



October 7, 2024

I hope everyone saw the [message](#) last week from the Office of Equity and Inclusion. This important collegewide email shared that we recognize this month may evoke a variety of emotions for our community, especially given the impact of ongoing global events. The email also acknowledged the tragic violence and ongoing conflicts that have deeply affected many communities, including those tied to the Middle East. The College is offering resources and events that focus on care, compassion, and constructive dialogue throughout October and can be found at this [site](#).

Student Self Care

In this new video series, [Backpacks on the Go](#), I join a student in the new Student Wellness Center on the Rockville Campus, where a food pantry, quiet room, and other resources provide valuable support. With World Mental Health Day recognized on Thursday, please take advantage of services provided by the [Student Wellness Center](#). All students can get a [free food package](#) at Wednesday's Mobile Market on the Rockville Campus and student parents can access free diapers, hygiene items, and baby supplies at the [student parent pop-up](#) Tuesday on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus.



Faculty and Staff Belonging

As faculty and staff work so diligently to serve students, we should also take time to invest in those communities that nurture our own sense of belonging. The American Association for Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC) has an exciting opportunity to do just that in an upcoming [national conference](#) being held locally at the end of this month. Female employees interested in the advancement of women in leadership roles within community colleges may find inspiration to future career aspirations. Fostering a welcoming environment for our LGBTQIA+ employees is important throughout the year, and I encourage everyone to celebrate the authenticity, visibility, and diversity that make up our vibrant community. In honor of LGBTQ+ History Month, [MC Pride and Allies](#) has several events lined up beginning this week for employees as well as students.

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital Turns 10

Holy Cross Germantown Hospital (HCGH), located in the Pinkney Innovation Complex section of the Germantown Campus (known as PIC MC) just turned 10 years old! MC has a longstanding partnership with Holy Cross Health and HCGH is the first hospital on a community college campus. The hospital's presence helped launch this integrated academic, business, and research hub that also includes the Hughes Systems Network manufacturing building and the Germantown Innovation Center, Montgomery County's incubator. These resources provide amazing opportunities for students to learn and grow in high demand fields. I thank everyone who makes these partnerships thrive.

With Raptor Regards,

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams
President
[@DrWilliams_MC](#)