



Spring 2020 Newsletter

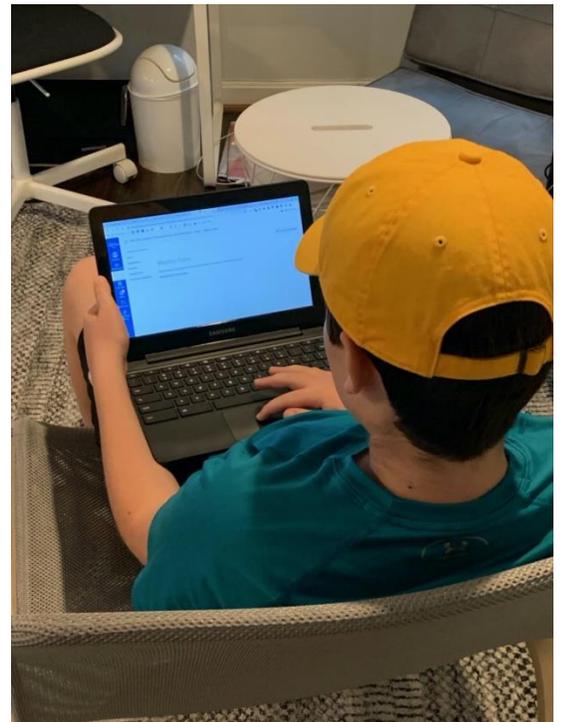
For over five years now and with the generous support of donors like you – THANK YOU SO MUCH! – 4 Montgomery's Kids has helped close to 700 foster kids in the



county's Child Welfare System. But today these kids are more vulnerable than ever. Their schools, from elementary to college, are closed. They can't participate in any of their favorite activities. They are even more uncertain about their futures than they ever were. While this is true of all the children in the county, children and youth in foster care are often in particularly precarious situations during this pandemic.

Our wonderful social workers are working remotely, still protecting children. We are working with them to be as responsive as we can to their requests for help. Here are just a few recent ones we have answered. We've:

- bought grocery store cards to help those having trouble getting food since many families are not working
- provided a laptop for a child who moved from one foster home to another in the midst of all this; she needed the laptop to keep up with school work and her computer was at her old school
- helped cover rent for a youth who is aging out of foster care and lost her job at a hair salon when it closed down
- helped a mother whose car broke down going to work; we paid to get her car fixed after the mechanic gave a reduced rate
- bought Metro cards, including one for a young woman who works as a nursing assistant but doesn't



have enough money to pay for rent, food, and transportation

- sent in deposits for children who want to go to camp this summer to hold their places until we find out if the camp will open

Sure, the past few weeks have been challenging for all of us, but foster kids are among the most vulnerable among us. Thank you to all who gave gifts to 4Montgomery's Kids so that we could help during this particularly difficult time

Spotlight on a Donor

We are also grateful to 100 Women Who Care

The Lower Montgomery County Chapter of 100 Women Who Care (WWC) is a group of women who gather four times a year to learn about local charities who make presentation to them. The group then selects a charity and each woman donates a \$100 check to that charity. This combined donation makes a real impact, 4Montgomery's Kid was selected by the WWC group members and received the generous financial support from the women in the group.

[www.http://lowermocowwc.com](http://lowermocowwc.com)

Scholarships



For the third year in a row, 4Montgomery's Kids will be awarding scholarships to deserving youth in the child welfare system who are graduating high school. The social workers will select the youth base on a variety of categories including merit and need. Stay tuned for updates.

Get to Know Our Social Workers

This month we are saluting the social workers in the Transitioning Youth Services Unit, headed by Shari Zouhairi. These social workers develop and implement plans for youth who must leave the Child Welfare system at age twenty-one. The youth they work with have some of the greatest challenges facing children in the child welfare system. The workers in this unit help these young people navigate among other things finding jobs, affordable housing and higher education. They often ask 4MK to support these youth by providing money for housing deposits, transportation expenses, clothing for interviews, and books and laptops for school.

Most recently a social worker from this unit asked 4MK to help with the security deposit for a girl who is aging out of the system. The girl was working and could pay

the monthly rent but did not have the outlay for the security deposit. Keeping this girl from homelessness is but one of the miracles performed by the amazing workers in this unit.

Our hats are off to these dedicated workers who work so hard to help put these young people on the path to a successful future. It is our great pleasure to help them do their jobs.

We know there are so many ways to help these days;
please give generously to **4Montgomery's Kids**

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