



CFW Connector

FALL 2021

Greetings from the Commission

Greetings,

This newsletter is designed to inform, engage and empower women and girls in Prince George's County. Features in this issue include back-to-school resources, emergency assistance programs, healthcare resources, and highlights of the Census and redistricting efforts that are underway. We welcome your feedback on this newsletter and invite you to partner with us.

Sincerely,

Prince George's County Commission for Women

Click here to access the CFW Community Needs Assessment <http://bit.ly/CFWCommunitySurvey>



FALL FOCUS: EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Families throughout the nation, state and county have faced difficulties paying rent. In March, the Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) relaunched the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), to offer relief for tenants experiencing financial difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This program can help cover rent, utilities, and other housing costs for those in need. [Click here](#) for info.



More than \$24 million of the funding received so far has been spent to assist more than 3,440 households, and millions of dollars remain available to assist those in need. DHCD has partnered with community organizations that will offer free assistance to landlords and tenants. Visit hcd.mypgc.us

- The Prince George's County Department of Social Services (DSS) has programs to assist County residents with emergency housing, homelessness, food insecurity, and health resources. [Click here](#).
- Tenants with questions about COVID-19 evictions and protections, may contact Community Legal Services of Prince George's County and Maryland Legal Aid for help. #PGCCOVID19
- The MD State Attorney General has released, "**Residential Eviction in Maryland: Information for Tenants**," to help individuals and families who will be facing eviction. [Click here](#) for full guidance document.
- The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) also has resources to help homeowners and renters. Go to <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/coronavirus/mortgage-and-housing-assistance/>

Sources: Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD); Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; County Executive Angela D. Alsobrooks; MD State Attorney General

US CENSUS AND REDISTRICTING

US CENSUS—STATE OF MARYLAND

The U.S. Census Bureau released additional 2020 Census in August 2021, showing an increase in the population of U.S. metro areas compared to a decade ago. In addition, these once-a-decade results showed the nation's diversity in how people identify their race and ethnicity.

According to Census data, less than half of Maryland's population now identifies as white alone. Maryland saw a 10.5% decrease in the number of people identifying as white alone between 2010 and 2020, a figure that now stands at 48.7%.

This is consistent with increasing diversity across the U.S. as Census data shows the percentage of Americans identifying as white alone fell 8.6% nationwide between 2010 and 2020.

Race Demographics	Hispanics	African-Americans	Asian Americans
% growth	55%	7%	32%
% of state population	11.80%	29.50%	6.80%
Counties with highest growth: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Frederick (16.4%)Howard (15.8%)Charles (13.7%)Prince George's (12.0%)Anne Arundel (9.4%)Montgomery (9.3%)			

Prince George's County, Maryland

Population Density (2020):
2,003.9 people per square mile

Note: Population density expressed as average number of people per square mile of land area

Population Data

Total population (2020): 967,201
Total population (2010): 863,420
Numeric change (2010–2020): 103,781
Percent change (2010–2020): 12%

Garrett County had the largest white population in MD (95.5%), while Prince George's County had the smallest (12.9%).

WHAT IS REDISTRICTING AND HOW DOES IT IMPACT ME?

The process of redrawing geographic legislative boundaries (redistricting) is taking place throughout the country and across the state of Maryland. Redistricting is the process of revising the geographic boundaries of areas from which people elect representatives to federal, state, county, city, and local offices. This process occurs every 10 years after the decennial U.S. Census.

- The U.S. is divided into districts, and everyone in the U.S. lives in a congressional district.
- Redistricting is based on shifts in population but it can occur even if your population doesn't dramatically change in number. Some states gain seats, some states lose seats, and some keep the same number.
- Redistricting can impact voters and thereby influence who wins elections, which communities are represented, and what laws are passed.

The Prince George's County Redistricting Commission meets (virtually) on the first and third Mondays of the month. All meetings are available live and on-demand at pgcouncil.us/Live.

At the state level in Maryland, two organizations are working on redistricting issues, the *Maryland Citizens Redistricting Commission*, created by Gov. Lawrence J. Hogan Jr. (R); and the *Maryland Legislative Advisory Commission*, created by Maryland Senate and House leadership.

Redistricting affects the redistribution of political power, influence, and resources.

- Where the lines are drawn can create winners and losers with respect to who is electable, who has the power to make decisions, and who is able to allocate resources and funding to your neighborhood.
- It is important that we pay attention to the redistricting process to ensure our communities are fairly treated and appropriately represented.

For more info on each state's redistricting process, check the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/redistricting.aspx>; or Brennancenter.org at

<https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/gerrymandering-fair-representation/redistricting>

Sources: NCSL; Brennan Center.org; Census.gov; Fairvote.org; MarylandMatters.org

HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

BACK-TO-SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS



The Health Department's back-to-school immunizations clinics began in August and continued into September. Routine childhood immunizations are available from the Health Department at the Cheverly Health Center and at its four school-based wellness centers. Open to all County residents, the clinics will also offer COVID-19 vaccinations to eligible students and their family members. For clinic hours and appointments, visit health.mypgc.us/immunizations.

[Maryland law](#) requires students stay updated on their childhood immunizations schedule to attend school. [Maryland's back-to-school immunization rules](#) are available from the MD Department of Health's Center for Immunization.

FACE COVERINGS AND VACCINATIONS

Effective, Sunday, August 8, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., all persons over the age of five are required to wear a mask in all indoor public venues and businesses in Prince George's County, even if fully vaccinated.

This includes, but is not limited to, restaurants, retail stores, entertainment venues, conference centers, and office settings. Exceptions apply, such as when an individual is actively eating or drinking or individuals who have a bona fide disability that prevents them from wearing a mask.



The County Health Department is now offering third doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines **for individuals who have weakened immune systems** at the Prince George's Sports & Learning Complex. Vaccinations are free and appointments are not necessary. Visit mypgc.us/COVIDVaccine for clinic schedules and info about other vaccine

clinics across the County. Third doses for immunocompromised individuals are also available at local pharmacies, urgent care facilities, retail stores, and other health care providers in the County. Read more at <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/AlertCenter.aspx?AID=53>

FREE UBER RIDES FOR COVID-HEALTHCARE

The National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) Good Health WINs (GHWINS) and Prince George's County's Department of Social Services are in partnership with Uber to provide free rides for PGCDSS youth in care and other targeted populations to designated vaccination and testing sites within the County.

Transportation can be a barrier to accessing health care and social services. This partnership will provide access to COVID-19 vaccinations, testing and other medical services for targeted populations, including youth in care, their families, and other adults experiencing vulnerabilities such as homelessness.

Staff and community partners will work to identify recipients of this opportunity, and to make sure we are proactively providing this resource to those who need it as we do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19 and increase access to quality healthcare.

Discounts are valid for up to \$25 off a maximum of four (4) trips. Limitations may apply. To learn more about this partnership and how you can become involved contact our department at pgcdss.communications@maryland.gov.

An infographic with a purple and white color scheme. At the top, it says "GOOD HEALTH WINs" with a heart icon and "NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC. & VACCINATE YOUR FAMILY". Below that, it says "3 Easy Steps to use the NCNW Uber Free Rides Promotional Code". The steps are: Step 1: Download the Uber App for Android/iPhone; Step 2: Enter promo code under "Wallet" in the app menu; Step 3: Request ride and use your \$25 credit (4 rides max). On the right, there is an image of a hand holding a smartphone displaying the Uber app. At the bottom, there is a small disclaimer: "Discount valid for up to \$25 off maximum of four (4) UberX or XL trips (maximum \$100 total discount) to vaccination sites within California, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Virginia. Cannot be combined with other offers. One time promo code application only. Non-transferable. Offer expires at 11:59pm ET on September 30, 2021. Discount does not apply to tips. Offer and terms subject to change."

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (YLA)

The Prince George's County Office of Human Rights (OHR) and the Department of Family Services' Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Division have announced their new Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) through the Office of Human Rights. "Our youth are our most valuable gift," said Office of Human Rights Executive Director, Renée Battle-Brooks. "Engaging minds for a changed tomorrow is our commitment to ensuring a better future."

The YLA promotes peer-to-peer education on civil and human rights issues while developing human rights social influencers who are passionate and knowledgeable. OHR will work with all students of the YLA through program development, ideas, and implementation. GPA and other academic standards are not pre-requisites to entrance into the Academy as the Office of Human Rights recognizes the value of inclusion.

OHR encourages all youth, aged 12 to 22, who are interested in civil and human rights, as well as social justice issues, to apply to the Academy. The deadline for applications to the inaugural class of the Youth Leadership Academy was September 3, 2021. Interested youth who missed this cohort's deadline are encouraged to reach out to the Office of Human Rights at OHRStaff@co.pg.md.us. For more information on the Office of Human Rights and the Youth Leadership Academy, visit civilrights.mypgc.us.



WOMEN AND BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

ADVOCACY FOR CHILDCARE FUNDING TO HELP COMBAT LABOR SHORTAGES

A Treasury report released in September finds that most parents need child care when they can least afford it, at the beginning of their career when their income is lowest. For quality child care, the average family would need to spend 13 percent of their income, more than they spend on food. According to Treasury Secretary Yellen, our current childcare system does not work well: "Those who provide child care aren't paid well and those who need it can't afford it."

Recently proposed childcare funding plans include child care subsidies for low- and middle-income families, universal prekindergarten for children who are 3 and 4 years old and a permanent expansion of the child and dependent care tax credits.

Advocates for funding argue that the current patchwork nature of the child care system often creates incentives for a parent to leave the labor force, losing access to health insurance and retirement benefits.



The United States is currently grappling with labor shortages, and proponents view bolstering access to child care as a way to get people back to work, an issue which disproportionately affects women, even when sharing childrearing duties. Parents of 2 million children under the age of five had to quit their jobs, decline jobs, or change jobs because of child care problems, according to the 2018-2019 National Survey of Children's Health.

Child care workers are paid on average \$12.88 per hour, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. An estimated 40% of day care centers permanently closed during the pandemic and many of those workers left for jobs with higher starting pay and lower risks of Covid exposure. Over 15% of child care workers, many of whom are women of color, live below the poverty line in 41 states, and 50% rely on public assistance. The average salary of \$25,000 puts the job in the bottom 2 percent in the nation, according to Yellen.

MONTHLY RECOGNITIONS

AUGUST

National Immunization Awareness Month
CFW 2020-2021 Annual Report published (click for [link](#) to CFW website)

SEPTEMBER 15-OCTOBER 15th

National Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes and celebrates the contributions Americans tracing their roots to Spain, Mexico, Central America, South American and the Spanish-speaking nations of the Caribbean have made to American society and culture.



SEPTEMBER

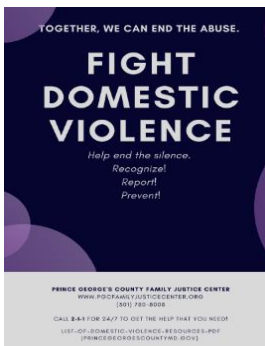
National College Savings Month
National Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day (3rd Tues) September 21st, 2021
National Preparedness Month
Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month
Life Insurance Awareness Month

National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Recognized annually in September to raise awareness on this stigmatized, and often taboo, topic. COVID-19 has emerged as a new global health threat. By increasing the risk of isolation, fear, stigma, abuse and economic fallout, COVID-19 has led to increase in risk of psychiatric disorders, chronic trauma and stress, which may lead to increased suicides and suicidal behavior. Someone dies from suicide every 12 minutes—and over the past two decades, suicide rates have increased in every state across the country. There were 1.4 million attempts and more than 47,000 deaths from suicide. There has been an alarming 50% increase of suicide rates among women. For treatment and support call: National Suicide Prevention Helpline 1-800-273-8255; Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255, press 1; National Crisis Text Line – Text Home to 741741

Sources: National Suicide Prevention Life Line; NAMI- National Alliance of Mental Health

OCTOBER

Take a Loved One to the Doctor Month
National Financial Planning Month
National Women's Small Business Month
Click the link below for a list of List of Domestic Resources in Prince Georges County
<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5121/List-of-Domestic-Violence-Resources-PDF>



National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic violence is prevalent in every community, and affects all people regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality. Physical violence is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior as part of a much larger, systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence can result in physical injury, psychological trauma, and even death. The devastating consequences of domestic violence can cross generations and last a lifetime.

Despite substantial progress in reducing domestic violence, an average of 20 people are physically abused by intimate partners every minute, which equates to more than 10 million abuse victims annually. Domestic violence incidents affect every person within a home and can have long-lasting negative effects on children's emotional well-being, and social and academic functioning.

If you are someone you know is impacted by domestic violence there are confidential resources which can help: National Domestic Violence Hotline - 1-800-799-SAFE (7233); The Community Crisis Services-- 301-779-2100; The Prince Georges Family Justice Center- 301-780-8008

Source: National Domestic Violence Hotline

NOVEMBER

National Long-Term Care Awareness Month
Veteran's Day—November 11
Small Business Saturday, November 27

You've made our nation proud.
**HAPPY
VETERANS
DAY!**
NOVEMBER 11, 2021

Thank you for dedicating your life to serving our country. We owe our freedom to you!

COVID-19 Women's Needs Assessment

We are Listening

COVID-19 has challenged all of us, but women and girls throughout the world have been disproportionately impacted economically, socially, physically and mentally.

In October 2020, the CFW recommended a study of the impact of COVID-19 on women and girls in Prince George's County and created a **Needs Assessment Survey** to understand the impact of the pandemic and services that may be needed to assist women, girls and families in Prince George's County.

Begun in January 2021, the short survey is still available at: <http://bit.ly/CFWCommunitySurvey>
Your input is vitally important to this effort and greatly appreciated. Thank you.

COVID-19 HEALTH-RELATED RESOURCES

The COVID-19 Data Dashboard: Stay informed of the progress the County is making with vaccine distribution.

Frequently Asked Questions: Get answers to your questions about COVID-19 vaccines.

County Latest Updates: The latest updates will be posted at mypgc.us/COVIDVaccine.

Federal Vaccine Information: www.fda.gov

Centers for Disease Control Resources:

[WEBSITE: CDC Coronavirus Vaccine Information](#)

[WEBSITE: CDC Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

[VIDEO: How CDC is Making COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations](#)



MYPGC.US/COVIDVACCINE

CFW VOLUNTEERS

We have a robust agenda for the upcoming fiscal year and are actively seeking volunteers to assist in this important work. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please review the CFW Website [list of committee descriptions](#) and complete the form below.

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3497/Become-a-CFW-Volunteer>

Mission. The Prince George's County Commission for Women serves to improve the quality of life for women and girls by advocating, initiating, and championing programs and legislation to strengthen families and communities.

Check the CFW website for monthly meeting dates, times, and access information.

If you have any questions, please email PG.CommissionforWomen@gmail.com or call 301-778-4381

Commission Liaison: Lyrica Welch

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