

**To:** Montgomery College Community  
**From:** Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President  
**Subject:** **COVID-19 Updates**  
**Date:** March 31, 2020

Good afternoon. As I'm sure you are aware, there have been several developments in the continuing fight against COVID-19 in the last 24 hours. I am sharing some of them here:

- Governor Hogan's [Stay at Home order](#) instructs nonessential persons to remain at home except in certain specified circumstances. Since the College is operating largely remotely, this decree does not change conditions for most people. You should remain at home apart from medical care, pharmaceuticals, food, and socially distanced exercise. Since DC and Virginia also have Stay at Home orders in place, employees with questions about how this status impacts their work or travel should contact [Human Resources and Strategic Talent Management](#).
- President Trump's extension of the nationwide social distancing guidelines means that the College will now re-evaluate its status on April 27, and announce any changes by April 30.
- The Montgomery College Foundation received a generous donation of \$5,000 for emergency assistance last night. Cliff and Debbie White, longtime supporters of the College, stepped up at a critical time. This is radical inclusion at its finest.
- An article on colleges' responses to COVID-19 featured [Montgomery College's efforts](#), particularly with regard to providing resources for students who are also parents. The *Inside Higher Ed* piece features several regional colleges and their attempts to support vulnerable students.

While this is a very uncertain time, the College continues to focus on what it can do to help students in need. I can assure you that the College—along with the Montgomery College Foundation—is working tirelessly to bridge these gaps. These processes don't happen overnight, as we want to ensure that we are serving the students with the greatest need. So, please be patient if you are waiting to hear about possible assistance.

Speaking of help, every day I hear about people and organizations that are stepping up to help fill needs in Maryland and in Montgomery County. In my conversation with Councilman Craig Rice yesterday, he pointed me to a [county website](#) that lists ways that volunteers can help in this crisis—many of them virtual! I am so grateful to live in Montgomery County, where people care enough to reach out even in these difficult times. I hope each of you has a chance to reach out today and let someone know they are not alone.