



Committee: Directly to Council
Staff: Judy Rupp, Clerk of the Council
Purpose: To interview
Keywords:

AGENDA ITEM #1
March 28, 2023
Interview

SUBJECT

To interview the County Executive's appointment of the Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness in the Department of Health and Human Services

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Ms. Christine Hong

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Interview appointment

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

On March 7, 2023, the County Executive transmitted the appointment request for Ms. Christine Hong for the position of Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness in the Department of Health and Human Services.

The Council will interview this candidate. Her appointment will be effective upon confirmation by the Council.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Not applicable.

This report contains:

Memorandum request for appointment	© 1-2
Due Diligence notification	© 3
Draft Resolution	© 4
Candidate Resume	© 5-6
Offer Letter	© 7

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

March 7, 2023

TO: Evan Glass, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive 

RE: Appointment of Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness

I am transmitting the appointment of Christine Hong for the position of Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness in the Department of Health and Human Services. Ms. Hong is being appointed at a salary of \$180,000. Her appointment will be effective upon confirmation by the County Council.

Enclosures

cc: Judy Rupp, Clerk of the Council, Montgomery County Council
Richard S. Madaleno, Chief Administrative Officer
Fariba Kassiri, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Ken Hartman, Director of Strategic Partnerships
Dale Tibbitts, Special Assistant to the County Executive

APPOINTMENT

PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED TO ME UNDER SECTION 215 OF THE CHARTER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND, I HEREBY APPOINT

Christine Hong

TO SERVE AS Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness, Department of Health and Human Services.

THIS APPOINTMENT SHALL BE EFFECTIVE UPON CONFIRMATION BY THE COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND.



MARC ELRICH
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

3/7/2023

DATE



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Richard S. Madaleno
Chief Administrative Officer

MEMORANDUM

March 7, 2023

TO: Evan Glass, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Richard S. Madaleno, Chief Administrative Officer *RSM*

RE: Due Diligence on Non-Merit Appointment – Christine Hong

The purpose of this memo is to confirm that in making appointments for non-merit positions, our selection process utilizes thorough reference checks, criminal history, checks for warrants and warrants, credit history and other inquiries appropriate to the position being filled.

Please be assured that due diligence was exercised in determining the suitability of Christine Hong for appointment as Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness in the Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, Ms. Hong has filed her Financial Disclosure Statement.

cc: Judy Rupp, Clerk of the Council, Montgomery County Council
Fariba Kassiri, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Ken Hartman, Director of Strategic Partnerships
Dale Tibbitts, Special Assistant to the County Executive

Resolution: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: County Council

Subject: County Executive's Appointment of Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The County Executive's appointment of Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness in the Department of Health and Human Services

Christine Hong

The appointment of Ms. Hong is confirmed by the County Council.

This is a correct copy of Council action:

Judy Rupp
Clerk of the Council

CHRISTINE HONG

HOMELESS SERVICES LEADER



Hard-working, committed leader with 17 years of experience in homeless services and proven expertise in human services, community collaboration and advocacy. Aiming to leverage my skills to strengthen the homeless system to end homelessness in Montgomery County.

WORK EXPERIENCE

DIRECTOR OF HOMELESS SERVICES 2017 - present
Interfaith Works

- Improved the effectiveness of the County Homeless Continuum of Care by expanding emergency shelter and supportive housing at Interfaith Works to serve 1,100+ clients through 12 programs, 120 employees, and \$8.2 million in private, local and federal funding
- Executed system change at the programmatic level, including implementation of the Housing First Approach, Coordinated Entry, Diversion and Decriminalization
- Swiftly expanded emergency shelter at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic through government and community partnerships; and led a large department operating 24/7 at multiple congregate shelter and housing locations, keeping the rate of infection below 2%
- Led and won competitions for the County-funded Interfaith Works Women's Center and HUD-funded Interfaith Homes and Lon's House
- Raised awareness amongst the County Council about housing discrimination in Montgomery County and collaboratively advocated for the drafting of the Housing Justice Act, passed in 2021

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOMELESS SERVICES 2012 - 2017
Interfaith Works

- Improved cohesion and effectiveness of a large department using horizontal and vertical team building amongst every level of management and front-facing staff
- Improved professionalism and skill-level of staff by implementing department-wide trainings in communication, boundaries, cultural competence, racial equity, and trauma-informed care
- Led and won competitive County bid for Interfaith Works Residences, which now houses the most vulnerable individuals in the system
- Led a diverse team of multilingual staff and enrolled thousands of low-income Montgomery County households in health insurance through the Affordable Care Act from 2013 to 2014

PROGRAM MANAGER & CASE MANAGER 2007 - 2012
Interfaith Works Becky's House

- Implemented a new model of intensive case management and coordination of care that has been replicated due to its effectiveness in ensuring highly vulnerable residents maintain housing and improve stability

SHELTER SUPPORT STAFF 2005 - 2007
Interfaith Works Women's Center

- Provided around the clock support to women at the shelter ensuring their safety and that their basic needs were met

EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, BIOLOGY | University of Maryland

College Park, MD

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK | University of Maryland

Baltimore, MD

CERTIFICATION

LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER - CLINICAL | State of Maryland

SKILLS

Human Service Leadership

Collaboration & Team Building

Community Engagement & Advocacy

System Change & Strategic Planning

Racial Equity & Cultural Competence

Ethical Social Work Practice

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BUILT FOR ZERO COLLABORATIVE

Washington, DC | 2017

Community Solutions

LEADERSHIP MONTGOMERY CORE PROGRAM

Montgomery County, MD | 2019 - 2020

Leadership Montgomery

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

OPERATIONS/SYSTEM COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Montgomery County, MD | 2015 - present

Interagency Commission on Homelessness

RACIAL EQUITY COMMITTEE

Montgomery County, MD | 2019 - present

Interagency Commission on Homelessness

STRATEGY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Montgomery County, MD | 2020 - present

Interagency Commission on Homelessness

DECRIMINALIZATION WORK GROUP

Montgomery County | 2019 - 2020

Interagency Commission on Homelessness



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Richard S. Madaleno
Chief Administrative Officer

February 13, 2023

Christine Hong

Dear Ms. Hong,

I am pleased to offer you the position Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness in the Department of Health and Human Services for Montgomery County Government. The salary offered for this position is \$180,000, plus benefits. The benefits are summarized in the enclosed document.

I look forward to your acceptance of this employment offer. Note, your appointment is subject to confirmation by the County Council and is a non-merit, at will position. If you have any questions about this offer, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Madaleno
Chief Administrative Officer

Accept

Not Accept

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com
Christine Hong
Key: c45f048-30f9-4496-844a-e48924048003

02-14-2023

Signature

Date