application is then reviewed and DPS signs off on the affidavit.
4. The tax credit application package is then sent to the Finance Office electronically to process the tax credit information.

Download Design for Life Property Tax Incentive application:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/design/Resources/Files/PDF/DesignForLifeApplicationforTaxCredit.pdf



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 (Visitable) <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

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 Medical Day Centers
- Advocacy
- AIDS/HIV Resources
- Assistive Technology
- Autism Resources
- Behavioral Health, Counseling & Wellness Supports
- Blind/Low Vision Resources including Macular Degeneration
- Brain Injury Resources
- Camps - Day and Summer
- Caregiver Supports
- Case Management
- Centers for Independent Living
- 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
- Design for Life Property Tax Incentive
- 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
- 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 Advisors / Older Adults, 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
- Parenting Supports
- Parking
- Property Tax Credits - County, State & Federal
- Recreation
- Respite Care
- Service Animals
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Substance Abuse
- Support Groups including Sibling Support
- Transitioning Youth
- Transportation
- Veterans
- Volunteer Services

COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES COMMEMORATES 43RD 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 41 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

COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES COMMEMORATES 43RD YEAR CONTINUED

- **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: The Commission Sent a request to Strathmore Hall to make neck loops an option for guests. Strathmore responded that they have neck loops and that they will be training staff to ensure that patrons know that is an option. Initiated effort to have HHS install integrated audio loop systems in with public address system into designated meeting rooms. Pushed for a clause to be included in mental health service proposals that makes it clear that those services must be inclusive, i.e., must provide assistive listening devices for people who are deaf and hard of hearing, both for group sessions and one-on-one therapy. County contract now includes provision for CART (Computer Assisted Real-time Captioning) accommodations and other provisions. Advocated for trial VRS/VRI installation in two locations in the county, possibly in libraries. VRI would to allow people who are deaf and hard of hearing people who have not made an appointment to be provided access when they walk in for services. VRS would allow deaf and hard of hearing people to place phone calls using sign language. Montgomery County now has a free emergency notification system for the public which is a tremendous benefit for deaf and hard of hearing people who rely on their wireless devices or email. To sign up go to www.montgomerycountymd.gov and click on “Alert Montgomery”.
- **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
- Advising County on **pedestrian safety issues** and safety concerns about floating bus stops and bike lanes.
- **Bill 33-15 Transportation Service Improvement Fund**: Established the fund based on placing a 25 cent surcharge on all Transportation Network Companies (Uber, Lyft, etc.) for rides originating in Montgomery County with the fund designated to be used to promote accessible vehicle ride availability in the County In order to establish the fund, permission was sought and obtained from the Maryland State Government.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COVID-19 PANDEMIC INFORMATION PORTAL

The COVID-19 Pandemic has put a strain on all residents and especially on vulnerable populations including children and adults with disabilities. The County is committed to minimizing the detrimental effects on COVID-19 and to maintain long-term access to services, community engagement and social engagement. Many aspects of all of our lives have been impacted including the need for readily accessible reliable information and available resources on topics such as general medical care resources, mental wellness and behavioral health care, food security, safe housing, personal safety, freedom to worship without fear, etc.,.

We encourage you to use the Montgomery County COVID-19 Information Portal:

<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/get-help/>

***Stay Positive, Test Negative
Go Outside, Call a Friend, Get Some Exercise, Stay Connected***

American Council of the Blind COVID-19 Resources

<https://acb.org/acb-covid19-response>

EveryMind COVID-19 Coping with Anxiety and Stress

<https://www.every-mind.org/7493-2/>

Maryland Department of Disabilities COVID-19 Resources

<http://mdod.maryland.gov/news/Pages/Covid-resources.aspx>

National Federation of the Blind

<https://www.nfb.org/resources/covid-19-resources>

National Deaf Center COVID-19 Resources

<https://www.nationaldeafcenter.org/covid-19-information>

National Multiple Sclerosis COVID Resources

<https://www.nationalmssociety.org/coronavirus-covid-19-information>

COVID-19 Special Considerations for People with Spinal Cord Injury

<https://kesslerfoundation.org/info/covid-19-and-spinal-cord-injury-minimizing-risks-complications>

TEXT-TO-911 NOW AVAILABLE IN MARYLAND

For Immediate Release: Thursday, August 20, 2020

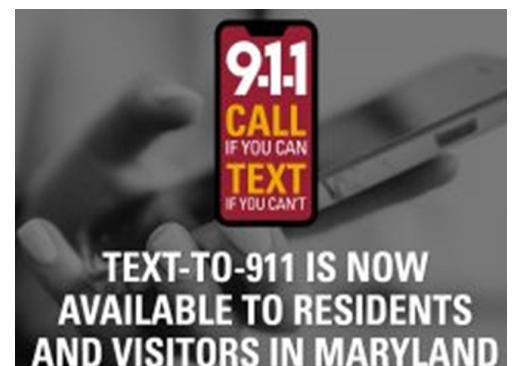
If you're experiencing an emergency and are unable to place a voice call, you can send a text to 911. Follow these steps to request emergency services:

Enter 911 in the "To" line.

1. Enter a brief message that includes the location of the emergency and type of service needed – police, fire, or ambulance.
2. Hit send.
3. Respond to questions from the responding 911 specialist and follow the instructions he or she provides.

Tips for using text-to-911:

- If text-to-911 is not available in your area, or if it is temporarily unavailable, you should receive a message from your carrier letting you know to place a phone or relay call.
- Pictures and/or videos cannot be received by 911 via text
- If you include another contact on your text it may not be received by 911
- English is the preferred language for text, however, some limited translation services may be available
- Text in short, simple messages; Do not use abbreviations or slang
- Do not text and drive



SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESOURCES

- [File of Life - Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service](#)
- [Smoke Alarm Program - Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service](#)
- [Fire Safety Checklist for Older Adults - Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service](#)
- [Fire Safety for Children with Special Needs - Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service](#)
- [Fire Safety for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing \(Visual Smoke Alarms\) - Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service](#)
- [Falls Prevention - Free Home Safety Evaluations - Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service](#)
- [Autism, Intellectual, Developmental Disabilities \(IDD\) and Alzheimer's Outreach Program – Montgomery County Police Department](#)

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.



2. Food: Non-perishables such as canned or packaged food. Enough to last 3 to 5 days per person.



3. Clothes: One change of clothes and footwear per person. Consider packing blankets, rain-gear, and outerwear in case of severe weather.



4. Medications: Three days worth of prescription medications. Be sure to mark the expiration dates and change as needed.



5. Flashlight: A bright flashlight and extra batteries. Do not use candles as they are fire hazards.



6. Can Opener: Manual can opener in case there's no electric power. Buying foods with pull-open cans is also helpful.



7. Radio: Battery-powered radio and extra batteries. Crank operated or solar powered radios are also helpful.



8. Hygiene Items: Basics like soap, toilet paper and a toothbrush. Moist toiles are useful.



9. First Aid: Basics like antiseptic, gloves, bandages, and non-prescription medicines. Many stores have pre-made kits.

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS



**County Executive
Marc Elrich**

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)

County.Executive1Q@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

Standing: Hans Riemer, Gabe Albornoz, Craig Rice, Andrew Friedson, and Tom Hucker.

Seated, left to right: Will Jawando, Sidney Katz, Nancy Navarro and Evan Glass.

Marc Elrich, County Executive

Raymond Crowel, Director

Odile Brunetto, 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.*

2020 - 2021 ANNUAL REPORT PREPARED BY:

Betsy Tolbert Luecking, *Community Outreach Manager*

Carly Clem, *Administrative Specialist I*