

January 2022

Community Reach of Montgomery County Report to Council

Reach:

Brenda Reid-Jones has resigned from the position of deputy director. The executive committee of the Reach Board are working on redefining the role and searching for appropriate candidates.

Housing:

Occupancy is stable. Occupants appreciated the gifts collected for them by RUC giving tree.

Holiday Giving Program:

Increased number served by 40 families. 0-12 year old children get gifts donated to Reach by many people from both Faith communities and businesses. 13-18 year old youth are given Gift Cards, some donated by RUC. Families could select the gifts and a food basket.

LOP:

New classes started Jan 3, 2022. Classes are full each semester. LOP is hoping for hybrid classes later in the spring.

REAP:

Busy time with families in need of a variety of support. The Healthcare Initiative provided a grant to help provide services to residents outside of the Rockville City limits.

Senior Living:

Seniors living in the Rockville housing program are still awaiting the move to a new building downtown. Volunteers can help individual seniors with packing and planning the move. Will Mohan, program director, is busy helping coordinate a smooth move for the seniors enrolled in the program.

MKHC:

Christmas Eve flooding of the clinic interrupted provision of health care. RUC has welcomed the clinic and its staff, and given the clinic refuge in the downstairs classrooms. The clinic has moved what was salvageable to the spaces and are hoping to start providing health care the second week in January. They will be using the air sanitizers from the clinic that are still working. If needed, RUC will loan them the small HEPA filter units we have purchased. The personnel and patients will be using the back doors for entry. Their janitor will be cleaning the spaces. They will be offering both Covid Testing and immunizations from Kaseman Fellowship Hall on Saturdays 10A-2PM. An MOA will be established between MKHC and RUC stating that RUC will be receiving rent from MKHC which MKHC will get from the insurance company of the business whose plumbing failed and caused the flooding.

The Clinic has been approached by Community Farm Share. It is a group of farmers who have worked with the Health Initiative Foundation to provide food to people in need. They want to connect with food insecure families. The county supported program, Food is Medicine, has been working in East County with something similar. Community Farm Share works through grants that have been awarded. They would like to work with Kaseman Clinic to identify a group of patients they could serve. By working with both programs, this may be an avenue to partner with Community Farm Share. More work will be done in 2022.