



Community Reach

of Montgomery County

January 2023 Newsletter

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SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2023 GALA - IN PERSON!



Join Reach and returning Event Chair Paul Newman as we celebrate in person for the first time since 2019! On **Saturday, May 6**, our Annual Gala returns to Lakewood Country Club. This year's theme is "Run for the Roses Derby Celebration."

Come out in your favorite hats and bow ties, watch the Kentucky Derby, peruse the Silent Auction while sipping on mint juleps, and enjoy a lovely dinner, live auction, and entertainment. The Event Committee is already hard at work planning a spectacular event as we welcome everyone back for an opportunity to mix and mingle in the same room.

[Sponsorship opportunities](#) are available now, and individual tickets will go on sale in a few weeks. Keep up to date about the evening and sponsors at our [Reach Gala event page](#).

Interested in serving on the Event committee or volunteering to help with preparations or at the Gala itself? Please contact [Maeve Wiegand](#), Reach's Development Coordinator.

ANOTHER HOUSING RESIDENT STRIKES OUT ON HIS OWN

In January, another resident who had lived at Jefferson House for a number of years was able to move into his own apartment. “Mr. J” was thrilled to have a home of his own again. As someone who loves to tinker and rebuild furniture and bikes that have seen better days, he looks forward to having extra available space to do just that.



Not sharing a refrigerator, pantry space, or a bathroom with roommates is a wonderful feeling, as is never having to compromise about what TV program to watch or what activity to do in the living room. Although “Mr. J” will miss the roommates with whom he became close, he looks forward to inviting them to visit in his new home.

“Mr. J” was also very grateful for the welcome basket of items and supplies he received to help him settle in his new home. The basket was a donation from the Montgomery County, MD section of NCNW. The basket did indeed help him feel more welcome and at home in his new space, he reported.

[Learn more about Reach’s Housing Program](#), which includes the Jefferson House for men and Rockland House for women.

ANNUAL REAP BENEFIT ON MARCH 5



Celebrate the work of Reach’s Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP) at the annual fundraising concert given by Rockville Chorus. Attend the concert virtually or in person on **Sunday, March 5th at 4:00 p.m. –6:00 p.m.** at Rockville United Church.

Attendees are encouraged to give a free-will donation to support REAP and its work in preventing community members from eviction, loss of utilities, or lack of access to necessary prescriptions.

The church has strict capacity restrictions, so most of the evening’s performances will be recordings that were specially made for the event. The participating choruses include the Heart of Maryland Chorus, Takoma Park Singers, VC6 Philippines, Rockville United Church Sanctuary Choir, and the Rockville Chorus.

[Reserve your spot](#) to attend in person or on Zoom. Registration is required to attend virtually and preferred for in person. Walk-in attendees will be welcome if space allows.

SENIOR REACH PROGRAM OPENS SPACES

In March 2020, most of the Senior Reach clients who received homecare assistance asked to pause these services over concerns about COVID-19. As infections surged last winter and vaccine recommendations changed frequently throughout 2022, some clients again paused services or continued to place homecare on hold.



As a result of normal client attrition and our policy to hold spaces for clients who paused service, the number of people receiving homecare assistance dropped significantly during the first half of 2022.

Last Spring, as more seniors resumed pre-COVID activities, Senior Reach was able to re-examine the number of spaces that should be held for previous clients and identify availability for new individuals. The program manager reconnected with other community organizations that Reach had worked with in the past to let them know we had openings available to help lower-income seniors residing in the City of Rockville.

Although most of the open spaces have been claimed, the Senior Reach Program has the capacity to assist a few additional seniors with homecare services. Visit our [Senior Reach Program page](#) for more information about eligibility and the services provided or contact Will Mohan, the Program Manager, at WMohan@CMRocks.org for more information about the openings, or to refer someone to the program.

More volunteer opportunities to interact with our Senior Reach clients are also once again available. Groups that are interested in organizing a weekday lunch and game event for seniors at one of the local apartment complexes, or individuals who would like to interact socially or help with landscaping for Senior Reach clients should reach out to Maeve Wiegand, Development Coordinator, at MWiegand@CMRocks.org.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR LOP'S SPRING SEMESTER



Registration for the Language Outreach Program's (LOP) Spring semester of ESOL and conversation classes is now open. All ESOL classes are virtual. For now, conversation classes are virtual, but hybrid classes are planned for later in the spring at two community centers in Rockville. The hybrid classes will include both students attending in the classroom and students attending via Zoom. More

information about these classes will be available after February 15 at Lincoln Park Community Center and Twinbrook Community Center, or by contacting LOP Director, [Cecilia Rojas](#).

Placement tests for ESOL classes will be held online during the last two weeks of February. The first day for Spring classes range from March 6 through May 2, with many options for term length, class days, and time.

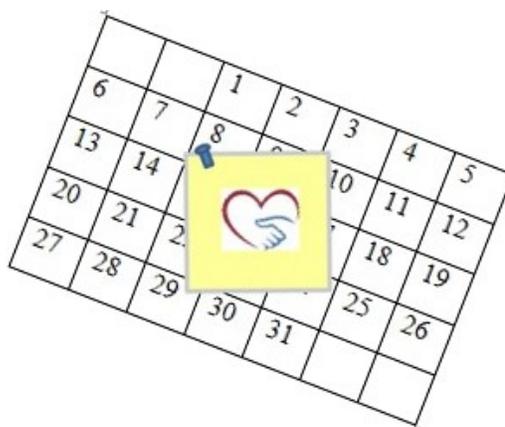
Find class schedules and the registration link on [Reach's LOP page](#). For additional

Mark Your Calendar!

Sunday, March 5 - 4:00 p.m.

ROCKVILLE CHORUS CONCERT FOR REAP

Rockville United Church & online
355 Linthicum Street, Rockville
Zoom



Monday, March 6 - 7:00 p.m.

LOP SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS

Zoom

Saturday, May 6 - 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

2023 ANNUAL GALA - RUN FOR THE ROSES DERBY CELEBRATION

Lakewood Country Club
13901 Glen Mill Road, Rockville

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

EVALUATORS FOR REACH PROGRAMS Reach programs are evaluated regularly by volunteers so the organization and the program lead can receive an objective opinion on what is working well and what improvements can be made. The pandemic put those evaluations on hold, and the organization is now searching for volunteers to evaluate three of our programs - Language Outreach Program (LOP), Senior Reach Program, and Housing Program. The work requires interviews with the program leads and others, at least one in-person visit, and the submission of a final written report. Volunteers should have an understanding of evaluations, the ability to perform research to determine best practices, and strong writing skills. Some experience in the area that is being evaluated is helpful but not necessary.

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. Gala committee is now open for volunteers to work through May.

FRIENDLY CALLERS FOR SENIOR REACH PROGRAM Make weekly phone calls to one or more clients who receive homecare services. Confirm they are pleased with the work, and keep the Senior Reach Program Manager aware of significant events in their lives (i.e. falls or illness, overnight visit with friends or relatives, changes in cognition). The client and volunteer work together to determine the best day and time for phone calls, the general length of the call, and topics to discuss.

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 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1-5 p.m.) to

help assist Rockville residents facing eviction, provide County residents with referrals for low-cost dental and other services, and much more. Training is provided.

INTERPRETERS at the Kaseman Health Clinic are needed for four-hour shifts once each week between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Help ensure 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.

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DONATE TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY

STAY CONNECTED



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