



Community Reach

of Montgomery County

March 2024 Newsletter

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In-Person Teacher and Virtual Tutors Needed For LOP Spring Semester

The spring semester of LOP started March 12th, with four virtual ESL classes and two in-person classes held at Rockville community centers. Virtual conversation and computer classes are also available. [See the LOP page](#) on our website for details.

LOP urgently needs ESL teachers and online tutors for children of adult students.

- One teacher is needed for an in-person class on Tuesdays and Thursday from 7pm-9pm. This position pays \$25 an hour.
- Several tutors are needed during after-school hours to provide virtual homework help and tutoring. Hours are flexible and determined based on the individual child's need. This position pays \$15 an hour.



For more information or to apply, contact LOP Director Cecilia Rojas at crojas@cmrocks.org.

Supporter Spotlight: Rockville United Church

Rockville United Church (RUC) has been at the heart of Reach since day one. As the founder of Reach (formerly Community Ministries of Rockville), RUC has been an integral part of our organization and the work we do in the community for 57 years and supports us in myriad ways. Most notably, when the Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic (MKHC) flooded in early 2022, RUC opened its doors as



a temporary location, hosting patients and staff for eight months until the original space was renovated. MKHC could not have continued working without this generosity.

But that is far from all. RUC supports many of our programs, from donated meals and a holiday gift card fundraiser for Housing Program residents to serving as a Holiday Giving Project distribution site and more.

This month, Rockville Chorus continued a yearslong tradition of hosting a benefit concert in support of REAP. The RUC sanctuary was full to watch diverse and captivating performances by four local choruses. In total, the event raised around \$3,000 to support emergency financial assistance to county residents in need. If you'd like to contribute but weren't able to attend, donation options are available on our website.

Finance & Fitness: Workshops for Housing Residents

As they work towards self-sufficiency, residents at Jefferson and Rockland Houses take part in volunteer-led workshops to help develop life skills and improve their well-being.

Early this month, a volunteer from Truist Bank presented a workshop for residents about personal finance, including topics like budgeting, setting SMART financial goals, comparison shopping, savings accounts, and more. As a result, one Jefferson House resident who just started a new job now plans to open a savings account.



Residents have also participated in fitness workshops with Renee Moten of Heal My Knees, a functional fitness instructor. She has been coming to the houses regularly to meet with the residents, assess their current capabilities, and provide gentle stretching and mobility activities to gradually improve their overall fitness.

These workshops are a way for residents to explore possible new interests and areas of development. They give residents exposure to new topics and guidance on how to best integrate these topics into their lives. We're very grateful to the volunteers who give their time to support our residents.

Reach in Bloom: Annual Gala 2024



Get your best floral prints ready, because the theme for this year's annual gala is... Reach in Bloom! Join us for a night of food, fun, and philanthropy on Saturday evening, May 11th, at Lakewood Country Club. Catherine Leggett will again serve as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. The Gala Committee, headed by returning chair Paul Newman, has begun

planning the details of the event, which will include a cocktail hour, silent and live auctions, and more.

One of the highlights of the gala is the diverse silent auction – help us make the auction a success this year by donating like-new art, homewares, or other items to be auctioned off. Contact us at development@cmrocks.org if you have an item to donate!

Tickets are on sale and sponsorship opportunities are available! [See our event page](#) for more information. We hope you will consider supporting this event that helps raise funds for essential operational costs that allow us to continue our work in the community.

Reach in the Community

We greatly value the community partnerships that make our work possible. Here are some updates on how we've connected with the community recently:

- Senior Reach and Opportunities, Inc., an organization that promotes social engagement for intellectually disabled adults, are working together to benefit both organization's clients. Recently, they hosted a bingo night at a local senior residence (pictured). In addition to encouraging independence for the Opportunities, Inc. clients, this partnership benefits Senior Reach clients as a way to prevent social isolation and let the seniors give back to their community.
- Reach took part in the Interfaith Works Faith and Philanthropy Forum in late February. Interfaith Works heads the Emergency Assistance Coalition, of which REAP is a member. This event was a great chance for staff members to learn more about how faith communities support local nonprofits.
- Since starting at Reach, Executive Director Sarah Basehart has been meeting with valued partners and working to strengthen ties. At lunch with former ED Mansfield Kaseman, she learned about the organization's founding and history to better tell our story. She has also met with representatives from the Latino Health Initiative, M&T Bank, and Rockville United Presbyterian Church to discuss possible future collaborations.

Mark Your Calendars!

MKHC Relocation Ribbon Cutting

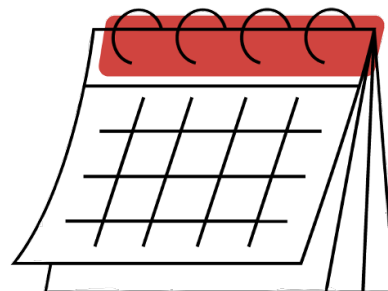
Wednesday, April 17th, 10:00am-12:00pm
9420 Key West Avenue, 4th Floor, Rockville, MD
[Clinic Relocation Campaign Webpage](#)

2024 Annual Gala

Saturday, May 11th, 6:00pm-10:00pm
Lakewood Country Club
13901 Glen Mill Rd, Rockville, MD
[2024 Annual Gala Event Page](#)

LOP Graduation Ceremony

Friday, June 21st, 7:00pm-9:00pm
Location TBD



Volunteer Opportunities

Help Housing Residents

Are you able to help with any of the following

requests?

- Teach household cleaning tips/organization skills to residents of both houses.
- Tutor a Rockland resident who wants to earn her GED. Schedule to be arranged with the resident.



Personal Assistant for Elderly Client

Reach's Housing Program seeks a personal assistant for one of its elderly residents at Jefferson House. Duties include (1) contacting healthcare providers to determine coverage by the resident's medical insurance and proximity to the House, (2) scheduling his doctors' appointments with specialists, (3) coordinating his transportation to and from medical appointments, (4) helping him keep his documents and belongings organized, and (5) coordinating his visits to Rockville Senior Center to participate in activities. The volunteer must be at least 18 years old and have reliable transportation. A background check and HIPAA training are required. Hours may vary; however, a minimum of two hours per week is required.

Contact the Development Department at development@cmrocks.org if you're able to help with these requests.

Check Out All Our Current Opportunities

Donation Requests

For the Annual Gala:

Donations of new or like-new art, housewares, jewelry, or other items to be placed in the silent auction.

New or gently used furniture for the Housing Program:

Jefferson House

- a tall dresser/cabinet for a bedroom
- high capacity stackable washer/dryer

Rockland House

- outdoor chairs for the deck
- a full-size headboard for a bedroom
- new kitchen range
- wall-to-wall carpeting
- two air purifiers
- set of pots and pans
- a 3 or 4-seater couch and loveseat
- a small desk
- a new area rug for the living room

For Kaseman Health Clinic & Housing Program:

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

A dozen new or used computer monitors, 24-28 inches and 1920 x 1080 resolution.

For more information on current needs or to donate, please contact us at development@cmrocks.org.

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DONATE TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY



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