Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich Presents the 2019

MONTGOMERY
serves
Awards
honoring those who serve

Monday, April 29 ★ 6:30 pm
Imagination Stage
Bethesda, Maryland

Produced & Sponsored by

Montgomery County Volunteer Center
Montgomery County
Fund for Montgomery
Sponsored Events for 2018-2019

Sunday, October 21, 2018

COMMUNITY Service Week
October 21-28, 2018

MLK Day of Service
MLK Tribute and Celebration
Monday, January 21, 2019

For more information go to MontgomeryServes.org
Awards Program

WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS
Emcee Andrea Roane

REMARKS
County Executive Marc Elrich

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Awarded to Amy Yontef-McGrath
Presented by Cheryl Kagan, Maryland State Senator (District 17)

YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Awarded to Dhruv Pai
Presented by Shella Cherry, Coordinator of Student Leadership & Volunteers, Montgomery County Public Schools

VOLUNTEER GROUP OF THE YEAR AWARD
Awarded to Volunteers of KindWorks
Presented by Sara Love, Maryland State Delegate (District 16), and Rob Scheer, Founder of Comfort Cases

BUSINESS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Awarded to Hugo Salon
Presented by Joshua Bokee of Comcast

NEAL POTTER PATH OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Awarded to Karen Bashir and Jacquette Frazier
Presented by Margaret Foster of The Beacon Newspapers and County Councilmember Sidney Katz

ROSCOE R. NIX DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD
Award Introduction by Veretta Nix and Susan Nix-Webster
Awarded to Charlotte Coffield, Isaiah Leggett, and David Rodich
Presented by County Executive Elrich, joined by Veretta Nix, Susan Nix-Webster, and Marcus Boyd

CONCLUSION
Honorees to stage for group photo
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Program Production

ORGANIZERS

Fund for Montgomery
Montgomery County Office of Community Partnerships
Diane Vu

Montgomery County Volunteer Center
Molly Callaway and Kathleen Meaney Stobie

RECEPTION

Catering 2 You, Honest Tea

PRODUCTION

Producer Shelley Block
Stage Manager Elise Browne Hughes
Master Electrician Robert Pike, Imagination Stage
Video Production Comcast & Montgomery County Public Information Office

PHOTOGRAPHER

Clark Day

PROMOTION

The Beacon Newspapers

JUDGES OF AWARDS

Montgomery Serves Awards
Vivian Bass, Wylea Chase, Bruce Goldensohn, Jennifer Herman, Gail Nachman

Neal Potter Path of Achievement Awards
Montgomery County Commission on Aging: Miriam Kelty, Karen Maricheau, Phyllis Rand

VOLUNTEERS

Audrey Berenato, Rashida Bright, Caralyn Bushey, Sahar Fahmy, Francine Farber, Hannah Fein, Amir Grey, Lorraine Hunte, Beth Isen, Melissa Jackson, Andrea Jolly, Carley Lee, Deborah Missal, Gail Nachman, Pat Shultz, Sandy Smith, Chloe Smith, George Stobie, Shahnaz Tehraniazad, Gretchen Zekiel
Here’s to You!

WSSC toasts a glass of clear, crisp, healthy tap water to the recipients of the 2019 Montgomery Serves Awards.

Congratulations and thank you for supporting our community.

For more than 100 years WSSC has been a dedicated local partner with our schools, associations, nonprofits and “green” organizations. For more information and a list of the programs we offer, visit wsscwater.com/outreach.
For nearly four decades, Andrea Roane was a familiar face and voice bringing us the news on WUSA 9.

Before her broadcasting career, Andrea was a teacher and administrator in the New Orleans Public School System. She left the classroom to become an education reporter at the local public television station and was later hired at the CBS affiliate to report on education issues.

Andrea left her native New Orleans in 1979 for Washington, where she appeared on WETA as host/correspondent of Metro Week In Review.

In 1981, Andrea joined the Tegna-owned CBS affiliate, Channel 9. Andrea anchored every news program from morning to afternoon, late night and weekends. When she stepped away from the anchor desk in July of 2018, she was anchor of WUSA 9 News at Noon and the station’s medical reporter.

A multi-Emmy and Gracie Award winner, Andrea has covered a wealth of hard news stories, from politics, the arts, education, religion, and sports, to women’s health and empowerment issues.

In the Washington metro region, Andrea’s commitment to women’s health and community service has been recognized with countless national and local awards. She was inducted into the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Silver Circle in 2018; received the 2015 Board of Governors Award from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter; was a 2014 inductee into the DC Hall of Fame; was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters Degree from Marymount University in 2007; and was named a Washingtonian of the Year by Washingtonian Magazine in 2006.

Andrea is a lifetime member of the NAACP and the National Council of Negro Women; co-chair of the Kennedy Center’s Community Advisory Board; a member of the Capital Breast Care Center Community Advisory Council; a Trustee Emeritus of the Catholic University of America; a Dame of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta; a Sustaining Director of the Prevent Cancer Foundation; a member of the International Women’s Forum-DC; and a member of the Metropolitan DC Chapter of the Links, Incorporated.
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FIND YOUR WORLD

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April 29, 2019

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to host our 2019 Montgomery Serves Awards event to recognize the essential role that volunteers play in the success of Montgomery County and to honor some of our county’s most distinguished volunteers and community servants. Our talented and committed residents are Montgomery County’s greatest resource. We have so many who have contributed so much to make our community the special place it is today. It is a privilege for me to be able to present Charlotte Coffield, Ike Leggett, and David Rodich with the Roscoe R. Nix Distinguished Community Leadership Award. This award honors an advocate who helped build a foundation of equity and educational excellence for our modern Montgomery County.

The Nix Award is our county’s equivalent to the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian award. This award honors those who, over the course of their distinguished lives of service and community leadership, have substantially improved the quality of our community. The community builders who receive this award will stand as role models for future generations.

The Neal Potter Path of Achievement Award honors two county residents 60 years old or better for their lifetime of volunteerism. This year’s winners, Karen Bashir and Jacquette Frazier, exemplify Neal Potter’s belief in the power of giving back through service. are this year’s winners. I am also delighted to celebrate Amy Yontef-McGrath, Dhruv Pai, KindWorks, and Hugo Salon, the Montgomery Serves Award winners for the service they gave this past year.

My thanks to those who have worked so hard to make this event a great success – all of you who nominated people for the awards, selected the winners, sponsored the event by supporting the Fund of Montgomery, and came out tonight to celebrate our county’s proud tradition of volunteer community service.

And my very special thanks go to Molly Callaway and Kathleen Meaney Stobie of our Volunteer Center, and to Shelley Block of the Fund of Montgomery. They were supported by The Beacon Newspapers, Comcast, the Montgomery County Commission on Aging, Michael Bruen of the Montgomery County Public Information Office, the Montgomery County Office of Community Partnerships, Text Design, and many others. Imagination Stage and Andrea Roane make this event wonderful each year!

With Appreciation,

Marc Elrich
Montgomery County Executive
And thanks to our many other generous donors who have helped support the work of the Fund for Montgomery

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Montgomery County Office of Community Partnerships
Montgomery County Volunteer Center
Montgomery County Office of Public Information

MontgomeryServes.org
Dear Honored Guests:

The Fund for Montgomery (FFM) is proud to sponsor this unique event for an exceptional group of award winners at the Eighth Annual Montgomery Serves Awards. With the support from our great partners, we are truly proud to help recognize the amazing community service our honorees exemplify.

Then-County Executive Ike Leggett, working with the Office of Community Partnerships and the Greater Washington Community Foundation, launched the Fund for Montgomery in 2011. Our organization makes it strategically possible for community-minded businesses, foundations, and individuals to focus their generosity on important community-building events, like this evening.

In addition to the Montgomery Serves Awards, the Fund for Montgomery sponsors other county events that trumpet volunteerism, diversity, and community engagement. The largest of these events are:

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE** - A “Day of Service” for thousands of Montgomery County residents at public venues throughout the county. Volunteers participate in projects that commemorate Dr. King’s teachings.

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION** - This annual tribute celebrates Dr. King’s life through musical and dance performances, dramatic readings, and awards. It is performed at the world-renowned Music Center at Strathmore.

**WORLD OF MONTGOMERY FESTIVAL** - This event celebrates the diverse cultural heritages in Montgomery County through music and artists, food and craft vendors, information booths, and hands-on cultural activities.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE WEEK** - This county event, more than 30 years old, is a great way for our nonprofits to engage the community in large, one-day, critically important volunteer projects. It provides potential volunteers the opportunity to experience community service and inspirationally find organizations where they can “volunteer here at home.”

The Fund for Montgomery wishes to continue to support these important community events and others in the planning stage. We greatly appreciate your active support moving forward.

Sincerely,
The Fund for Montgomery
We power dreams in our communities™

Comcast salutes the honorees of Montgomery County who proudly serve our community!
When Amy Yontef-McGrath was 49 years old, she did not take her good life for granted. At almost 50 years old, she saw herself at a mid-life crossroad: as her children prepared to leave home, how would she spend her time? Amy could have taken her new life in many different directions but, instead, she had an unusual “lightbulb moment.”

What if, rather than returning to old passions, she found new ones? A longtime resident of Montgomery County, Amy believed those passions could be discovered by helping others. So she launched a challenge for herself: participate in 50 diverse public service projects before her 50th birthday. She created a website to record her story, and she pledged to blog about each volunteer activity. The culmination of her service would be a three-day, 50-mile walk honoring six charitable organizations. Amy named her campaign “Follow Me to Fifty.”

From August 2017 to August 2018, Amy completed 50 unique volunteer experiences logging over 1,000 hours of service. As the foundation of her Follow Me to Fifty campaign, Amy targeted charities that served people in need, environmental and disaster relief efforts, health and fitness causes, and government organizations and political issues. Sometimes she would spend 40 hours a week at one organization, other weeks she would volunteer for multiple nonprofits.

Amy’s goal to serve people in need was easily fulfilled in Montgomery County. The list of organizations that benefited from Amy’s involvement is long, and includes nonprofits such as Gaithersburg HELP, A Wider Circle, Habitat for Humanity, Bread for the City, Comfort Cases, Main Street Rockville, Mission Clear Water, and the Montgomery County Council Grant Advisory Group.

Amy faithfully blogged about her volunteer activities and shared her “takeaways” to offer insight to each experience and highlight how others can help. Common themes such as “every act makes a difference” and stories of comfort, connection, awareness, and self-reflection were weaved into her words. Amy’s Follow Me to Fifty campaign was more than an obligation to volunteer; rather, she embraced it as an inspiration to volunteer. She now speaks to organizations about her mission, seeks to encourage others to benefit from her experience, and continues to volunteer on an ongoing basis.

While the Follow Me to Fifty project may have been born out of her own needs, Amy made an indelible mark on a wide variety of organizations, and her actions illustrate the power of one person to make a difference in the lives of others.

– Nominated by Carol Ross and Jill Spivak
CONGRATS TO THE MONTGOMERY SERVES AWARDS HONOREES AND THANKS FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY. YOUR GOOD WORK INSPIRES OTHERS TO HELP STRENGTHEN OUR REGION.

The Greater Washington Community Foundation is proud to manage the Fund for Montgomery in support of important community-building initiatives.

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Congratulations to all the 2019 Awardees

Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?

— Martin Luther King, Jr.
At age 14, Dhruv Pai has already established an impressive record as a volunteer. Currently a freshman in the Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science Magnet program at Montgomery Blair High School, he has been volunteering in the community since elementary school. However, 2018 was a banner year for this young man.

During the past summer, Dhruv found his passion and a potential career path by joining the American Red Cross Medical Volunteer program at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where he assisted in providing care for patients who were wounded, ill, and injured from global conflicts. He also worked with elderly veterans with Alzheimer’s disease. Being exposed to the practice of medicine and cutting edge clinical research, and having one-to-one experiences with patients, sparked Dhruv’s interest in pursuing a medical career. For his service at Walter Reed, Dhruv was awarded the Congressional Award-Silver Certificate.

Dhruv’s summer also included volunteering at the Kid Museum in Bethesda, where he tutored elementary and middle school students in science and coding. In addition, he participated in the Democracy Summer political fellowship program, assisting with canvassing, phone banking, online organizing efforts, and volunteering at fundraisers.

When the current school year began, he and a teammate designed a website/app to connect middle- and high-school students in Montgomery County with organizations that need volunteers. This won the Congressional App Challenge award in Maryland District 6. The app will be displayed in the US Capitol Building and House of Representatives website through 2019, and he will receive special recognition at the House of Code Event at the US Capitol on May 9, 2019.

With two of his classmates, Dhruv has been developing a social innovation venture: K-ring, a smart tracking ring to help connect caregivers with wandering patients with dementia. The innovators were invited to pitch their product in March at the Diamond Challenge for High School Entrepreneurs.

Dhruv’s compassionate nature does not stop with helping humans. He and a friend have started a nonprofit organization that delivers used blankets and towels to local animal shelters.

Dhruv has earned the respect and gratitude of those for whom and with whom he serves: his Walter Reed family, his students at the Kid Museum, neighborhood elderly residents, and his peers at various nonprofit organizations. His dedication to volunteering sets a strong example to young people and helps create positive change in our community.

— Nominated by Mia Wolfson
Congratulations to all of the winners of the Montgomery Serves Awards and thank you to all the thousands of amazing volunteers in Montgomery County!

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- Everyone!

Learn more at MontgomeryServes.org
In a time when kindness matters most, who better to honor with a Montgomery Serves Award than a kindworker? KindWorks is a vital, energized, and pragmatic nonprofit comprised of over 1,600 volunteers (a.k.a. kindworkers) that has been serving the needs of Montgomery County since 2008. Formerly known as Mover Moms, KindWorks links community members to activities that support tolerance, poverty, hunger, the environment, and other community needs. KindWorks makes it easy and convenient for people to incorporate public service into their lives by providing more than 20 meaningful volunteer opportunities a month. Volunteers can serve one-time only; however, most choose to serve on an ongoing and regular basis. Its community approach to volunteerism fosters collaboration, inspiration, and cross-cultural understandings that result in a long-lasting impact on all who serve.

In 2018, volunteers supported 22 nonprofits and governmental agencies to serve 7,300 community members in a myriad of ways. Some of the projects included providing and/or serving over 3,000 meals at homeless shelters; supporting 600 shelter residents in life-improvement programs; donating games, crafts, and sports equipment for 2,500 low-income children in summer programs; spending over 90 hours with over 1,000 incarcerated clients to assist in job readiness and other supportive services; maintaining an Adopt-A-Road; and setting up and furnishing 25 apartments for newly arriving legal refugee families.

KindWorks believes that everyone has something of value to share with others and that when inspired to action, the entire community benefits. The dual issues of people who have unmet needs and those who feel alienated from the larger community come together in a group of caregivers that is KindWorks. Simply put, KindWorks builds community through service.

KindWorks was recognized nationally by the Brees Dream Foundation’s Super Service Challenge and locally by the Potomac Chamber of Commerce, which named KindWorks “Nonprofit Business of the Year.” The Jim and Carol Trawick Foundation has affirmed KindWorks’ value, impact, and potential by awarding the organization two years of office space in a collaborative nonprofit environment.

Kindworkers bring dignity to those they serve and respond to community needs in a practical way. Becoming a Kindworker opens doors to diverse people, organizations, and cultures that greatly improve the quality of life for those who serve as well as for those being served.

– Nominated by Andra Eig, Julie Garel, Amy Yontef-McGrath
Verizon transforms how people, businesses and things connect with each other.

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Hugo Salon

A quote on Hugo Salon’s website states, “We are dedicated to constant improvement, embrace change and promise to discover new and better ways to put you, our clients, first. Because we never forget – you make us look good.”

In 2018, Hugo Salon put these words into action for a special group of clients. In a conversation with a client who worked at Easterseals DC MD VA, owner Toni Kim mentioned that she was interested in getting her business more involved in the community, but had not found the right opportunity.

Elizabeth Barnes, senior director of adult and senior services at Easterseals, was happy to oblige! She gave Toni a tour of the organization’s Adult Day Services program in Silver Spring, which provides daily care and supervision for adult clients. The program offers enrichment activities, medical oversight, engagement, meals, and transportation to some of the county’s most vulnerable, including those with intellectual or physical disabilities, Alzheimer’s disease, dementia, and mental illness.

Toni decided that there was a role that Hugo Salon could play. Each month, she would offer 12 participants free services at the salon for a shampoo, cut, and style by skilled, professional stylists. Hugo Salon’s stylists began volunteering their services in June 2018. There have been over 62 Easterseals clients who have participated from June through December 2018, and the volunteer service continues.

To most of us, getting a shampoo and hair cut seems a minor event. Yet it has greater meaning for people when they begin to lose their autonomy and depend on caregivers. For individuals who often have limited opportunities to make decisions in their lives, this is a way to make choices about their haircuts and styles. Adult Day Care participants have huge smiles as they receive head massages and are even happier when they see the final result!

Hugo Salon’s involvement with Easterseals has motivated the business to go even further. To make the salon experience more accommodating to persons with disabilities, Toni Kim is working with Volunteers for Medical Engineering to develop an adaptive chair that would be more comfortable and convenient – not just for Easterseals clients, but for others as well.

This volunteer service is extraordinary because it is so simple, yet has a meaningful impact on people with special needs. Hugo Salon proves that it’s possible for a small business to be trendy, hip, and committed to helping others.

– Nominated by Elizabeth Barnes
CONGRATULATIONS
to the deserving honorees

Your contributions to our community’s continued growth, your commitment to supporting those in need, and your extraordinary leadership are an inspiration to all.

Charlotte Coffield, Ike Leggett, David Rodich
Recipients of the 2019 Roscoe R. Nix Award

Karen Bashir and Jacquette Frazier
Recipients of the Neal Potter Path of Achievement Award

Amy Yontef-McGrath, Dhruv Pai, KindWorks, Hugo Salon
Recipients of the Volunteer of the Year Award

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Congratulations
TO THE MONTGOMERY SERVES AWARD WINNERS

STRATHMORE SUPPORTS FUND FOR MONTGOMERY

STRATHMORE
Neal Potter Path of Achievement Award

The Neal Potter Path of Achievement Award each year honors two county residents 60 years old or better whose accomplishments, enthusiasm, and lifelong commitment to volunteer service make them outstanding role models for those of all ages. The Path of Achievement Award was established by then-County Executive Doug Duncan in 1998. In 2009, then-County Executive Ike Leggett named the award to honor the extraordinary lifetime of achievement of former County Executive and County Councilmember Neal Potter. The award has been co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Commission on Aging and The Beacon Newspapers. The 2019 honorees were selected by a panel organized by the Commission on Aging.

About Neal Potter

Neal Potter was a model public citizen. Raised on a dairy farm near Cabin John and trained as an economist, Potter dedicated his life to serving others from both a global and local perspective. In the 1940s, he was present at the meeting that launched the World Federalist Association. In the 1950s and 1960s, he was active in a wide variety of civic activities in Montgomery County. He organized the Citizens’ Committee for Fair Taxation and served as president of the Citizens’ Planning Association. In five terms as a member of the Montgomery County Council (1970-1990 and 1994-98) and one term as our County Executive (1990-94), he focused on fiscal responsibility and sound land-use planning. Neal Potter began his distinguished quarter of a century of county government service at the age of 55. He died in 2008 at the age of 93. In naming the Path of Achievement Award to honor Potter’s extraordinary lifetime of achievement, Ike Leggett noted, “He was a model public servant who always exhibited the highest personal integrity.”

PAST WINNERS

1998 Donna Dorros, Charles Pritchard, Vernetta Reynolds, Murray Stein, William Tait
1999 Nina Clarke, Margaret Coleman, John Harvil, Richard Kelly, Kermit Mohn
2000 George Cohen, Ellis Klioze, B. Eugene Neal, Lolo Sarnoff, Donald Torr
2001 Martin Galvin, Adrienne Lees, Helen McCarron, Herman Meyersburg, Lois Sullivan
2002 Helen Bowman, Doris Day, Francis Farrow, Horace Saunders, William Wellington
2003 Ling Cheung, Betty Lichtenstein, Maryrose Rogolsky, Patricia Zannie
2004 Anne Elward, Austin Heyman, Pearl Isenberg, Kenneth Putkovich, Rosalie Silverberg
2005 Irene Booth Coleman, William H. Graham, Margaret McRory, Robert Silberg, Lowell & Betty Tripp
2006 Nguyen Minh Chau, Marilyn D’Antuono, Marian Fox, Theodore “Ted” Hannah, Mary “Fl” Hill
2007 Helen Abrahams, Chester Kneller, Karen Montgomery, Eloise Strand, Sammie Young
2008 Ruth Emerson, John Lopes, John G. Miers, Irene Spector, Joann Woodson
2009 Virginia “Ginny” Gilbert, Msgr. Ralph Kuehner, Robert Mabie,
Rev. Samuel Myers aka Jim Dandy, Dorothy Nelson
2012 Tufail Ahmad, Ruby Rubens
2013 Marcine Goodloe, Joyce Siegel
2014 Joe Howard, Mona Negm
2015 Jean Brady, Karin Wilson
2016 Gene Counihan, Sarah Gotbaum
2017 Miriam Kelty, Marilyn Simmonds
2018 Sharyn R. Duffin, Chih-Hsiang Li
Neal Potter Path of Achievement Award

Karen Bashir

Karen Bashir has made significant contributions to Montgomery County and its residents through a variety of volunteer endeavors. She was one of the founders and past president of the Montgomery County Project Prom/Graduation, known as “Post Prom,” having served in that capacity for 22 years, from 1992 to 2015. Karen continues to serve as a board member. The “Post Prom” group keeps over 12,000 high school students safe and alive during the prom season, working in cooperation with the Montgomery County Police Department. Over 30 public and private schools participate in this effort by organizing alcohol-free and drug-free activities during these high-risk nights.

Karen has served on the Maryland Board for the Protection & Advocacy for Persons with Mental Illness and the Montgomery County Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council. She has been on the Board of Governors of Montgomery College and is a board member of Social Welfare Activities (SWA), a local nonprofit organization that helps those who are seeking to further their education and their economic situation as they work to become more self-sufficient economically and contribute in a positive way to their communities. SWA funds college scholarships for needy overseas students and has sponsored local high school students to attend the Maryland Leadership Workshop on the Eastern Shore. SWA also helps refugees pursue better jobs and higher education.

As a volunteer at the Muslim Community Center (MCC) in Silver Spring, Karen has played many roles, including PTSA president, nurse at the MCC Clinic, director of the Sunday English Program, and advisor of the Refugee English Program. This program places volunteer English language tutors in the homes of local area refugees from Sudan, Afghanistan, and the Middle East for weekly English lessons. Currently over 50 tutors from a variety of faith backgrounds are helping newly settled refugees learn English.

Karen collaborates with other faith-based groups in the area who also serve refugees, such as the Montgomery County Interfaith Refugee Resettlement Neighbors, Good Neighbors Capitol Hill, SWA, and Solutions in Hometown Connections.

Karen retired three years ago from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) where she supported Extramural Activities in five different NIH agencies over a period of 22 years. She is also a former public school teacher, having taught for seven years at Wheaton High School, Watkins Mill High School, and Banneker Middle School in Montgomery County as well as at schools in New Jersey and Colorado.

As a dedicated volunteer and advocate, Karen has helped improve the lives of Montgomery County residents of all ages and backgrounds.

– Nominated by Tanzila Sheikh
Jacquette (Jackie) Frazier is the very definition of selflessness. She has demonstrated time and again that service and dedication to community are the two pillars upon which she stands. After suffering a stroke, Jackie decided that her life’s mission would be to give back to the community and she is doing just that.

As a long-time volunteer at Essex House, an affordable living community in Takoma Park, Jackie is one of its leading voices. Among other things, she coordinates monthly food distribution to seniors and people with disabilities. During the holiday season, she runs the turkey distribution project. As a board member of the Senior Village, Jackie hosts monthly meetings to engage seniors through social events and develops programs that address senior needs in Takoma Park, such as transportation and consumer protection. Jackie assists with after-school programs and helps organize back-to-school events at Essex house to provide kids with backpacks and school supplies.

Jacqueline has been a facilitator for Racial Equity meetings and a board member for “What’s My Bias,” two initiatives led by council members, local businesses, and community stakeholders seeking to create an equitable system where immigrant families and people of color living in Takoma Park gain better access to community resources. Jackie also leads the City of Takoma Park’s annual MLK Event, which engages Essex House and Takoma Park youth for a day of service.

Because many children in her community receive free meals at school, Jackie was concerned about their nutritional needs (and their learning retention) during the summer. In 2013, she founded Lunch and Learn, a free day camp that provides breakfast and lunch to campers, along with reading, math, arts enrichment, and sports activities. Jackie decided to include swimming lessons in the program due to the large number of children in the community who lacked life-saving skills.

Over the last six years, Lunch and Learn has grown from 30 youth to nearly 200. In 2018, Jackie was instrumental in ensuring that approximately 45 Essex House youth in grades 1-8 were provided six weeks of summer camp. The program also has employed eight Essex House residents (including youth) over the years, providing first time employment, further employment, and professional development opportunities. In 2019, the camp will be offered in partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools for the first time.

Jacquette Frazier is an effective liaison between Takoma Park residents and the larger community. She is universally loved by a diverse group of youth, parents, and seniors. While an injury has slowed her down this year, her work has inspired others to take up the mantle of leadership and service.

– Nominated by Seble Seyoum

Neal Potter Path of Achievement Award

Jacquette Frazier
Montgomery County Muslim Foundation (MCMF) is non-Profit 501 (C) (3) tax-exempt organization. MCMF strives to encourage & promote the resident Muslim’s community’s involvement by engaging in community service projects that assist the needy regardless of faith, race, gender or social background.

**MCMF Vision:** Create a hunger-free and hate-free society.

**MCMF Mission Statement**
Undertake initiatives and programs to feed the hungry and homeless, help the needy among us to live a better life, take care of the needs of senior citizens and youth, and interact with other communities and faiths to promote a congenial living environment for all.

**MCMF Programs:**

**Food Program**
Food Drive / Food Pantry / Feed the Homeless
Thanksgiving Gift Basket / Christmas Holiday Gift Basket
Fresh Meat Distribution

**Senior Program**
Senior Transportation Services
Senior Exercise / Senior Social Hour
Nature Walk / Field Trip

**Youth Empowerment Program**
Life Skill Development / Professional & Career Development

**Refugee Aid Program**
Our heartfelt congratulations to all the

Montgomery Serves Award honorees

for their extraordinary volunteerism and leadership in Montgomery County. Their commitment to enriching our community is inspiring.

~ Mikel and David Blair ~
VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION
The Roscoe R. Nix Distinguished Community Leadership Award is presented by the County Executive to individuals who, over the course of their lives, have made extraordinary contributions to the quality of our community at the very highest levels of excellence. This prestigious award was established by then-County Executive Ike Leggett to honor community icon Roscoe Nix, who gave a half century of service to Montgomery County. First presented in 2012, the Nix Award is the county’s equivalent of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the local version of the nation’s highest civilian award.

**About Roscoe R. Nix**

Roscoe R. Nix, a champion of civil rights, was one of the major architects of modern Montgomery County. Born in Greenville, Ala., Nix served in the U.S. Army during World War II and graduated from Howard University. He and his wife Emma moved here in 1968 with their two children. Professionally, Nix was a peacemaker who traveled the nation on behalf of the Justice Department’s Community Relations Service to help resolve conflicts in communities experiencing civil unrest. At home in Montgomery County, he was the county’s leading advocate for equity and justice. A staunch critic of de facto school segregation, Nix became the second African American elected to the Montgomery County Board of Education in 1974. As the president of the county’s chapter of the NAACP from 1980 to 1990, he was a fearless and tireless advocate for educational excellence and social, economic, and political justice. The county’s annual African American Festival of Academic Excellence, which celebrates the academic achievements of African American students, is among his proudest accomplishments. He was inducted into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame in 2001. He died at the age of 90 in January 2012.

**Past Winners**

2012  Roscoe R. Nix, Charles “Chuck” Lyons, Connie Morella
2013  Odessa Shannon, Carol Trawick, Teresa Rios Wright
2014  Reverend Leon Grant, Dr. Michael Lin, Nancy Scull
2015  Jennie Forehand, Inez Zeigler McAee, Tom Perez
2016  Vivian Bass, DeLawrence Beard, Gustavo Torres
2017  Mark Bergel, Sol Graham, Vivien Hsueh
2018  Tufail Ahmad, Brian Frosh, Linda Plummer
Roscoe R. Nix  
**Distinguished Community Leadership Award**

**CHARLOTTE COFFIELD**

Activist and advocate Charlotte Coffield serves as a shining example of what one person can do to make the world a better place.

A lifelong, third generation resident of the Lyttonsville community in Silver Spring, Charlotte Coffield began her education in the segregated two-room Linden Elementary School. As president of the Lyttonsville Community Civic Association, Dr. Coffield has been a leader on historic preservation, transportation, land use, and planning issues.

Over the years, she has been involved in numerous community activities, including Head Start, the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board, the Rosemary Hills Community School Council, and the Gwendolyn Coffield Community Center Seniors Advisory Committee. Charlotte Coffield retired from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Rehabilitation Services Administration, in 1995. During her years of federal service, she served in a variety of positions ranging from secretary to acting chief of the Deafness and Communicative Disorders Branch. She was the first and only sign language interpreter in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for many years.

A nationally recognized expert on interpreter training programs, her work was national in scope and involved contacts with Congress, federal and state agencies, and consumer organizations to improve delivery of services for people who are deaf or communicatively impaired. Dr. Coffield received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Gallaudet University for 43 years of service to the deaf community.

In naming Charlotte Coffield as a recipient of the Roscoe R. Nix Distinguished Community Leadership Award, County Executive Marc Elrich said: “Charlotte has been an important voice to preserve the history of black people in Montgomery County. And she has also been an advocate for her community throughout the decades – for all her neighbors. Charlotte continued to treat her neighbors as an extended family even as the neighborhood began to evolve and integrate. Charlotte has been an outstanding example of a person who saw the potential for Montgomery County to grow into a larger and inclusive family. Her work has tied the past and the present together, reminding us both of what we were but also what we can be. Her warmth and compassion have infused her work on behalf of the entire community.”
Ike Leggett was raised in a small-town in Louisiana and grew up as the seventh of 12 children. From his roots in the hardscrabble poverty of then-segregated Louisiana, Mr. Leggett has built a record of public service marked by conviction to principle, leadership, and a willingness to take on tough fights and make hard choices.

He holds four higher education degrees, including a Juris Doctorate degree from Howard University and a Master of Laws from George Washington University. A decorated military veteran, Mr. Leggett served as a captain in the army during the Vietnam conflict. After service, he became an administrative aide for Rep. Parren Mitchell, worked as a Social Security Administration claims examiner, served as staff attorney for the Department of the Navy, and taught at Howard University Law School. In 1977, he was selected as a White House Fellow under President Jimmy Carter.

Ike Leggett finished a 12-year tenure as the county’s top official at the end of 2018. Before his three terms as County Executive, Mr. Leggett served on the County Council for 16 years – after becoming the first African American elected to the Council in 1986 – and as the chairman of the Maryland Democratic Party for two years. He served as president of the County Executives of America and as president of the Maryland Association of Counties.

Together, he and his wife Catherine are continuing the Leggett legacy by championing initiatives and supporting charitable organizations that work to improve the quality of life in the county, especially focusing on students reaching for higher education.

In naming Ike Leggett as a recipient of the Roscoe R. Nix Distinguished Community Leadership Award, County Executive Marc Elrich said: “Ike Leggett has left a large imprint on our county. His reputation for listening and accessibility, as well as common sense, no doubt paved his way to political success. His years as County Executive were marked by successfully navigating the worst economic upheaval of our time while maintaining his commitment to the social fabric of our county. His definition of community is large. In the face of more people wanting to be brought to the table, he chose to enlarge the table rather than limit the seating. For that and so much more, Ike has earned the respect and gratitude of all Montgomery County residents.”
Roscoe R. Nix
Distinguished Community Leadership Award

DAVID RODICH

David Rodich’s career as an advocate for workers began in Los Angeles in 1975, working with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) as a volunteer and later as a healthcare organizer. He became the national public sector organizing director for SEIU in 1988, and from 1998 until his retirement this past January, served as the executive director of SEIU Local 500. Under his leadership, this Montgomery County-based union more than doubled its size; won the first-ever collective bargaining rights for in-home childcare providers; and united the voices of over 80% of the adjunct faculty at major universities and colleges throughout Maryland and Washington, D.C.

As a local leader, Mr. Rodich has worked to align interests between school system employees across unions and the school board, resulting in benefit and compensation levels that are among the highest in the state.

Internationally, he has worked with the Solidarity Center of the AFL-CIO, where he provided strategic guidance and support to independent trade union movements in the emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe and Asia.

David Rodich currently serves as the chair of Committee for Montgomery, an organization that unites business, labor, nonprofit organizations, and the education community in advocating for the county’s interests in Annapolis. He remains passionate and committed to making Montgomery County a united community, where economic opportunity and social and economic justice are rights accessible to all residents.

In naming David Rodich as a recipient of the Roscoe R. Nix Distinguished Community Leadership Award, County Executive Marc Elrich said: “David Rodich has been involved in the movement for social justice and labor for more than four decades. He has been a union leader who recognizes that work for social justice extends beyond the work place. While much of his work involved organizing workers, he understood that the broader struggles for social justice involved advocating for education, for civil rights, and for economic rights outside of his union. He brought people together and helped them realize the common vision and the need to understand the larger struggle. If we were mobilizing around a social justice issue, we could always count on David to stand with us and to bring others to the fight. He’s an example of what it means to be a champion of the people.”
Congratulations & Thank You to Our Impressive 2019 Nominees!

Choosing our winners was not at all easy. We are grateful for the many impressive nominations and appreciate those who volunteer to make Montgomery County an even better place to live, work, play, raise a family and retire!

Nominators 2019


Nominees 2019

We’re proud to support the Montgomery Serves Awards hosted by the Fund for Montgomery and join in honoring those who work to make a difference in the communities we serve.