

2004-2005 Project

## Community Strength

Since August of 2003 the Council of Representatives has met monthly to develop and implement a community wide project that will (1) increase awareness; (2) encourage people to talk and act respectfully towards people who are different from them; (3) energize partnerships around issues of human relations.

### Pledge for Community Strength

***All citizens of Montgomery County enrich our community. Our community is strengthened by its diversity. It is the belief of the Montgomery County Council on Human Relations that treating all people with respect, and sharing our cultural differences will make our county an even stronger and more vibrant place to live.***

***Insensitivity to others, both in our families and in our community, is divisive to home and society. Cooperation and respect in families, work, and community serves to unite people of different traditions and beliefs and enriches our world.***

***To help keep diversity a wellspring of strength and to make Montgomery County a better place for all, join us in pledging respect for people whose abilities, traditions, customs, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual identity or other characteristics are different from our***

***As a valuable citizen of Montgomery County,***

***I pledge to:***

- ***Focus first, on what is shared***
- ***Listen to learn and understand***
- ***Examine my own biases and work to overcome them***
- ***Set a positive example for my family and friends***
- ***Work for tolerance in my own community***
- ***Speak out against hate and injustice***

***Signature*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***Date*** \_\_\_\_\_

If you are interested in participating in Council's campaign for Community Strength please contact us for information regarding Pledge events and Pledge Certificate Signing opportunities.

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<http://civic.bev.net/hrc>

*The Community Strength Pledge is an outgrowth of the Councils 2002 Community Convocation held at Falling Branch Elementary School on a Saturday with the fresh spring breezes. The convocation brought a significantly diverse group of 127 people, who were different in age, ethnicity, employment, interest, faith, and background together to share and learn from each other.*

Email questions to: [hrc-contact@bburg.bev.net](mailto:hrc-contact@bburg.bev.net)