

I am committed to the health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of Montgomery County. It is estimated that over 60,000 residents of Montgomery County are uninsured, and almost 8,000 of those are children. Montgomery County has taken a leadership role in finding ways to provide healthcare coverage for the residents of Montgomery County who currently do not have coverage. The Montgomery County Healthcare Safety Net Task Force was created to study and provide recommendations for possible implementation. The study has been completed and the recommendations are as follows:

1. Strengthen and consolidate access to primary care.
2. Provide insurance coverage for vulnerable populations under a managed care model.
3. Enhance outreach strategies to encourage eligible people to enroll in Medicaid.
4. Establish a community trust through a combination of new funding sources.
5. Investigate implementation of a community-wide electronic linkage between healthcare providers.
6. Enhance care coordination for vulnerable populations with chronic disease.
7. Explore U.S. Department of Health and Human Services demonstration projects.
8. Encourage and support volunteerism in the healthcare community to provide care to vulnerable populations in a variety of settings.

As Montgomery County Commissioner, it is my goal to explore the viability and possible implementation of the above recommendations.