



# newsletter

## 2020-2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all ABCPSR, Inc. Executive/Advisory and Committee Meetings will be held via Conference Call until further notice. Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m.

September 14, 2020  
Meeting/Conference Call

October 12, 2020  
Meeting/Conference Call

November 9, 2020  
Meeting/Conference Call

December 14, 2020  
Meeting/Conference Call

January  
(No Meeting)

*The meeting schedule for 2021 will be provided at a later date.*

*If there are any changes, you will be notified.*

*Please call Patricia Pickett, President at 410-900-6781 if you have any questions.*

## President's Message

Greetings,

The ABCPSR, Inc., Executive Board has continued to meet via conference calls during the Governor's "Stay at Home" orders. As Baltimore City Public Schools will re-open online when the school year starts, we will continue meeting electronically on the second Monday of each month at 10:00 A.M.



The committees will probably set up their own conference call meetings at FreeConferencecall.com in September and beyond, so that we can continue planning together. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to join a committee, and I will forward the information. I will continue trying to keep you updated on our website, ABCPSR.org, and on facebook at "Association of Baltimore City Public School Retirees". Our Bylaws do not allow for visual or virtual meetings, but you may want to try Zoom.com to visit with friends and relatives. It is free for a limited number of people on/at a given time.

At this time, our Fall Luncheon has been postponed until further notice since Baltimore has curtailed eating inside establishments due to COVID-19. In the meantime, treat yourselves well. Exercise, sing, get a hobby, share pictures to our fb site, sign up a new member, and/or "keep busy".

Most of us are in the at-risk group. Do you have some suggestions to help keep us safe, and engaged? Please follow suggested practices such as: wear a mask in public, practice social distancing, wash your hands often, and stay home for your health and welfare. Do not be too proud to ask for or accept help, we are our brother's keeper.

Hope to see you soon,

*Patricia E. Pickett*

**STAY SAFE!**

**STAY HOME!**

**STAY STRONG!**

## ABCPSR LIAISON TO BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

This committee is charged with maintaining communications between the Association and the Department of Education in such areas as member benefits, member recruitment, pre-retirement education, member seminars and other matters that are deemed appropriate.

During the years, this committee has participated in the annual conference of PSASA ( Public School Administrators and Supervisors Association). Materials have been distributed that informed the participants of the goals and activities of the Local and State organizations. Brochures were distributed in an attempt to recruit members. Flyers announcing scholarships and outreach grants were provided and names of prospective retirees were collected and given to the membership chair of ABCPSR.

We are proud to report that we have met with the Baltimore City Public Schools' CEO and a representative from that office to discuss our program, activities and future goals. Our future plans include visiting schools in Baltimore City to inform staff of our association and to encourage future retirees to join ABCPSR.

We would like for you to join us on this committee as we continue to maintain our relationship with Baltimore City Public Schools. We also welcome your suggestions as we strive to continue our involvement as a viable committee in ABCPSR.

Catherine Moore-DeFord, Liaison to BCPSS

## SCHOOL COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Mrs. Monica McClain, Principal of Edgcombe Circle Elementary School was presented with a second school grant award in the amount of \$1,000 for their approved transition art project tentatively themed "Hope in the Heights." The additional funds will be used to complete the school/community based art project. The check was presented by Mrs. Mary Gaskins, Friendship Committee Chair and Ms. Donnell Lockhart, Community Outreach Chair, Association of Baltimore City Public School Retirees (ABCPSR).

Presently, Baltimore City Public Schools are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The dedication of the artwork date is pending until schools are re-opened.

Donnell Lockhart, Community Outreach Chair

## THE MARYLAND SENIOR CITIZENS HALL OF FAME, INC.



Velma C. Hicks, Past President, ABCPSR, Inc. was selected for induction into The Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, Inc. Mrs. Hicks is a retired educator of the Baltimore City Public Schools System. The induction is scheduled for October 22, 2020, at Michael's in Glen Burnie, MD. Mrs. Hicks stated that she is "honored to represent The Association of Baltimore City Public School Retirees, Inc."

## TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES

ABCPSR, Inc., would like to thank you so much for participating in our past activities. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we have cancelled all activities until further notice.

We PRAY for your good health and safety.

Joyce Bowyer, Trips & Activities Committee, Chair

## MEMBERSHIP

The Association of Baltimore City Public School Retirees, (ABCPSR), currently has 893 members. Our organization will continue the work of recruiting members all summer. The ongoing membership incentives include a \$10 gift card for ANY member that recruits a NEW member who elects dues deduction as payment. There is no limit on the number of recruits one can establish. The NEW member will get a one time reduction on the cost of dues (\$50). Please get the NEW member to complete an application form signing up for dues deduction. Write your name on the application before sending it to MRSPA.

There is an invitation for current CASH paying members to switch to dues deduction. This member is eligible for a one time reduction in the cost of dues (\$50). Members need to complete and return a DUES DEDUCTION AUTHORIZATION FORM found on the MRSPA website under Switch and Save.

Please feel free to contact me if you need applications or have any questions at:

hill21214@gmail.com. Hope you are having a great summer!

Angela Hill, ABCPSR Membership

## CONGRATULATIONS TO JANET K. WILLIAMS!



ABCPSR, Inc., would like to congratulate Janet K. Williams on becoming Secretary, MRSPA. We also say “thank you,” for her many contributions while serving a six-year tenure as Area II North Director. Mrs. Williams has served in several capacities in both MRSPA and ABCPSR, Inc.

Janet was the Second Prize Winner, A Maryland Basket, in the 2020 MRSPA Fund Raffle drawing on May 13, 2020, following the MRSPA Annual Business Meeting.

## FRIENDSHIP COMMITTEE

Sympathy Cards were sent to the families of Ellen Johns, Helen McDonald, and Ramona Gaskins.

Mary Gaskins, Chair



**REMINDER: THE GENERAL ELECTION IS NOVEMBER 3, 2020.**

**ABCPSR, Inc. is urging you to VOTE in the 2020 November Election. Voting by mail is strongly encouraged. Voters will also have the option of early voting or at the polls.**

**[Elections.Maryland.gov](https://Elections.Maryland.gov)**

## 2019 - 2020 ABCPSR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**AISHAT AIKI**



My name is Aishat Aiki and I am a graduating senior at the Reginald F. Lewis High School of Business and Law. I came to America from Africa and I had big dreams of being an airline stewardess or an engineer. As the years rolled on I realized that this great country has a lot of poverty and a large number of senior citizens. I felt I could help the senior citizens through assisting them with their medical care. I decided to become a nurse or something in the health field to address health disparity issues. I thank ABCPSR for helping me to attend Morgan State University and enter the Nursing Program. I will work hard to make your organization and my family proud.

Thank you again for your support.

**TAVON KNIBBS**



My name is Tavon Knibbs and I am a Senior at Frederick Douglass High School. I have always tinkered with things so I feel that my strength is in the engineering field. I have been researching some colleges that would help me to reach my goals to become an electrical engineer. I have a lot of support from my family and I thank ABCPSR for helping with the financial support to help me achieve my educational goals. I will be attending Garret College in the Fall of 2020.

## SENIOR CALL CHECK PROGRAM



In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, The Maryland Department of Health is providing a free opt-in telephone service for Maryland seniors 65 years of age or older. Participating seniors will get a daily wellness phone call at a regularly scheduled time. These calls will take place between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. as close as possible to the one-hour time block pre-selected by the participant. If the participant does not answer their first call, they will be tried two more times. If those calls go unanswered additional calls will be made to notify an alternative person (a reliable emergency contact) who is selected by the participant during program enrollment. The alternate will then be encouraged to check on the older adult program participant. The failure of the participant and alternate to answer will result in a call to your local non-emergency service. If you're interested, call toll-free 1-866-50-CHECK (1-866-502-0560) or register at: [aging.maryland.gov](http://aging.maryland.gov).

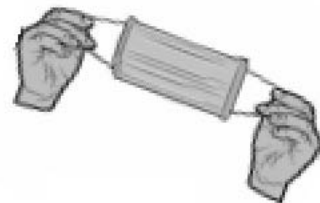
## Benefits.gov

The COVID-19 outbreak has put many of us in a place of uncertainty. **Benefits.gov** is here to help families and individuals find resources they need. A new article, *“Finding the Right Help during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) Outbreak”*, released by Benefits.gov, will help you find helpful information on government benefits such as unemployment resources and healthcare coverage as well as resources for businesses and families.

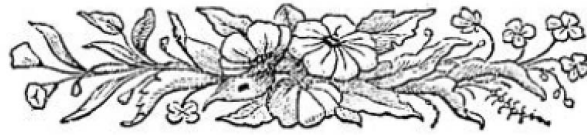
For the most up-to-date information on the coronavirus outbreak, visit **Coronavirus.gov** to learn more about how to protect and prepare yourself and your

## Wear your Face Covering Correctly

- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make Sure You Can Breathe Easily



[cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)



## IN REMEMBRANCE

Departed friends and colleagues of ABCPSR, Inc. who are gone, but not forgotten.

**March 1, 2019 to July 15, 2020**

Esther C. Bailey	Barbara S. Leak
Romaine W. Ball	Barbara A. Mallory
Addie Jackson Bland	Audrey S. May
Anne L. Boone	Helen McDonald
Estelle J. Brown	Marilyn McDonald
Leona W. Carpenter	Loretta Miller
Geraldine B. Coleman	Emily Mae Moore
Vickie R. Coleman	Jacqueline Owings
Waetina A. Coles	Blanche H. Payne
Nancy A. Coutros	Idell S. Pugh
Robert L. Eklund, Jr.	Ralph E. Roos
Henry A. Ercole, Jr.	Ruth F. Ross
Magdalene B. Fennell	Gwendolyn Seabourne
Camilla F. Fischer	John S. Sheppard
Ramona Gaskins	Esther C. Smith
Charles R. Gneiting	Johnny H. Smith
Sara Gray	Juanita Young Smith
Shirley J. Griffin	Nannie O. Smith
Earlean B. Hairston	Carrie O. Staten
Rosa Lee Hennigan	Merete F. Sueoka
Nahketah G. Johnson	Lura Warren
Geraldine Hooper	Eula M. Watkins
Ellen Johns	Joyce P. Wheeler
Beatrice G. Knight	Sue L. Wilkerson
Linda S. Knox	Maudnell S. Wilson
Concetta M. Kraus	

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ASSOCIATION of BALTIMORE CITY

PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIREES, Inc.



ABC

PSR

1400 WEST COLD SPRING LANE • ROOM 111  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21209

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
BALTIMORE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 4315

### Save the Date!

TO BE DETERMINED

#### LUNCHEON CO-CHAIRS

DOROTHY GLASCO-JONES JOYCE WILSON

#### NEWSLETTER CO-EDITORS

ANNA BOSTON JOYCE WILSON

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE

(Please Print)

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Address \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Angela Hill, 3320 W. Rogers Ave., Baltimore, MD 21215

### MRSPA

The only organization that works to preserve the pensions of Baltimore City Public School Retirees. Sixty dollars (\$60.00) covers your membership in MRSPA and ABCPSR.

You may join through dues deduction.

MRSPA: 8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Odenton, MD 21113  
410-551-1517

Current ABCPSR President's contact number: 410-900-6781



## RSVP – An Invitation to Serve

### Lead With Experience

The Corporation for National and Community Service provides grants to qualified agencies and organizations, including RSVP, for the dual purpose of engaging persons 55 and older in volunteer service to meet critical community needs; and to provide a high quality experience that will enrich the lives of volunteers.

#### Who Is Eligible for RSVP?

Individuals that are 55 and older, want to serve in Baltimore City and want to make a difference.

#### RSVP Volunteer Opportunities

Companionship and Outreach, Mentoring, Health and Other Education, Helping Seniors Living Independently, Senior Center Programs, Community Revitalization and Improvement, Disaster Preparedness, Serving Meals to Seniors, Delivery of Health Care Services, Food Collection and Distribution, and Marketing and Recruitment.

#### Benefits of Volunteering

Free volunteer placement, use your experience skills, gain new and marketable skills, supplemental accident and liability insurance, opportunity to meet new people, training opportunities, reimbursement for transportation, recognition and incentives, and the satisfaction of knowing you are making a difference.

**For More Information, Call RSVP 410-361-9400  
or Stephanie Ross 410-361-9401**

