

Senator Ariana Kelly
Annapolis, Maryland

Subject: Letter of Support for SB875 Miriam Kelty Aging and Senior Social Connection Hub and Spoke Pilot Program

Dear Senator Kelly,

This letter indicates the support of the undersigned initial members of the Montgomery County Villages Consortium, the non-profit organization established to strengthen the important work of Villages in Montgomery County helping the growing numbers of seniors who are aging in place by choice and necessity. It is essential that volunteer-based Villages continue and grow, given the burgeoning numbers and needs of seniors.

The administrative services organization approach has worked in Village and association management models across the country because it spreads necessary infrastructure costs across a wider base of organizations, thereby reducing, or if subsidized, eliminating costs. While our model will copy some of the ideas of organizations already in existence, it will also have some unique elements, given the history of Villages, our geography, available services, and other factors. Thus, the study approach is a good one, for no doubt we will have data to share and stories to tell. The dearth of Villages in other parts of the State means that the findings can be used when the study is complete.

We commend you for introducing this bill and hope it will find support.

Sincerely,

Constance F. Row
President, Montgomery County Consortium

For members

Friendship Heights Neighbors Network, Constance Row
Little Falls Village, Margie Eulner Ott
Kentlands and Lakelands, Linda Weisman
Takoma Park, Lois Weinberg
Strathmore Bel Pre, Kristi Hullings
East County Seniors, Sylvia Saunders
Silver Spring, Beverly Lunsford

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