



Montgomery County Family Justice Center

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

SPOTLIGHT FEATURE:

Welcome
Back, 2
Lieutenant
Robin Lewis!

Meet the New
FJC Intern 2
from UMBC
Stefanny
Aramayo

New On-Site
Partners at the 3
FJC

Violence Does
Not Equal 3
Strength

It's Not Too
Late To 4
Register for
the 5th Annual
MCFJC
Foundation
Benefit!

Contributors:

Stefanny Aramayo
Daryl Leach
Resa Levy
Robin Lewis
Tom Manion

From the Desk of J. Thomas Manger, Chief of Police

Most of the residents of Montgomery County are likely unaware of how fortunate they are to live in a place that has the resources and capabilities of our Family Justice Center (FJC). In fact, it is not until someone needs the services that our FJC provides, that they realize what a wonderful coalition of service providers exists at their disposal. The Police Department takes great pride in being a part of this life-saving team.

In the last year, the Police Department has implemented several organizational changes. In July, 2013, the Family Crimes Division was moved to the FJC as an on-site partner. One year later, the Family Crimes Division became the Special Victims Investigations Division (SVID). This change was made in an effort to consolidate similar investigations into one division. The SVID is now assigned all investigative responsibility for rapes and sexual offenses that were previously handled by the Major Crimes Division. A newly created Sex Assault Unit within the SVID will assume investiga-

tive responsibility for all reports of rape, as well as first, second and third degree sex offenses, in which the victim is 18 years of age or older. In light of additional responsibilities, the SVID remains dedicated to domestic violence investigations and supporting the mission of the FJC. We look forward to continued work with all of our public safety partners.



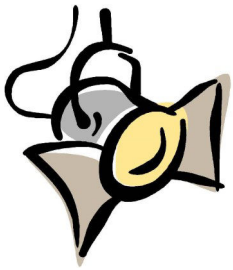
The Montgomery County Family Justice Center is centrally located in the heart of Rockville, Maryland.

Domestic violence has been in the news more than usual recently, and the National Football League (NFL) has been at the center of much of the discussion. I suppose if there is anything positive to come out of the former Baltimore Ravens Ray Rice saga, it is the renewed public awareness and discussion of domestic violence. For those who work in the domestic violence field, the video of Rice assaulting his

wife, and the subsequent clumsy actions by the NFL, serve as a stark reminder for why the Family Justice Center is so crucial to the fight against family violence.

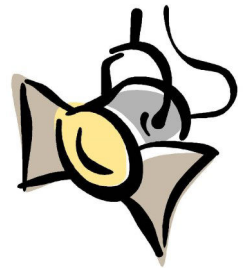
For those of us fighting the good fight every day, the photos, videos, and media reports about well-known perpetrators and victims of domestic violence are NOT necessary to spur us to action. The men and women of law enforcement are already there. The people working for and with the FJC, in fact, serve as a greater motivator for many of us. Their ability to rescue victims, provide assistance in returning stability to victims' lives, and giving hope to people who have none, keeps us all focused on our mission. Again, Montgomery County is so fortunate to have the FJC, and most of all, the highly dedicated staff of men and women who work tirelessly on behalf of domestic violence victims and their families: Keep up the life-saving work!

--
Chief Tom Manger,
Montgomery County
Police Department



**Family Justice Center
Staff Spotlight Feature:**

**Welcome Back,
Lieutenant Robin Lewis!**



Lt. Robin Lewis has been with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office for approximately 24 years. Throughout her career, she has been assigned to almost every section of the Sheriff's Office. Lt. Lewis worked in the Domestic Violence Section as a Sergeant prior to being promoted in 2012. She is happy to be returning to the Family Justice Center as a Lieutenant. She is a strong advocate of the Family Justice Center model providing a "one-stop shop" to meet the specific needs of domestic violence victims and their families.

Lt. Lewis has been a Crisis Negotiator assigned to assist the Montgomery County Police Department since January of 2005.



In 2009, the Maryland Sheriff's Association awarded Lt. Lewis an Honorable Mention award for Deputy of the Year for Valor. In 2010, she also received a Bronze medal at the Public Safety Awards Ceremony, and a medal of Commendation from the Montgomery County Police, all stemming from a 12 hour-long negotiation with a 16 year old female that wanted to commit suicide.

Lt. Lewis is once again looking forward to working in a collaborative effort with all the agencies and staff connected to the Family Justice Center, and assures that the mission to promote safety, well-being, and healing for victims of family violence is met.



**Meet the New FJC Intern from UMBC
Stefanny Aramayo**

Stefanny C. Aramayo is entering her final year as a student at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County – School of Social Work. A native of Bolivia, Stefanny has had four years of professional experience at Identity, INC. - a community-serving non-profit organization based in Gaithersburg where she worked closely with Latino youth and families. In her role as a Youth Development Counselor, she worked with her staff to provide at-risk Latino youth with the tools to promote change in their lives. This experience also afforded her the opportunity to attend several conferences and training workshops. Stefanny has obtained an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education from Montgomery College, and upon completion of her Bachelor's Degree program at UMBC, she plans on pursuing a Master's Degree in Social Work from The University of Maryland with a focus on mental health. In her free time she loves watching movies and baking.



New On-Site Partners at the FJC



The Family Justice Center is pleased to welcome two new on-site community partners: Career Catchers and the Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse (JCADA). The dedicated staff at Career Catchers have already started seeing clients, assisting them with job searches, résumé writing, connecting them with job skills training, and other important services. JCADA will be moving into their space next month, and will be providing counseling services to clients at the FJC two days per week. The FJC is thrilled to welcome its new on-site partners thanks to the Montgomery County community grants program. The presence of both JCADA and Career Catchers truly illustrates the FJC's commitment to not only keep victims safe, but also provide them a path to self-sufficiency. **WELCOME TO THE FJC!**

Violence ≠ Strength



“In sport and in life, values and attitudes are as important to winning as are strength and endurance.”

–John Thompson III, Head Coach Georgetown University

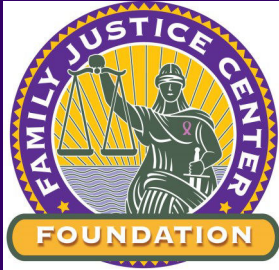
Coaches play an extremely influential role in the lives of young men, and can positively influence how they think and behave both on and off the field. Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM) is a program developed by Futures Without Violence to utilize the unique role of coaches to encourage young men to be responsible and respectful both on the field and in their personal lives. The program equips coaches to talk with their athletes about

respect for women and girls, and that violence does not equal strength.

During the 2013-2014 school year, the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC), in partnership with the Montgomery County Family Justice Center (MCFJC) Foundation and Springbrook High School Varsity Football Coach Adam Bahr, was able to bring CBIM to Springbrook High School as a pilot program. The program was a huge success and has officially become a standard part of the Springbrook football season. We are pleased to announce that Montgomery Blair High School has also implemented the program for the 2014-2015 school year. The Montgomery Blair program will be led by Patrick

Dudley, one of the coaches of the team.

The DVCC and the MCFJC Foundation believe that, in order to truly combat domestic violence, we need to stop the cycle of violence where it starts. CBIM engages young men in this process in a way that they have never been involved before. This is why the DVCC and MCFJC Foundation fully support the county-wide implementation of this program. If you would like to bring CBIM to your athletic program, or if you know someone that might be interested, please contact Donna Rismiller at DRismiller@RismillerLaw.com or Tom Manion at Thomas.Manion@montgomerycountymd.gov.



Family Justice Center Foundation News

FJC FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

- Resa Levy
Executive Director
- Thomas M. DeGonia II
President
- Maura Lynch
Vice President and
Secretary
- Dorothy Fait
Treasurer
- Marilyn Bagel
- David Belkin
- Judith Clark
- Alicia Doherty
- Catherine Leggett
- Melanie Ortel
- Jo Ann Ricchiuti
- Hannah Sassoon
- Lewis Selis
- Kristina L. Stuber

FJC FOUNDATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

- The Honorable Sha-
ron Grosfeld
- The Honorable
Constance A. Morella
- Rabbi David Rose
- The Honorable
Ida G. Ruben
- The Honorable
Duchy Trachtenberg

It's Not Too Late! Register for the 5th Annual MCFJC Foundation Benefit!



Join event Chair Catherine Leggett and hundreds of other caring folks for the 5th Annual Benefit for the Montgomery County Family Justice Center

**Sunday, October 19th from 5:00pm - 9:00pm
at the HYATT Regency Bethesda**

If you haven't already done so, you can register online at www.mcfjcfoundation.org or contact us at mcfjcfoundation.org@gmail.com

Please join us for this poignant, fun, and exciting event!

