

## 501(c)(3) non-profit organization EIN= 23-7111729 MD= D01025386 Founded 1970

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Dear Members, Families and Community,

25 years ago, in 1999, a young man came to the Learning Disabilities Association of Montgomery County. When he returned home after graduation, he felt disconnected and very lonely. He didn't know how to make friends.

Together, we advertised that a new social group was starting in our County. Five members came together in 1999 – today we have 45-50 independent adults with disabilities in the Hangout Hive. Members share a meal and an event every Sunday and once a month meet with a coach who encourages independence, confidence and friendship.

The Board needs help. Last summer, Our Vice President introduced us to a young person writing her PhD dissertation who was interested in connecting with the Hangout Hive. And connect, she did! Rebecca Little is insightful, strong and empathetic. – a leader herself.

It's our turn. How will we show appreciation for her work?

Our goal is \$7500 for one year. We submitted a proposal in May 2024 to the Office of Grants Management of Montgomery County for coaching expenses which is in process. Our proposal has scored high, but grants have not been awarded yet. If we receive the grant, it will open the door for future assistance.

This I have learned - All Grant givers, foundations and government, want to know there is a strong community support for a non-profit and its vision.

Families, friends, members – will you be the strong community helping to support our non-profit organization, LDAMD, including the Hangout Hive?

Please donate what you can. Together we can continue to provide a place of acceptance, a place to learn responsibilities, learn leadership, and most importantly, a place to meet friends.

Susan Healy, Director

Contribute to the HangOut Hive Social Group