



Community Reach
of Montgomery County

NEWSLETTER January 2022

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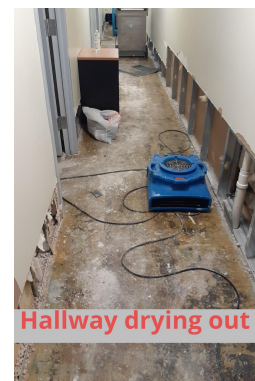
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**HAPPY NEW YEAR
2022!**

KASEMAN HEALTH CLINIC IN A TEMPORARY LOCATION

Christmas provided a surprise at the Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic (MKHC). Construction was taking place in a business located on the top floor of the building where MKHC is located. Overnight, an undetected broken pipe sent gallons of water through the ceiling and down the walls of the Clinic offices, exam rooms, lab, and storage areas. Damage was complete, not only making the Clinic itself unsafe for staff to work or see patients. The water also destroyed much of the equipment and furniture. The Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP), co-located at MKHC, was also flooded and is unusable.



Hallway drying out

Restoration of 8 West Middle Lane is not expected to be completed until at least April. Until

then, Rockville United Church (RUC) is providing a temporary location for MKHC patients to be seen. All phones are being forwarded so patients are receiving personal attention when they call 301-917-6800. Primary care and pulmonology appointments are taking place in the classrooms on the bottom level of the church. As the RUC space is substantially smaller than that of the permanent Clinic, all other specialty care and laboratory services will be on hiatus until MKHC returns to its permanent space. Labcorp is providing MKHC patients with lab work at greatly reduced rates at their own sites.

Saturday COVID testing and vaccination clinics are being held in the aptly named Kaseman Hall at RUC. REAP clients are receiving assistance at the Grandin Avenue Reach office. Service updates will continue to be posted on the Reach website home page, www.CMRocks.org.

A claim has been filed with the insurance company of the other business, and it is hoped most of the restoration and replacement costs will be covered without long legal negotiations. However, the timing of insurance payments is unpredictable, and there are current and ongoing expenses for moving and continuing patient care in a new location. A new EKG machine, furniture, cellphones, and other equipment needed to be purchased immediately to continue patient care. IT services were needed to update wiring and connectivity. The number of patients that can be scheduled each day is greatly reduced, and the Clinic is experiencing more no-shows and cancelled appointments as patients try to find the new location. Financial donations to cover these expenses are gladly being accepted at [MKHC Restoration Fund](#).

Limited space also means it is currently more difficult to accept in-kind donations or volunteer service. We will keep supporters and constituents informed about when that assistance would again be helpful and what is most needed. MKHC Board and staff appreciate the support that has been received by the community.



GOOD NEIGHBORS AT ROCKLAND HOUSE



In April 2014, Reach invited five women to become residents of the newly opened Rockland House, our permanent supportive home for women who had previously experienced homelessness. One of the first neighbors to welcome the new residents was next door neighbor Eddie Baggott.

Eddie has lived in Twinbrook his entire life. He was friends with the husband and wife who previously owned the home. After the husband passed away, the wife lived alone in the home until she broke her hip. When she sold the house so she could move to a nursing home, Eddie promised he would look

after whoever moved in. He has been looking after Rockland residents for almost seven years.

Eddie says he feels like the Rockland women are the sisters he never had and they, in turn, express so much appreciation for the ways he helps. Our residents are indeed very thankful for his assistance, and feel more comfortable knowing he is next door looking out for them. When it snows, Eddie is out early to shovel the front path and sidewalk. He has replaced lightbulbs, checked smoke detectors, and helped with other small projects around the house. As he is close by and has many years of home maintenance experience, the residents are comfortable asking for his advice on house matters, as most of us are able to do with our neighbors when we feel a connection.

Eddie particularly shares a love of music, cars and fixing things with one specific resident. He says, most importantly, as the number of Twinbrook neighbors who wish to interact dwindles, it is nice to have next-door neighbors who actually engage in conversation.

Find more information about Reach's housing program [here](#).

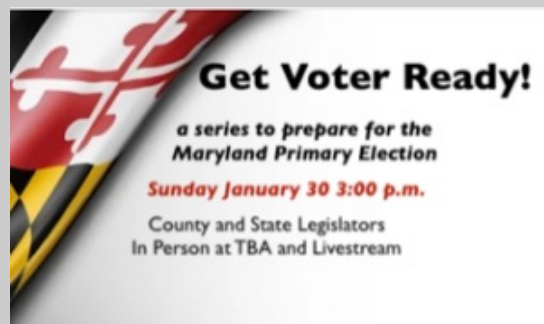
ANNUAL GALA TO BE VIRTUAL ON APRIL 30TH

This year's Reach Annual Gala has been scheduled for Saturday, April 30th for some time. So Reach supporters can feel safe attending the event and so that continuing COVID concerns will not require potential last minute changes, the Reach Executive Committee has determined the 2022 event will be held virtually.



Paul Newman, former Board Chair of Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) has agreed to serve as our chair. The Gala Committee will begin the work of creating a spectacular event that is entertaining, a little educational, interactive, and will raise much needed funds for Reach and our programs. Sponsorship opportunities will be advertised soon through the CMRocks.org website and other channels. For those interested in being involved in creating the event, or have other questions, please reach out to [Andrea Kempner-Wink](#). Please save the date - Saturday evening, April 30, 2022 - and stay tuned for more details.

TEMPLE BETH AMI OFFERS A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT



Temple Beth Ami has long supported Reach and our areas of service. This congregation has also had a strong presence in educating potential voters about candidates and issues, and Reach partnered with Beth Ami in their last candidate forum in 2018.

This Sunday, January 30th from 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Temple Beth Ami offers "Get Voter Ready,"

a virtual conversation with MD District 17 Senator Cheryl Kagan and Montgomery County Council President Gabe Alborno. The conversation will center on the role local government plays in our lives.

After each U.S. Census, new U.S. Congressional and state legislative district maps are drawn to match current population pattern. Additionally, in a 2020 referendum, Montgomery County voters chose to add two new County Council districts for a total of 7 Councilmembers representing districts and 4 at-large Councilmembers. Kagan and Albornoz will speak about redistricting. They will also discuss important topics being decided during the current Maryland legislative session and this County Council term. The program will be moderated and the questions and topics will be drawn from the feedback provided by guests who register in advance to virtually attend on Sunday.

Find more information and register to attend at: bethami.org/event/get-voter-readysun-jan-30-3-pm/.

Providing opportunities for our constituents to understand how federal, state and local governments work is a core Reach value. In fact, our Language Outreach Program U.S. Citizenship winter class is currently in session and these classes are held each winter and summer. In Fiscal Year 2021, LOP helped 20 County residents become U.S. Citizens through this course. Voting is a core right and responsibility of citizenship. Knowing how our government operates and having the opportunity to vote offers community members the ability to help make decisions that affect their quality of life.

Mark Your Calendar!

Sunday, January 30, 2022, 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Supporter TEMPLE BETH AMI's "GET VOTER READY"

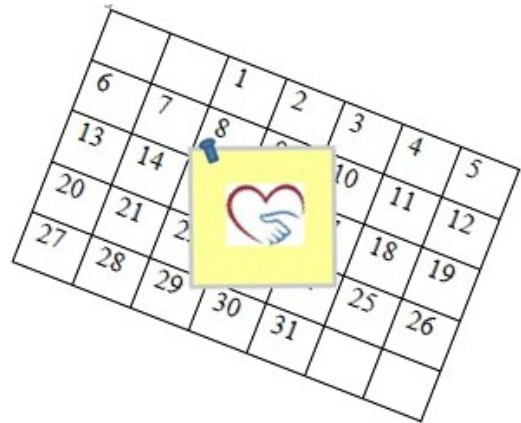
Virtual - Register to receive link at:

bethami.org/event/get-voter-ready

Saturday, April 30, 2022, Time TBD

REACH ANNUAL GALA

Virtual - Save the Date



SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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 beginning soon!***

VOLUNTEER AT MKHC's VACCINE/TESTING CLINIC held every Saturday from 10am - 2pm. Those who are currently in the medical field and those interested in a career in medicine are encouraged to consider the opportunity to help register patients, prepare supplies, manage vaccines or manage testing. Must be at least 18 years old.

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 them explain their work in layman's terms and then put it in writing.

PHOTOGRAPHER to document the work of Community Reach so that we can share our story. Document Reach events and programs. Reach would like to have a "crew" of 3 - 4 photographers who can be available individually or to work in pairs for large in-person events. We currently have one dedicated photographer.

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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MKHC Board of Directors

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DONATE TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY

STAY CONNECTED



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