

Sayers, Margery

From: soehrlein@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sharon Oehrlein
<soehrlein@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2019 12:48 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: I support complete streets in Howard County

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

Too many of our streets are not accessible or safe for walkers, cyclists, transit riders or people with disabilities. We need safer places for biking, walking and riding transit NOW.

We need strong funding to achieve this, including for the Bikeway.

We also need strong laws. Please support a Complete Streets Bill that will require new developments and public spaces to have better places to bike and walk. This will improve our quality of life.

Please make this an immediate priority.

Sincerely,
Sharon Oehrlein
14004 12 Oaks Ct Clarksville, MD 21029-1152 soehrlein@pathwayschools.org

Sayers, Margery

From: Carolyn Wohnsigl <cwohnsigl@me.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 18, 2019 5:20 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Carolyn Wohnsigl; Kathy A. A. Helt
Subject: Funding to the National Family Resiliency Center

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To the County Council Members:

I am writing to share my disappointment over your recent decision to cut funding to NFRC by fifty percent. My name is Carolyn Wohnsigl and I have proudly served as a coordinator of parent education programs since 2000. I also work as a school counselor in the Howard County Public School System. NFRC is a vital organization that fills a critical need in our county. Even though divorce is rated among the top stressors in the human experience in our nation by the National Institute of Health, I do not know of any other practice that specializes in treating children through the family transition process in our county.

I have had the privilege of helping families to resolve grief, adjust to change, reduce conflict and move forward with hope. The quality of group, co-parent and individual counseling at NFRC is exceptional. Group therapy is truly a transformative experience for the families that we serve. After ten intensive group sessions, special multiple-family groups give families the opportunity to support each other under the expertise and guidance of NFRC therapists. Friends and family members who have been through counseling at one point or another in their lives come back in the role of peer counselors to help others navigate the most difficult times in their lives. Since the 1980's, staff members at first COSD and now NFRC have educated judges, attorneys, educators, and the faith community about how best to support families as they transition. Our center is small but our impact is great.

We do not waste any funds at NFRC. I, like every other person who works at NFRC, am paid by the hour but we volunteer so many more hours because we believe in the work that we do. We work with clients at dramatically reduced rates, spend hours planning group and individual sessions and peer counseling meetings, and volunteer our own time to support our volunteer peer counselors. Just this year, Risa Garon, our Executive Director, drove three hours to attend the college graduation of one of our peer counselors!

Since I have been at NFRC, our office space has shrunk three times. After our most recent move on April 30, our administrative director's desk is now wedged next to a copier in a windowless hallway. We donate and receive donations for furniture, art work and toys for the play therapy room. We truly are an efficient business operating on a no-strings budget. This reduction in funding, though a drop in the bucket of funding in the county, is devastating to us.

Please reconsider this decision to cut funding to NFRC.

Respectfully,
Carolyn Wohnsigl

Sayers, Margery

From: Daisy Gonzalez <daisygmg2019@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 11:38 AM
To: Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; djung@howardcountymd.goc; CouncilMail
Subject: Aviation Unit

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing in regards to your decision to disband the Aviation Unit - Howard County Police Department. I feel that this is a disservice to residents of Howard County. The Aviation Unit routinely saves lives, such as; missing children; missing elderly; human trafficking; narcotics, etc. How could you not find another solution? Why do residents of the county have to suffer due to that Howard County Council cannot balance their budget year after year? Then, as a result the police department that is so essential to our safety gets the cut. Furthermore, I would not be so upset and disappointed if your "budget numbers" were accurate. Obviously they were over inflated to justify your decision. Also, I have learned that the "available coverage" from the other agencies are too not accurate. I will be reaching out to others about my concerns.