

Hospice Matters

A Newsletter for Family and Friends of Hospice

Many Peoples, One Place

Census trends that shape hospice



The lead story in *The Washington Post* on August 15, 2006 reported demographic facts that distinguish

Montgomery County and define everything Montgomery Hospice does.

The *Post* revealed that Montgomery County is *the place* with the highest percentage of foreign-born residents, not just in the DC area but in all of Maryland.

Montgomery Hospice's ability to serve the 268,000 county residents originally from other societies requires that our caregivers adapt to how those cultures approach illness and grief. Our community's diversity makes cultural understanding an important caregiving skill. Hospice is a reflection of the community it serves, and foreign-born residents add new richness to Montgomery Hospice's continuous improvement.

Workforce demographics explain why even county residents who are neither minorities nor foreign-born have a stake in Montgomery Hospice's ability to welcome people of any background. Montgomery County public schools have been majority Hispanic, Asian and African-American for several years. The workforce will have similar makeup before long. Having enough staff to meet our mission requires that

Montgomery Hospice be known as *the place* where workers of any background can develop fulfilling careers.

Montgomery Hospice's vision is to be *the place* the county turns to for help in coping with serious illness and loss. More and more, being *the place* means integrating and reflecting the customs of many places and peoples.

Montgomery Hospice's Office of Diversity and Multicultural Outreach is at the forefront of meeting this stimulating challenge. It is rewarding work that all of us are privileged to share.

Ann Mitchell

Ann Mitchell, MPH
President & CEO

The Washington Post
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Area Immigrants Top 1 Million

Education Levels Are Higher Than Elsewhere, Census Finds

By LYNDSEY LAYTON and DAN KEATING
Washington Post Staff Writers

Washington is now among eight metropolitan areas with immigrant populations of 1 million or more: New York, Los Angeles, Miami, Chicago, San Francisco, Houston, Washington and Dallas, according to William H. Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution.

The Washington metropolitan region is home to more than 1 million immigrants, solidifying its position as a gateway to America, according to census figures released today.

Last year, one in five people in the Washington metropolitan area were immigrants, compared with one in six in 2000. And the immigrant population is growing faster than the total population, according to Frey.

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The region's immigrant population has more than doubled since 1990, and the overall population grew by about a quarter. Advocates for immigrants say that the survey undercounted the immigrant population and that actual numbers are even higher.

Being numbers of immigrants enriched?

Foreign-Born Population in Region

Jurisdiction	Foreign-born population	Pct. of total population
D.C.	67,717	13%
Maryland		
Calvert	2,859	3%
Charles	5,865	4%
Frederick	14,000	6%
Montgomery	267,954	29%
Prince George's	144,252	17%
Virginia		
Arlington	47,378	25%
Fairfax	271,491	27%
Loudoun	49,214	19%
Prince William	67,116	19%
Spotsylvania	5,180	4%
Stafford	10,186	9%
Alexandria	34,860	26%
D.C. metro area	1,017,432	20%
United States	35,689,842	12%

NOTE: Data not available for some areas.

BY MARY KATE CANNISTRA — THE WASHINGTON POST

We're Number One: Diversity has important implications for end-of-life care in our community.