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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kaarmin Ford | Leadership Montgomery | [Kaarmin.Ford@leadermont.org](mailto:Kaarmin.Ford@leadermont.org) | 301.881.3333

### LEADERSHIP MONTGOMERY SELECTS KATHERINE MEDINA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CHARLES KOINER CONSERVANCY, FOR THE 2025 CORE PROGRAM

**Silver Spring, MD – July 29, 2024** – The Charles Koiner Conservancy for Urban Farming (CKC) is proud to announce that its Founding Executive Director, Katherine (Kate) Medina, has been selected to participate in the 2025 Connecting Our Region’s Execs (CORE) program of Leadership Montgomery (LM). Medina co-founded the Charles Koiner Conservancy, alongside Hannah Sholder, Director of Operations, in 2018. The Conservancy stewards Koiner Farm, The Farm at Loiederman Middle School, and The Housing Opportunities Commission gardens at Paddington Square and Fenton Silver Spring Apartments, and operates all the community programs at these farms and gardens. As a former classroom educator, Medina is particularly passionate about creating opportunities for outdoor exploration and learning. She is a Montgomery County native and active member of her community, serving currently as the Board Treasurer of the Montgomery County Food Council, Board Treasurer of the Glenview Neighborhood Association, and Board member plus Garden Club member for the Barrie School. Medina’s work focuses on creating a network of sustainable urban farms in neighborhoods throughout Montgomery County.

“Kate Medina brings her leadership expertise to every endeavor,” says Mindy Milby, who oversees the board of directors of the Charles Koiner Conservancy (CKC). “Collaborative by nature, Medina has an expansive knowledge across topics from land stewardship, to food-sharing, farming, gardens, and building community, making her one of Montgomery County’s most unassailable up and comers.”

“Working with Kate Medina at Koiner Farm,” adds CKC board member Beth Py-Lieberman, “is not only rewarding, but educational. We are so fortunate that she lends her skillset and authority to CKC.”

Medina says she is “honored to be selected for the 2025 class of LM-CORE and eager to embrace the LM experience.”

LM, a Montgomery County-based community leadership organization, fosters cross-sector collaboration to address complex county issues through its programs and services.

Beginning in September, class participants will attend monthly sessions to connect and prepare them to build thriving and inclusive communities in Montgomery County and beyond.

“LM is thrilled to convene such a diverse group of leaders to participate in the leadership programs,” said Dana Pauley, President and CEO of Leadership Montgomery. “By gathering cross-sector leaders to advance thinking around regional issues, they can examine challenges and solutions from multiple perspectives.”

The organization’s flagship program, CORE, is geared toward seasoned public, private, and nonprofit leaders. In addition to CORE, LM offers [other individual and organizational leadership programs](#), [training](#), and [consulting](#) services.

The 35<sup>th</sup> cohort of the CORE program will run from September 2024 until May 2025.

### **About [Leadership Montgomery](#)**

*Leadership Montgomery (LM) is an award-winning organization that supports public, private, and nonprofit leaders in Montgomery County, MD, and beyond. Connecting the community for over thirty years, LM is committed to unlocking the potential of cross-sector leaders in understanding and addressing complex issues in our region. LM mobilizes leaders to build thriving and inclusive workplaces and communities through curriculum-based leadership programs, meaningful alumni engagement, and impactful corporate activation. Please visit our website at [www.leadershipmontgomerymd.org](http://www.leadershipmontgomerymd.org), like us on [Facebook](#), and follow us on [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) to learn more.*

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