

Good evening. My name is Jan Brown. I am one of the thousands of residents who have benefited from the county's investment in affordable housing. I live in downtown Silver Spring at The Bonifant senior apartments next to the Silver Spring Library. The Bonifant was made possible thanks to the County's Housing Initiative Fund and they also took advantage of the availability of county-owned land, which the County should do more often.

I love living at the Bonifant because Montgomery Housing Partnership (MHP) cares about its residents. MHP keeps the building clean and attractive. The management team is quickly responsive to resident needs, including welfare of the residents.

MHP allowed me to write the newsletter for my neighbors, which my neighbors found to be informative and fun.

Affordable housing is important to me because my income is very low. Without affordable housing I don't know where I would turn for housing. For me, homelessness is not an option.

I feel fortunate to have a safe and affordable home, but there are many other people in the county like me who struggle to find an affordable apartment and pay the rent. Everyone deserves to have the same opportunity that I have to live in a safe and affordable place. I hope the Council will provide funding over and above what the County Executive has proposed so more people like me have a place to call home.

Thank you.