



Montgomery County Council

From the office of Councilmember George Leventhal

News Release

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COUNCILMEMBER LEVENTHAL TO HOLD COMMUNITY FORUM ON CHILDHOOD OBESITY IN COUNTY

Councilmember George Leventhal, the chair of the council's Health and Human Services Committee, will be joined by community leaders and national health experts to discuss the growing national epidemic of childhood obesity on Wednesday, November 5th, 2003.

The meeting will be held on the 3rd Floor Hearing Room in the Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue in Rockville, MD, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. An informal reception will begin at 1:00 p.m. where participants are invited to continue the discussion in the 2nd floor cafeteria with Councilmember Leventhal.

Nationally, the percentage of children who are obese or overweight has more than doubled in the last 30 years. Among these children, there is an increasing incidence of serious medical problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and asthma. Obese and overweight children are more likely to acquire obesity-associated cancers later on in life.

"We hope to raise the awareness about childhood obesity in both the nation and Montgomery County, while identifying various resources and the best practices available for obese children," said Councilmember Leventhal.

The keynote address will be given by Dr. Allen Spiegel, Director of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases of the National Institutes of Health.

The forum is open to all and will be televised at a later date on County Cable Montgomery television channel 6.

**WHEN: Wednesday, November 5, 2003
8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**PLACE: 3rd floor Hearing Room, Council Office Building,
100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD**

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