

Maryland's Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) teamed up with Be The Match, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping patients get life-saving transplants to combat blood cancer, for the 2019 State of Maryland Day to Serve. Day to Serve (DTS) has become an amazing tradition of community engagement and service for state employees throughout Maryland. It transcends politics and religious differences, and unites people from all different cultures and backgrounds to come together with the shared goal of helping those in need and improving our communities. Additionally, it provides a unique and positive opportunity for our workforce to come together and give in a meaningful way, locally and globally. Therefore, the partnership between DPSCS and Be The Match seemed to be a natural, meaningful fit for Day to Serve 2019.

In response to the call to action for this year's initiative, the staff of DPSCS significantly demonstrated their commitment to making a difference in the lives of the people in our communities. Secretary Robert Green and the DPSCS Executive Team are proud to announce that DPSCS staff collectively raised more than \$6,000 in financial contributions for Be The Match. Additionally, staff actively engaged communities in educational awareness campaigns while also encouraging residents to "swab for the culture" and possibly save a life by joining the bone marrow registry, in hopes of possibly being a match for a patient diagnosed with a blood cancer.

The support and success of the DPSCS 2019 Day to Serve initiative is remarkable. It is leaving a lasting impression upon the staff of DPSCS and Be The Match, and it has the potential to make a lasting impact upon the lives of individuals and their families. During a celebratory reception on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, the DPSCS Day to Serve champions were recognized for their hard work, leadership, and dedication towards the success of the initiative. In representation of the wonderful staff of DPSCS, they symbolically presented Be The Match with the financial contributions and report of the initiative's outcomes. In recognition of extraordinary efforts, units and individual champions were honored for exceeding expectations. The units and individuals honored were:

***Most Financial Donations Collected*** – Office of the Secretary, Hampton Plaza  
Division of Pretrial Detention & Services

***Most Registrants for Be The Match Registry*** – Police & Correctional Training Commissions

***Best Educational Awareness Campaign*** – Robin Conley, Division of Pretrial Detention & Services

***Most Enthusiastic 2019 DTS Champion*** – Patricia Graham, Police & Correctional Training Commissions

Day to Serve 2019 was a success because of the collective efforts of many. Secretary Robert Green and the Executive Team are appreciative of the efforts of our entire workforce that have enabled DPSCS through this initiative to be a ray of hope and a shining light locally, nationally, and internationally. Your service matters and is making a difference. Thank you for your service!

