From: MC Communications

To: All Employees Dynamic Grp; All Registered Students

**Subject:** Appointment of Interim Director for the East County Education Center

**Date:** Monday, April 1, 2024 9:34:47 AM



Memorandum

To: Montgomery College Employees

From: Dr. Deidre Price, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/College Provost

**Subject:** Appointment of Interim Director for the East County Education Center

**Date:** April 1, 2024

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Hamrawit Tesfa has accepted the appointment of Interim Director for the East County Education Center (ECEC). The interim director serves as the point of contact for matters related to ECEC and is responsible for overseeing communication and operations, engaging with the campus community and advancing opportunities for site enhancement, and serving as a resource connector to support responsiveness to day-to-day operational issues and strategic growth opportunities. This appointment begins April 1.

Dr. Tesfa has served Montgomery College in the Office of Advancement and Community Engagement as a community engagement specialist since 2014, and she has been heavily engaged with community outreach for many years. In her MC role, she has initiated partnerships between the College and the Ethiopian Community, culminating in an MOU that resulted in the opening of the MC Community Engagement Office in Silver Spring. She has created partnerships with over 50 stakeholders from underserved communities. In addition, Dr. Tesfa has planned and led more than 200 workshops and activities focused on area immigrant communities including important aspects of enrollment such as financial aid, registration, technology pathways, and accessing county support. She led the 2020 Census effort in the DMV East African Community to raise awareness of the importance of the census and to encourage participation. Along with her MC role, since 2021, she serves as a board member on the Ethio-American Professionals Network, which provides leadership for a nationwide group. Since 2019, she also has served as the director of the Ethio-American Family Resource Center in Germantown.

Previously, Dr. Tesfa served as a certified bilingual affordable health care act enrollment specialist where she conducted education and outreach to uninsured individuals who came from diverse racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds. As part of this work, she created a partnership with religious and social service institutions and the health insurance exchange that included eligibility requirements for applicable premium subsidies and cost sharing assistance impacting underserved populations.

Dr. Tesfa earned a bachelor of social work with a minor in psychology from Eastern Michigan University, a master of social work with a focus on interpersonal practice and mental health from the University of Michigan, and a doctor of philosophy in social work from Howard University.

I look forward to working with Dr. Tesfa at the East County Education Center and within the East County community. Please welcome her to this new role.