



Spring is Finally Here

Spring is here and with it comes our new name, **4Montgomery's Kids**. All your generous support goes **for** the children and youth in our county who have been abused and neglected.

Spring also brings news of our efforts during the past few months. We do this through our wonderful partnership with the amazing County's Child Protective Services (CWS) social workers who have been passionate advocates for the children with whom they work, and of course you our wonderful donors.

Summer Camp

We are particularly excited to be sending more than 35 children to summer camp this year. Summer camp can change a child's life in so many ways. As a social worker told us:

"this young lady had a number of issues, including an inability to make friends. She went to camp, gained confidence, tried new activities, made friends and her mother reported that she came home a completely different kid and, subsequently did extremely well in school in the fall, had a group of friends, and the family has not been involved with CWS again."

If camp can do this for one child, imagine what it can do for thirty-five. With your help we can sponsor even more.

New Projects

In addition to our ongoing efforts such as funding transportation for a parent living out of state to visit her children, books for college classes, a costume for dance class and gift cards for food for a youth living on his own who was going hungry, we are pleased to announce our new ventures.

- Together with the Jewish Council for Aging and other community partners we are exploring housing in Montgomery County for young people transitioning out of foster care at age 21. The high cost of rent in the county makes it extremely hard for these youth to find local housing. Our

dream is to establish intergenerational housing where young people and seniors can live side by side and assist each other.

- We are partnering with Interfaith Works to provide mentors to youth transitioning out of foster care. Mentors work with these youth to provide guidance and to help them develop the skills they need to live on their own. If you would like to be a mentor please contact us at info@4montgomeryskids.org.

Spotlight on our Donors: Gail Maidenbaum



As a Montgomery County mother and a Montgomery County employer, Gail Maidenbaum feels a dual obligation to the foster kids in our county. Her belief is that "we have to take care of our own" and these kids are the responsibility of all county residents and companies. She realizes that these kids are at school with the rest of the county children, but they lack what many of the other students take for granted. The ability to have a laptop, a Metro card to go to work, to take a ballet class, to go to summer camp – these opportunities should be available to all "our kids". That's why she has chosen to give back to her county by

generously supporting 4Montgomery's Kids.

Spotlight on Youth: Pee wee Football Champions

The pee wee football team that Jeff, a nine year old boy played on, was going to the national championships in Florida. Jeff's foster parent was unable to afford the cost of this trip and he would have been unable to accompany his team. Due to your generous contributions, 4Montgomery's Kids was able to pay for his trip and they won the national championship. In his words, "Thank you 4Montgomery's Kids!!! We could not have done this without you!!!"

As always, we thank you our supporters for making our work possible. All the money you contribute goes directly towards helping the children as all administrative costs of 4Montgomery's Kids are absorbed by our board members. We look forward to telling you about additional exciting ways your money has helped and to doubling our efforts in the upcoming year. Please, spread the word about our work and encourage others to support us with donations and house parties where we can bring youth to talk to you about their experiences and how 4Montgomery's Kids has helped them.

TO DONATE, CLICK www.4montgomeryskids.org or send a check to our treasurer Ronna Cook, [5912 Rossmore Drive, Bethesda, MD 20814](https://www.google.com/maps/place/5912+Rossmore+Drive,+Bethesda,+MD+20814)

Thank you,

Montgomery's Kids Board of Directors

Kamilah Bunn, Ronna Cook, Susan Gardner, Agnes Leshner, Leslie Shedlin, and Skip Talcott