



## THE POWER OF OUR COMMUNITY

### MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Courtney Hall

September demonstrated once again the power of our community.

With your help, students returned to school prepared with supplies, local businesses received a boost in revenue, residents slept at ease that their rent and utility bills were paid, and job seekers gained confidence in securing fair employment, as shared in the pages of this newsletter.

In adjusting to the new normal after the pandemic, the needs of our neighbors are increasing and so

### HIGHLIGHTS

IW Voices

---

In the Spotlight:  
Hettie Fleming

---

September News

---

Upcoming Events

---

Impact by the Numbers  
(as of Fiscal Year 2022)

has your commitment to do more for others.

**In this spirit we give gratitude to you—our partners, donors, and volunteers—for helping us expand our services.**



## IW VOICES

**"IW provides the platform for us to reach more people and we look forward to strengthening our partnership with them." - Simma Kupchan, Ohr Kodesh Congregation**

---

**"You will see many mothers and their children preparing meals and happily delivering them to IW facilities. We will continue to work with the IW team because they do not only help us build a stronger connection with our neighbors, they also deepen the bond of families." - Adileh ShariEFF, the Islamic Center of Maryland**

---

**"I have been able to receive free clothing without judgement and in times of great necessity." - IW Clothing Center Client**

**As we look toward opening new facilities, as well as deploying more fundraising campaigns and community activities in the coming weeks, please walk the journey with us by donating and volunteering.**

The work ahead is great but with your generous contribution of resources, time, energy, and ideas, we as one community will continue to do the work that delivers and matters. ■

---

*Mr. Hall has been the Chief Executive Officer of IW since 2020. Get to know the leaders of IW [here](#).*

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

In celebrating our 50 years of service, we continue to shine a light on the many who have made the work we do impactful. This month, we feature **Ms. Hettie Fleming**, a member of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Rockville and the National Council of Negro Women Montgomery County, MD Section.

She is also a longtime partner and dear friend of the IW family.

Hettie speaks of a life dedicated to service, and how her mission of being there for others is realized in part through her partnership with us.

### LIVING A LIFE OF PURPOSE

Hettie Fleming

#### *A Relationship Built on Trust*

The uniqueness of IW rests on its team. I started with IW 15 years ago with a small donation of clothes. Over the years, as I met more of the dedicated people behind the IW Clothing Center, IW Women's Centers, and IW Food Pantry, the donations and time spent volunteering increased because of a shared mission to be of service to others.

It is through that process that my trust in IW was founded. They have proven their



amazing ability in responding to our community's most critical needs and bringing people together to help those to stand on their feet again.

---

***Got an IW story? Share it with us at [sututalumiworksmc.org](http://sututalumiworksmc.org).***

## ***Valuing Others, as We Do Ourselves***

The pandemic laid bare our community's fragilities, proving yet again that poverty and homelessness can happen to anyone.



It is our duty to help with empathy and kindness, not just for the gain of our neighbors but for ourselves. Giving connects us to others and inspires an enduring sense of purpose, which is the foundation of any thriving community. IW provides that platform by placing great value on us. They welcome with equal gratitude not just financial contributions but our time, ideas, and energy.



## ***Partnership Makes Us Stronger***

As we build our new normal after the pandemic, many in our community will need our support from employment, food and energy security, to housing. The way forward is to continue working together with IW and to invite others to join.

In pooling our different expertise, perspectives, and resources, we will become the better for it as this will deepen our sense of belonging in Montgomery County. ■

## SEPTEMBER NEWS



**IW's Back-to-School Campaign raised over \$60,000 because of you!** The campaign surpassed our goal by 36 percent, making it our most successful one to date. Nearly 2,500 Montgomery County Public School students started the school year with new backpacks and supplies that will help them learn, achieve, and succeed. [See more.](#)

**Monthly Restaurant Fundraiser Campaign starts.** The series started with Paisano's Pizza in Germantown, MD on September 26 and other area restaurants will follow. Family and friends are invited to enjoy their favorite meals and help us receive a percentage of the proceeds for our programs. [See more.](#)

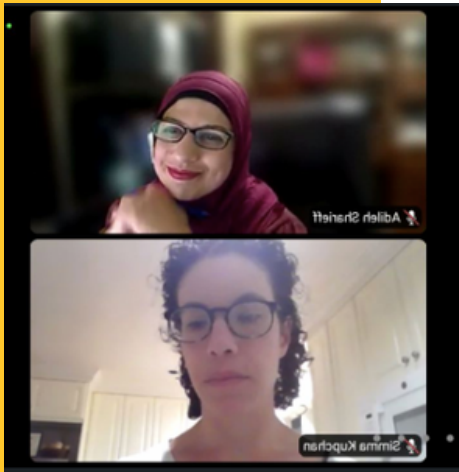


**17th PEPCO Golf Classic supports IW.** PEPCO's supporters raised funds for three local non-profit organizations, including IW. Proceeds from the event will go to our IW Connections program, which has serviced 1,150 clients thus far with emergency assistance, as well as utility and rental support.



**Calling on friends to support our IW Women's Centers at Taft Court and Crabbs Branch.** We are seeking breakfast, lunch, and dinner donations for our 35 clients at each facility. For the guidelines, see [here](#) and [here](#).





**Faith-based groups commend IW.** Hosted by the Montgomery County Office of Community Partnerships, representatives from Mt. Calvary Baptist Church of Rockville, the Islamic Center of Maryland, and the Ohr Kodesh Congregation, cited IW for opening an avenue for diverse groups to work together and for residents to live out their faith in service to others. [See more.](#)

**Vote for Us.** WLR Automatic Group's "35K Giving for Good" Campaign is a chance for IW to do more, for more. Vote for us [here](#) on or before October 31 to help increase our chances of winning \$10,000 for our emergency shelter, housing, essential needs, and employment programs.



**Helping clients get jobs.** Donna Gabriel, IW Director of Vocational Services Program, promoted IW's services and advertised for volunteers, particularly those proficient in French and Spanish, at the Culture Pop Jam Job Fair on September 22 at Westfield Montgomery Mall. [See more.](#)

**IW Team Building in Butler's Orchard.** On September 15, our staff enjoyed an afternoon of apple picking and slides as part of an organization-wide effort to strengthen camaraderie for stronger inter-program collaboration.





**Shining a light on mental health and overdose awareness.** In support of the Montgomery Goes Purple Initiative, IW convened experts in its latest Community Conversation series to spotlight practices that would inspire stigma-free recovery and celebrate those who are helping people in the community. [See more.](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**OCT 10** IW Restaurant Fundraiser:  
Chipotle, Potomac, MD

**OCT 15** IW Volunteer  
Appreciation Festival

**NOV 1** Annual Faith Community  
Meeting

**NOV 12** IW Restaurant Fundraiser:  
Kaldi's Social House, Silver Spring, MD

## DONATE AND VOLUNTEER

[www.iworksmc.org](http://www.iworksmc.org)

## CONTACT US

(301) 762-8682  
[info@iworksmc.org](mailto:info@iworksmc.org)

## VISIT US

-  [interfaithworks](#)
-  [interfaith-works](#)
-  [interfaithworks](#)
-  [InterfaithWorksMC](#)
-  [interfaithworksmoco](#)

## IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

as of Fiscal Year 2022



**35,000** MoCo residents served annually



**1.1 million** pounds of food distributed



**1,116** people provided shelter and meals



**101** people secured employment



**7,582** people received clothing and other household items



**469** households received emergency rental and utility support