



Make sure to check out the website, [www.mocorec.com](http://www.mocorec.com), and follow Montgomery County Recreation on [social media](#) for the latest updates from the Department.

## Department Updates

### Aquatics

*The aquatics team manages five indoor pools and seven outdoor pools. Indoor pools are open year-round, and outdoor pools are open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. All pools have accessibility features such as ADA stairs, pool lifts and zero depth entry. Whether you're looking to swim a few laps, participate in a water exercise class, take swimming lessons or just enjoy the water, MCR pools have it all.*

#### Updates:

### Business Services

*The Business Services Team contributes to the achievement of Recreation's mission of high quality, diverse and accessible programs, services, and facilities from an administrative business perspective. Services are directed toward the management and support of the department through ensuring sound business practices in the areas of budget, finance, risk management, contracts and procurement and human resources management.*

#### Updates:

#### Hiring Update:

### Capital Improvement Plans (CIP)

- KSAC Kennedy Shriver will close on June 28 for approx 27 months for a complete refresh. Working to place swim team practices in other pools in are a=by renting space to accommodate.
- Upper County Pool Slide project - "old" slide has been demolished, replacement slide under design and fabrication with install this spring.
- Holiday Park Net Zero and refresh is under way, building assessment being completed, identifying costs and project will move forward to design and request for funding. Facility will close for 18 months once project begins.
- Damascus Senior Center – Design complete, construction to begin this December. Senior programming will move to Damascus Rec Center during the 18 months of work.

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## Community Recreation Centers (Facilities)

Montgomery County Recreation has 22 Recreation Centers located throughout the County that offer a wide range of activities for children, teens and adults, and may include programs for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Activities typically include classes, workshops, clinics, drop-in programs, supervised play, sports, open gym, crafts and special events. Our centers have diverse amenities that may include fitness rooms, social halls, meeting spaces, classrooms, billiards and game rooms. We have a wide array of rooms available for your use, from social halls to meeting rooms.

### Updates:

February events at Recreation Centers include the following:

#### Cultural Heritage Concert Series

Coffield Recreation Center – Saturday, 2/10, 12pm-1pm

Plum Gar Recreation Center – Sunday, 2/18, 1pm-2pm

Long Branch Recreation Center – Wednesday, 2/21, 11am-12pm

Marilyn Praisner Recreation Center – Friday, 2/23, 6:30pm-7:30pm

#### Valentine's Day Family Ice Skating Event

White Oak Recreation Center – Friday, 2/9, 5:30pm-9:30pm

#### Senior Valentine's Day Line Dance

Marilyn Praisner Recreation Center – Wednesday, 2/14, 1pm-3pm

#### Scotland Black History Month Celebration

Scotland Recreation Center – February 24, 3pm-6pm

## Communications and Public Outreach

The Communications and Public Outreach Team manages marketing for the Department, including social media, graphics, website maintenance and advertising. This branch also includes the customer service team housed at the administrative offices in Wheaton and the community outreach specialists who attend dozens of events every month to promote recreation programs and services.

### Updates:

- Planning is underway for the Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center Grand Opening Event.
  - New web pages have been launched at [www.mocorec.com/silverspring](http://www.mocorec.com/silverspring)
- Spring Program Registration began Monday, Feb. 12. For County residents.
- MCR will launch a new podcast later this month, "Inside Recreation."

- The graphics team received and began working on 40 requests for digital graphics, flyers, posters, GUIDEs and more in January.

#### **Social Media/Newsletter Growth:**

Facebook - 15,885; +200 Followers - [Summer Camp Fair Underway at North Potomac](#) - 24 Reactions - 10.97% Engagement

Instagram - 4,505; +108 Followers - [East County Summer Camp Fair](#) - 4.56% Engagement, 31 Likes

X (Formerly Twitter) - 6,864; +122 Followers - [RecFit with the County Executive](#) - 6.9% Engagement

#### **Outreach Events:**

1/3 - ECCAB meeting  
 1/4 - Praisner Community Recreation Center Surveying  
 1/4 - Hiring Retention Event Olney Swim Center  
 1/7 - Summer Camp Fair (North Potomac)  
 1/10 - Meditation Museum at Facilities Meeting  
 1/10 - ECCAB Quality of Life Meeting  
 1/14 - Summer Camp Fair (East County)  
 1/18 - Alliance Direct Conversation Meeting  
 1/18 - MCPD Latino Liaison Committee Event Gaithersburg  
 1/18 - Up County/Gaithersburg Hub Outreach Event  
 1/18 - Upper County Community Recreation Center Surveying  
 1/22 - Holiday Park Senior Center Surveying  
 1/24 - Damascus Library Outreach Event  
 1/24 - Whetstone Family Market Outreach Event  
 1/25 - Wheaton Community Recreation Surveying  
 1/26 - Futsal Youth Development Outreach Event  
 1/29 - Navigation Case Management Report Out YD  
 1/29 - Ross Boddy Community Neighborhood Recreation Center Surveying  
 1/30 - New Hampshire ES Parent Cafe Outreach Event  
 1/30 - Bright Spot Accelerator Showcase Event  
 1/31 - Catholic Charities Gaithersburg Collaboration Meeting  
 1/31 - Holiday Park Senior Center Patron Follow-Up

**The Rec Insider** - Current number of subscribers – 35,771, +1,284 Subscribers

[January Newsletter](#)

[February Newsletter:](#)

## THE REC INSIDER



| February 2024

### Spring Program Registration Begins Monday, Feb. 12



We may be in the heart of winter, but warmer weather is right around the corner and it's time to start planning for spring registration, which will begin at 6:30 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 12, for County residents for most programs and activities.

Registration for [Bone Builders](#), [Day Trippers](#) and Senior Outdoor Adventures in Recreation ([SOAR](#)) will begin at 9 a.m. Non-County residents will be able to register for Recreation's programs beginning at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14.

Spring program offerings are tailored to a variety of interests, skill levels and ages, and include fitness, sports, visual and performing arts, therapeutic recreation and more. There are hundreds of programs available that promote an active, healthier lifestyle. Programs, and the digital GUIDE, are now viewable [online](#).

Applications are currently being accepted for Recreation's financial assistance program, [Rec Assist](#), which provides eligible County residents with \$400 per eligible family member to use toward Recreation programs and activities.

While online registration is encouraged, registration will also be available by mail, drop-off or in-person. On Feb. 12, in-person registration will be available at 6:30 a.m. at four of the County's [aquatic centers](#) (Germantown, Kennedy Shriver, Martin Luther King Jr., Olney) and at the administrative offices in [Wheaton](#).

For more information about registration, visit the [website](#) or call the customer service team at 240-777-6840.

Registration for [summer camps](#) is also currently underway at [ActiveMONTGOMERY](#). Check out our [Flickr album](#) to view photos from our summer camp fairs last month. We had hundreds of families join us at these events to learn about the wide variety of camps offered and enjoy games, crafts, music and more. Thank you for joining us!

## Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center Grand Opening Set for Feb. 24



The [Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center](#) (SSRAC) grand opening will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24, with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10 a.m. followed by an opening to the public that will include tours of the new facility from noon to 4 p.m.

Our SSRAC team is excited to show County residents the new facility, which includes a gymnasium, exercise and weight room spaces, dance studios, pools for general swimming and aquatic play, multipurpose activity rooms and more.

SSRAC is located at 1319 Apple Ave., across the street from the Cameron Street Garage (Garage 7; 8530 Cameron St, Silver Spring) and is within walking distance from the Silver Spring metro station. Free event parking for the grand opening will be available at Garage 7.

We look forward to seeing you there! [Visit the newly updated website for more information.](#)



**Join the Montgomery County Recreation Team**





Join our team in 2024! Share your passion for recreation and the community by working for Montgomery County Recreation. Open positions, part and full-time, include:

- Recreation Supervisor (Youth Development) – IRC60826
- Recreation Specialist (Youth Development) – IRC60825
- Recreation Specialist (Community Outreach) – IRC60404
- Recreation Specialist (Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion) – IRC61566
- Afterschool Program Site Director/Coordinator (Recreation Assistant VIII) – IRC59519
- Senior Nutrition Manager (Recreation Assistant VII) – IRC59358
- Program Site/Assistant Site Directors (Recreation Assistant VII) – IRC59527
- Sports and Program Support Staff (Recreation Assistant VI) – IRC59525
- Sports and Program Support (Recreation Assistant V) – IRC59524
- Sports, Front Desk and Program Support (Recreation Assistant IV) – IRC59522
- Swim Instructor (Recreation Assistant III) – IRC60068
- Lifeguard (Recreation Assistant III) – IRC60067
- Program Support Staff (Recreation Assistant II) – IRC59482
- TeenWorks (Recreation Assistant I) – IRC59560
- Program Center/Support Staff (Recreation Assistant I) – IRC59481

Search and apply for all Recreation full-time and seasonal positions with the Montgomery County Government [iRecruitment](#) system. **Make sure to keep an eye out for upcoming summer opportunities that will be available soon.**

## 55+ Winter Wellness Rec-tivities



New Years Resolutions don't have to stop now! Montgomery County Recreation is hosting a variety of wellness activities for our 55+ County residents through March at locations across the County.

From tai chi and martial arts to Zumba and stretching exercises, these free activities allow participants to learn nutrition tips, meet new friends and improve in areas such as flexibility, stamina, balance, strength and more.

Visit [ActiveMONTGOMERY](#) to learn more about these 55+ Winter Wellness programs. Have questions or need help with registration? Contact our customer service team at 240-777-6840.

## Rec Regatta Sets Sail in April



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION**

# REC REGATTA



**Saturday  
April 27  
Noon-3 p.m.**

**\$10 per boat  
All Ages Welcome**

**Register Today  
Activity**

**R01066-304**

**Join Us!**  
Make your own cardboard boat and join the race at the Olney Swim Center. Boats and paddles may only be created from clean cardboard and duct tape and must hold two people. Bottom of boat may not be covered with duct tape.

**Awards**  
Awards will be given for the fastest boat, best design, team spirit and more.

**Join Us!**

Scan to register.



**Olney Swim Center | 16605 Georgia Avenue, Olney**

**MONTGOMERYCOUNTYRECREATION** **MOCOREC** **MOCORECREATION**

**To register, visit ActiveMontgomery.org**  
240-777-6840 • Hablamos Español • [www.mocorec.com](http://www.mocorec.com)

 **MONTGOMERY COUNTY Recreation**

Montgomery County Recreation is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Please contact 240-777-6840 or [rec.inclusion@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:rec.inclusion@montgomerycountymd.gov) to request accommodations.

Showcase your creativity and join us at the Olney Swim Center for this year's Rec Regatta on Saturday, April 27 from Noon to 3 p.m. Participants will make their own cardboard boats in advance and compete to see which boat goes the fastest and survives the longest before sinking! Awards will be given for the fastest boat, best design, team spirit and more.

Boats and paddles may only be created from clean cardboard and duct tape and must hold two people. The bottom of boat may not be covered with duct tape. Boats may be a maximum width of five feet and a maximum length of seven feet. Family groups can have all ages participate in boat creation but must be 10 or older to be in the boat.

Registration is \$10 per boat and can be completed via [ActiveMONTGOMERY](#).

## Get Your Free RecFit Membership Today



RecFit passes continue to be FREE for Montgomery County residents in 2024. The [free pass](#) provides access to fully equipped fitness rooms, open gym (drop-in) activities and game rooms at any community recreation center during regularly scheduled hours.

Watch our RecFit playlist on [YouTube](#) to learn about how residents throughout the County have taken advantage of the free pass.

Residents must register for the fitness pass in-person at the [centers](#). Proof of residency (a valid photo ID with an address or a photo ID with a current utility bill) must be provided by County residents to receive the free pass. Non-County residents can purchase a pass at a price of \$20 for one month, \$80 for six months and \$150 for one year. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

If you signed up for a free pass in 2023 there is no need to get a new pass for 2024. Your pass will remain valid. In 2023, more than 100,000 RecFit passes were issued, a significant increase from past years. In 2022, there were 26,065 passes issued.

The free RecFit pass does not include access to aquatic centers. For aquatic center pass information and prices, visit the [website](#).

## **KSAC to Close for Renovations**

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION

### EUNICE KENNEDY/SARGENT SHRIVER AQUATIC CENTER

5900 Executive Boulevard, North Bethesda



## CLOSING FOR RENOVATIONS ON JUNE 28, 2024

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DGS-BDC/NeighborhoodProjects.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DGS-BDC/NeighborhoodProjects.html)



Scan the QR to  
find out more.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
**Recreation**

Hablamos Español • 240-777-6840 • [WWW.MOCOREC.COM](http://WWW.MOCOREC.COM)

Kennedy Shriver Aquatic Center (KSAC) will close on June 28, 2024, for renovations. The project, led by the County's Department of General Services (DGS) is expected to last at least two years.

[Annual passes](#) will continue to be valid at all County indoor and outdoor pools. We have indoor facilities located in Olney, Germantown and White Oak. In addition, the new Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center is scheduled



to open prior to the KSAC closure. Our seven outdoor pools are located throughout the County and are open between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

You can view DGS' progress on this project at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DGS-BDC/MMC/721503.html>.

## Upcoming Events with Montgomery County Recreation



We have a lot of great events planned at our Montgomery County Recreation facilities! Make sure to check out the full calendar on our [website](#).

- **Friday, Feb. 9, Valentine's Day Family Skate Night**, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. at White Oak Community Recreation Center
- **Friday, Feb. 9, Glow in the Dark Kickball and ZTag**, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Ross Boddy Neighborhood Recreation Center
- **Saturday, Feb. 10, Cultural Heritage Concert Series – Black History Month**, 12 – 1 p.m. at Gwendolyn E. Coffield Community Recreation Center
- **Sunday, Feb. 11, Rec 'N Resources Fair**, 1 – 4 p.m. at Montgomery Village Middle School
- **Monday, Feb. 12, Countywide Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting**, 6:30 – 8 p.m. at 2425 Reddie Drive, Wheaton

- **Wednesday, Feb. 14, Heart and Soul Line Dance – Valentine’s Day Social**, 1 – 3 p.m. at Marilyn J. Praisner Community Recreation Center
- **Sunday, Feb. 18, Cultural Heritage Concert Series – Black History Month**, 1 – 2 p.m. at Plum Gar Community Recreation Center
- **Wednesday, Feb. 21, Cultural Heritage Concert Series – Black History Month**, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Long Branch Community Recreation Center
- **Thursday, Feb. 22, Job Fair**, 6 – 8:30 p.m. at Gwendolyn E. Coffield Community Recreation Center
- **Friday, Feb. 23, Cultural Heritage Concert Series – Black History Month**, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Marilyn J. Praisner Community Recreation Center
- **Friday, Feb. 23, Glow in the Dark Kickball and ZTag**, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Ross Boddy Neighborhood Recreation Center
- **Saturday, Feb. 24, Scotland Annual Black History Event**, 3 – 6 p.m. at Bette Carol Thompson Scotland Neighborhood Recreation Center
- **Friday, March 1, County Cup Futsal Tournament Finale**

### Countywide Programming

*Countywide Programs offers essential and universally accessible recreation and leisure services to all residents across the region. Program staff generates partnerships with local small businesses and nonprofit organizations to activate key public and private spaces and to offer culturally responsive programs, activities and services such as classes, performing arts, camps, sports, workshops, therapeutic recreation, inclusion services and special events which provide a wide range of economic, health and social benefits.*

#### Updates:

- Our Winter Season has launched, currently has 12,431 enrollments in 1,250 sections. The winter season will run through end of March.

Type	As of 2/7/2024		As of 1/5/2024	
	Enrollment	Number of Sections	Enrollment	Number of Sections
Art	305	33	266	33
Cooking	23	3	27	3
CPR and First Aid	28	5	15	5
Dance	306	29	258	29
Educational	13	2	5	2
Fitness	524	40	384	40
Health and Wellness	189	13	166	13
Martial Arts	767	41	634	41
Music	143	14	133	14
Sports	7777	993	7241	976
STEAM	12	2	5	2
Therapeutic Recreation	363	25	98	19
School Break Programs	1974	44	1788	44



<b>Total</b>	<b>12431</b>	<b>1250</b>	<b>11020</b>	<b>1221</b>
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- Camp registration began on January 16, and currently has 3,351 enrollments in 281 sections. Camp season will run from mid-June to mid-August.

Type	Enrollment	Number of Sections
Arts and Crafts	265	27
Basketball	104	8
Karate - Jujitsu	29	2
Multi-Sports	762	40
Nature Outdoors Exploration and Skills	101	2
Performing Arts	145	10
Playtime and Music	165	10
Soccer	179	32
Specialty Programs	958	90
Therapeutic Recreation Programs	133	15
Volleyball	176	16
Youth Cooking	250	11
Skateboarding	44	6
Youth Development	40	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>3351</b>	<b>281</b>

- Met with MCPS Athletics to provide updates from each organization and discuss collaboration opportunities. We meet with them quarterly.
- Highlighted Shelby Swann, Recreation Specialist for National Girls and Women in Sports Day: [National Girls and Women in Sports Day - Shelby Swann, Recreation Specialist \(youtube.com\)](#)
- Sports Advisory Committee (SAC):
  - Submitted Annual Report: [Here's the 2023 Annual Report from the Sports Advisory Committee](#)
  - Members testifying on behalf of the SAC at Public Hearings:
    - Tina Won at Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget on February 6
    - Tom Cove at Joint ECON/Education & Culture Council regarding Sports and Sports Tourism on February 8

## IT /Automation Team

The IT Team administers the primary recreation management software RecTrac, branded as ActiveMONTGOMERY, that facilitates customers activity registrations, facility reservations within recreation centers, and pass membership sales. Senior members of team provide regularly scheduled training classes and training materials to more than 250 career staff and over 500 part-time staff on navigating the software system regarding the processes for conducting transactions for recreational services. Rec IT works in close collaboration with the county's Finance Department to ensure financial interfaces and reconciliations are accurately integrated and reported daily to the county's financial systems.

In addition to RecTrac the team is responsible for Recreation's IT infrastructure, hardware, and software needs for all teams and facilities within the Department from procurement through install and end-user training. REC IT ensures the Department's practices regarding use of information systems and resources comply and align to the county's Administrative Procedures and information security best practices.

**Updates:**

- 253 IT support cases were resolved in January 2024, for a total of 344 in CY24'.
- SaaS recreation management system has been successfully migrated to OpenEdge Progress12.
- CoPilot Studio for Omnichannel Customer Service Live Chat continues to be in development.
- Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatics Center IT equipment installed and online.
- 8 IT training classes provided in January for 50 Dept. Staff on VSI.

### **Senior Facilities/Programs**

*Montgomery County Recreation has many ways for independent adults, 55 and older, to stay active and healthy. Whether you are working, semi-retired, or fully retired, our eight senior centers offer many programs, activities, classes and events for you to choose from. Our centers have diverse amenities that may include fitness rooms, social halls, meeting spaces, classrooms, billiards and game rooms.*

**Updates:**

- We have partnered with Carpe Diem who received a grant from National Endowment for the Arts to run 4 months of diverse concert series at 4 locations. These concerts are intergenerational and free to the public. The purpose of the grant is to offer high quality diverse concerts to residents to increase connections, decrease isolation, and promote greater understanding and respect between generations.
  - Locations of Concerts: Coffield CRC, Plum Gar CRC, Praisner CRC, Long Branch CRC
  - February Theme: Black History Month
    - 2/10/24 at 12 noon-1PM – Coffield
    - 2/18/24 at 1-2PM – Plum Gar
    - 2/21/24 at 11am-noon – Long Branch
    - 2/23/24 at 6:30-730PM – Praisner
  - March Theme: Irish & Greek
  - April Theme: Arab & Scottish
  - May Theme: Asian/Pacific & Jewish
  - June Theme: Caribbean
- Korean New Year special lunch with the Nutrition Program at HP 2/8/24 at 12 pm
- Lunar New Year Celebration at NPSC on 2/9/24 from 1:30-3:30PM
- Chinese New Year Celebration at Wheaton on 2/12/24 from 1:30-3PM
- Valentine's Day Celebrations
  - MSSC 2/12/24 at 1PM
  - HP 2/14/24 at 1PM

- WO on 2/14/24 at 11am-1PM

## Silver Spring Recreation and Aquatic Center (SSRAC)

### Updates:

### Youth Development

*Montgomery County Recreation's Youth Development Team uses a variety of means to reach the County's diverse young people. Our recreation activities and services allow children and teens to make the most of their time outside of school.*

### Updates:

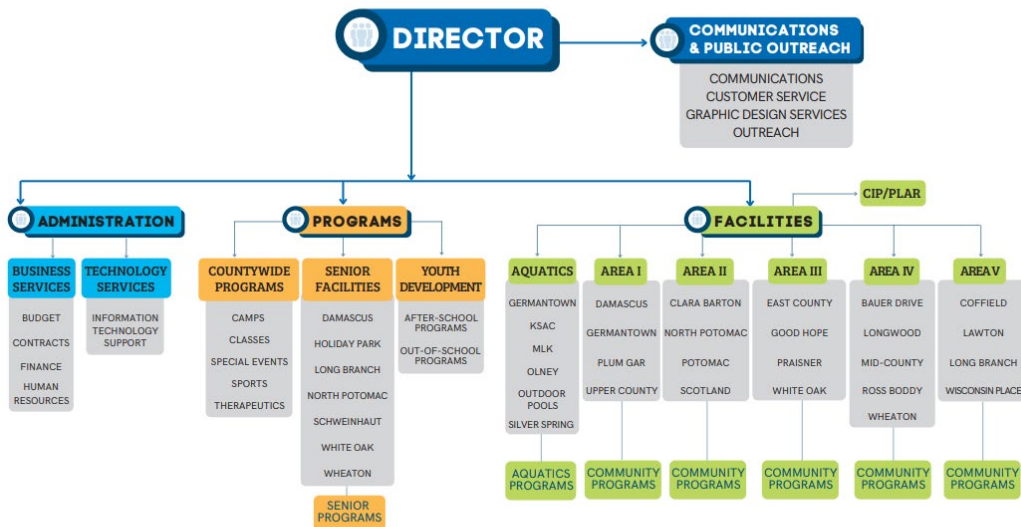
- All Youth Development afterschool programs in partnership with MCPS continue to operate at 46 locations. Current enrollment is **7186** (an increase of 765 from December) and we continue to enroll new participants weekly.
- Staffing* - Currently still recruiting and interviewing to fill 4 career vacancies within the team (2 Rec Specialists for EBBE, 1 Rec Supervisor & 1 PAA for TeenWorks)
- Special Programs* –Epic4Everyone snowboarding program launched 1/25 with 45 high school participants. Futsal programs (52 teams total) continue with attendance numbers of 300 at Wheaton CRC & 400 at Germantown CRC on Friday nights. Fashion Book Camp launched 1/26 with 61 enrolled (average attendance for two nights is 46 middle and high school participants). Teens Day Out held on 1/29 at 3 locations serving 62 middle schoolers on a trip to Main Event (Columbia, MD). Collaborating with Fire & Rescue to implement a week of activities 2/20-2/23
- Elementary Programs*- Winter programming session kicked off in January. Leleck EBBE has a team participating in the departments winter basketball league being coached by a parent (fulfilling his community service hours). They scored their first baskets in a game! New sites launched at Harriet Tubman & Watkins Mills ES with enrollment of 99 so far. Staff still onboarding new registrants and academic providers from MCPS.
- Middle Programs*- Session Two of EBBM kicked off on 1/30. RecXtra participants from Sligo MS participated in Councilmembers Town Hall at Wheaton on 1/29/24. Poms & Cheer participants at Rosa Parks MS have been performing during school basketball games. RecXtra at Takoma Park MS garden/horticulture club joined a plant sale providing the fruits and vegetables grown and harvested by students on Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> that had guests such as the principal and the mayor of Takoma Park come out to support
- High School Programs*- 17 new TeenWorks employees and 9 new Volunteers onboarded; 7 inclusion trainings held for volunteers; supported inclusion requests for Kids/Teens Day Out on 1/29 fulfilling 9 placements; 30 seasonal staff participated in the RecZone staff training held 1/5 at White Oak CRC; RecZones implemented e-scanning attendance tracking; Women & Girls in Sports day celebrated at Futsal on 2/2.

### Upcoming Events/Visit Opportunities:

- Fridays until March 1 – Futsal at Germantown CRC & Wheaton CRC 5:00-9:30/10:00pm

- Fridays until March 22 – Fashion Boot Camp at East County CRC 7:00-9:30pm
- 2/14 - RecZone at Watkins Mill HS – Etiquette Banquet (13 of 23 pairs already reserved!)
- 2/23 - EBBE Parent Engagement event at Harmony Hills
- 3/1- EBBE Parent Engagement event at JoAnn Leleck
- 3/8 - Futsal County Cup Finale at Wheaton CRC starting at 4:30pm

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION ORGANIZATION CHART



Revised August 2023