

[For a better viewing experience click here to view this email in your browser.](#)



[Volunteer](#) | [Join](#) | [Renew](#) | [Donate](#) | [Website](#)

WDC Weekly Update – Tuesday, March 30, 2021

Events, Advocacy, Community Events

[President's Message](#)

#ICYMI

Events

- [April 15 Tom Perez, former DNC Chair: Voting Rights in America: Sustaining Democracy in Challenging Times](#)

- [Juvenile Justice Reform: Getting MD Out of Last Place](#)

Resources

- [Community Ambassador Volunteers Needed for County Vaccine Pre-registration Events](#)
- [Calendars](#)
- [Montgomery County Covid19 Information Portal](#)
- [Volunteer in Response to COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [WDC YouTube Channel](#)

Save the Dates

- [April 29 with Fiona Hill](#)
- [May 31 with Congressman John Sarbanes](#)

WDC Committee Updates

- [WDC Advocacy](#)
- [Sign the Petition Marshall Plan for Mpms](#)



Dear WDC Family,

- We read daily about recalcitrant Republicans in Congress blocking the Biden administration across issue after issue.
- Covid statistics are going the wrong way in many jurisdictions.
- State legislatures around the US are approving bills to suppress voters especially from minority communities while blocking measures to suppress mass shootings.
- Anti-Asian hate crimes roared into public awareness.
- Jury selection has begun in the case against George Floyd's killer.
- Closer to home, Maryland legislators overrode Hogan's veto to launch the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, approved a pre-release center for women inmates, and are wrestling with criminal justice and policing reform.
- Meanwhile the County struggles with whether police belong in our public schools in the face of staggering disproportionality, by race, of which students are caught up in 'the system.'

And then that video. The crushing video of two sworn County officers faced with a five-year old Black child who left his school. This video is hard to watch. Imagine living it, at age five.

These are all reminders of why the press is a vital part of our democracy, and so are organizations like WDC. We have organized hundreds of volunteers to write and call our legislators on key WDC priorities, hosted events to discuss them in depth, and shared ways for you to engage. At WDC we don't just want to defend democracy, we want to expand it. We welcome your ideas for future programs, better communication and smarter approaches to making change and improving lives. Join us!

For democracy,
Diana Conway, President



Voting Rights in America: Sustaining Democracy in Challenging Times

When: Thursday, April 15, 1-2 pm with Tom Perez, former DNC Chair

[RSVP here](#)




Tom Perez
Thursday, April 15, 1 pm
*Voting Rights in America: Sustaining
Democracy in Challenging Times*
<http://bit.ly/wdc-april-15>
[www. WomensDemocraticClub.org](http://www.WomensDemocraticClub.org)

A lifelong public servant, Tom Perez chaired the Democratic National Committee for the past four years, where he led the transformation of the DNC. In a recent New York Times interview, he acknowledged that more remains to be done: for example, he would like to see New Hampshire and Iowa bumped from their first-in-the-nation status in the presidential nominating process to reflect current realities. As President Obama's Secretary of Labor, he expanded worker opportunities. As Obama's Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, he led the Justice Department's voting rights and police reform work.

Here in Maryland, Tom served as Secretary of Labor, Licensing and Regulation under Governor Martin O'Malley and was the first Latino elected to the Montgomery County Council. Tom served almost a decade on the Board of Casa de Maryland, including a stint as Board Chair. He is currently considering a run for Governor.

The son of immigrants from the Dominican Republic, Tom grew up in Buffalo and put himself through college earning tuition money on the back of a garbage truck. Tom earned a bachelor's degree from Brown University, a master's of public policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and a Harvard law degree. He lives in Takoma Park with his wife, Ann Marie Staudenmaier, an attorney with the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless, and their three children.

[Register Here](#)



Save the Dates for These WDC Events!

- April 29, 1 pm, with Fiona Hill, "Threats to American Democracy -- Internal and International."
- May 31, with Rep. John Sarbanes, "For The People Act: Voter Suppression, Dark Money and the Filibuster"

WDC Committee Reports

Advocacy Update!

Upcoming Hearing Dates

Contact the Committee Members to voice your support!

Bill Number	Title	Hearing Date	Committee (Click the link for Contact Information)
SB0250	Criminal Law - Sexual Crimes - Fourth Degree Sexual Offense and Spousal Defense	4/01@ 1:30pm	House Judiciary (being heard in opposite committee)
HB0700	Education - Crimes on School Grounds - Exemptions	3/30@ 1:00pm	Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs (being heard in opposite committee)
SB0438	Public Schools - Pregnant and Parenting Students - Policies and Reports	3/31@ 1:30pm	House Ways and Means (being heard in opposite committee)

View These Upcoming Bill Hearings & Voice Your Support!

We are working for you and your families! WDC Advocacy Team members submitted written and/or oral testimony, transmitted Advocacy Alerts to members, took meetings with elected officials, and made many phone calls and emails in an effort to move the needle on these bills! Many of the bills listed below are now being voted on in one or both chambers or are heading for a conference committee to draft a compromise bill.

WDC has submitted written or oral testimony for close to 3 dozen bills being considered by the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis. Stay tuned for more updates as the 2021 Session progresses. Members can sign up for timely Advocacy Alerts delivered directly to your inbox with calls-to-action to contact your lawmakers on important legislation. Become a member and sign up to receive WDC Advocacy Alerts! Contact [JoAnne Koravos](#), Advocacy Chair, to learn more.

To read about a specific bill, enter the Bill Number (e.g., HB0123) [here](#).

WDC has submitted written and/or oral testimony for the following bills. [Click here](#) for details.

Marshall Plan for Moms

We need a Marshall Plan for Moms—a plan to pay our mothers for their unseen, unpaid labor.

Sign the petition.

Other countries have social safety nets. America has moms. It's time to compensate moms for all they do to keep our economy, our country, running. Join us, support the Marshall Plan for Moms.

www.MarshallPlanForMoms.com

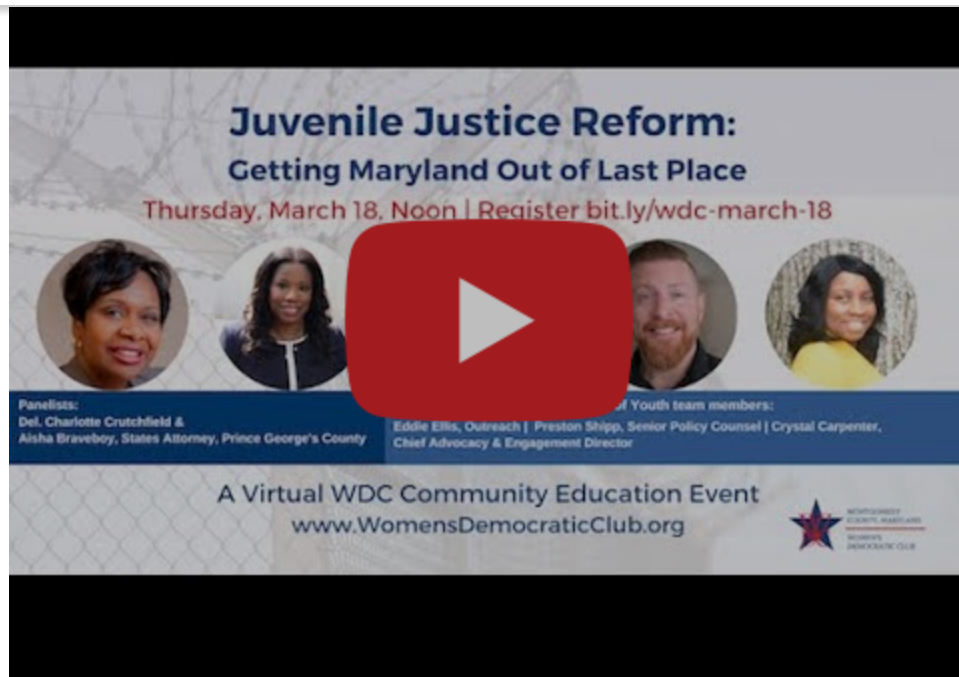
ADVOCATE FOR A MARSHALL PLAN FOR WORKING WOMEN!!

..NEVERTHELESS SHE PERSISTED

By Ginger Macomber, WDC Advocacy Committee

It is no secret that women have been the hardest hit by the COVID 19 pandemic. During the pandemic, women have disproportionately been responsible for keeping their families safe, while juggling work schedules, fulltime childcare, and home schooling. Many women have reached their breaking point. Since the pandemic started, more than 2 million women have dropped out of the labor force - a rate four times that of men. Many more have cut back on their work hours. By some estimates, women's labor force participation is now no better than it was twenty years ago. When women earn less, a family's standard of living declines, family savings disappear, and a women's future retirement income drops. [Read More & Sign the Petition](#)





[Watch on YouTube](#)

Juvenile Justice Reform: Getting Maryland Out of Last Place

It's no secret that Maryland's juvenile justice system is rife with institutional racism from arrest to detention to sentencing. Of the more than 400 people in state prisons who received life or life-equivalent sentences as juveniles, 87% are Black. Less well-known are the herculean efforts by advocates, legislators and some State's Attorneys to change these racist practices. The riveting discussion hosted by WDC's Community Education Committee featured the searing stories of those caught up in that system, straightforward talk about what needs to change and how juvenile injustice impacts all communities of color, and current advocacy efforts in the General Assembly.

Watch it on You Tube [here](#) instead of your next date with Netflix. You won't be disappointed.



Montgomery County Democratic Party
Events Calendar, [click here](#).

Hollen and Congressman John Sarbanes**Monday April 5, 7:30 to 8:00 pm**Register [here](#).**Honor Harriet Tubman****Wednesday, April 15, 7-8 pm**RSVP [here](#).

Don't miss MCDCC's Harriet Tubman small dollar fundraiser (\$20). Anita Powell, Harriet Tubman scholar and authority on the history of our historical MoCo Black Communities, will speak about Tubman's influence.

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Democratic Breakfast Club**Monday, April 5, 7:30 am, informally opening at 7:15**

Guest speaker will be Dr. Raymond Crowel, Director of Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services, lead agency for the County's response to Covid-19

To register, contact BCCDBC Chairman John Keller at keller.john@gmail.com

Democratic Club of Leisure World

April 8, 6:30 pm -- Congressman John Sarbanes, author of [HR1/S1 "For the People Act,"](#) to broaden voter access, clean up campaign finance, create strong ethics reforms and more.

May 13, 6:30 pm -- Annual "Report from Annapolis" with our D19 State Senator and Delegates

For information, please contact Jane Corona jane.e.carona@gmail.com.

Fridays with Councilman Andrew Friedson**Friday, April 9th, 11:30 am-12:30 pm**Register [here](#)**Reclaim Our Vote**

Ready to get back to post-carding? Join [Reclaim Our Vote](#) to reach voters of color who were deactivated from the Virginia voter rolls and **urge them to re-register**. ROV has thousands of addresses. **Postcards must be mailed by April 17** to give voters plenty of time to register before the May 17 deadline.

Sign up with [Postcards4VA](#) to receive addresses and scripts for this campaign.

Because of the fast turnaround time ROV suggests you order your postcards right away at [BADASS Boutique](#). These postcards are being offered at a special discount price and were printed at a local, black-owned union print shop.

Be sure to watch this [Postcard Video](#) if you're a new writer!

Save the Date! D15 Legislative Wrap Up Town Hall

Thursday April 22, Earth Day, 7 pm

Watch for details.

**DoTheMostGood General Meeting**

Tuesday, April 6, 7 pm

Register [here](#).

Guest speakers Senator Chris Van Hollen and Elizabeth Hira of the Brennan Center will offer insights on the current threats to our democracy and the vehicles we have to beat back those threats, particularly the [For the People Act](#) awaiting action in the Senate.

There will be an overview of how DTMG has reorganized to better meet the moment, the actions it has underway, and options under consideration. Breakouts will provide opportunities to share ideas, discuss work in greater depth, and learn how you can help. Current actions of Republicans have been called "Jim Crow in a tie." Unless we stop this onslaught against the values held by the majority of Americans, the entire Biden agenda and everything Democrats have worked for over the past four years will be in peril.



[Sign Up Here](#)

MoCo's Volunteer Center, Office of Community Partnerships, and County Health Department are working with a broad network of community organizations to help inform our most vulnerable residents about the COVID-19 vaccine and assist with pre-registering for a County Health Clinic appointment.

We need volunteer Community Ambassadors for in-person outreach at County-supported events in communities where COVID rates are high, vaccination rates are low, and barriers to receiving the vaccine are significant. Duties include distributing vaccine fliers, answering questions, hosting information tables, distributing COVID kits, and offering pre-registration assistance. Since the events take place in multilingual areas, volunteers with language skills (particularly fluency in Spanish) are vital! Please know that ensuring COVID-safe interactions by practicing social distancing, wearing masks, using hand sanitizer, and relying on posters with QR codes is a top priority!

Interested? Go to the Vaccine page on the [Volunteer Center website](#), scroll down to "Resources for Community Ambassadors" showing dates and links to sign up. A required zoom information session will cover event goals, equity, appointment options, pre-registration, and relevant resources -- plus you will have the opportunity to ask questions.

**Event Calendars**

[WDC](#) • [Community](#) • [WNDC](#) • [MCDCC](#) • [MDDEMS](#)

Community

[MoCo Covid-19 Information Portal](#)

[Where to Volunteer In Response to COVID-19](#)

Social Media

Find Our Past Speakers on YouTube! [Click here.](#)

[Find Us On Facebook & Twitter](#)

[Join Our Members Only Facebook](#)
[Group](#)

[Questions? Email](#)
WDC@womensdemocraticclub.org



Share



Tweet



Forward

WDC has gone **GREEN** by using electronic communications.

Please continue to receive WDC event notices and news and do not unsubscribe.

Replies to this update will be sent to

wdc@womensdemocraticclub.org

Copyright © 2021 WDC | Montgomery County Women's Democratic Club, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



Calendars:

[WDC](#) • [Community](#) • [WNDC](#) • [MCDCC](#) • [MDDEMS](#)

Tag Us on Facebook @MCWDC or on Twitter @MoCoWDC

[Join Our Members Only Facebook Group](#)