## **State of Maryland Commission on Civil Rights**



*Officers* Alvin O. Gillard, Executive Director Cleveland L. Horton II, Deputy Director Nicolette Young, Assistant Director Glendora C. Hughes, General Counsel Governor Larry Hogan Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford Commission Chairperson Gary C. Norman, Esq. Commission Vice Chairperson Roberto N. Allen, Esq. Commissioners Allison U. Dichoso, Esq. Hayden B. Duke Eileen M. Levitt, SPHR, SHRM-SCP Rabbi Binyamin Marwick Gina McKnight-Smith, PharmD, MBA Shawn M. Wright, Esq.

Contact: Spencer Dove 6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 900 Baltimore, MD 21202-1631 Phone: 410-767-8576 Email: spencer.dove@maryland.gov FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 1, 2019

## MCCR LAUNCHES FIRST-EVER WESTERN MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL 15 Volunteer Members Will Gather in Cumberland for Introductory Orientation Meeting

**Baltimore, MD** – On October 1, 2019, the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights ("MCCR"; "the Commission") is convening the brand new Western Maryland Advisory Council ("WMAC") at the Allegany College of Maryland in Cumberland for an introductory orientation meeting. The WMAC will host an organizational meeting in November, 2019, to elect leadership and schedule their public quarterly meetings throughout 2020. The Commissioners of MCCR appointed the WMAC on September 13, 2019.

MCCR established the WMAC in order to bolster relationship building efforts among Western Maryland communities around issues of opportunity, inclusion and equity. MCCR Executive Director Alvin O. Gillard affirms, "If we are to continue making progress on matters of civil and human rights in our State, then we must make meaningful and sustainable connections with communities and leaders across Maryland. The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights is excited at the promise the WMAC holds for the future of our agency and the citizens we serve."

The Western Maryland Advisory Council is a 15-member volunteer extension of MCCR comprised of individuals and community leaders residing in Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington counties. One appointment to the WMAC was prioritized for an individual between the ages of 18 and 25. The first appointees are serving staggered terms of 1, 2, and 3 years. Subsequent appointees will serve 2 year terms. Anyone interested in serving on the WMAC will be able to submit their application at <u>http://mccr.maryland.gov/</u>.

MCCR represents the interest of the State to ensure equal opportunity for all through enforcement of Title 20 of the State Government Article and Title 19 of the State Finance & Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. MCCR investigates complaints of discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and state contracts filed by members of protected classes under federal and state law. For additional information, please contact Spencer Dove at 410-767-8576 or by email at spencer.dove@maryland.gov.

###