

AFSCME 3 NEWSLETTER

Member Spotlight: Monica Mayo



Family Investment Specialist, Baltimore City Dept of Social Services

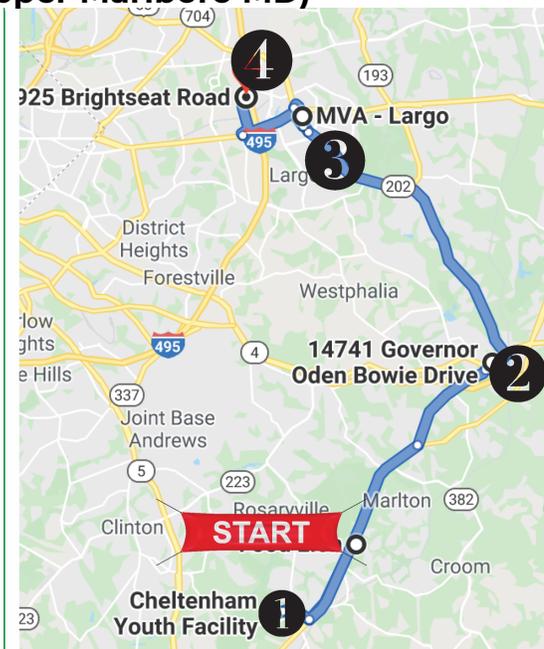
April 2020 had a 150% increase in applications over April 2019 to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). My co-workers and I are on the frontline of helping residents of Maryland meet basic needs for themselves and their families.



Many working people are facing applying for benefits for the first time. We are there for them. Despite significant challenges from not having enough equipment to safely work from home, we are dedicated to meeting the needs of our community. We are proud of the work we do every single day. Thank you Monica!

Join us for a Caravan to Protect our COVID-19 Hot Spot Heroes on Thursday, May 27th, 2020.

Meet at 1:30PM at the Food Lion Parking Lot (9500 Robert Crain Hwy, Upper Marlboro MD)



AFSCME 3 Members Plan TownHall with U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen
Join us on Facebook at 5:30pm
TOMORROW (5/27)

AFSCME Maryland President Patrick Moran will ask questions on your mind! Join us as Senator Van Hollen updates us on federal legislation and how it could impact AFSCME Maryland members and hear AFSCME Maryland members ask questions from the frontlines.



MAY 26TH, 2020

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Guidance for State Employees on expanded FMLA programs and new Emergency Paid Sick Leave from DBM

In response to the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak, President Trump signed into law the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) which will be in effect from April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

The new law offers an expanded Family and Medical Leave Act benefit (Expanded FMLA) to allow employees up to 12 weeks of protected leave when an employee is unable to work in order to care for the employee's child if the child's school or childcare provider or facility is closed or unavailable due to certain reasons associated with the COVID-19 public health emergency. The 12 weeks is offset by any leave previously used in the past 12 months under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

The new law also provides up to 80 hours (10 days) of Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL) for employees who are impacted by COVID-19 because of a mandated quarantine or isolation, or if caring for an individual impacted by COVID-19. Employees will be paid either 100% of their salary, or 2/3 of their salary for certain reasons associated with the COVID-19 public health emergency, as shown below:

- (1) The employee is subject to a federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19;
- (2) The employee has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to concerns related to COVID-19;
- (3) The employee is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and is seeking a medical diagnosis;
- (4) The employee is caring for an individual subject to an order described in (1) or has been advised as described in (2);
- (5) The employee is caring for a son or daughter whose school or place of care is closed, or child care provider is unavailable, due to COVID-19 precautions;
- or (6) The employee is experiencing substantially similar conditions as specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretaries of Labor and Treasury.

Check out website: www.afscmemd.org for more information on the

Thank you to our Allies for joining our #fundthefrontlines Caravan!

AFSCME was proud to have key allies and partners join us in our caravan for front-line workers. We had our brothers and sisters in labor including MD/DC AFL-CIO President Donna Edwards, AFSCME Council 67 and International Vice President Glen Middleton, and SEIU 1199. We also were joined by Willie Flowers and leaders from the NAACP State Conference and Rev. Al Hathaway from Union Baptist Church. We also got key support from some elected leaders, Del. Regina Boyce as well as Baltimore City Council members Shannon Sneed, Bill Henry, Kris Burnett, and Danielle McCray. Our community partners and elected allies are tremendous partners who share our values of funding the frontlines.

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Political Action Means Elected Official Engagement

On May 20 leaders from AFSCME Local 1072 virtually sat down with the Senator and Delegates from Maryland District 22 (Prince George's County) to discuss ongoing health and safety issues at the University of Maryland-College Park campus.

Local 1072 Board members Todd Holden, Jeff Fiory, Sally Davies and Celina Sargusingh, activist Rebecca Wilson and staff laid out the concerns, highlighting the lack of safety protocols, PPE and plans for campus staff, faculty and students.

Of immediate concern is the university's decision to have Memorial Day weekend be a "move-out" weekend for students and their families, without ANY guidelines nor input from campus employees that will be engaging with those students and families (whether they want to or not!). In response Local 1072 submitted a "demand to bargain" to the university over the following issues:

- Campus-wide, mandatory screening procedures that match or exceed those used in other State facilities, including temperature checks and denial of entry to those who fail screening
- COVID-19 testing for all AFSCME-represented workers
- An abundant supply of PPE and cleaning supplies COVID-19-specific training on awareness, PPE-usage, cleaning procedures and chemical safety for all AFSCME-represented employees
- Timely, multilingual communications distributed by a variety of media so that all AFSCME-represented employees receive information relevant to their working conditions equitably.

District 22 elected officials heard the concerns of AFSCME members and requested a breakdown of specific ways that they could share with the entire Prince George's County Delegation, to result in a letter from the entire Delegation to the University of Maryland-College Park administration emphasizing these concerns and pushing for meetings with true campus decisionmakers to address the issues raised.

Local 1072 will continue to stand up for their membership, and demand the respect and dignity deserved of every hardworking higher education employee.

