



Community Reach
of Montgomery County

Volunteer Opportunities

July 2021



STAFF OUR TABLE AT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Share information about the services Reach provides for the community, and have a great time interacting with neighbors on **Tuesday night, August 3rd**. Many communities hold events for this national event that began in 1984 to strengthen relationships between police departments and communities.

If your community is holding a National Night Out event in which you would like Reach to participate, please contact us to provide information.

Contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172 if interested in volunteering or discussing a National Night Out event.

CREATE A QUERY TO HELP OUR ROCKVILLE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (REAP)

WANTED: an IT guru to build a search engine that would identify what public

assistance might be available to a REAP client. The search would match a set of characteristics with up-to-the-minute requirements for federal, state, and local government programs. Client characteristics might include immigration status, number of people in household, annual income, zip code of residence, number and age of children, etc. Assistance could be for housing, food, childcare, healthcare, utilities, education, and more. There are many services available to help vulnerable Montgomery County residents. Keeping up with all opportunities and requirements is a full time job.

THE GOAL: Save time and frustration of clients and volunteers, and provide a comprehensive list of programs that could help a specific client. The time that would have been spent looking for opportunities could be redirected to assist clients with applying for benefits. Clients would have more time, energy, and money to work on increasing their self-sufficiency, and their value to the community as part of the tax base. Moving families out of poverty offers their children a better opportunity for a financially self-sufficient future as adults. In other words, we think this could be an effective tool toward breaking the generational cycle of poverty.

Our long-term goal would be to have a vehicle that not only queried government assistance, but also included help available through private/non-profit organizations.

THE FINAL PRODUCT: an electronic form with multiple choice responses to a series of questions. There would be no personal identifiers such as client name, social security number, exact address. Pressing "submit" would activate a query that would generate a report to include the specifics of government programs available to someone with those qualifiers. Ideally, the report would include information that would provide easy access to more information and/or application for assistance - organization, name of assistance program, short service description (i.e. financial assistance for residential water service), website/webpage, and contact information (phone number and email).

Please contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172, if interested in learning more about this opportunity.

Our Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP) helps Montgomery County residents who are facing financial emergencies and need assistance to pay for housing, utilities, prescriptions, or find no/low cost services for necessities. See [CMRocks/REAP](#) for additional information about this program.

STAY TUNED FOR AN UPCOMING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL OPPORTUNITY

Our Senior Reach Program is working with Town Center Apartments, the Rockville Senior Center, and the City of Rockville Villages Coordinator to learn what assistance senior citizens moving to a new building this fall could use to prepare for their move.

Town Center Apartments (TCA) is a Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) building with over 100 units rented by senior citizens. This fall, the building will be emptied, with most residents moving to a new building just a couple of blocks away. Movers will be provided to both pack and move residents' possessions to their new apartments. Seniors might be more comfortable with receiving help in advance of the move.

TCA is polling residents about who might want assistance in 1. organizing/going through possessions to choose whether everything will go with the resident, or what will be let go; 2. transporting items that senior would like to donate; 3. carefully packing cherished possessions rather than having movers do that work; 3. helping residents shortly after they move to re-organize furniture or items.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please EMAIL [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#) to be added to a list of people to contact if/when we have specific requests and

details. Please include basic information about when you might be available (period like "after Sept. 1," days or times, one time or ongoing), and what tasks you are most interested in providing. You will be contacted if/when a resident has requested assistance that matches your interest.

NOTE: all volunteers who work directly with clients in their homes/without continuous staff supervision must pass a background check.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

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.

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. Join a short-term event committee to plan the MKHC fundraiser that will take place virtually on Thursday, October 28, 2021.

Email to Share Volunteer Interest

Thank you for all you do to make our community a better place!

Community Reach of Montgomery County
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