

**SB 527\_BFPPA\_SEVITA\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Bryson Popham

Position: FAV

## Bryson F. Popham, P.A.

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February 22, 2022

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 527 Elderly Individuals - Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services  
Pilot Program and Task Force  
FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Kelley and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am appearing before you today on behalf of Sevita Health in support of Senate Bill 527.

Sevita Health, formerly the MENTOR NETWORK, is a leading provider of home and community-based specialty health care. Its 40,000 employees serve more than 50,000 individuals. These are adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and individuals with complex care needs.

Sevita is a major provider of medical day care services, known as "Adult Day Health," which is a structured group program that provides health, social and related support services to functionally disabled adults. Many recipients of this service are also Medicaid beneficiaries.

Traditionally, these services have been provided in centers to which enrollees are transported by the program. Sevita operates forty (40) centers in five (5) states countrywide, with seven (7) centers in Maryland, four (4) are in Montgomery County and two (2) are in Howard County. There are nearly 5,000 registered adult day care centers countrywide with a total of several hundred thousand enrollees.

Senate Bill 527 is a direct response to the changing health care needs of this fragile population. This change has accelerated during the pandemic. Early on in the pandemic, like many businesses and gathering places, adult day care centers were forced to close. The needs of their enrollees, continued, and Sevita and other providers were forced to adjust their practices in order to deliver necessary services to enrollees remotely.

This has been a learning experience for Sevita and the industry, and Sevita brought a concept to Maryland elected officials proposing a study and pilot program that would build on what it has learned during the last two years. In sum, the Sevita concept is to provide needed services beyond the four walls of each of its adult day care facilities, thus providing such services to a broader population of eligible individuals.

There are two important concepts that will be examined during the study/pilot program process. One concept is to develop an "integrator," which is a person or facility that would work closely with enrollees to determine whether additional services are needed. For example, one needed service could be home health care for an enrollee. In the current system, an enrollee would have to identify his/her need, and then locate and contact a home health care provider. In the proposed program, the integrator would assist the enrollee in this process. This process of consultation is also known as "defragmenting" certain health care services and their delivery. If successful, the pilot program will

target necessary services for individual enrollees and assist those individuals in accessing such services.

A second concept to be examined could, if proven, lead to superior health outcomes at lower costs for the health system. It focuses on the tendency of some enrollees, who may be suffering from social isolation or similar issues, to contact emergency services (9-1-1) when there is no actual medical need for such services. Summoning an emergency vehicle, coupled with emergency room services, is an extremely expensive health care service. If an integrator, in the pilot program, could identify and prevent the potential for such inappropriate use of emergency room services, there could be considerable savings to the health care system as a whole.

Although Senate Bill 527 is statewide in its application, the Committee will note that the pilot program and study will be conducted in Montgomery and Howard Counties. We are grateful to our bill sponsors for reaching out to these counties to provide support for the pilot program and staffing for the accompanying study.

We respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 527.

Very truly yours,

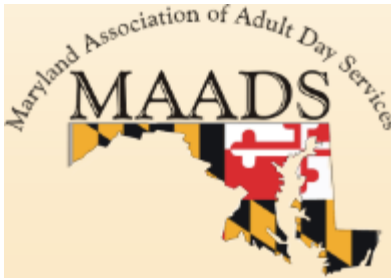
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryson Popham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'B'.

Bryson F. Popham

**SB0527\_FAV\_MAADS, MNCHA\_Howard & Mont. County Adul**

Uploaded by: Danna Kauffman

Position: FAV



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TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair  
Members, Senate Finance Committee  
The Honorable Brian J. Feldman

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer

DATE: February 22, 2022

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 527 – *Elderly Individuals – Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program and Task Force*

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On behalf of the Maryland Association of Adult Day Services and the Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association, we **support** the passage of Senate Bill 527.

This bill establishes a Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program to integrate the provision of medical adult day care, home health care, and medical services provided under Medicaid. Participation in the Pilot Program is strictly voluntary for providers. Howard and Montgomery counties may jointly designate and authorize the operation of one or more entities to serve as an “integrator” and coordinate all services provided under the Pilot Program.

The bill also establishes a Task Force to: (1) examine the status of medical adult day care in the State; (2) review and evaluate the list of services required in the Pilot Program; (3) review and evaluate the efficacy of providing services using an integrator; (4) identify and measure any enhanced continuity of care, using the integrator model, that would allow enrollees to remain in their homes and the community, defer treatment in higher levels of care, and reduce the incidences of treatment in acute care settings; (5) identify and measure any reduction in unnecessary utilization of emergency medical services by enrollees; and (6) identify and measure other potential benefits of the integrator model.

Senate Bill 527 seeks to develop an innovative approach to better coordinate care for those receiving services in the community. Through better coordination, the hope is that individuals will be able to remain in the community and avoid more expensive institutional and hospital care. The bill does recognize that not every medical adult day center or home care agency has the needed resources to implement the requirements of this Pilot Program, so we approach the voluntary nature of this Pilot Program. Ultimately, we look forward to the analysis that will be included in the annual report to help guide the State on how to implement changes to better serve individuals in community settings. For these reasons, we urge a favorable vote on Senate Bill 527.

**For more information call:**

Danna L. Kauffman  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
410-244-7000

**SB 527\_SEVITA\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jeff Wright

Position: FAV

February 22, 2022

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 527 Elderly Individuals - Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health  
Care Services Pilot Program and Task Force FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Kelley and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

My name is Jeff Wright and I am the State Director for Sevita. I have 25 years of experience providing Medical Adult Day Services in multiple states.

Sevita is the leading provider of home and community-based specialty health care. We proudly provide services to over 50,000 individuals in 40 states and have over 40,000 employees. Our goal is to enable the individuals we serve to be as independent as possible and to live and thrive in their communities. Our belief is that every individual has the right to live a full, independent life, and the best place to do that is in their home and community.

We are one of the largest providers of traditional adult day health services nationally. We operate 42 Medical Adult Day programs in 5 states, serving 5000 individuals. Sevita has been operating Medical Adult Day programs in Maryland since 2016. Currently, we have 7 centers and provide services to approximately 800 individuals here in Maryland.

Sevita is constantly looking for ways to improve services and outcomes for the individuals we serve. We know the ongoing pandemic has altered how this population wants to access our services but their demand for these services has not waned. The Pilot Program will look to leverage Medical Adult Day centers, home health visits and virtual visits to deliver comprehensive care tailored to the individual. The goal is to create a higher touch, patient driven, care model which will improve clinical and social determinants of health outcomes, defragment care and drive down costs.

We respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 527.

Sincerely,



Jeff Wright  
State Director MD/NJ

**Sevita**  
[Jeff.Wright@sevitahealth.com](mailto:Jeff.Wright@sevitahealth.com)

[SevitaHealth.com](http://SevitaHealth.com)

**WDC Testimony SB0527-2022\_FINAL.pdf**

Uploaded by: JoAnne Koravos

Position: FAV





MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND  
**WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB**

P.O. Box 34047, Bethesda, MD 20827

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

**SB0527 – Elderly Individuals – Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program and Task Force  
Senate Finance Committee – February 22, 2022  
SUPPORT**

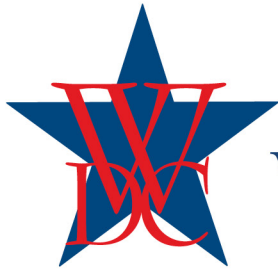
Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony concerning an important priority of the **Montgomery County Women's Democratic Club (WDC)** for the 2022 legislative session. WDC is one of the largest and most active Democratic Clubs in our County with hundreds of politically active women and men, including many elected officials.

**WDC urges the passage of SB0527.** This bill provides much needed coordination of services to the vulnerable Medicaid recipients requiring adult day care services that have thus far been fragmented and uncoordinated. The bill creates a pilot program that would integrate needed services such as meals, medication administration, socialization, and related services into a single entity. This integrator will be the recipient's connection to the outside world allowing them to age in place and avoid future disruptions in service such as the shuttering of adult day care facilities in Maryland in March of 2020<sup>1</sup>, representing yet another negative consequence of the COVID-19 Pandemic. This Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program will coordinate adult home health and medical services through one or more integrator entities. It should be noted that 14.2% of Marylanders are enrolled in Medicaid and as our population is aging and living longer, the number of residents needing health and medical services will not only increase but will also rely on these services for an extended period of time.

The Maryland Department of Aging reports that the number of older Marylanders is increasing. Of the nearly 5.8 million people in Maryland in 2015, 18.35% were age 60 or over. This percentage is expected to increase to 25.4% of Maryland's projected population of 6.7 million by the year 2030. In fact, individuals between the ages of 80-84 are the fastest growing segment of the population. Furthermore, Montgomery County has the largest number of older residents (60+) in the State. According to the U.S. Census, women outlive men and in Maryland, women represent 57% of the 60+

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<sup>1</sup> COVID-19 Temporary Closure of Adult Medical Day Care Centers Frequently Asked Questions, March 31, 2020, Maryland Department of Health. [https://www.maads.org/sites/default/files/AMDC%20COVID-19%20Closure%20Freq%20Asked%20Questions\\_FINAL\\_03312020.pdf](https://www.maads.org/sites/default/files/AMDC%20COVID-19%20Closure%20Freq%20Asked%20Questions_FINAL_03312020.pdf)



MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND  
WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB

P.O. Box 34047, Bethesda, MD 20827

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population and 63% of the 80+ population. Therefore, women are disproportionately impacted by the reduction in home health and medical care services.

As with other impacted groups, our vulnerable older residents would benefit from innovative solutions aimed at mitigating the detrimental effects of the pandemic, especially older women. Elder justice and racial justice are intertwined. Over 55% of Montgomery County residents are categorized as Black, Hispanic, and Asian. Therefore, potentially a large percentage of the vulnerable elderly in the county are also racially disadvantaged and will benefit from the proposed pilot program.

**We ask for your support for SB0527 and strongly urge a favorable Committee report.**

Respectfully,

Leslie Milano  
President

**SB527 MoCoDHHS- (GA2022) SUPPORT.pdf**

Uploaded by: Leslie Frey

Position: FAV



# Montgomery County

## Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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**ROCKVILLE: 240-777-6550**

**ANNAPOLIS: 240-777-8270**

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**SB 527**

**DATE: February 22, 2022**

**SPONSOR: Senator Feldman**

**ASSIGNED TO: Finance**

**CONTACT PERSON: Leslie Frey (leslie.frey@montgomerycountymd.gov)**

**POSITION: SUPPORT (Department of Health and Human Services)**

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### **Elderly Individuals - Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program and Task Force**

Senate Bill 527 establishes the Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program (the Program) in Howard County and Montgomery County to integrate the provision of medical adult day care services, home health care services, and medical services provided under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program. The pilot, which is authorized to operate for 3.5 years, utilizes integrator entities to coordinate services provided under the program. The bill also establishes the Task Force on the Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program, which will examine the current delivery of medical adult day care services in the State, evaluate the efficacy of utilizing the integrator model, measure effects of the program, and report on its findings.

Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services supports Senate Bill 527 because it could increase the likelihood that seniors are able to “age in place” safely and with dignity. Montgomery County is proud to be an Age-Friendly community, a designation of the World Health Organization and AARP,<sup>1</sup> and as such develops Age-Friendly strategic plans that share similar goals with the Program’s potential benefits listed in the bill such as greater social interaction, transportation options, avoidance of food insecurity, and monitoring the administration of medications.<sup>2</sup> Part of the County’s Age-Friendly action plan is to reduce avoidable hospital use<sup>3</sup> by connecting people aged 65 or older and living independently in the community to the support and services they need before their health declines through personalized plans to address specific needs, providing guidance on navigating community and other resources, and arranging services that may prevent unnecessary hospital contact. The Program created by Senate Bill 527 builds on this model to enable seniors to live at home and keep them from entering acute care settings through integrating the provision of medical adult day care, home health services and medical services. While the Program shares many goals with programs supporting seniors in Montgomery County, the Program’s focus on both Medicaid participants in a target population (Montgomery County and Howard County) and its creation of a Task Force to study outcomes create an opportunity to glean lessons about long term services and supports that the whole State can benefit from.

Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services respectfully asks the committee to issue a favorable report on Senate Bill 527.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/senior/Resources/Files/Age-Friendly\\_2020\\_beyond.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/senior/Resources/Files/Age-Friendly_2020_beyond.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/senior/Resources/Files/Domain-Group-Reports-2020.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www3.montgomerycountymd.gov/311/Solutions.aspx?SolutionId=1-547QEK>

**SB527\_FWA\_AlzheimersAssociationMD.pdf**

Uploaded by: Eric Colchamiro

Position: FWA

Testimony of the Alzheimer's Association Greater Maryland and National Capital Area Chapters  
**SB 527 - Elderly Individuals - Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program and Task Force**  
Position: Favorable with Amendment

Chair Kelley and Vice-Chair Feldman

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Senate Bill 527, which establishes the Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program in Howard County and Montgomery County to integrate the provision of medical adult day care services, home health care services, and medical services provided under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; it also authorizes Howard County and Montgomery County to jointly authorize the operation of one or more integrator entities to coordinate services provided under the pilot program.

Adult day centers offer people with Alzheimer's and other dementias the opportunity to be social and to participate in activities in a safe environment, which provides relief for Maryland's 238,000 adult dementia caregivers. If you are a caregiver that works during the day, an adult day center can be very helpful as you try to balance a job with caregiving duties. For people with Alzheimer's and dementia, adult day centers provide a chance to be social and to participate in staffed activities such as music and exercise programs. Across Maryland, as we face an extraordinary need for home and community-based services—which come at a less expensive cost than institutional care—coupled with an aging population, including a projected 18 percent growth in the number of residents with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, these facilities are fundamentally important.

REQUESTED AMENDMENT

The Alzheimer's Association supports this legislation, but requests an amendment, to increase the consumer voice on the proposed task force. Following page 6, line 13, add a sentence which reads, "Two Maryland residents, from Montgomery or Howard County, which represent the caregiver and consumer perspective of adult day services."

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit testimony. We ask for a favorable report, with this amendment included to the existing text of Senate Bill 527. We believe this presents an important necessary addition to strengthen adult day services in Maryland.

**12 - SB 527 - FIN - MDH - LOI.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Heather Shek

Position: INFO



*Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary*

February 22, 2022

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

**RE: SB 527 – Elderly Individuals – Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program and Task Force - Letter of Information**

Dear Chair Kelley and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of information for Senate Bill (SB) 527 – Elderly Individuals – Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program and Task Force.

SB 527 creates a Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program (Pilot Program) for elderly residents of either county who receive medical adult day care services, home health care services and/or medical services provided under the Maryland Medicaid Assistance Program. The Pilot Program designates an ‘integrator’ who works to coordinate services between the three Medical Assistance programs, in addition to providing additional services such as remote patient monitoring and medication reviews. SB 527 also defines a Task Force and its membership to oversee and evaluate the Pilot Program.

MDH anticipates that this pilot will need to be approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) through a 1915(c) waiver. As such, the earliest anticipated effective date for the Pilot Program could be January 1, 2023 due to this approval process.

The proposed Pilot Program shares features with the Program for All-Inclusive Care of the Elderly (PACE) run by MDH, especially as MDH looks to expand its reach. PACE is one part of a multifaceted approach addressing the health needs of our older adults. Both include a coordinating entity, are centered around an adult day center, and include an interdisciplinary care approach that incorporates socialization, home health/personal care and medical services. PACE is a key part of MDH’s approach to integration for individuals dually-eligible for Medicare and Medicaid (duals). Notably, PACE integrates care across both Medicare and Medicaid, whereas the proposed Pilot Program is Medicaid-only and may include individuals who already receive managed care services.



MDH released a competitive solicitation in the fall of 2021 to expand the number of PACE organizations to be announced in March. MDH's PACE expansion, as currently envisioned, will authorize new PACE organizations in Montgomery County, Prince George's County and Baltimore City with an initial cap of 200 participants each. A rural site may also be selected for 100 participants.

If you have any questions, please contact Heather Shek, Director of Governmental Affairs, at [heather.shek@maryland.gov](mailto:heather.shek@maryland.gov) or (443) 695-4218.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis R. Schrader".

Dennis R. Schrader  
Secretary