



## Helping Seniors Successfully Age in Place

MedStar Montgomery Medical Center has been one of the primary sponsors of Olney Home For Life (OHFL) for several years. Initially founded to address the transportation needs of local seniors, the organization now offers a range of services. From transportation to friendly calls, OHFL has enhanced the quality of life for seniors by helping them maintain their mobility, health, and social connections. Services are provided at no cost by community members—both seniors and others—who volunteer their help.

Through the support of OHFL, MedStar Montgomery is able to provide patients in need with a free alternative to costly transportation options, ensuring that they attend all follow-up treatments and appointments. Services at the hospital are facilitated by MedStar Montgomery's community health staff, who attend OHFL's monthly board meetings, help establish referrals to senior patients, and advocate for OHFL to hospital associates.

During 2017 alone, 1,230 rides were provided by 29 drivers to 58 different seniors. Of these, 58 percent were for medical related needs, and 42 percent were for daily needs—enabling these seniors to successfully age in place.

## Letter From the President

At MedStar Montgomery Medical Center, we know that having an in-depth understanding of the community's needs is key to building a healthy population. This requires reaching out beyond our walls to find ways to enhance our community's health and well-being, and to ensure that we are making positive changes in our neighbors' lives.

You'll read about two innovative initiatives in this 2017 Report to the Community. While some may simply think of us as a place for medical treatment, as a not-for-profit hospital, we are proud to support our community through many important partnerships.

Sincerely,

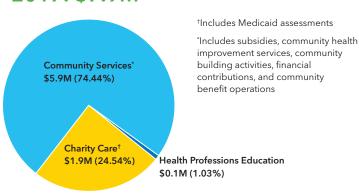
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Thomas J. Senker, FACHE

President, MedStar Montgomery Medical Center

"The volunteers from Olney Home For Life are like angels sent to help people in need. I am so grateful. Thank you."

-Olney Home For Life Customer



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## Inspiring the Healthcare Workers of Tomorrow

Every summer for more than 12 years, MedStar Montgomery Medical Center has provided area high school and college students who are enrolled in healthcare curriculums the chance to participate in a unique summer internship program—one that is often a pivotal experience in their young lives.

The Medical Careers summer internship offers students an unparalleled opportunity to work and interact with patients that volunteering alone could not provide. During the program, which runs from late June through late August, an average of 10 students are hired to work part time in various areas of the hospital–from cardiac rehab to nursing to radiology and more. After being introduced to various pathways, many of the students narrow down their interests, concentrating on one aspect or another of the healthcare field.

While being able to watch and learn is a positive experience in and of itself, helping to care for and treat patients directly is even more rewarding, as there are many skills that cannot be learned from a textbook or observation alone. As a result, the majority of those who participated in the program since it was launched were inspired to pursue healthcare careers—and are now making a difference in the lives of others every day.

To learn more about MedStar Health's programs and initiatives across Maryland and the Washington, D.C., region that are contributing to healthier communities, visit **MedStarHealth.org/CommunityHealth**.



