



Community Reach  
*of Montgomery County*

## NEWSLETTER July 2020

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## **REACH VOLUNTEER SELECTED FOR NEAL POTTER AWARD**



Every year, Montgomery County holds the Montgomery Serves Awards to honor the work of volunteers in the community. In addition to the Volunteer of the Year award in Youth, Individual, Group and Business categories, two older individuals are awarded the Neal Potter Path of Achievement award. Neal Potter was a vocal volunteer and advocate of civic issues before serving as a Montgomery County Councilmember and County Executive in the 1970s - 1990s.

Nancy Aldous, who has volunteered with Reach for close to a decade, was nominated by Reach and received the Neal Potter Path of Achievement award this year. Most recently, Nancy has volunteered as a teacher's assistant in Reach's Language Outreach Program. Additionally, Nancy has volunteered at numerous Reach events - Taste of Rockville, Galas, Clinic fundraisers, Holiday Giving, Client Holiday Parties, and even the annual Volunteer Appreciation celebration. Nancy's volunteerism did not start with Reach. She has worked to make Montgomery County a better place through advocacy as well as direct service. Among her other work has been advocating for libraries and against drunk driving, and serving on committees making recommendations about Up-County development. She has worked directly with participants at Damascus Help, The Dwelling Place, and many other organizations.

The Montgomery Serves Awards usually takes place in late Spring at Imagination Stage. However, due to COVID, the event is presented this year as a video production that was released on July 22. The public can view the entire event at [Montgomery Serves Awards](#). The Neal Potter Award presentation begins at about the 27 minute mark.

When Nancy was informed that she would be receiving this award, she laughed. First, Nancy seems to always be surprised when anyone recognizes that her volunteerism is unusual and extraordinary. Second, Nancy served with Neal Potter on at least one committee. Sometimes they agreed on issues and sometimes they were on very opposite sides. Therefore, Nancy found it truly amusing to receive an award named after her sometimes-colleague and sometimes-opponent.

Reach wants to offer congratulations to all the award recipients this year, and in previous years. In addition to Nancy Aldous, two other 2021 award recipients have ties to Reach. Theresa Testoni, Individual Volunteer of the Year winner, has donated and wrapped toys for Holiday Giving, and was a keynote speaker for a Reach Volunteer Appreciation event. The Group Volunteer of the Year, Montgomery County Muslim Foundation, is a partner in the Montgomery County Holiday Giving Coalition and the Montgomery County Food Council alongside Reach.

Volunteers are a very important part of the Reach organization. Without the work of volunteers, Reach and other non-profits would not be able to fulfill our missions. For more information about volunteering at Reach, see our [Volunteer webpage](#).

## SAVE THE DATE FOR MKHC FALL EVENT

On Thursday evening, October 28th, the Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic will hold its second virtual celebration. Each fall, the Clinic Board offers a celebration to raise awareness and funds for the work of the Clinic. Although vaccinations have helped slow the spread of COVID, the Clinic Board decided offering a virtual, rather than in-person, event again this year would offer a level of comfort and access to a broader audience.



This year's event will highlight trust - that which is given to Kaseman Health Clinic by patients, and that shared by the Clinic and partner organizations which provide complementary services.

Please save the date and look for additional information in the Reach August newsletter. For information about sponsorship opportunities, contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172 or check the [Events page](#) of the Reach website in mid-August.

## SENIOR REACH PROGRAM STRIVES TO MEET INDIVIDUAL CLIENT NEEDS

The Senior Reach Program offers clients two distinct types of service - weekly homecare services that may provide light housekeeping and some personal hygiene assistance, and projects that



update, replace, or add physical safety changes for homes in which clients own and reside. Some client requests do not fall neatly into either bucket.

Ms. C is extremely intelligent, and keeps updated on politics and civic issues at all levels (international, national, and local). A lifetime of memories and mementos share her apartment, and she handles them with care. Although Ms. C can no longer perform the periodic deep cleaning her apartment needs, she prefers to complete weekly housekeeping chores herself. Therefore, Ms. C

receives periodic deep cleaning services through Reach. Her belongings mean so much to her and she takes such care with them herself, that she is delighted that the same team of cleaners show up for each deep cleaning. Ms. C has developed confidence in that team. She knows they will be very careful and respectful in handling her keepsakes. She feels comfortable requesting the deep cleanings and feels no anxiety when the appointment is scheduled.

Reach and staff understand that helping clients is not only about making sure they are physically safe, but that they also feel emotionally safe, respected, and understood.

For more information about the Senior Reach Program, click [here](#).

## A UNIQUE REQUEST FOR A VOLUNTEER

Reach's Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP) intake coordinators would like to be able to easily search for all assistance that might be available to REAP clients through government programs. Current programs, what each offers, and eligibility requirements are constantly changing. Keeping up with these changes can be a fulltime job. REAP coordinators would like to be able to use a search engine that does the work of matching real-time opportunities with specific REAP client characteristics.



If any Reach constituent knows of such a search vehicle, staff and volunteers ask that information be shared by emailing [AndreaKWink@CMRocks.org](mailto:AndreaKWink@CMRocks.org). If there is currently no such vehicle but creating one is possible, staff would like to find a volunteer to do so.

The availability of such a search engine would offer coordinators the opportunity to help clients more easily narrow where they should apply, help them apply, or discuss options for developing stronger financial stability. If finding assistance to meet their family's immediate basic needs did not require so much time and energy, clients could redirect that time and energy to imagine, make and execute plans to become more self-sufficient.

The vision is an electronic fillable form with multiple choice responses for a set of client characteristics (immigration status, number in household, annual income, zip code, etc.) without personal identifiers. Submitting the completed form would generate a report with information about government programs available to people with those characteristics. If it

is possible to design such a search engine, the long-term goal would include searching additional programs available through private/non-profit organizations.

Anyone with knowledge of such a vehicle, or with an interest in creating one is asked to contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172.

## WHAT IS THE VALUE OF VOLUNTEERING?



According to "The Independent Sector," it is a lot! The latest report calculates the value of an hour of volunteer service in the U.S. as \$28.54. The value for Maryland was even higher, at \$31.29 per hour for 2020.

"The Independent Sector" calculates this number by taking the average of private sector earnings (excluding managers and farm workers) and adding 15.7% for the value of standard employee fringe benefits. The numbers used are from that reported as annual earnings estimates in the Current Employment Statistics database from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

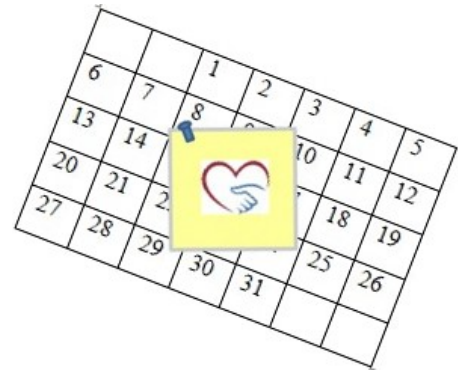
For the complete methodology used to determine the Volunteer hourly value, see [The Independent Sector](#).

## Mark Your Calendar!

**Tuesday, August 3, 2021 6:00 p.m. - ??**

### ***NATIONAL NIGHT OUT***

Mt. Calvary Baptist Church  
608 North Horners Lane, Rockville



**Thursday, October 28, 2021 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

### ***CELEBRATION OF KASEMAN HEALTH CLINIC***

Virtual Event

**Sponsorship Opportunities** available

(contact [AndreaKWink@CMRocks.org](mailto:AndreaKWink@CMRocks.org), 301-637-0172)

**Details** available mid August at [Events](#)

## SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**CREATE A SEARCH ENGINE FOR REAP** - Query vehicle that would match the characteristics of a family in need of financial assistance with federal, state and local government programs. See the article above for more detail.

**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. Service with a short term committee (like an events committee) is



also available.

**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 and other services; and much more. Training is provided. This position will be in-person beginning in September assuming there are no COVID-situational changes to work.

### **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.**

## **Community Reach of Montgomery County Board of Directors**

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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](mailto:Info@CMRocks.org) | [CMRocks.org](http://CMRocks.org)



