

Thanks to your generous support, in just several short months, Montgomery's Kids is off to an amazing start! The positive responses we have received to date, both monetary and in-kind, have enabled us to assist some of Montgomery County's most vulnerable children and youth in meaningful ways. Montgomery's Kids complements what children in the system receive. We help to normalize a child's life experience.



### **Montgomery's Kids Recognized with Congressional Angels in Adoption Award**

On October 6, 2015 Montgomery's Kids received an award from the Congressional Committee in Adoption Institute (CCAI). The CCAI honors individuals, couples, and organizations that have made extraordinary contributions on behalf of children in need of families. Representative Chris Van Hollen nominated Montgomery's Kids for the award.

## Some things Montgomery's Kids funded in 2015

- Ten kids attended Summer Camp for one week.
- A child with special needs attended an inclusive Summer Camp.
- A foster youth was able to join her foster family in working out at a gym.
- In response to concerns about weight loss and health, three youth received fitness memberships.
- A mother received gas cards so that she could visit her child in a residential treatment center in another state.
- A foster youth received money to help pay for driver's education classes.
- Two youth with autism received iPads to assist them with therapy and academic work.
- A student with traumatic brain injury was provided funds for summer school to help her meet graduation requirements.
- A student who will be attending the University of Maryland this spring received money towards a refurbished computer.
- Two youth who lost a lot of weight were given gift cards to buy new clothes.
- Young single mothers received books to read to their children.
- Child Welfare social workers received books to help youth deal with problems in their lives.
- A family attended a performance of "Step Afrika" to engage in a bonding and cultural experience.

# Community Events

On May 11, Montgomery's Kids hosted an event to raise community awareness about our work. Two former foster youth spoke about their experiences and how they could have benefitted from the services we are now providing through Montgomery's Kids. In addition to a great turnout from the community, we were joined by delegate Jeff Waldstreicher, Chuck Short from County Executive Ike Leggett's office, and Ashima Talwar, from Representative Chris Van Hollen's office.



In October, there was an event at the home of Joy and Ron Paul. Additional community events are scheduled for November 18th, 2015, December 8th, 2015, and February 7, 2016. If you would like to either host or attend an event, please contact [LKShedlin@montgomeryskids.org](mailto:LKShedlin@montgomeryskids.org).

**We are honored that several organizations and businesses in the community have provided in-kind support:**

- The local sports equipment recycling group -- "Leveling the Playing Field" -- provided football equipment for two of Montgomery's Kids.
- Moda Optic provided "cool" glasses for youth.
- Bradley Food & Beverage and Balducci's contributed platters for our May 11th event.



*Bradley Food & Beverage*



**There is no better way to express the good you are doing for these young people than the words of the social workers and the youth themselves:**

"This is a great resource for our kids and provides us with a way to bring them incentives as well as well-deserved rewards for their efforts."

***Social Worker, Child Welfare Services, Montgomery County, MD***

"Happy that this organization pleasingly helped me get a membership to Planet Fitness. Thanks to this kind foundation I'm getting the exercise I've needed when I was locked down in RTC's (residential treatment centers). Hopefully they will help me around late 2016 and early 2017 when I start college . . . they'll help me get ready for my dorm. Thanks again to Montgomery's Kids."

***Foster Youth, Montgomery County, MD***

*Continued...*

“I just really wanted to say thank you to you and this program. Having a reliable computer is absolutely essential at this part in my life and you and Ms. Cook (one of our board members) helped make that happen for me.”

*Foster Youth, Montgomery County, MD*

“It was fun, interesting, and experiencing. My mom liked it. We got to hang out and just have fun together. It was something that we could all share together and we don't usually get to do things like that.”

*Foster Youth, Montgomery County, MD*

# A Message from the Board

Dear Family and Friends,

The future is just a bit brighter for the children and families that Montgomery's Kids supports. Working with donors like you, we look forward to helping many more vulnerable children and youth in Montgomery County have greater access to life-enriching services and opportunities. 100% of the funds we receive go to support the children and families. Board members are taking full responsibility for administrative costs.

We are happy to receive any support - financial or in-kind. You can specify a type of service you'd like to ensure or make a contribution to MK's general program funds, which will be distributed in response to needs specified by social workers. Please consider hosting a parlor meeting to tell your friends about Montgomery's Kids or suggest contributions in lieu of birthday or graduation gifts or as a recipient of your children's charitable efforts. Donations can be made securely online at our website ([montgomeryskids.org](http://montgomeryskids.org)) or by sending a check to Montgomery's Kids, 7903 Springer Road, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Please continue to spread the word about Montgomery's Kids. Check us out at [www.Montgomeryskids.org](http://www.Montgomeryskids.org), “like” us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter. The more “likes” and positive reviews we get from our supporters, the easier it will be to find us on Google and other search engines. Again, thank you so much for your support!

Sincerely,

Montgomery's Kids  
Leslie Shedlin, President  
Agnes Leshner, Secretary  
Ronna Cook, Treasurer  
Edit Reizes  
W.H. Talcott