

Apr 3, 2026

The Honorable Natali Fani-González
President, Montgomery County Council
Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council President Fani-González and Members of the County Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for Montgomery Community Media (MCM) and to highlight the essential role it plays in the civic and cultural life of Montgomery County. My own experience working with MCM has shown me firsthand how deeply this organization contributes to our community—not only by producing trusted, hyperlocal news, and an outlet for capturing local stories and empowering people from all walks of life to voice their aspirations, opinions and to develop media skills and tell their own stories.

I have participated in and collaborated on productions at MCM, and I have seen how their training programs open doors for people who might otherwise never have access to professional media tools or mentorship and encouragement that helps residents transform ideas into community stories.

MCM also plays a big role in civic engagement and transparency. Their work helps people understand local decisions, local leaders, and local events in a way national outlets simply can't. That kind of access is important for a healthy, connected community.

I believe that it is vital that Montgomery County continue to support community media resources like MCM. The impact of their work is visible in our community and make a real difference.

Thank you for considering this perspective. I hope you will continue to recognize and support the invaluable contributions that MCM makes to Montgomery County.

Sincerely,

Aref Alvandy

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