

**To:** Montgomery College Community

From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President

**Subject:** Vaccine Hesitancy, Equity Week, and More Resources (Update #154)

**Date:** April 5, 2021

Welcome to April. I hope you had a lovely weekend. There is lots of activity happening at the College this week. I was excited to help kick off <u>Equity Week</u> today and am looking forward to further events this week.

The summer <u>class schedules</u> are now online and enrollment opens today. Also this evening is another <u>Let's Talk</u>, this one focused on fighting stereotypes about Asian-Americans.

Vaccinations continue on the Germantown Campus this week. If you are still seeking a vaccine, <u>please register</u> through the county. As we encourage continued education about COVID-19 vaccines, a <u>terrific discussion</u> by Latinx students at MC is now online. The students share some personal and familial stories about vaccination hesitancy, and ask questions of Dr. Anna Maria Izquierdo, from Care for Your Health. I'm grateful to all the participants for their honesty about their concerns and their journeys to educate themselves about this decision. Thank you to the county's Latino Health Initiative, as well.

Speaking of county resources, guidance around <a href="emergency rental assistance">emergency rental assistance</a> during COVID is newly available. Many MC students are also eligible to apply for <a href="emergency funding">emergency funding</a> through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). COVID testing through the county is also easy to access.

Please remember that masks are still a best safety practice—even if you are vaccinated—along with social distancing.

Have a wonderful week, and stay safe.