



COMMITTEE AGAINST HATE VIOLENCE

Montgomery County Committee Against Hate/Violence Statement: A Message of Solidarity in Remembrance of George Floyd

May 25, 2025, marks five years since the brutal murder of George Floyd by a police officer in Minneapolis—a moment that forever changed our nation and reignited a movement for racial justice. On behalf of the Montgomery County Committee Against Hate/Violence, we pause to remember George Floyd and recommit ourselves to the ongoing work of dismantling hate and building an inclusive, welcoming community for all.

Reflecting on the Past Five Years

Since May 25, 2020, we have witnessed both the power of collective action and the persistence of bias-motivated violence. Across Montgomery County, neighbors have come together in solidarity, elected officials have strengthened anti-bias laws, and community organizations—including our committee—have expanded programs to prevent hate violence before it occurs. Yet hate persists, and we know the path to justice and true belonging requires sustained effort.

Our Mission and Impact

The Committee Against Hate/Violence works every day to eradicate acts of hate and intimidation through community education, advocacy, collaboration, and legislation.

1. **We Educate** residents, students, law enforcement, and service providers through workshops on recognizing and interrupting bias.
2. **We Support** victims and survivors of hate violence with a Partnership Fund which provides partial compensation for property damage to victims of racial, ethnic, religion, sexual orientation and disability-based hate violence.
3. **Engage** diverse communities through listening sessions, community dialogues, and cultural celebrations that uplift Montgomery County's rich tapestry of identities.
4. **Advise** County government on policy and practice, ensuring that hate-bias reporting is accessible, transparent, and fair.

Over the past three years, we have hosted over 6,500 neighbors of all backgrounds at our annual Friendship Picnic, facilitated several community workshops and listening sessions, and partnered with numerous faith and cultural institutions on hate-prevention campaigns.

How to Speak Up and Seek Help

If you—or someone you know—have experienced or witnessed an act of hate or bias, we encourage you to come forward. Your voice is essential to stopping violence and holding perpetrators accountable. You can:

- **Contact law enforcement** directly for emergencies by dialing **911**, or for non-emergencies at 301-279-8000.
- **File a report with the County** via the online bias-incident form at <https://montgomerycountymd.seamlessdocs.com/ng/fa/HateBiasIncidents>
- **Reach out to the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP)** for free services include counseling, court companions, criminal justice advocates, and assistance in applying for the Crime Victim's Compensation Fund. Please call either 240-777-1355 or the Crisis Line at 240-777-HELP (4357).
- **Connect with community advocates**, including the County's Office of Human Rights (240-777-8450) and local nonprofit partners, who can help navigate reporting, legal remedies, and healing services.

For additional information please consult the Committee Against Hate/Violence Know Your Rights Brochure [Know-Your-Rights-brochure-2023.pdf](#)

All reports are handled with the utmost respect for your privacy and safety. Interpreters and translation services are available at no cost.

Looking Ahead

George Floyd lost his life after being subjected to nine minutes of inhumanity by law-enforcement. Nine minutes where he fought to breathe, fought to live, fought to survive. The Montgomery County Committee Against Hate/Violence wants to remember George Floyd for those nine minutes and for all that his life represented. We want to honor his humanity so that we may never forget the importance of life. And in remembering his life, we remember the lives of all of those who have left this world prematurely because they were also victimized by unthinkable and unconscionable acts of hate and violence at the hands of law enforcement-officers (public servants) which we were taught to trust and serve us.

On this anniversary, we reaffirm our commitment to justice, dignity, and belonging for every Montgomery County resident. We will continue to advocate for stronger protections, deepen our partnerships across communities, and ensure that every person has the knowledge, support, and confidence to stand up against hate. Together, we can make Montgomery County not only safer, but a model of unity in diversity.

We invite you to join us in upcoming events—from neighborhood listening circles to youth-led art exhibits—to honor the legacy of George Floyd by living our values of empathy, respect, and justice every day. For more information, visit <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/humanrights/outreach/hate-committee.html> or follow us on social media @MoCoCAHV.

In solidarity and hope,

Montgomery County Committee Against Hate/Violence