

NEWS RELEASE

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Collaboration Council Partners with Councilmember Evan Glass to be “MoCo Strong” and Raise Funds for Under-Resourced Youth

ROCKVILLE, MD -- As parents are preparing for the start of the school year, the Collaboration Council is partnering with Montgomery County Councilmember Evan Glass (At-Large) to raise funds for low-income students who are in need of additional support and resources. In collaboration with Rockville-based print shop Sports Extra, Councilmember Glass has designed “MoCo Strong” t-shirts, with all sales proceeds benefiting Collaboration Council and other community-based organizations working to advance racial equity programs and opportunities.

“We are proud to be working with Councilman Glass, Identity and Impact Silver Spring on this endeavor. We recognize that only by joining together can we ensure that our community thrives as it should”, said Collaboration Council Executive Director Elijah Wheeler. “Councilman Glass has been a steward of youth and families before joining Council and this serves as further demonstration to his commitment to addressing the needs of youth and families from under-resourced and highly-impacted areas.”

“I am excited to combine my passion for supporting local businesses, artistry and philanthropy by creating two ‘MoCo Strong’ t-shirts, with all the proceeds going toward three local organizations that are working to create a more equitable and just society,” said **Councilmember Evan Glass**. “Prior to being elected to the Council, I was the executive director of a youth-serving nonprofit that worked primarily with immigrants and students of color. I know that back-to-school time can often come with economic anxiety, especially during this pandemic, and that youth-serving organizations can help alleviate some of those pressures. Covid-19 continues to impact the lowest income zip codes in Montgomery County, and it’s my hope that this effort will raise funds for local charities doing front line work, ease some of the economic burden for families, and show that Montgomery County residents are all in this together.”

The Collaboration Council, Identity, Inc. and Impact Silver Spring are the three nonprofit organizations partnering in this effort.

The shirts are available in two “MoCo Strong” designs for \$17.50. A donation of \$10 will be made for each shirt purchased.

- Design #1: <https://sportsextraonline.com/products/moco-strong-black-short-sleeve-tee>
- Design #2: <https://sportsextraonline.com/products/moco-strong-white-short-sleeve-tee>

The Collaboration Council values active and authentic youth and community engagement, the contribution of strong families in the well-being of children, and the importance of ensuring all people regardless of their individual identities or social group memberships, have equitable opportunities to achieve success. The Collaboration Council's current agenda is to promote access to care, ensure all youth have a successful transition to adulthood, and build equitable opportunities for all children, youth and families to thrive.

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