



Delegate
Geraldine
VALENTINO-SMITH

Responsible Leadership



Dear Friends,

I wanted to make sure you had these two announcements. The first announcement shares an opportunity for Prince George's County Public School High School Seniors from the Prince George's County Office of the County Executive to apply for a scholarship in memory of Congresswoman Gladys Noon Spellman. The second is an opportunity for a grant for \$20,000 downpayment for qualified buyers. Please see the Exceptional Homebuyer Assistance Opportunities from Wells Fargo NeighborhoodLIFT program details below.

Please share these two opportunities with family and friends.

As always, I hope you find this information helpful and please share your thoughts and concerns with me at Geraldine.Valentino@house.state.md.us or call 301-858-3101.

Sincerely,

Geraldine

Geraldine Valentino-Smith
Delegate, District 23A
www.delegategeraldine.com
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Scholarship Opportunity!

[Gladys Spellman Scholarship Application](#)

Deadline February 22, 2019

During Women's History Month, the Prince George's County Office of

the County Executive presents a scholarship in memory of Congresswoman Gladys Noon Spellman. Ms. Spellman was a celebrated public servant of Prince George's County for more than two decades. This year's national theme is "Serving Together * Serving All".

The scholarship recipient will be recognized during the 34th Annual Women's History Month Luncheon on March 21, 2019.

Criteria

- Applicants must meet the following criteria:
- Candidate must be a Prince George's County resident.
- Candidate must attend a Prince George's County Public School.
- Candidate must have a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5.
- Candidate must be in the 12th grade (accepted into college or awaiting acceptance).
- Candidate should be planning to major in the areas of political science, public administration/government, public safety or health.
- Candidate should be involved in school activities, as well as non-school activities.
- Candidate should provide examples of community service.
- ***If selected, candidate must be able to attend the Annual Women's History Month Luncheon on March 21, 2019, 12 Noon, at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt, MD.***

Applicant Requirements

- Your application **MUST** include the following:
- Sealed copy of your high school transcript (Mandatory)
- Copy of most current report card (Mandatory)
- Two letters of reference (School counselor/teacher/administrator and a non-family member)
- A personal statement that addresses the following: **"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela. Describe a change you would like to make in the world. Tell us about how you would plan to make that change, and what obstacles you might encounter along the way. (No more than 400 words)**

- Examples of your high school and community extra-curricular/service activities. Additionally, ***please attach copies of or list any awards, letters of commendation, news clips or other examples that support your application.***

Exceptional Homebuyer Assistance Opportunities!

Beginning today homebuyers in the Prince George's and Washington D.C. areas have access to an exceptional program - the NeighborhoodLIFT Downpayment Grant!

Information can be found below, and as always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate **to call HIP at (301) 699-3835** in Prince George's County.

NeighborhoodLIFT Downpayment Grant

- Wells Fargo is kicking off the NeighborhoodLIFT program in our region for homebuyers wishing to buy homes in either Washington DC or Prince George's County. This program offers a down-payment assistance grant of **up to \$20,000** for eligible homebuyers - [Click here to see income eligibility requirements](#). This grant is forgivable after five years and will never have to be paid back! It can be combined with other down-payment programs, such as those offered by Maryland Mortgage.
- To take advantage of this program, you must first attend the NeighborhoodLIFT Launch event on either **February 22 from 10-7 or February 23 from 9-2** at the Washington Hilton Hotel, 1919 Connecticut Ave, NW. **See the attached flyer.** At the event, you'll learn more about the NeighborhoodLIFT program and can even get pre-qualified for a grant if you have your paperwork ready. You are urged to register for this event [HERE](#). There you will find what paperwork to bring. If you can, obtain a pre-qualification letter from a lender ahead of time. **Registration opens Monday morning, February 4, and slots will fill up fast.** You may go to the event without an appointment as well, but you may not be served as quickly.

HIP Homebuyer Coaching: \$20 gift card offer

- HIP is offering a **free coaching program** to get you ready to qualify for a great mortgage! If you attend the **NeighborhoodLIFT Launch event** (see above), you will receive a "counseling voucher" that entitles you to this free coaching at HIP. We will provide at least two in-person sessions, and follow-up coaching. A highly trained counselor will help you improve your credit, knock out debt, connect with excellent mortgage products, and develop an action plan with clear steps to achieve homeownership. If you do not attend the **NeighborhoodLIFT event**, you can still receive this coaching program from HIP, but you will not be eligible for the NeighborhoodLIFT grant. However, there are other down payment assistance programs we can alert you to! **After you complete your second in-person session, HIP will offer you a \$20 gift card to thank you for coming!**

You may seek counseling at any of our offices in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.

- To make your appointment with a HIP counselor, please contact our Hyattsville office at (301) 699-3835 or our Germantown office at (301) 840-3275. But hurry! This is a limited time only! More office location details at www.hiphomes.org .

By Authority of Friends For Geraldine Valentino-Smith, Elizabeth Ryan, Treasurer

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