

# THE CRITTENTON CHRONICLE

Crittenton Services of Greater Washington Quarterly Newsletter



## Crittenton Scholarship Winners

Thank you to The V&S Foundation, The Paul E. Kovar/Sarah P. McBride Scholarship and CPMG Foundation for providing funds for the CSGW Scholarships.

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#### D.C. -BALLOU HIGH SCHOOL

##### **DESTINY LLOYD**

PRINCE GEORGE'S COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

##### **ALIYAH BLAKE**

STRAYER UNIVERSITY/DELAWARE  
STATE

##### **JERMIA JOYNER**

REAL ESTATE PROGRAM

##### **NYISHA HAMILTON**

UNDECIDED

#### D.C. -DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL

##### **TANIYA INGRAM**

BENEDICT COLLEGE

##### **GLADYS PARKER**

BENEDICT COLLEGE

##### **CHONTEL HAWKINS**

STRAYER UNIVERSITY/BOWIE STATE

#### MOCO- KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL

##### **SUMYAT YADANA**

UNDECIDED

##### **KAYLESHA PIERRE - LOUIS**

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

#### MOCO- GAITHERSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

##### **JOCELYN M. DIAZ OCHOA**

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

##### **LITZI MARTINEZ**

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

##### **ERICA HERNDON**

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
THESE BRIGHT, YOUNG  
LADIES!**

# Graduate Interview

## ~Erica Herndon~



### How does your accomplishment of graduating High School feel to you?

My accomplishment of graduating High School makes me feel good about myself, and proud to know that I've finished. I feel ready for life after high school.

### What are you most excited about college and what do you plan to study?

What I'm most excited about is making my own schedule and being independent. My plan for now is to study psychology.

### What does the scholarship award mean to you? What doors has it opened for you and your college experience?

The scholarship award means so much to me. It really helps my family because the cost of school was a challenge for us. Receiving this award makes me feel really good, because I didn't apply myself to get many scholarships. It was difficult for me.

### What words of encouragement do you have for the other graduating seniors who will begin college this fall?

Some words of encouragement I have for other graduating seniors, who will also begin college this fall, is to keep pushing and don't give up. There will be a lack of motivation at times, but you must find motivation in the little things that matter to you.

### What do you want to say to those who contributed to the scholarship fund?

To all the people who contributed to the scholarship fund, with all my heart, thank you. I am so appreciative and honored to win a scholarship towards the next four years, it helps a lot.

# Highlights of the Third Quarter

**"During the Covid-19 pandemic, I was able to reach out if I needed it.**

**There was always someone at Crittenton to help. I'm happy that Council Members, like Gabe Albornoz, Nancy Navarro and Will Jawando, are working together to help us girls of color to have a voice."**

**-10th Grader in SNEAKERS**



Our Virtual Town Hall for Montgomery County teen girls centered the voice of girls of color and gender fluid youth of color advocates and leaders. More than 75 attendees joined this important dialogue about mental wellness through the Covid-19 pandemic and the ongoing fight for racial justice.

Teen girls engaged in a conversation with local elected officials – Gabe Albornoz, Nancy Navarro and Will Jawando. To learn more about what our teens had to say, use this [LINK](#).

**"Our families generally live in multi-generational households...and may not have everything the CDC has said we need. So, one person can infect a household of 10-12 people, and we've had many instances of that."**

**-Siobhan Howard Davenport,**  
**President & CEO.**



**Tikkun Olam Women's Foundation**

(TOWF) has been a long-term partner with Crittenton to advance our teen led advocacy work in Montgomery County. In partnership, TOWF produced a video that featured our teen advocates and President/CEO, Siobhan Davenport, to discuss our advocacy on Teen Mental Health, as well as the challenges that our teens feel during the pandemic. To learn more, please use this [LINK](#).



# BACK TO VIRTUAL SCHOOL

## With Crittenton's Teen Girl

Crittenton's programs have pivoted to a virtual platform, while still meeting with the girls in group rotations for 45-60 minute sessions weekly. Our staff trained on trauma response strategies, addressing family wellness, and the girls' feelings around the pandemic and virtual learning.

### What This Means:

- We developed 5 parent workshop sessions to ensure parents have the tools to support their girls. This will be every other month, beginning in September.
- We created a interactive virtual platform for our programs to engage as a community online and to create fun and efficient interactions for our girls and their families.



Pictured: SNEAKERS Teen Girls

# 132nd Virtual Kick Off Anniversary

132 years! That's how long Crittenton Services of Greater Washington has been around, making an impact in this community. Despite the challenging time we're continuing to face— 85 partners, and friends came together in community and in joy to celebrate the leadership of young women, celebrate incredible honorees, and to expand the network of individuals committed to the futures of teen girls. We were reminded of the importance of ambitiously investing in programs that support the social emotional learning, mental health, educational opportunities and leadership of young women in our communities. Our communities are stronger when our girls are stronger. This panel was truly reflective of the impact Crittenton's SNEAKERS program has on the girls who participate, and we could not be more proud of their accomplishments.



- **Cherly**, a SNEAKERS participant for the past three years, reflected on Black and Brown girls facing many challenges at the intersection of race and gender, and that Crittenton provides unique support for her and the girls.
- **Yaa**, an Alumna, also from Montgomery County, told her story on how Crittenton provided support to have a happy, healthy relationship with her emotions, leading to “radical acceptance of herself.” This statement inspired many of us during the event.
- **Nyla**, an alumna from The District, dove into conversation on how the program provided her the support and security of an adult ally for the first time. She asked us all a critical question; “If you don’t support teen girls, who will?”

**We thank our Honorees for their hard work and dedication to Crittenton's Teen Girls!**



Kathy Grillo



Virginia Kase



Dr. LaQuandra Nesbit



Mario Ontero

# Donor Spotlight

Celebrating our Crittenton Champion, Joan Marsh, SVP, AT&T



Pictured:

left: Kathy Zachem - middle: Joan Marsh

right: Alumna Ebony Nicholson

## Why did you first give to Crittenton? Why do you still support us?

I support Crittenton girls because fearlessness in the face of obstacles is a muscle that needs to be nurtured and developed, and because if you empower a girl, she will change the world.

## Why does our cause of empowering teen girls matter to you?

### Why now In particular?

Girlhood is hard. Teen girls these days are navigating the judgment of their peers, the pressure of social media, and, too often, economic or domestic stress at home. Then there are the unique disparities that girls of color face at the intersection of their gender and race, which have only grown more heightened during the pandemic.

## What are you most passionate about?

I am passionate about supporting and helping hundreds of girls develop invaluable social, emotional, and leadership skills; make healthy choices; and bolster their motivation to learn, succeed in school, and go to college. Most important, helping attain a belief in their ability to succeed, even in the most challenging situations.



**Thursday, October 22, 2020 · 5:30pm**

We're going virtual, but we're bringing the celebration with us! Every year, we come together to applaud the amazing girls of Crittenton Services of Greater Washington and honor distinguished community leaders, at a crucial fundraising event that powers the organization's vital work.

By attending our Anniversary Celebration, now, more than ever, you can make a fundamental difference for hundreds of amazing teen girls. You can also join our esteemed leadership honorees in making your support for Crittenton known!

**Make a Difference!**

Our girls lead us in our work, and this year, the girls have chosen to highlight the issue of mental health. Your support will help us address the mental wellness challenges many of our 600 teen girls are experiencing during the pandemic as we work to promote resilience and recovery.

**Thank you for joining us to support these amazing girls!**

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## Connect With Us!

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