



Montgomery County Family Justice Center

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From the Desk of J. Thomas Manger, Chief of Police



A continued concern in Montgomery County is the number of domestic violence incidents ranging from simple assault to homicide. Domestic violence accounts for a high percentage of our dispatched calls for service. In 2015, 73% of the homicides in Montgomery County were domestic-related or involved acquaintances who became involved in an interpersonal dispute. Our community must work together to identify domestic violence victims and provide services to the victims before the violence escalates.

In an effort to combat domestic violence crimes, Sheriff Raymond Kight created the Family Justice Center (FJC) in April 2009. Since the creation of the FJC, there has been an increase in the number of reported domestic-related crimes, which has ultimately saved lives through early intervention. The FJC allows a "one-stop shop" for domestic violence-related resources to be immediately provided to victims. Victim Assistants at the FJC meet with victims, assist in creating and filing protective orders, and can alert the different onsite (and off-site) partners of cases needing their attention.

Soon after opening, Montgomery County State's Attorney John McCarthy moved his Special Victims Division from his main office

in Rockville to the FJC. Following that move, I re-assigned the Montgomery County Police Department's Family Outreach Section (FOS) from their main office to the FJC. After the first few months it was evident that more investigators were needed to combat the domestic violence issue in our county. With the goal in mind to



**The Montgomery County
Family Justice Center
is centrally located in the
heart of Rockville, Maryland.**

streamline the investigative process, I moved all adult sex crimes from our Public Safety Headquarter (PSHQ) to the FJC. The original complement of investigators consisted of three detectives and a Sergeant. This group now consists of eight detectives, two sergeants, a police victim advocate, and a program manager.

Besides increasing the FJC police resources, the DV/Sex Section has created numerous relationships with various government and non-governmental agencies that assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and elder/vulnerable-adult abuse. FJC Investigators have created a relationship with the Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (DOCR) that has

benefited our victims in many ways. Suspects who are placed on real-time, location-based monitoring can be monitored by police investigators. When and if a violation occurs, the State's Attorney, the Sheriff's Office, DOCR Agents, and Police Investigators work together aggressively to arrest the suspect. This program has proved most successful and is another way the partner agencies at the FJC can assist our victims. Recently, DOCR Director Robert Green honored Detective Sergeant Jordan Satinsky for his efforts to apprehend a pre-trial client who was wanted on a domestic violence warrant. By our having shared information and intelligence, the individual was located and taken into custody before the victim in the case could be harmed.

In striving to combat the domestic violence issue in our county, the DV/Sex Section takes a proactive stance on its cases. Whether a victim advocate reaches out to a victim of domestic violence when an on-scene arrest was not made, or is sitting next to a victim during court proceedings, we are committed to being there for these silent victims.

I continue to encourage each domestic violence victim to come to the FJC for services. I commend the staff at the FJC for their continued dedication in being a voice for the victims of domestic violence.

--
J. Thomas Manger
Police Chief

FJC Spotlight: Meet the New SVID Detectives

Detective Wendy Giovacchini

Detective Wendy Giovacchini is an 18-year veteran of the Montgomery County Police Department. During the course of her career she has served the Police Department as a Patrol Officer in the 5th and 6th Police Districts, as a School Resource Officer at Seneca Valley and Richard Montgomery High schools, and for the last 5 years, as a Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Investigator in the Special Victims Investigative Division. She is very honored to have been chosen to investigate Domestic Violence and Elder/Vulnerable Adult abuse and working with the various agencies within the Family Justice Center.



From left to right: Detective Wendy Giovacchini and Detective Andrew Bock

Detective Andrew Bock

Detective Bock is a lifelong resident of Montgomery County. Bock first found his passion for police work during college as an intern for Montgomery County Police Department. Prior to joining Domestic Violence, Bock worked in Wheaton's 4th District. He was recently awarded the Montgomery County Medal of Valor and Chamber of Commerce Silver Star for his response to a domestic homicide in Germantown. Detective Bock is excited for the opportunity to provide support and justice for victims of domestic violence.

Meet the New FJC Interns

Madeline Salvador

Madeline Salvador is entering her senior year at the University of Maryland, College Park in the Shady Grove campus. After receiving her Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, she plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Maryland. She would like to become a victim advocate, hoping to educate victims of their rights and make a difference in their lives. Madeline loves to spend her free time with her family.



From left to right: Madeline Salvador and Duc Duong

Duc Duong

Duc Duong will be entering his senior year as a Criminology and Criminal Justice major at the University of Maryland at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG). In addition to working as a student assistant at USG's library, Duc serves as a USG Student Ambassador, sharing the concept of USG to middle, high school, and community college students. He is very passionate about his work with the Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Movement, where he helps children become better people and Christians through the use of Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Bible. After graduation, Duc plans to seek a second Bachelor's in Theology, a Master's in Criminology, and hopefully work with federal agencies to fight child trafficking.



Choose Respect Montgomery

Healthy Teen Dating Conference

Record Numbers at Choose Respect Conference

#respectyourselfie2016

On Sunday, March 20th, over 400 students, parents, educators, and youth service providers attended the 7th Annual Choose Respect Montgomery Conference, making it the largest and most well attended Choose Respect conference to-date! Held at Richard Montgomery High School, teens and adults alike walked the pre-conference red carpet and posted selfies with friends and honored guests using #respectyourselfie2016. Tommy McFly (94.7 Fresh FM) hosted the opening program, featuring a live Twitter Q&A and a powerful testimonial from a young woman who lost her friend to dating violence. Toby Knapp (Hot 99.5) served as emcee for the closing program, which included raffle prizes and the unveiling of this year's Public Service Announcement (PSA) Video Contest winners. "I Came, I Saw, I Conquered," submitted by a group from Roberto Clemente Middle School took first place this year and received a \$1,000 cash prize. Workshop content in the student breakout sessions was developed by JCADA again this year, and received overwhelmingly positive reviews. The Choose Respect Conference Planning Committee would like to thank all planning members, committee chairs, partners, staff, and volunteers who made this event possible, and we look forward to making the event even better in 2017!

Choose Respect is an initiative of the Montgomery County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council. It is made possible with funding from the Montgomery County Family Justice Center Foundation through a generous grant from Verizon and co-sponsored by Montgomery County Public Schools. Other sponsors include JCADA and Zoomph.



Sponsored By:





Family Justice Center Foundation News

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From the Desks of the MCFJC Foundation President, Tom DeGonia and Executive Director, Resa Levy



Thomas DeGonia
MCFJC
Foundation
President



Resa Levy
MCFJC Foundation
Executive Director

MCFJC Foundation's 7th Annual Benefit Sunday, October 30, 2016 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm Hilton Hotel Rockville

The MCFJC Foundation's mission is to raise awareness and funds for the FJC. Our donors fund specific programs or projects or ask that we direct their gift to wherever the needs are greatest. The partners of the FJC determine those needs and the Foundation then reaches out to you for your support. Ultimately, it is your support that changes – and even saves – lives.

Here's what you helped accomplish in 2015

- Provided thousands of dollars for emergency transportation services to women and children fleeing domestic violence
- Launched "Baskets of Hope" – providing hundreds of women and children with basic health care essentials
- Partnered with Safe Start and initiated "Teen Talk" - psychological counseling for over 100 teens
- Arranged for more than two dozen children to attend a free summer day camp through the Montgomery County Department of Recreation

- Worked with FJC to supply over 1,000 teddy bears, stuffed animals and toys to children who came to the FJC
- Offered five statewide trainings to over 500 participants including guidance counselors, religious leaders, therapists, youth group leaders, health care professionals, and others to recognize and help students who have witnessed abuse.
- Provided funds for the 6th year in a row for interactive teen conference "Choose Respect Montgomery." This event focuses on building healthy relationships
- Funded quarterly Safe Start Art Therapy sessions for more than 60 children.
- Arranged for 20 Safe Start children to attend performance art including the Nutcracker Ballet
- Provided funding for "Stop the Bully-Montgomery" an in-school anti-bullying program attended by more than 2,000 middle school children
- Supported FJC partner's World Elder Abuse day long awareness conference
- Partnered with Montgomery College to arrange for 5 scholarships for FJC clients to provide educational opportunities to increase job skills that will help lead to financial independence

Thank you for a wonderful 2015! With your help we can look forward to a great year ahead in 2016.

Tom DeGonia and Resa Levy

SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR 2016!
Please contact Resa Levy at resalevy@gmail.com
or 301-509-6832

CLUB P.R.O.V.I. D. E.

Churchill High School teens donate their time and energy to raise funds and awareness for The Family Justice Center and are working to create additional Clubs at other area high schools!

You may recall from our last newsletter that last Summer, two Churchill H.S. teens, Brookie and Shayna, along with their moms Robyn Rosenbauer and Ellyn Gutridge, came for a tour to learn more about the work of the FJC and the FJC Foundation. After the tour, the students left with a desire to organize a school project that would both help the Center and help their fellow peers contribute to their community.

With approval from their high school, and after presenting their idea at "Club Night", Club P.R.O.V.I.D.E. (Protecting Kids, Raising Awareness, and Offering help to Victims Involved in Domestic abuse Everyday) was formed. This club is co-chaired by Brookie and Shayna, with the school's health and gym teacher Margo Hopkins serving as Student Advisor, and consists of more than two dozen Churchill High School teens.

Club P.R.O.V.I.D.E. was recently recognized by the Foundation Board for organizing and running a highly successful fundraiser in partnership with Chipotle Restaurant at Montgomery Mall. With the support of Sheriff Darren Popkin, Debbie Feinstein (Chief of the Special Victims Division of the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office), and the Foundation leadership, Club P.R.O.V.I.D.E. has continued to grow in its efforts and activities. Club members attended the Choose Respect Montgomery Conference, and organized a club meeting to help the FJC Foundation Benefit Committee members as they prepare for the 7th Annual Benefit.

The club is currently working to define their goals for the year ahead and to broaden their impact. After the outreach efforts of club chairs, Brookie and Shayna, two new area high schools are planning their own Club P.R.O.V.I.D.E. A joint Club fundraiser is already being planned for the Fall.

Thank You To Everyone Who Donated Teddy Bears and Diapers!!

Special Thanks To:

BAR-T

Enterprise

Hungerford's Tavern
Chapter Daughters
of the American
Revolution



BAR-T delivers stuffed animals to the FJC and FJC Foundation.



Enterprise delivers record number of diapers!

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER**

"The MCFJC Foundation provides enhanced funding and services, community advocacy and awareness"



Senior Safety & Technology

June 14, 2016

Holiday Park Senior Center

10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

3950 Ferrara Drive, Rockville MD 20906

Wheaton, MD 20906

Join us for an afternoon of important information and fun!

Speakers & Exhibitors:

- ☐ Senior Technology Safety Class & Lab
- ☐ Elder Abuse / Exploitation Seminar & Exhibits
- ☐ Emergency Preparedness / Home Safety
- ☐ Resources in Montgomery County for Seniors

Demonstrations & Services:

- ☐ MCPD K-9 Unit & Project Lifesaver
- ☐ Fire and Rescue
- ☐ Blood Pressure Checks

FREE LUNCHES *While supplies last*



Key Note Speaker:

Liz Loewy

EverSafe General
Counsel, Former

Chief, Manhattan Elder
Abuse Unit

Montgomery County Officials

Door Prizes! Refreshments!

Proudly Sponsored by the Montgomery County Elder/Vulnerable Adult Abuse Task Force:



Montgomery County
Police Department



State's Attorney's
Office



Health & Human
Services

*CEU Offered: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs/>

See Hot Topics: Senior Safety-WEAAD

Meeting Accessibility Policy: Sign language interpreters and other auxiliary aids or services are available upon request, preferably at least three (3) business days before the event. Contact us at 240-777-1131 (voice) or via MD Relay at 711 or send a request to elderabusemc@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE

**Catherine Leggett
and the
Montgomery County Family Justice Center Foundation
invites you to our 7th Annual Benefit
HEALING HEARTS WITH LIGHT AND HOPE**



**Rockville Hilton Hotel
Sunday, October 30, 2016
5:00-8:30 pm**

One great night benefitting countless lives! Join us to honor the men and women on the front lines of transforming the lives of domestic violence survivors, and help the Family Justice Center (FJC) Foundation raise funds to enhance the FJC's vital programs that have helped more than 7,000 victims and their families since the Center's opening in 2009.

**Community Partnership Award
GABE ALBORNOZ
Director, Montgomery County Department of Recreation**

**Outstanding Community Advocate Award
CHERYL KRAVITZ
President, CRK Communications**

**Inspiring Leader Award
TOM MANGER
Chief of Police, Montgomery County, MD**

**Forerunner Award
DONNA RISMILLER, ESQ.
Founder and Principal, Rismiller Law**

**Marilyn J. Praisner Founders Award
MCFJC VICTIM ASSISTANTS**



MCFJC Foundation 2016 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time	Venue	Details
6/1/2016	Grand Opening of PS ~ The Purple Shoppe	N/A	www.mcfjcfoundation.org	All things purple to help end domestic violence!
6/14/16	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) 2016 	10am - 1pm	Holiday Park Senior Center	The purpose of WEAAD is to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect.
9/23/16	Deadline to purchase an ad in the 2016 Program/Tribute Book	N/A	www.mcfjcfoundation.org	Mail check to: MCFJC Foundation PO Box 10692 Rockville, MD 20849
9/30/16	Deadline to submit ad/artwork for the 2016 Program/Tribute Book	N/A	www.mcfjcfoundation.org	email ads to: mcfjcf.ads@gmail.com
Fall 2016	Stop the Bully: Middle School Workshop Series	TBD	Julius West Middle School Loiederman Middle School Sligo Middle School	Anti-Bullying workshop series. For more information contact: Phil Andrews Director of Crime Prevention Initiatives Mo Co State's Attorney's Office Tel: 240-777-7400
October 30th	7th Annual FJC Foundation Benefit	5pm - 8:30pm	Hilton Hotel - Rockville Pike, Rockville	For more information, go to the MCFJC Foundation website: www.mcfjcfoundation.org