



NEWSLETTER September 2020

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SAVE THE DATE FOR MKHC's VIRTUAL CHECK-UP



Help Kaseman Health Clinic
Improve Health Disparities



about the event, including ticket information and sponsorship opportunities, see the Reach website's [Event Page](#).

For more information about sponsorship opportunities, or other ways to be involved in this event, please contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172.



HOLIDAY GIVING IS APPROACHING & REACH NEEDS YOUR HELP

Helping our vulnerable neighbors during the Winter holidays has been part of Reach's DNA for many years. As a member of Montgomery County's Holiday Giving Coalition, and with generous donations from partners, in 2019 Reach provided more than 250 Thanksgiving dinner baskets. For December, we distributed toys, gift cards, and dinner baskets to almost 200 families. For a full

picture of the Reach Holiday Giving Project and how supporters help, check the Reach website's [Holiday Giving](#) page.

The number of Rockville and Montgomery County families requesting help this year is expected to be much higher than in previous years. At the same time supporters may find it much more challenging to donate as they did in 2019. Many groups collect donations during school or faith services and then create meal baskets. During COVID, collecting and filling may also be a much more complicated process.



Reach is invested in serving at least as many families this year, and we recognize that doing so will take ingenuity and creativity, as well as the dedication of our partners. We are planning distribution events that will provide social distancing for those who receive, those who give, volunteers, and staff. Discussions about how to purchase items and fill baskets so it is easier for our partners, are also underway. If your organization wants to help this year, and wants to discuss ways to do so, please contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172 as soon as possible. Although it may feel like these holidays are far in the future, they are approaching fast. Reach wants to soon provide Montgomery County with the number of families our donors will help us support this year.

Thanks again to the many supporters like Landon School, Holton Arms, St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Early Cassidy & Schilling LLC, Rockville Chamber of Commerce, Stein Sperling et al, and Envision Health Chiropractic that have continuously participated with donations and volunteers. There are so many others that have supported Holiday Giving over the past decades that they are too numerous to share here. Reach hopes with creativity, all who want to support this project will be able to do so easily even in these complicated times. Thank you again for your support of our most vulnerable neighbors!

TWO NEW FACES AT MKHC

MKHC welcomed two new staff. After six years, MKHC Nurse Practitioner Nancy Hartman is leaving the Clinic for a position in a private practice. The Clinic will miss her, and appreciates the work Nancy has done in acclimating our new Nurse Practitioner, Leslie Boylan to the Clinic.



Leslie recently moved back to the area after many years of work in both clinical care and education. She has seen patients of all ages in clinics and private practice, urgent care, student health, and rehabilitation. In addition to authoring much peer-reviewed research articles, Leslie has volunteered on boards, with the American Red Cross, and on a medical reserves corps to name a few. Please welcome Leslie to MKHC. Patients and staff are already enjoying having her on board!

As Leslie joins the medical side of MKHC, the staff welcomes Carmen Lezema to the administrative side. Carmen is the new Clinic Manager, and is working closely with ED Agnes Saenz to assure that all support services are provided to patient and medical staff alike. Some may remember meeting Carmen at the MKHC 10th anniversary celebration last Fall when she partnered with the community and community clinics in her

position with Adventist HealthCare. Carmen was well-known to many of the MKHC staff due to that relationship and getting to work with her fulltime for the benefit of MKHC patients is a wonderful opportunity. Carmen has a business administration degree and experience, has also volunteered extensively, and is fluent in both Spanish and English. Her work with the Stanford Diabetes Self-Management Program will be especially useful when MKHC opens the planned Diabetes Clinic.



Please say hello if you run into either Leslie or Carmen at MKHC or out and about in Rockville and Montgomery County.

For more information about MKHC, see the [MKHC](#) section of the Reach website.

CITIZENSHIP FEE & LANGUAGE OUTREACH PROGRAM

Reach's Language Outreach Program (LOP) offers a Citizenship Test Preparedness class every winter and summer. The class is intense, with students committing to attend classes 36 hours of evening classes over six weeks. This summer 15 students completed this intensive class (via virtual technology). Additionally, LOP Director Cecilia Rojas helps both students and other community members complete the complex Citizenship application, spending many hours with applicants.

Last year, the U.S. Citizenship and Application Service announced its intent to increase the fees for many immigration services, one of which was

U.S. Citizenship application fee. The service was required to ask for public feedback and consider that information before a final determination was made. Then COVID-19 closures began and all in-person interviews and visits to U.S.C.I.S. were halted. Now, however, the increased fees are taking effect

. All U.S. Citizenship applications postmarked after October 2nd (this Friday) will require a payment of the new fee - **increased from \$640 to \$1170**. Substantial increases are also taking place for other fees. The application fee for suspension of deportation is increasing by 535%. Fee waiver for most low-income applicants is also being eliminated. Here is the [link](#) to the final rule and fee schedule.



Now for some good LOP news: 1. As virtual experiences have become so prevalent, LOP determined it was time to add a computer course to its offerings. This summer, one of the Conversation classes focused on skills using phones, tablets, laptops and desktops for email, Zoom meetings, learning online, and more. 2. 150 potential ESL students took virtual placement tests for fall classes and these tests included both verbal responses in real time as well as written responses that were emailed. 3. LOP is offering both a standard semester of classes as well as a condensed semester with more classes per week over 10 weeks. 4. Child Tutors are assisting 40 children with learning through online connection. Some of the creative ideas and tools that are being used to continue learning through the pandemic are expected to be used even when we return to in person teaching. This will provide even better learning experiences for our students and mean the program can reach even more members of our community for whom learning English can be life changing.

HOW TO VOTE IN MD IN THE GENERAL ELECTION

On Tuesday, November 3rd, U.S. Citizens age 18 and older will have the opportunity to vote. Cast a ballot for U.S. President, Congress, county & local positions, and choose responses to questions at the state and county level. COVID concerns have changed some of the usual voting procedures. Here is some information for residents of Montgomery County who choose to vote (and Reach strongly requests that all who have this right and privilege do so):

- Register to vote (by Oct. 13), update voter information or confirm you are a registered voter [here](#).
- Residents can vote at any polling location on November 3rd, not just at the polling location for their address.
- There will be many fewer places to vote on November 3rd than usual.
- Residents can vote early (between Oct. 26 and Nov. 2) at 11 locations throughout the county.
- For a complete list of all early voting locations and Election Day polling places, see [Montgomery County Elections](#).
- All residents can request and receive a Mail in Ballot - but they must request the ballot by returning a copy of the request received in the mail in early September or by requesting one no later than October 20 [here](#).
- Mail-in ballots may be returned by US Mail or at Ballot Drop-off boxes. Here is the list of Drop-off box [locations](#).
- Find a calendar of all important dates related to elections [here](#).
- Get nonpartisan information about the General election ballot, candidates, and questions from the League of Women Voters [here](#).



COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN NOW OPEN FOR 2021

Federal employees can give to many of their favorite charities with a one-time or recurring donation through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Each autumn, many federal departments hold rallies, contests, tabling events, and more to let their staffers know about the CFC. Managed by the United Way, the CFC offers federal staff a simple way to make donations directly from their paycheck.

Community Reach of Montgomery County participates in the CFC. Our CFC code is 34303. Find us by searching Community Reach of Montgomery County, CFC 34303, EIN 520910334, or through various key words on the [CFC Charity List](#). For more information about CFC, go [here](#). This year's campaign looks a bit different due to the restrictions of COVID so we will not be able to see you at your place of work as in previous years. This year's campaign is scheduled to end January 15, 2021.

For Reach supporters who want to donate through the United Way of the National Capital Area, please use our United Way #8420. For other ways to donate, please go to [CMRocks.org](#) or contact Director of Development, [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172. Thanks for considering Reach, or our programs [Rockville](#)

[Emergency Assistance Program \(REAP\)](#), [Senior Reach](#), [Housing](#), [Language Outreach Program](#), or [Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic](#) for your philanthropy.



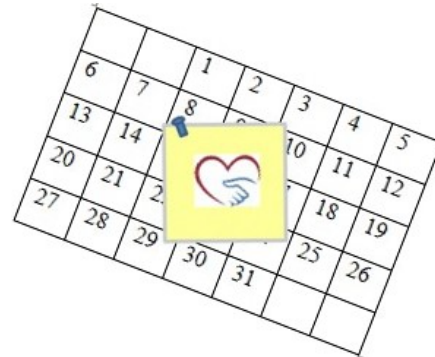
Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, November 14, 2020 6:30p.m. - 7:45p.m.

MKHC's VIRTUAL CHECK-UP

Online at Zoom

[Register](#)



Sunday, November 22, 2020 12:00p.m - 4:00p.m.

THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION

TBD - within City of Rockville

For Montgomery County families needing assistance, register before October 24 through Reach staff, MCPS school counselors, other Montgomery County case managers, or Montgomery County 311 information line.

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

STAY CONNECTED - LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO ASSIST WITH COVID TESTING ON SATURDAYS THROUGH DECEMBER - more information will be posted on Reach social media, Reach website, and the Montgomery County Volunteer Center in the next few weeks.

CLIENT INTAKE COORDINATORS for Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP). Are you a compassionate, detail-oriented person with a desire to help those in need? Work a four-hour shift weekly during business hours (ideally from 9am-1pm or 1pm-5pm) to help us assist Rockville residents facing eviction; provide County residents with referrals for low-cost dental, vision and other services; and much more. Training is provided.

YARD CLEAN-UP for Senior Reach Program. Senior clients would like individuals or groups to mow their lawns as needed, trim bushes, pick up yard debris, or collect leaves. Other senior residents have requested assistance with a one-time landscaping task. Contact Andrea to discuss the opportunities available.

TRANSLATORS at the Kaseman Health Clinic are needed for four-hour shifts once each week between the hours of 9am and 5pm. Openings currently on Monday afternoon, Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday. Help us ensure that our providers and patients can communicate clearly. Confidentiality is required.

HELP WITH MKHC CELEBRATION through serving on the Event Committee, sharing skills in video, graphics, stage productions, online meetings, connections to local celebrities, etc.

DONATIONS REQUESTED:

For Kaseman Health Clinic:

C-Fold Paper Towels, Paper Towels,
Hand Sanitizer, Antibacterial Hand Soap,
Trash Bags, Disinfecting Wipes,
Scouring Powder, Window Cleaner, Facial Tissue,
Bleach, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Dishwashing Liquid

For Holiday Giving Project:

See full Thanksgiving list [here](#)

See full December list [here](#)



For more information about these opportunities and others, please visit our [Volunteer Page](#) or contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#) at 301-637-0172.

Thanks to Our Reach Board of Directors!

Board Chair Paul Love, Vice Chair Judy Ackerman, Secretary Rae Pearl Canizares,

Lou Kallas, Rouzanna Oganissian, Suzanne Rotbert, and Nancy Sushinsky

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Ex-Officio Donna Perry, Chair, Kaseman Health Clinic Board, *Ex-Officio* Jody Eccleston, Treasurer

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DONATE TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY

STAY CONNECTED:



Community Reach of Montgomery County
1010 Grandin Ave #A1, Rockville MD 20851
301/637-0730 | Info@CMRocks.org | CMRocks.org



Community Reach of Montgomery County, 1010 Grandin Ave, #A1, Rockville, MD 20851

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