

School budget

Thomas Harman [tom.harman@icloud.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2016 9:09 AM**To:** CouncilMail

Dear Council Members,

Hopefully in addition to all of your work on the budget, and speaking with the Board of Education, you also had the opportunity to review the survey that the county put out. There were many issues with the survey, which skewed the results. Primarily, the survey only presented certain areas of the budget for cutting or keeping. Secondly, the survey could only be submitted if the full \$50 million dollar amount was accounted for, thereby "forcing" many of the responders to include choices they might not have otherwise included. It is deceiving for the school system to say that the public overwhelming indicated that the county council should restore funding. Please do not restore funding. The school system has an \$800 million budget! They need to be respectful of the tax payers and figure out where to trim expenses.

Thank you,
Sharon Harman
County Resident, and parent

Sent from my iPad

The Future is Now

Heather Kelso [hkhuey@msn.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 10:28 PM

To: CouncilMail; Weinstein, Jon; Ball, Calvin B; Terrasa, Jen; Sigaty, Mary Kay; Fox, Greg

Good Evening.

HCPSS has requested \$490,000 transferred out of special education (CR 60-2016). I think the important question is why wasn't this money used for students with special needs? Also why wait until so close to the end of the fiscal year to request? Who is running this budget? Who is decides to deprive special education students?

I respectfully request you deny HCPSS's request to transfer money out of special education. HCPSS has had plenty of time all year to make this request and their timing is quite interesting. The onus is on HCPSS to manage their budgets not only responsibly but morally. There are very few who have any oversight very few have any oversight of a HCPSS's huge amount of money. The Council's voice is one of those few. Please help special education students and say no to CR 60-2016.

"The Future is Now."

Thank you.

Heather Kelso

Columbia, MD

Letter of Support for Nonprofit Center

Theresa Ballinger [tballinger@howard-autism.org]

Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 8:02 PM

To: CouncilMail

Cc: joan.driessen@acshoco.org; Thibaudeau, Roger E. [Roger.Thibaudeau@jhuapl.edu]; Patrick Boxall [ptjboxall@gmail.com]; Elizabeth Benevides [ebenevides@hussmanfoundation.org]

Attachments: 2017 Howard County Operat~1.docx (311 KB)

Howard County Council:

I submit the attached letter of support for your consideration during the 2017 Howard County Operating Budget deliberations.

Theresa Ballinger
HCAS Board President



HOWARD COUNTY AUTISM SOCIETY

May 25, 2016

-via email-

Howard County Council
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Subject: 2017 Howard County Operating Budget; Budget Items Related to the Planned Nonprofit Center

Dear County Council Members:

On behalf of Howard County Autism Society (HCAS), I am writing to express support for the planned Howard County Nonprofit Center, and to request *your* support for two line items related to the Nonprofit Center in the 2017 Howard County Operating Budget – a \$210,000 rent subsidy that will be divided by the amount of square footage leased among all of the nonprofit tenants with the exception of the Housing Commission, and a one-time \$300,000 to assist with start-up costs for the Center.

As you know, HCAS is a community-based organization dedicated to serving individuals on the autism spectrum, their families, and the community. HCAS provides information, support, and advocacy; promotes awareness of autism that values the dignity and uniqueness of each individual; and works to improve the quality of and access to services and to educational opportunities.

HCAS is excited about the proposed Nonprofit Center for two main reasons. First, the Center will provide HCAS access to facilities to effectively support an extensive and expanding array of programs from a central and accessible location. HCAS maintains a staffed Resource Center and a significant portion of our limited budget (approximately 12%) is committed to rent. It is our hope participation in the Nonprofit Center would decrease that line item as well as other related cost categories such as phone service, internet, printers and copying services due to economies of scale. Second, the Nonprofit Center will allow our organization to strengthen ties with other Howard County nonprofits and provide opportunities for partnerships, knowledge sharing and relationship building. Leveraging co-location will also allow HCAS to more effectively refer HCAS members to other service-oriented organizations; expand HCAS' reach to individuals and families affected by autism that may not have connected with our organization; and create new opportunities for HCAS to fulfill its mission.

Of course, these benefits can only be ensured if the financial structure of the Nonprofit Center makes the occupancy costs affordable on a sustaining basis. Your support is vital to ensure the planned Nonprofit Center proceeds with a viable financial plan.

Sincerely,

Theresa Ballinger
President

• providing support • promoting awareness • advocating for change
10280 Old Columbia Road, Suite 215, Columbia, Maryland 21046
410-290-3466 • www.howard-autism.org • info@howard-autism.org

Support for Nonprofit Center subsidy and start-up funds

Joan Driessen [joan.driessen@acshoco.org]

Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 3:06 PM

To: CouncilMail

Dear Council Members,

ACS appreciates the careful consideration that you have given to the subsidy and start-up funding for the proposed nonprofit center. These funds are critical to our ability to make this project happen. There have been multiple efforts within the past two decades to create a center that can provide accessible and coordinated services to Howard County residents. Many factors have coalesced to make this an optimal time for its creation.

The allocation of the \$210,000 to subsidize the rent for the tenants, as well as the \$300,000 in start-up funding are key to making it a reality.

It is our hope that the 10 nonprofits currently slated to share space in this center will be joined by other key service providers in the near future. We are fortunate to have identified space in an office park that is both centrally located and offers opportunities for expansion, including adequate space for the Department of Social Services. Our plan is to create a human service hub for the county where services can be provided more effectively and efficiently, and that provides an environment where collaborations and partnerships can thrive.

I encourage you to support the funding for this center. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Joan Driessen

Joan Driessen
Executive Director
Association of Community Services of Howard County
10480 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 920
Columbia, MD 21044
410-715-9545
www.acshoco.org



Support for the Nonprofit Center subsidy

Sebastiao, Elizabeth [sebastiao@mowcm.org]

Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 2:32 PM

To: CouncilMail

Hello,

I am writing this email to ask for your support by funding the Nonprofit Center for the Howard County Operating Budget in 2017. Countless lives can be changed for the better with the right amount of funding. The rent subsidy of \$210,000 and the \$300,000 one-time start up costs are nominal in comparison to the years of supportive services that can be offered to the community.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Best regards,

Elizabeth Sebastiao, M.S.

Regional Manager, Southwest Region
Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland, Inc.

5305 Village Center Drive, Suite 214

Columbia, MD 21044

(410) 730-9476- direct line

(443) 573-0971- fax

sebastiao@mowcm.org

www.mealsonwheelsmd.org

www.facebook.com/mealsonwheelsmd

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Please approve funding for the new Non-Profit Center for Howard County :)

Heifner, Janet [heifner@mowcm.org]

Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2016 1:47 PM

To: CouncilMail

Jan E Heifner, CPA, MBA
Deputy Executive Director,
Finance, IT, Facility
Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland, Inc
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Baltimore, MD 21224
443-573-0917 direct line
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<http://twitter.com/#!/mealsonwheelsmd>
To donate: <http://www.mealsonwheelsmd.org/donations>



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lmarkovitz@comcast.net

Sent: Friday, May 20, 2016 11:21 AM

To: CouncilMail

Dear Council Members,

I received a letter in the mail today, at my office address, with The People's Voice on the label, marked URGENT. The letter was addressed to "Fellow People's Voice Members", and berated the addition of administrative staff for the Council in the budget. It used some choice words.

I am reaching out to you with the fact that this is not from The People's Voice, nor any Board member, and our membership data is not available to the public. We are publicizing this fact on Facebook and Twitter as well. I have no idea why those unwilling to properly identify themselves are implying they are with our organization.

I do not know how widespread the distribution of this letter was. Anyway, good luck with your commendable and tedious work on the budget. Frankly, I haven't looked into the details of the Council budget increase, but I have often thought you could use more help, especially with constituent services ever increasing.

Lisa Markovitz