



Community Reach  
of Montgomery County

**NEWSLETTER May 2021**



***Happy Mother's Day!***

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## **LANGUAGE OUTREACH PROGRAM GRADUATION**

Celebrate the students of Reach's Language Outreach Program (LOP) on Friday evening, June 18th. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend.

For the second year, this annual event will be held virtually. For the first time, sponsorship opportunities are being offered (see opportunities [HERE](#)). LOP is facing a \$30,000 shortfall in expenses versus pledged funding for the 2021-22 academic year. Sponsor funds will be used to lessen the shortfall and avoid a cut in services.

The celebration will be held through a Zoom webinar and will include messages from students, teachers, teacher assistants, Montgomery County and City of Rockville VIPs, and more. Certificates are being mailed to the students since they will not be able to walk across the stage. As they did last year, many students will provide photos of themselves with their certificates to be shown during the program. Seeing the students dressed up and celebrating their accomplishments in this way was very moving at last year's ceremony and is expected to be so again this year. LOP staff are working on interesting and innovative ways to make the event interactive so students feel the power and pride of the community in their accomplishments.

Registration before Friday, June 18th is required to be admitted to the ceremony. To attend, register [HERE](#). Information and the sponsorship form can be found [HERE](#). Please contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172 with sponsorship questions and [Cecilia Rojas](#), 301-251-2136 with questions about the ceremony. Additional information about the event is available on the [Events](#) page of the CMRocks.org website.



## REACH VOLUNTEER RECEIVES THE NEAL POTTER PATH OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Each year, Montgomery County honors two residents with the Neal Potter Path of Achievement Award. The description of this award is "recognizing exemplary lifetime service by those age 60 and up." This year, a dedicated Reach volunteer, Nancy Aldous, is receiving this prestigious award.

Although the County usually holds the Montgomery Serves Awards, to publicly recognize the Neal Potter winners and other special County volunteers, this year, like 2020, the event will be held virtually. The date is to be determined.



Nancy has volunteered with Reach in many ways for about a decade. Until COVID moved ESOL classes online, Nancy was serving as a teacher's assistant. She also volunteered at almost every Reach event, organized pieces of Holiday Giving, helped program directors with administrative tasks, and so much more. For a full picture of Nancy's work and the

many areas where she has made a real difference, please see the Montgomery County Volunteer Center [website](#). While there, take a look at the other volunteers who are being honored, especially Theresa Testoni who is receiving the Volunteer of the Year award. Theresa spoke at a Reach Volunteer Appreciation event a few years ago when she served on the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism.

If you see Nancy or Theresa, please thank them for their service.

## A VOLUNTEER STORY



I am Andrea Shandell and I have lived in Montgomery County since 1983. I am a lawyer and teacher. My husband and I have two adult children and one grandson. I like walking, hiking and bike riding. I am studying at Montgomery College to get a certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

I am volunteering with the Language Outreach Program (LOP) as a teacher's assistant. I want to help adult speakers of other languages to be able to communicate effectively in English when they need English for school, work, shopping, services or other interactions. I also hope my work with Reach may be a small part of making the world better.

By volunteering with LOP, I am learning good skills and methods to teach English to speakers of other languages. I also think I benefit by meeting new people, including people who may be different from me. I think LOP students benefit from the warm and accessible classes through which they can improve their English.

Learn more about volunteer opportunities with Reach [HERE](#).

## KASEMAN HEALTH CLINIC COVID SERVICE UPDATES

In late April, Reach's Kaseman Health Clinic (MKHC) began offering COVID-19 vaccines to both Clinic patients and all other Montgomery County residents who are eligible to be vaccinated. Appointments are required and can be made by calling MKHC at 301-917-6800 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Vaccination appointments are offered for Thursday afternoons.



MKHC continues to hold drive-up COVID-19 testing on Saturdays at Rockville United Methodist Church and on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at Rockville United Church.

There will be **no testing over Memorial Day weekend**, May 29-31. Currently testing will continue through June, when the Clinic, with Montgomery County and the other partner organizations of Por Nuestra Salud y Bienestar, will decide whether the number of COVID-19 testing sites should be reduced. Montgomery County continues to urge residents who have been exposed to COVID or have COVID-19 symptoms to get tested.

For more COVID-19 service and vaccine information, visit the Reach website [Home Page](#).



## STAY TUNED FOR AN INVITATION FOR A SPECIAL CONVERSATION



Reach's Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP) is working with Healthcare Initiative Foundation (HIF) and the Greater Washington Community Foundation to create a conversation focused on proactive pandemic responses and addressing systemic inequities.

Through a grant from HIF, REAP is able to offer rent, utility, and other emergency assistance to residents throughout Montgomery County. HIF is committed to advancing a healthy community and does that by investing not only in health initiatives, but in the social and economic issues that play a large role in health disparities in Montgomery County. The Greater Washington Community Foundation provides funding for communities, nonprofits, and systems change to solve problems and change lives. Reach is honored to be included in this very important conversation and encourages our partners, supporters, and all constituents to attend this virtual conversation on Tuesday, June 22 at 10:00 a.m. More details available soon!

Find more information about Healthcare Initiative Foundation [here](#), and about Greater Washington Community Foundation [here](#).

### Mark Your Calendar!

**Friday, June 18, 2021 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

#### **LOP GRADUATION CEREMONY**

Virtual - Zoom Webinar

Register at the Reach Events webpage

**Tuesday, June 22, 2021 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

#### **CONVERSATION ON PROACTIVE PANDEMIC RESPONSES & ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC INEQUITIES**

Virtual - More Information available soon - watch the Reach [homepage](#) & social media

**Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

#### **COVID-19 TESTING**

Rockville United Methodist Church

112 West Montgomery Ave., Rockville

**NO TESTING ON SATURDAY, MAY 29**

**1st & 3rd Sundays 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

#### **COVID-19 TESTING**

Rockville United Church

355 Linthicum Street, Rockville



## **SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**JOIN A REACH COMMITTEE** - Development, Finance, Faith Advisory, and Governance currently all meet online as standing committees. Help determine the success of Reach through your service. Short term committees also need new members. We will soon be assembling a committee to plan the MKHC fundraiser scheduled for late October 2021.

**WRITER/EDITOR/INVESTIGATOR** to help build out our procedures manual for a few departments and programs that are not yet completed. Interview staff to determine how tasks are accomplished and who is responsible for what. Help staff document their work processes in layman's terms and then put it in writing for them.

**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 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.) to help us assist Rockville residents facing eviction; provide County residents with referrals for low-cost dental and other services; and much more. Training is provided. Volunteers may also be able to assist remotely by collecting information from callers and providing basic answers.

**INTERPRETERS** at the Kaseman Health Clinic are needed for four-hour shifts once each week between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Help us ensure that our providers and patients can communicate clearly. Confidentiality is required.

### **DONATIONS REQUESTED:**

#### **For Kaseman Health Clinic & Housing Program:**

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



**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!**

Chair Paul Love, Vice Chair Judy Ackerman,  
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**DONATE TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY**

**STAY CONNECTED**



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