



Commission on Children and Youth

January 14, 2025, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting on Teams

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NDNhYWM4OTQtZjJjMi00YWEzLWJkODMtZDhiMDk5Mml0NjZi%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%226e01b1f9-b1e5-4073-ac97-778069a0ad64%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22de2fa4d4-1208-482b-9fc8-ea1052f61817%22%7d

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions (6:30 – 6:40 PM | 10 min)

- Michael Jiménez, Chair
- Roll call and approval of minutes
- Brief overview of agenda and meeting goals

2. Guest Speaker: Chief Lori Garibay-Aquino, Children Youth and Family Services, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (6:40 – 7:25 PM | 45 min including Q&A)

Topic: “County-wide Youth Resilience Initiative”

About Lori Garibay-Aquino:

Lori Garibay-Aquino is the Chief of Children Youth and Family Services within DHHS. Her portfolio includes oversight and advocacy for several programs which include, Early Childhood Services (ECS), Community & Youth Violence Prevention and Intervention (CYVPI) program, Community Action Agency (CAA), the Lighthouse program and several county-wide initiatives including the Youth Resilience Initiative.

Lori joined the County under 2 years ago as the Deputy Chief and soon became Chief. Before coming to the county she worked at the District of Columbia Department of Health. She is a passionate advocate for health equity, dedicated to improving healthcare outcomes for diverse and underserved populations. Lori's work has consistently focused on integrating epidemiological research with community-based interventions, ensuring that health policies and programs are inclusive and equitable.

Session Focus:

- Emerging challenges facing Montgomery County youth
- How Montgomery County is meeting those challenges
- The role of collaboration between nonprofits, schools, and county agencies
- Where do we need to do additional work

3. Discussion: Outlining our Report and Determining Resource Allocation

7:20 – 7:50 PM (30-45 min - Chelsea Zhu)

The commission will have an opportunity to discuss plans and an initial outline for the Annual Report

Objectives:

- Introduce the purpose of the Annual Report, as well as provide an example for the process of last year's report
- Introduce reflections and feedback on how we can improve from the process of last year's report
- Develop and brainstorm recommendation areas for the annual report based on resiliency
- Assign each commissioner to specific recommendations (Sidenote: Should we help lead different subsections for recommendations? The youth commission might develop recommendations based on resiliency and their youth roundtable topic; they are welcome to suggest new ideas as well)
- Develop a timeline for the annual report: for example, outline finalized by March 2026, draft finalized by April 2026, annual report final draft done by May 2026, launch annual report by June 2026
- We can allow commissioners to vote on what subsection they would like, how many subsections we include in the report, etc.

Goal: Finalize next 1–2 invited speakers for early 2026 meetings.

4. Youth Voice Roundtable Update 7:50 – 8:10 PM (10-20 min - Michael Jimenez, presented by Alex Cox and Rizwan Rana)

- Report from Youth Commissioners and planning team
- Confirm date, format, and outreach strategy
- Identify adult commissioner support roles

5. Dworkin Award (8:10 – 8:25 PM | 10-15 min)

- Report by Subcommittee
- The case to bring back the Dworkin Award
- Resolution on whether to move forward

7. Public Comment and Closing Remarks (8:25 – 8:30 PM | 5 min)

- Open forum for members and guests
- Next meeting date and adjournment

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For more information about using sign language interpreters, contact Anil Saini, ADA Compliance Program Manager, at 240-777-5362 or Anil.Saini@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov.