



Community Reach
of Montgomery County

NEWSLETTER August 2021

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ALL ABOUT LANGUAGE OUTREACH PROGRAM THIS FALL



The Language Outreach Program Fall semester is about to begin with classes in English as a Second Language (ESOL) at Beginner through Advanced levels, and Conversation classes. Although the program asked students who registered if they wanted to attend in person, the increase in cases of Delta Variant COVID and a current lack of interest means all classes will be virtual.

Although the number of students taking LOP classes has remained steady, fewer students live within the City of Rockville. Funding from City of Rockville government therefore decreased by about \$30,000 for the July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 fiscal year. LOP is searching for other revenue options to make up for this loss. Most students now live in unincorporated areas of Montgomery County so receiving funding from another municipality is unlikely. Reach and LOP staff are sharing this information with supporters in hopes that individuals, businesses, and faith communities will wish to support the continuation of this program in full with donations. Potential funders can get more information on the [LOP webpage](#) or contact the Reach Development Director, [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#). One can donate online at [LOP](#) or any page on the CMRocks.org website. Please note "Language Outreach Program" in the "Use this donation for" pull-down menu.

An advantage of online classes is more flexibility in class schedules. Again this semester, LOP will offer ESOL classes as a two-nights per week, full semester course. There is also shorter, ten-week course that will meet three nights per week. The full semester course will begin September 7 and meet Tuesday and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. The shorter course will meet Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. September 21

through November 30.

Conversation classes are being offered at different times of the day with a longer and shorter session available. The full Fall schedule including information about registration and placement tests can be found at [LOP](#). Contact LOP Director [Cecilia Rojas](#), 301-251-2136 with questions.

Organizations that might be interested in sponsoring or donating to LOP are encouraged to contact [Reach Development](#). Sponsor incentives can be customized to meet the needs of the organization, and their employees. LOP may be able to offer private online or in person classes, or structure Conversation courses that concentrate on words and terms specific to an industry.

WELCOMING WEEK 2021

Look for opportunities throughout our community to celebrate Welcoming Week from September 10 through September 19, 2021. This annual week-long event organized by [Welcoming America](#) was created to bring together diverse neighbors, to celebrate differences and connections. This year the national theme is **Belonging Begins with Us**. MCAEL organizes the week-long celebration with assistance from partners like Reach's Language Outreach Program. Watch for social media posts and emails highlighting events taking place throughout the community from [MCAEL](#), Gilchrist Center, Montgomery College, Reach, and others.



WELCOMING
WEEK

Building the home that connects us all includes the roof this year. Using this visual is meant to signify we are all under one roof, as well as we welcome others to our home, under our own roof. Montgomery County events will include the opportunity for community members to design shingles to be added to a "roof." As part of the celebration, Montgomery County has included a different home element each year. In 2019, Montgomery County used a door to highlight activities, and in 2020 a window was used.

Stay tuned to our social media accounts for information about activities taking place September 10th - September 19th!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE MKHC FALL EVENT, "NURTURING TRUSTED HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIPS"



On Thursday evening, October 28th, the Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic (MKHC) will hold its second virtual celebration. Each fall, the Clinic holds an annual celebration to raise awareness and funds to support its work. With the rise in COVID-19 Delta infections, the Clinic Board has decided this event, which is usually in person, will once again take place virtually.

"Nurturing Trusted Healthcare Partnerships" is the theme of this year's event. The 1 1/2 hour Zoom webinar will highlight both the trust patients have in

MKHC, and the trust shared between MKHC and partner health organizations.

Montgomery County Councilmember Gabe Albornoz returns as the very entertaining and knowledgeable Master of Ceremonies. Rockville City Councilmember Monique Ashton debuts as the strong and committed Event Chair. Expect a Live Auction, messages from our partners and patients, trivia games and much more during the October 28th virtual event.

Please save the date and look for an emailed invitation in mid-September. Sponsorships are available now (sponsor form [HERE](#)). Contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#), 301-637-0172 with questions, or find more information on the [CMRocks Events page](#).

HELP SENIORS MOVING TO A NEW APARTMENT BUILDING

A Rockville apartment building for lower-income seniors is closing and most renters will move to a new building beginning in late October 2021. A moving company will pack and move tenants. However, some seniors have asked for help packing precious items, organizing, or decluttering. Reach is advertising for volunteers to help with these tasks. Work will take place in seniors' homes. Some residents are requesting only a few hours of assistance, and some have work that might take a few days to complete.



Those interested in volunteering will be matched with residents whose needs match volunteer interests. Together, volunteer and resident will decide when the work will be done. Reach recommends work is scheduled to be completed at least a week before the expected move date. There may also be opportunities to help residents rearrange areas in their new homes a few weeks after they get settled.

Please email [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#) with questions or to be added to the list of volunteers. If interested in joining the volunteer list, please include the following in the email:

1. contact information
2. days/times you are available
3. tasks you are interested in performing
4. if responding for a group, please include all volunteer names and contact information.

Some residents who have requested assistance primarily speak Mandarin or Spanish so volunteers fluent in Mandarin or Spanish are encouraged to join the list.

Volunteer requirements

1. Must be over the age of 16 or accompanied by an adult
2. Fully vaccinated and willing to wear a mask while in the building
3. Provide information so a simple background check can be completed

This is a great opportunity to help for a couple of hours, a couple of days, or develop a new friendship. Please contact Reach as soon as possible so you may be connected with a moving senior.

Reach will also be offering group volunteer opportunities to help seniors or disabled community members with Fall leaf collection. Contact [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#).

REACH IS HIRING!



Applications are being accepted to fill a part-time, 20-hour-per-week **Grant Writer** position. Duties include researching grant opportunities, writing and submitting grant applications, and tracking grants. For all details including how to apply, see [Job Opportunities](#).

REACH AND THE BLACK & BROWN COALITION

One of the goals of the Reach Language Outreach Program (LOP) is to help the children of our students excel in school. LOP staff understand how much more difficult it is to help and support the education of a child when one does not speak English proficiently.



THE BLACK AND BROWN
COALITION FOR
EDUCATIONAL EQUITY
AND EXCELLENCE

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) commissioned a study a few years ago that determined schools with higher percentages of Black, Latino, and low-income students had less access to opportunities, support and resources, than schools with higher percentages of White and high-income students. As a result of this study, The Black and Brown Coalition for Educational Equity and Excellence was founded. Its mission, "...all students, and particularly Black and Brown students, have equitable access to the resources, opportunities and supports they need to be successful in college, career, and life" matches with the mission of Reach in supporting the most vulnerable in our community.

Reach is now a partner with this organization that primarily works to change the narrative through advocacy. Becoming a partner did not require a financial contribution. Rather, Reach agrees to advocate and share with our network the advocacy efforts that we support. Reach encourages our supporters to learn more about [The Black and Brown Coalition for Educational Equity and Excellence](#) and watch for Reach messages supporting specific efforts of the Coalition. Expect to see the Reach logo appear under the Initiative Partners in the coming days.

Mark Your Calendar!

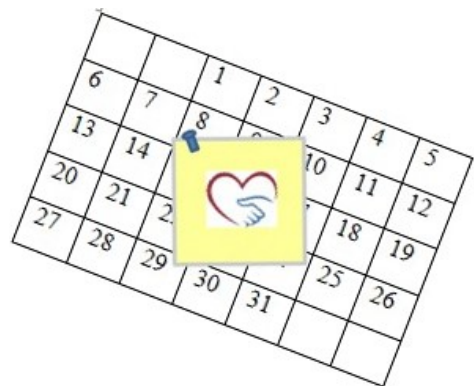
Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

WALK-IN COVID VACCINATION

Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic
8 West Middle Lane, Rockville

Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (SKIP 9/4/21)

WALK-IN COVID VACCINATION or TESTING



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

NURTURING TRUSTED HEALTHCARE PARTNERSHIPS

Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic Fall Fundraiser
Virtual - Zoom Webinar

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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.

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.

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.

INTERPRETERS at the Kaseman Health Clinic are needed for four-hour shifts once each week between the hours of 9am and 5pm. Help us ensure that our providers and patients can communicate clearly. Confidentiality is required.

GROUP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES to assist our neighbors with leaf collection and senior residents with moving (see article above).

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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