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I am writing to invite you to a noteworthy convening in the life of the Montgomery county community. With this invitation I am also hoping that you will consider sponsorship and/or purchase of a block of tickets on behalf of struggling and overcoming families who also want to attend the event.

**The event:** On Thursday, March 24, 2011 IMPACT Silver Spring will host our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual IMPACT Now! event and awards breakfast. Our Theme this year is: *"Our Diversity is Our Competitive Strength."*

This year's theme focuses on a common reality that impacts our bottom line and our quality of life – the wonderful and extreme diversity of our beloved Montgomery County and Silver Spring community. At IMPACT, we believe this diversity is a tremendous asset, but also a challenge that must be faced if our companies are to succeed in a global economy and our local neighborhoods are to thrive and grow.

At the event on February 24th, we will also be honoring three unsung heroes who are demonstrating the efficacy of diversity in our community. We also will be joined by County Executive, Mr. Ike Leggett, County Council Chair Ms. Valerie Ervin. We are also pleased to announce a late breaking addition to the program, The Honorable Donna Edwards, U.S. House of Representatives, District 4. We are excited about the awardees and the distinguished guests joining us for this wonderful affair. We hope that you'll join us as well.

Over the past decade, IMPACT Silver Spring has created a wide network of over 1,400 community leaders from 19 different cultural groups and over 120 different community organizations. Please know that we can be an important strategic partner in these challenging times—particularly as it relates to building capacity to reach across lines of difference. Again, I hope that you will consider attending and serving as a sponsor for this year's event-- even as we work to grow the health and vitality of Montgomery County and Silver Spring.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Galvin  
Executive Director