



MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS
 ★ ★ ★ **ANNUAL REPORT 2011** ★ ★ ★
"Veterans Helping Veterans"

Letter of Transmittal: October, 2011

The Honorable Isiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive
 The Honorable Valerie Ervin President, Montgomery County Council
 Uma S. Ahluwalia, Director, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

The Commission on Veterans Affairs is pleased to present a summary of its activities for the past year. We continue to advise and consult with you on issues of concern to the estimated over 50,000 veterans, and their families, who live in the County. Under your leadership and with your support, the Commission is mandated to research, assemble, analyze and disseminate information that will assist in meeting the needs of veterans and their families. The Commissioners bring knowledge and expertise to the County by providing valuable input and advice on issues affecting our veterans.

We have focused on identifying veterans and their family members, on recognition of active military and veterans and particularly those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our great nation. We thank you for your leadership to recognize those at the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans event and we were honored to be part of the Veterans Day 2010 event held at the Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza. We are working to end homelessness amongst veterans and thank you and Congressman Chris Van Hollen for your efforts to obtain, for the second year, 25 Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers. The new hiring preference for disabled veterans and veterans brings hope and promise for employment opportunities for veterans. We are proud that Commissioners Lorrie Knight-Major and Jackie Ogg were part of the grant writing process for the Robert C. Wood Foundation grant called Troops and Family Care Project that will strengthen collaboration between agencies that serve veterans and their families.

In order to provide greater health care access to veterans, we hope to have your support in working to establish a Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in the County operated by the Veterans Administration (VA). We are currently exploring the establishment of a Veterans Court replicated after the Veterans Treatment Court program in Buffalo, NY, which was designed to keep non-violent offenders out of jail. We recently learned from the VA that nationwide 9% of all incarcerated inmates are veterans.

We wish to recognize and give our personal thanks to all Commissioners, the many community members, and the agency staff who participate in our meetings for their commitment and dedication. We would like to acknowledge DHHS Director Uma Ahluwalia for her role in meeting with the Boards, Commissions and Committees to keep us informed of important health and human services issues, and Betsy Luecking, Staff Liaison, and Carly Clem, OSC, for their outstanding support in providing the Commission with the resources needed to carry out our mission. This report is the result of our combined efforts.

It has been a pleasure to work with you and members of the Commission during our term of service. We are confident that you will continue to support the Commission's efforts to enhance the lives of our veterans. Our meetings are open to the public, and we invite you to join us for any meeting.

Sincerely,



Bill Gray

Bill Gray
Chair



Jerry Godwin

Jerry Godwin
Vice-Chair



MEMBERSHIP LIST

2010 - 2011

VETERANS REPRESENTATIVES

Carl Bedell, American Legion / Military Officers Association of America
Pete Esker, American Legion
Rich Fales, Veterans of Foreign Wars
Bill Gray, Vietnam Veterans of America
J. Mauri Hamilton, PhD, Disabled American Veterans
Roland R. Kauffman, Vietnam Veterans of America
Elizabeth (Jane) McCarthy, American Legion

GENERAL PUBLIC MEMBERS

Sharon Hodge
Susan W. Kirk
Lorrie Knight-Major
Jacqueline Hunt Ogg

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Jerry S. Godwin, Dept. of Economic Development
Paula Matuskey, Montgomery College
Richard M. Schiffauer, Dept. of Health & Human Services
Michael L. Subin, Office of the County Executive

NON-VOTING CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Ann Humphrey, Office of Rep. Chris Van Hollen

STAFF

Betsy Luecking, *Staff Liaison*
Carly Clem, *Office Services Coordinator*

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SERVING TOGETHER: TROOPS, VETERANS AND FAMILY CARE PROJECT

The Commission is pleased that Commissioners Lorrie Knight-Major and Jackie Ogg worked on the grant application for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The project is an initiative of Mental Health Association of Montgomery County, in collaboration with Easter Seals Greater Washington-Baltimore Region and other valued community partners.

Serving Together will rally the community to provide accessible, useful and well-coordinated services to troops, veterans and their families. The overall objective of Serving Together is the creation of a new model of care that will coordinate and strengthen community-based resources for troops, veterans and their families and improve access to a range of health, mental health and other support services.

Serving Together will benefit active-duty service members, those with the National Guard and Reserve, the estimated 500 wounded warriors receiving care at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) and their families. Additionally, the project will serve service members transitioning out of the military and reintegrating back into civilian life and veterans already separated from the military who are living in this community.

In Montgomery County, there are an estimated 50,000 veterans, 4,000 of whom serve or have served in Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom and 50% of whom are drawn from the National Guard and Reserves.

Serving Together activities will first focus on assessment, coordination and alignment of services, but over a four-year period will grow to include all of the following project components:

- Building awareness among community providers of the unique needs of troops, veterans and their families.
- Assessment, coordination and alignment of services.
- Specialized training of mental health providers in appropriate interventions.
- Education of military family members about early signs of mental health challenges.
- Launch and maintain interactive web-based resources.
- Peer-to-peer support through peer navigators.

Serving Together is made possible by a four-year \$500,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation - the nation's largest funder dedicated to improving health and health care for all Americans, and matching from local funders, including: The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, Montgomery County, the HSC Foundation, The Clark Charitable Foundation, Inc., Consumer Health Foundation, Healthcare Initiative Foundation, Sanford and Doris Slavin Foundation, The Mead Family and The Community Foundation for Montgomery County. The success of this project will also depend heavily on partnerships with key community stakeholders and other organizations, including Easter Seals Greater Washington - Baltimore Region.



Serving Together: Troops, Veterans and Family Care Project

1000 Twinbrook Parkway
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VETERANS DAY PROGRAM & CELEBRATION

By Elahe Izadi - NewsChannel 8 and TBDNeighborhoods (TBD.com), November 11, 2010

Veterans Day: Dedicating Silver Spring's Plaza



Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett (Center) presented a Proclamation to the Chair of the Commission on Veterans Affairs during the Veterans Day Program and Celebration held at the Silver Spring Civic Center on November 10th, 2010. Pictured (left to right): Montgomery County Councilmember Marc Elrich, Chair of the Commission on Veterans Affairs Bill Gray, Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett, and Montgomery County Council Vice President Valerie Ervin.

Since it opened in July, Veterans Plaza in Silver Spring has been the center of contentious battles over public space, with skateboarders, drum circles, and concerts filling the area.

But today, the plaza was filled with veterans and their families who gathered to finally dedicate the space in honor of the military service rendered by Montgomery County residents.

The naming of the plaza stems from the old armory building, which was located near where the Wayne Avenue parking garage is today. The building was demolished to make way for development.

“There was never a question this plaza being named Veterans Plaza,” Silver Spring Regional Services director Reemberto Rodriguez says.

The plaza isn't quite complete: an etched glass memorial will go up along the Ellsworth Drive side of the plaza in 2011. And a television screen in the nearby civic building will now be scrolling names and photos of Montgomery County residents who died during war, such as Army. Spec. Thomas Doerflinger.

Doerflinger's mother, Lee Ann, spoke during the dedication ceremony. Her son died on Veterans Day in 2004 and she acknowledged those county servicemen and women “who never got to be veterans. They never got to come home to their families,” she said during the ceremony.

“It can be extremely painful when someone thanks us for the service our families gave because we wish our loved ones were here to hear that,” she said.

Veterans Plaza is not the only large public space dedicated to county residents who served in the military; Rockville Memorial Library was renamed in May.

WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS 2nd ANNUAL REUNION

By Julie Ouedraogo - SilverSpringPatch, April 1, 2011

Montgomery County Celebrates Vietnam Veterans

On Wednesday, March 30 the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs hosted their Second Annual Vietnam veterans welcome home reunion in honor of those who served in Southeast Asia and during the Vietnam War.

During the reception in the Silver Spring Civic Building, County Executive and Vietnam Veteran, Isiah Leggett presented the commission with a proclamation by Montgomery County naming March 30, 2011 as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day. Leggett also spoke about his time while in Vietnam as an infantry Captain in the United States Army and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Vietnam Service, and Vietnam Campaign Medals.

The reunion program included a panel discussion featuring three Vietnam Veterans who shared their experiences of coming home after the war.

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett (Center) presented a Proclamation to the members of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs during the “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans 2nd Annual Reunion” held at the Silver Spring Civic Center. The Commission on Veterans Affairs held a forum where presenters shared their experiences during the Vietnam War. Leggett, a Vietnam Veteran, participated by presenting a recount of his 2009 visit to Vietnam. Pictured (left to right) are: Disabled American Veterans Chapter 12 Member Michael Higgs, Commissioner Michael Subin, Commissioner Jane McCarthy, Chair of the Commission on Veterans Affairs Bill Gray, Leggett, Commission Vice Chair Jerry Godwin, Betsy Luecking and Carly Clem, both administrative support for the Commission on Veterans Affairs.



Panel Discussion on “Vietnam and the Vietnam War: Then and Now”. Pictured (left to right) are: Tom Berger, Ph.D., Executive Director, Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Veterans Health Council, Bernard Edelman, M.A., Deputy Director for Policy and Government Affairs, VVA and author of *Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam*, Marc Leepson, M.A., Arts Editor and Senior Writer, *The VVA Veteran* at VVA, and Wayne Miller, M.A., LMSW, Team Leader/Supervisor Social Worker at VA Readjustment Counseling Services/Vet Center.



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTED HOUSING (VASH) REQUEST

COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

January 31, 2011

Honorable Isiah Leggett
County Executive
101 Monroe Street
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mr. Leggett,

On behalf of the Commission on Veterans Affairs, I am writing to request your assistance to have the County request to the Veterans Administration Supported Housing (VASH), the national program for providing Section 8 permanent housing assistance to veterans, to give at least 25 vouchers directly to the Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission. Last year, we were pleased that your request for the 25 vouchers was fulfilled and that 25 people are now in the process of renting units and being permanently housed.

The HUD-VASH program combines a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher with case management and clinical services provided by the VA. Evaluation of the HUD-VASH program has found that recipients increase days housed, employment, income, and social networks. The HUD-VASH program has demonstrated decreases in the number of days recipients spend homeless or in institutions and reductions in the use of alcohol.

It is our understating that the VA Medical Center has 50 names of veterans in need of housing in the County today. The VA Medical Center locates and prepares the needed documentation for a homeless veteran to enter into the VASH program. They then notify the appropriate area HOC/Housing Authority which arranges an interview/intake with the veteran. This past year, through the County's HOC's streamlined system of assigning a key point person, from the time of application to issuing a voucher, the total elapsed time was as little as two days and averaged less than one week. We have heard nothing but superlatives in the way everyone at HOC has assisted these veterans and your professionalism and kindness in working with this special population is remembered and not forgotten.

At any rate, the 10,000 vouchers for this year are being "divided up" probably by the end of March. If Montgomery County is going to get some directly, this request needs to be made right away. Most homeless veterans are staying in County provided shelters, rehab programs, transitional housing or local hotels in the case of homeless families.

We appreciate any support that you can provide to this effort. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Bill Gray, Chairman

HUD, VA TO PROVIDE PERMANENT HOUSING AND SUPPORT TO 150 HOMELESS VETS IN MARYLAND

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Press Release - July 14, 2011

BALTIMORE - U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric K. Shinseki announced today that HUD will provide \$1,515,645 to public housing agencies in Maryland to supply permanent housing and case management for 150 homeless veterans.

This funding, from HUD's [Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program \(HUD-VASH\)](#), is a coordinated effort by HUD, VA, and local housing agencies to provide permanent housing for homeless veterans.

"Over the past three years, HUD helped thousands of homeless veterans find a permanent place to call home while VA provided medical treatment, case management and other services to address their specific needs," said HUD Secretary Donovan. "We have no greater mission than to prevent and end homelessness, especially for those brave men and women who risked their lives to protect our nation"

"This initiative will strengthen our ongoing efforts to eliminate veteran homelessness by 2015 and improve quality of life for veterans," said VA Secretary Shinseki. "Working with our partners at HUD and in Congress, we continue to make good progress to reduce veteran homelessness though much work remains. VA is committed to providing veterans and their families with access to affordable housing and medical services that will help them get back on their feet."

"This is a great step forward in our effort to get veterans off the streets and into permanent housing," said Senator Murray, Chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee. "Growing up during the Vietnam War, I saw a generation of soldiers left behind because they weren't given the support they needed during their transition home, and I have worked to ensure that veterans today don't face a similar fate. These vouchers will provide critical support to thousands of veterans whose needs went unmet for too long, so that they will finally get the services they need and a permanent place to call home. HUD-VASH vouchers are a key reason why we are making real progress toward goals to finally end veterans' homelessness."

This funding to local housing agencies is part of the Obama Administration's commitment to end Veteran and long-term chronic homelessness by 2015. *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness* serves as a roadmap for how the federal government will work with state and local agreements to confront the root causes of homelessness, especially among former servicemen and women.

The grants announced today are part of \$50 million appropriated for Fiscal Year 2011 to support the housing needs of 6,900 homeless veterans. VA Medical Centers (VAMC) provide supportive services and case management to eligible homeless veterans. This is the first of two rounds of the 2011 HUD-VASH funding. HUD expects to announce the remaining funding by the end of this summer.

Homeless veterans are referred to the public housing agencies for these vouchers, based upon a variety of factors, most importantly the need for and willingness to participate in case management. The HUD-VASH program includes both the rental assistance the voucher provides and the comprehensive case management that VAMC staff provides.

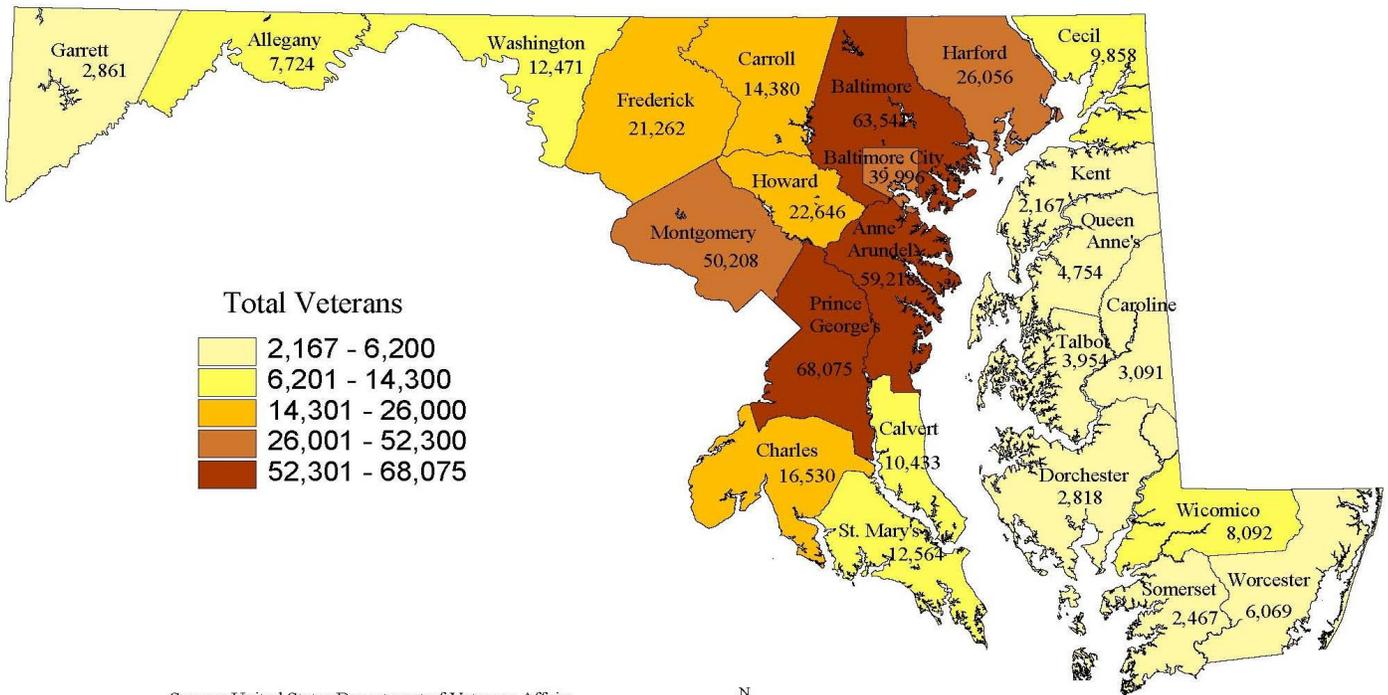
Veterans participating in the HUD-VASH program rent privately owned housing and generally contribute no more than 30 percent of their income toward rent. VA offers eligible homeless veterans clinical and supportive services through its medical centers across the U.S., Guam and Puerto Rico.

Recipient	Partnering VA Medical Facility	# of Vouchers Awarded	1 Year Budget Authority for Vouchers Awarded
Housing Authority of Baltimore City	Baltimore VAMC	75	\$767,412
Housing Opprt Com of Montgomery County	Washington, DC VAMC	25	\$229,881
Housing Authority of Prince Georges County	Washington, DC VAMC	25	\$321,552
Baltimore County, MD	Baltimore VAMC	75	\$196,800

PROJECTED NUMBER OF VETERANS IN MARYLAND & MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Projected Number of Veterans in Maryland - 2010

Projected Veterans in Maryland: 471,238



Source: United States Department of Veterans Affairs
Map Prepared for the Maryland Department of Veteran Affairs
by the Maryland Department of Planning, Planning Data Services



Veteran Population of Montgomery County, MD - 2010

Subject	Veterans	Total Population
Civilian Population 18 years and over	48,690 or 6.6%	738,619
Period of Service	Veterans	% of 52,208
Gulf War (9/2001 or later) veterans	7,888	16.2%
Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001) veterans	7,985	16.4%
Vietnam era veterans	16,262	33.4%
Korean War veterans	5,843	12.0%
World War II veterans	6,037	12.4%
Gender	Veterans	% of 52,208
Male	42,506	87.3%
Female	6,184	12.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010

COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC SUPPORT LETTER

COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

February 5, 2010

Honorable Isiah Leggett
County Executive
101 Monroe Street
Rockville, MD

Dear Mr. Leggett,

On behalf of the Commission on Veterans Affairs, I am writing to request your support in working with us to establish a Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) operated by the Veterans Administration (VA). Approximately 20-40% of soldiers returning from combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan meet criteria for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) at the time of re-integration back into the community. As time goes on, the incidence of PTSD and other behavioral health issues in returning veterans increases. Studies have indicated the prevalence rate of behavioral health symptoms including PTSD and depression in returning veterans as high as 44%. Delays in, or lack of treatment can result in increased rates of unemployment, substance abuse, marital difficulties and suicides.

Veterans residing in rural areas and areas not accessible to Veterans medical facilities have difficulty finding behavioral health and other services. Veterans returning from war who may be employed and living with their families in the community of Montgomery County have limited access to local VA facilities. The only VA facility in Montgomery County is the Silver Spring Vet Center., but it does not provide medical or psychiatric care.

According to the 2009 Interim Report dated December 16, 2009 from the Maryland Veterans Behavioral Health Advisory Board, there is a plan to open new CBOC's on military bases such as Ft Meade, Ft. Dietrich and Andrews Air Force Base. In this report there is no apparent plan for a CBOC in Montgomery County which is one of the counties with the greatest number of veterans and only one facility providing limited counseling services to Veterans.

To better meet the needs of Montgomery County Veterans, it was agreed upon by the members of the Veterans Commission at our monthly meeting to recommend that:

1. These CBOCs be placed in the community and not on military installations to increase access especially to those Veterans that are not on active duty and are living and working in the civilian community.
2. A CBOC be placed specifically in a community located in Montgomery County where there is a significant number of Veterans returning from war with behavioral health needs.

We appreciate any support that you can provide to this effort. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Bill Gray, Chairman

FY11 KEY ISSUES OF CONCERN TO COUNTY VETERANS

COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS Meeting with County Executive Isiah Leggett February 10, 2011

Bill Gray, Chair
Jerry Godwin, Vice Chair

1. **Issue of Concern:** There are NO direct services from the Veterans Administration (VA) in Montgomery County except the Vet Center, which has been basically inoperative for the past year because they have not secured a permanent place. At best, the Vet Center serves only a very limited veteran population. We are going to have one of the largest centers in the U.S. for all active duty military officers and members at the Bethesda Medical Center - but nothing for veterans.

Proposed Solution: We recommend that the County work with the VA to establish a Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in the County, and to provide a full time Veterans Service Officer (VSO). In 2010, it was projected that over 50,208 veterans live in the County; however, there does not seem to be an effort by the VA to provide essential services here to these veterans such as access to proper medical care and treatment, so a plan to provide a CBOC is crucial to meet their needs. Veterans who live anywhere near the Beltway face at least a half-hour drive for any medical service. With heavy traffic, those in other parts of the County face at least an hour's drive or worse a complicated bus trip. The VA's own policy is that no vet should be more than half an hour away from VA medical services. We have one of the largest veteran populations in the state and CBOC's throughout the state with several more under construction, but nothing planned in this county. The CBOC that was once planned for the I-270 corridor should be put back into the VA's plans now.

The County has to establish a proven need for both of these services. For a VSO, one way is to send County Veterans to the VSO, as we have to show that we have the numbers to justify better services. With 50,000+ vets and their families, we have a Vets Service Officer available in the County only two afternoons per MONTH. Congressman Van Hollen is sending up to 3-4 cases per week. Other public officials should be encouraged to do likewise and so should social service agencies whose clients could or do qualify for VA benefits. The County also needs to establish proven need for a CBOC with facts and figures. An example of what is required is a paper prepared last year by the Tri-County Council in Southern Maryland that resulted in the commitment to build a CBOC at Charlotte Hall.
(See <http://www.tccsmd.org/downloads/VACFinal-2FDrive.pdf>)

2. **Issue of Concern:** Veterans often come back from war with problems that often lead them into crime. Why not offer these veterans treatment instead of incarceration by establishing a Veterans Treatment Court in Montgomery County as has been done in other localities?

Proposed Solution: The establishment of a Veterans court would be a very cost effective method for the County judicial system because the Department of Veterans Affairs would work with the courts to provide medical care and treatment. The County could use existing resources or reach out to a Judge who has retired and is willing to enhance the quality of life for these brave men and women by giving them a second chance. I am attaching the Resolution to the Maryland Council of Chapters, Military Officers Association of America in support of Veterans Treatment Courts.

FY12 OPERATING BUDGET TESTIMONY

COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

Testimony before the Montgomery County Council on the FY12 Operating Budget
April 5, 2011

Bill Gray, Chair - Jerry Godwin, Vice-Chair

Good evening, my name is Jerry Godwin and I am speaking on behalf of the Commission on Veterans Affairs. We appreciate the opportunity to share with you some of our top priorities for the upcoming year. Before using County dollars, we recommend that you set in place practices to take advantage of any and all federally funded programs by the Department of Veterans Affairs or other federal programs. There are NO direct services from the Veterans Administration (VA) in Montgomery County except the Vet Center, which has been basically inoperative for the past year because they have not secured a permanent place. At best, the Vet Center serves only a limited veteran population and doesn't do outreach. We are going to have one of the largest concentrations in the U.S. for military personnel at Walter Reed Medical Center (formerly Bethesda Naval), but nothing for discharged or retired veterans who are expected to use Veterans Administration Services except for emergencies. Reserve and Guard members can also use Walter Reed.

We recommend that the County work with the Veterans Health Administration to establish a Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in the County to provide medical and psychiatric care for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and Traumatic Brain Injury, the most prevalent mental/behavioral health disorders among service members returning from overseas deployment, in the community, not just at VA hospitals. A CBOC provides BASIC prescription, medical and psychiatric treatment and is not to be confused with a hospital that provides in-house treatment, are much larger, more expensive and coordinates care with the VA through screening. Hopefully, this CBOC would include a full time "Service Organization" benefits claim counselor.

Veterans often come back from war with problems that often lead them into crime. Why not offer these veterans treatment instead of incarceration by establishing a Veterans Treatment Court in Montgomery County as has been done in other localities? The establishment of a Veterans court would be a very cost effective method for the County judicial system because the Department of Veterans Affairs would work with the courts to provide medical care and treatment.

Require departments to identify on the intake form if the individual or any immediate family member ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard or Reserves, so that they can be assessed for state and federal programs that they may be eligible for such as respite care for families who children who have developmental disabilities, or home care for veterans who are seniors. This includes and is not limited to HHS, police, and corrections.

We were pleased that last year HOC was awarded 25 Veterans Administration Supported Housing (VASH) vouchers directly from the VA. We encourage that HOC apply for at least this many again this year.

Require all departments to apply for federal grants/seek out partnerships with the private and non-profit sector which would benefit Veterans, their spouses and children. Ideally, it will bring money and/or jobs to Montgomery County.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. Please let us know how we can be of assistance.

ABOUT THE COMMISSION

HISTORY

The Commission on Veterans Affairs was established by County legislation in 2008 to advise the County Executive and County Council on the coordination and development of the County's policies affecting veterans and their families.

MISSION

The Commission's responsibilities are to research, assemble, analyze and disseminate information and educational materials relating to activities and programs that will assist in meeting the needs of veterans and their families; institute and conduct educational and other programs, meetings, and conferences to promote the rights and opportunities for veterans; advise the Executive and the Council on the status of programs and services in the State and County related to the needs of veterans and their families; and assist in planning appropriate public acknowledgement of the contributions made by veterans, and assist in planning.

MEMBERSHIP

The Commission on Veterans Affairs is composed of fifteen voting members and one non-voting who serve in a volunteer capacity. Members are appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council.

The Commission includes:

- ▶ 8 Veterans
- ▶ 4 General Public
- ▶ 3 Ex-Officio Members
- ▶ 1 Non-Voting Congressional Representative

MEETINGS

All Commission and Committee meetings are open to the public. The Commission welcomes visitors to join us as we serve the County and its residents. Meetings are subject to change without advance notice. Please call to confirm day and time of meetings and to request any special accommodations. As possible, we adjust meeting dates in order to accommodate days of major religious observances. You can view the Commission meeting minutes online at: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cva

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2011 - 2012

Full Commission Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the month, September to June
Summer recess during July and August

401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20850

1st Floor Tan Conference Room

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Workgroups meet, as needed, at differing locations.



CONNECT WITH THE COMMISSION



Visit us on the web! Read Commission Agendas, Meeting Summary Minutes, testimony, and more! www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cva



Join us on Facebook! [facebook.com/MCGCVA](https://www.facebook.com/MCGCVA)



Sign up for eSubscribe to receive emails about Veterans information and resources. <https://ext01.montgomerycountymd.gov/entp/s1p/esubpublic/newssubscriber.do>



Sign up for emergency alerts from Alert Montgomery! Alert Montgomery can deliver important alerts, notifications and updates to you on all of your devices at once: email account, cell phone, text page, Blackberry, wireless PDA, or XM Radio Channel 214. <https://alert.montgomerycountymd.gov>

COMMISSION PRESENTATIONS FOR 2010 - 2011

November, 2010: Special Presentation - A Conversation With Everett Alvarez, Jr. – *Informative discussion with Everett Alvarez, Jr., the second longest-held POW (Prisoner of War) in American history, spending over 8 years in captivity in North Vietnam*

December, 2010: Peer to Peer Briefing – *Sam Walinsky and Rose Halper, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)*

January, 2011: Update on Statewide Efforts to Establish A Specialty Court for Veterans – *Jerry Boden, Chief of Staff, Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs*

Briefing on Tanks Used in World War II – *Demetri "Dee" Paris, 14th Tank Battalion Association, 9th Armored (REMAGEN) Division, Veteran of the Battle of the Bulge*

February, 2011: Presentation on Robert Wood Johnson Grant Opportunity for the Troops Project – *Jackie Ogg, Commissioners; and Lorrie Knight-Major, Director of Military and Veterans Initiatives Easter Seals Greater Washington-Baltimore, Inc. and Commissioner*

March, 2011: Bills Impacting Veterans in the General Assembly – *Rich Fales, Commissioner*

April, 2011: Montgomery County's Local Small Business Reserve Program (LSBRP) – *A Procurement Program for Small Businesses - Jerry Godwin, Commissioner, Business Development Specialist, Wheaton Business Innovation Center, Montgomery County Dept. of Economic Development*

May, 2011: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Corps Mission and Activities – *Rear Admiral (Sel) Michael S. Devany, NOAA Corps*

June, 2011: Give An Hour – *Eric Rogers, MSW, Executive Director*

September, 2011: 100,000 Homes Campaign – *A Partnership with Bethesda Cares - John Mendez and Susan Kirk, Bethesda Cares*

"Respect the Space" Accessible Parking Enforcement Campaign – *Mike Subin, Commissioner*

October, 2011: Role of the Maryland National Guard (MDNG) Transition Assistance Advisor – *Howard Hodges (ARNG Ret.) Maryland Transition Assistance Advisor*

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS



**County Executive
Isiah Leggett**

The **County Executive** can be reached at:

Executive Office Building
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
240-777-0311 (V)
240-773-3556 (TTY)

ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov



Montgomery County Council

The **County Council** can be reached at:

Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850
240-777-7900 (V)
240-777-7914 (TTY)
240-777-7888 (FAX)

county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov

Seated, left to right: Vice President Roger Berliner, President Valerie Ervin, Nancy Floreen and George Leventhal. *Standing:* Hans Riemer, Craig Rice, Marc Elrich, Nancy Navarro and Phil Andrews.

**Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Uma S. Ahluwalia, Director
Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services
401 Hungerford Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20850
240-777-1246 (V) or via MD Relay 711**

Language translation and alternative formats of this report are available upon request. For additional information on the Commission, please call the telephone numbers or write to the address listed above or e-mail via the contact information listed below.

Montgomery County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or in the admission or access to its programs or services.

2010 - 2011 Annual Report Prepared By:

Betsy Luecking, *Staff Liaison*
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Carly Clem, *Office Services Coordinator*
carly.clem@montgomerycountymd.gov