



COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Top Two Policy Priorities Presented to the Health and Human Service Committee of the County Council October 18, 2017

Elizabeth McGlynn, Chair

Overview:

The Commission on Children and Youth (CCY) promotes the well-being of Montgomery County's children, youth, and families so that all young people may realize their full potential and become contributing, productive adults. We do this by supporting policy and budget decisions that promote the safety and well-being of children and youth, and by working so that they have access to successful futures.

2017-2018 Commission on Children and Youth Priorities

The Commission will advance its mission in FY 18 through a focus on two priorities:

Priority 1:

The Commission is concerned about the mental health of children of all ages in Montgomery County. We intend to examine services available for mental health treatment and discovering gaps in services.

Priority 2:

The Commission wants to be proactive in identifying and addressing the needs of undocumented children and youth in Montgomery County, particularly those impacted by DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). We will recommend options for community supports for children and youth and work to establish schools as safe spaces.

Additionally, the Commission is planning to host its annual *Youth Having a Voice* roundtable event. This will mark the 11th year the Commission has hosted this gathering of teens from across the County to discuss issues that are important in their lives. Not only do youth have the opportunity to speak out, but adults – members of the County Council, Board of Education, HHS senior leadership and others – have the chance to hear, learn, and act on the concerns of the youth.

The Commission is committed to its mission and appreciates your support in our efforts. We look forward to working with you this year. Please feel free to inform us about how we may best support your efforts and partner to benefit the County's children and youth.