



CFW Connector

WINTER 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 the Women's Legislative Briefing, Redistricting, Preventing Elder Abuse, Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine for Children, and Updates on the \$1 Trillion Federal Infrastructure Bill. We welcome your feedback on this newsletter and other CFW programs.

Sincerely,
Prince George's County Commission for Women

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



WOMENS LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022

The Prince George's County Commission for Women will host its second Annual Women's Legislative Briefing on February 6th, 2022 from 1:00PM to 4:00PM. This virtual event brings together advocates, policymakers, and thought-leaders to engage, empower and mobilize women around issues that largely impact the lives of women and girls.

This year's legislative briefing will focus on recovery and resiliency with timely discussions to help women move forward in the aftermath of a pandemic and ensuing economic crisis. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of breakout sessions addressing timely topics such as economic and social justice, police reform, food insecurity, elder abuse, and childcare. Session participants will hear from members of the Maryland General Assembly, business and community leaders who influence policymaking, and representatives of organizations that advance the status of women and girls. For more information visit the Commission for Women [website](#).

CFW PARTICIPATION/UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 2021 MD Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW), November 13, 2021
- December 2021 CFW Holiday Mixer
- January 2021 Montgomery County WLB, January 31, 2021
- February 2021 CFW Legislative Briefing, February 6, 2021 (Virtual)
- March 2021 Prince George's County 36th Annual Women's History Month Luncheon
- March 2021 CFW Economic Development Webinar
- April 2021 CFW Girl Teen Titans Event

REDISTRICTING

HOW DOES REDISTRICTING IMPACT ME?

Currently underway in Prince George's County, redistricting is the process of redrawing legislative districts every ten years, following the completion of the United States Census. On January 28, 2021, the Council adopted a [Resolution](#) appointing the 2021 Prince George's County Redistricting Commission, pursuant to the provision of Section 305 of the County Charter, to establish Council districts and requesting that a redistricting plan be submitted to the Council by September 1, 2021.

The [2011 Redistricting Map](#) was adopted by the County Council to redraw or reestablish boundaries for the nine (9) existing Council Districts. The 2021 Redistricting Commission is charged with preparing a plan and report explaining proposed boundary changes for nine (9) existing Council districts, based on 2021 census data.

What are the guidelines for the County's Redistricting Commission?

The Redistricting Commission meets (virtually) on the first and third Mondays of the month. All meetings are available live and on-demand [at pgccouncil.us/Live](http://pgccouncil.us/Live). The Commission adopted guiding principles below to achieve a proposed 2021 Redistricting Map that will provide for Council Districts that are compact, contiguous and equal in population:

- Least change map;
- Contiguous areas;
- Avoid splitting precincts;
- Population deviation no greater than 4.5%;
- Consideration of assets that connect districts

The redistricting commission spent months gathering community input and using 2020 Census data to suggest a map with the fewest changes. The commission proposed a map that included only three boundary shifts between Districts 1 & 2; Districts 3 & 4; and Districts 6 & 7. Several changes were proposed during October & November Council meetings.

How does redistricting affect communities?

The location of district lines decides which voters vote for which representatives. Any change in the lines may change the relevant voters, and can change the identity, allegiance, and political priorities of a district's representative, and of the legislative delegation as a whole. For more info on the redistricting process, check the US Census publication by Dr. Ron Jarmin, Acting Director: [Redistricting Data: What to Expect and When \(census.gov\)](#), issued July 28, 2021.

Sources of Info: www.pgccouncil.us; Census.gov; WashingtonPost.com

HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COVID-19 VACCINATION UPDATE

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently authorized use of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine in children ages 5 to 11 years.

The Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) will host vaccine clinics at elementary and high schools throughout the County. Residents ages 5 years and older can now receive the COVID-19 vaccine for free at the school mobile vaccine clinics. The clinics will operate Monday through Friday during after school hours at multiple schools throughout the County. Schedule your child's first dose appointment [here](#).

COVID-19 vaccines for children will also be available at many pediatricians' offices, retail and grocery store pharmacies, hospitals, and other health care providers throughout the County. For more information about COVID-19 vaccinations for children or to schedule an appointment, visit the County Health Department website [here](#).

Protect Your Family for the Holidays
At New COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

✧ Residents 5-11 YEARS of age are now eligible!
✧ Clinics will be hosted FIVE days a week at various PGCPS schools during afterschool hours.

ALL VACCINE BRANDS AVAILABLE*
(*Pfizer is only brand authorized for ages 5 and up.) Those under 18 must get consent from a parent or legal guardian. Please complete consent forms and bring them with you.

APPOINTMENTS ENCOURAGED
Registration, consent forms and clinic schedules can be found at: mypgc.us/COVIDvaccine.

@pgchealth @pgchealth @pgchealth

HEALTH DEPARTMENT PGCPS Proudly a part of

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

PREVENTING ELDER ABUSE

Elder abuse, sometimes called “abuse, neglect and exploitation,” includes many types of mistreatment of older adults. The National Center on Elder Abuse describes seven types of elder abuse: Physical Abuse; Sexual Abuse; Emotional or Psychological Abuse; Financial Abuse or Exploitation; Neglect; Abandonment; Self-neglect. <https://ncea.acl.gov/Suspect-Abuse/Abuse-Types.aspx>:

Neighbors, caregivers, professionals, and even family or friends may try to take advantage of people as they age. They may take money without permission, fail to repay money they owe, charge too much for services, or not do what they were paid to do. These are examples of elder financial abuse.

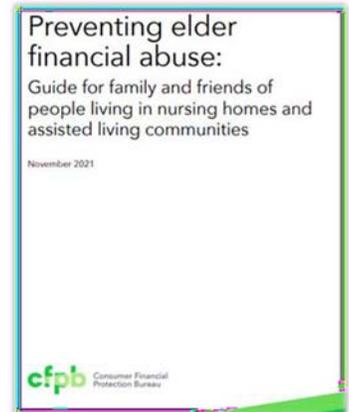
Anyone of any age can experience financial abuse. However, as people age, they may become bigger targets for financial abuse because they have built up assets. They may also have a harder time with memory and with making financial decisions or recognizing scams. These challenges could make the elderly more vulnerable to financial abuse. Family members, friends, or financial caregivers may be in a unique position to help protect loved ones from financial abuse.

Four key steps of successful intervention

- Prevent – educate yourself, your loved ones, and your community
- Recognize – spot the warning signs and take action
- Record – document what you observe
- Report – tell the appropriate authorities so they can investigate and help

[Preventing elder financial abuse: Guide for family and friends of people living in nursing homes and assisted living communities](#). This guide helps family and friends of people living in long-term care communities learn how to prevent, recognize, record, and report elder financial abuse. Includes insights for caregivers and situations and suggestions for who to contact for help, a resource list, and more.

Source: National Center on Elder Abuse—HHS; Consumer Financial Protection Bureau-CFPB;



FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

The Department of Social Services' Emergency [Food Assistance Program](#) acts as a clearinghouse for the distribution of donated food. Over 30 local community pantries and shelters currently participate in the program. All food is provided to eligible individuals and families free of charge. Please call 301-909-6343 to get information and assistance within your particular area of the County.

If you know persons or organizations in need of food, please refer them.



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD TRANSFORMATION TASK FORCE

The County Executive, Angela Alsobrooks, recently announced the formation of a task force to study the governance structure of the County's public school system. The purpose of this task force is to study best practices regionally and nationally and deliver recommendations to County leadership that will provide a guide for creating a Board structure that facilitates collaboration and helps to move our school system forward.



All group meetings will be virtual and open to the public to view on the [County's YouTube channel](#). Meetings will take place each Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, except for the week of Thanksgiving. The County has a [webpage](#) where you can review the Executive Order that created the task force, as well as view all meeting minutes and presentations given by guest speakers. The site will also have links to view all previous meetings for those who are not able to attend when the meetings take place.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

\$1 TRILLION INFRASTRUCTURE BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

President [Joe Biden](#) signed a more than \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill into law on Monday, November 15th as part of his ambitious economic agenda. The legislation will direct \$550 billion in new funds into transportation, broadband and utilities. This follows years of failed efforts in Washington to overhaul physical infrastructure, improvements that many advocates have said will boost the U.S. economy and create jobs.

The measure is designed to create jobs across the United States by sending billions of dollars to state and local governments to repair crumbling bridges and roads and by expanding broadband internet access to millions of Americans.

The legislation will invest:

- \$110 billion into roads, bridges and other major projects.
- \$66 billion in freight and passenger rail, including potential upgrades to Amtrak.
- \$39 billion into public transit systems.
- \$65 billion into expanding broadband, which became a larger priority after the [coronavirus pandemic](#) left millions of Americans at home without effective internet access.
- \$55 billion into improving water systems and replacing lead pipes.



Funding is scheduled to go out over a five-year period, although it could take months or years for many major projects to begin. Before signing the legislation, President Biden said “we’re finally getting this done” after years of failed attempts in Washington. He underscored the direct benefits Americans will feel from the law and said the bill’s passage showed that “despite the cynics, Democrats and Republicans can come together and deliver results.” He called the bill a “blue-collar blueprint to rebuild America.”

Some Democrats have said the bipartisan plan did not go far enough to address climate change or build needed layers of support for households by addressing important policies such as child care, education, household tax credits and health care. President Biden celebrated the infrastructure plan’s passage with lawmakers from both parties who helped to write and pass the plan. [Nineteen Republicans voted for the measure](#) in August when the Senate approved it, while 13 GOP representatives voted for it when [the House passed it earlier this month](#).

The president was not alone in touting the plan’s benefits after it became law. In a statement on November 15th, the 10 Democratic and Republican senators who were the plan’s lead authors said in a joint statement that the law will “positively impact every American.”

Data Sources: CNBC.com; Reuters.com

STUDENT CAREERS COFFEE TALK—NOV 17TH

The Prince George’s County Commission for Women partnered for a virtual Student Careers Coffee Talk discussing student career exploration and technical education programs available in Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS).

The webinar was hosted by the PGCPS Department of Career & Technical Education (CTE) and Prince George’s County Chamber of Commerce (PGCOC) and held on Wednesday, Nov 17, 2021.

The CFW is planning additional student career exploration events. Stay tuned for more info!



**CTE & PGCOC
PARTNERSHIP
COFFEE Q & A**

JOIN THE PGCPS DEPARTMENT OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) AND THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR A VIRTUAL COFFEE Q & A. LEARN HOW YOU CAN PARTNER WITH CTE TO SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS AND PROGRAMS WHILE GROWING YOUR BUSINESS.

**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2021
9:30AM -10:00AM EST**

REGISTER TODAY: <https://bit.ly/ctecoffee>

CTE **PRINCE GEORGES** **Prince George's County Commission for Women** **PGCPS**

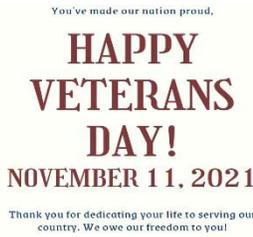
MONTHLY RECOGNITIONS

NOVEMBER

National Long-Term Care Awareness Month
 National Family Caregivers Month
 Housing Month (Regional)
 Veteran's Day—November 11
 Small Business Saturday, November 27

Along with regional housing partners, Prince George's County celebrated **Housing Month** in November! Throughout the month, housing milestones were highlighted that showcased County efforts to preserve, protect, and expand affordable housing options for Prince Georgians. For more info, visit the Department of Housing and Community Development website [here](#).

In recognition of **National Family Caregivers Month**, the Department of Family Services in partnership with the Prince George's Advisory Committee on Aging hosted virtual events to raise awareness of caregiving issues and increase support for family caregivers. In the U.S., families are the primary source of support for older adults and individuals living with disabilities, and research shows that taking care of a loved one takes a significant emotional, physical, and financial toll on caregivers. Learn more about the County's Family Caregiver Program, as well as other aging and disability resources [here](#).



DECEMBER

Happy Holidays
 World AIDS Awareness Month
 Universal Human Rights Month



JANUARY

Human Trafficking Prevention Month
 Cervical Health Awareness Month
 Stalking Awareness Month

Formed in 2013, the Prince George's County Human Trafficking Task Force (PGCHTTF) brings together law enforcement, social services, government agencies, and community organizations to combat human trafficking in the County by identifying and rescuing trafficking victims; identifying & prosecuting traffickers; and educating the community on human trafficking.

If you suspect human trafficking or if you are in a crisis, please call 911 for immediate assistance. You can also report suspected human trafficking by calling the National Human Trafficking Hotline at **1-888-373-7888** (text line: 233733) or by contacting the County's 311 Call Center by dialing **311** (if calling from Prince George's County).

COVID-19 Women's Needs Assessment

We are Listening. Please Provide Input

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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