



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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MAIN STREET PRESENTS CONVERSATION MATTERS: A PROGRAM TO CONNECT, ENGAGE AND INSPIRE THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY

Program Made Possible Through Maryland Humanities Grant Program, Major Grant

(ROCKVILLE) – **Main Street Connect is pleased to announce that it is launching a new virtual series called [Conversations Matter](#).** The program was developed to support community members by creating a public forum that uses the humanities to respond to, interpret and shed light on the unrest in our country.

[Main Street Connect](#), in concert with thought partners and local leaders [The Montgomery County Collaboration Council](#), [Donte's Boxing and Wellness Foundation](#) and [Virtues Matter](#), has created this **free, virtual, weekly four-part series that will begin on Tuesday, January 19th**. The series will focus on local Black history, injustices that have been experienced by people with disabilities and people of color, how we can all engage in social action opportunities to work against racial injustice and, finally, how we can learn and grow through meaningful conversation. Participants will choose from an array of suggested educational offerings ranging from literature, poetry, videos, documentaries, movies and more to prepare themselves to learn and engage during the series. This will help attendees to gain a deeper understanding of the topics explored throughout the series.

"Main Street Connect is anchored in bringing people together. We have built a place of belonging, created dynamic opportunities, and we provide a place to live, learn, grow and thrive. As we continue to process where our history has brought us, we are moved to expand our reach, open more doors and minds by using our platform to engage our community. We will come together to learn, support one another and engage in social action opportunities to work against racial injustice."

-Jillian Copeland, Founder, Main Street Connect

To learn more about our initiative, visit mainstreetconnect.org/conversations-matter/.

This project was made possible by a grant from [Maryland Humanities](#), through support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Nonprofit organizations, community aMD Humanities.Main Street.PressRelease 1.5.2021ssociations and faith-based organizations are eligible to apply for Maryland Humanities grants. To qualify, projects should be rooted in one or more disciplines of the humanities, engage and benefit Marylanders especially educationally underserved adults, enlist the participation of humanities scholars or experts and be free and open to the public. Any views, findings, conclusions or



recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities or Maryland Humanities.



About Main Street

Mission - Redefining Inclusivity. Creating dynamic opportunities through affordable, inclusive housing and community engagement so people with all abilities can live their best lives.

Background - Main Street Connect strives to address many of the barriers that prevent adults with disabilities from living a healthy and meaningful life. To that end, Main Street developed the first of its kind multi-purpose model - an affordable, accessible and inclusive apartment complex and community center in Rockville, Maryland. The site is a central hub, offering a community of support, facilitating engagement opportunities and providing an affordable place to live and thrive.

Main Street promotes accessibility, learning, wellness and inclusion in its layout and operations. It is a long overdue departure from the isolated housing and community options that currently exist for adults with disabilities. Main Street’s goal is to promote emotional, intellectual, physical, social, spiritual, environmental and financial wellbeing for its residents and community members of all abilities. Main Street sponsors events to educate and advocate more broadly in the community across sectors for individuals with disabilities.



About Maryland Humanities

Maryland Humanities is a statewide, educational, nonprofit organization. Maryland Humanities creates and supports educational experiences in the humanities that inspire all Marylanders to embrace lifelong learning, exchange ideas openly and enrich their communities. For more information, visit www.mdhumanities.org. Maryland Humanities is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the State of Maryland and the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, creator of the [Baker Artist Awards](#).

Please consider [becoming a member](#) of Main Street and supporting inclusive programming for all!

Main Street is an inclusive, community-centered residential development, the first of its kind in the Washington metropolitan area, where 25% of the apartments are designated for adults with disabilities. Main Street is located at 50 Monroe Place in Rockville Town Center and opened in August 2020. Main Street is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Connect with us on [Facebook](#) to stay updated on all Main Street news and events!

Website: mainstreetconnect.org