Subject: Appointment of Director for the East County Education Center **Date:** Monday, July 8, 2024 at 12:35:07 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Academic Affairs

To: All Employees Dynamic Grp

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Memorandum

To: Montgomery College Employees

From: Dr. Deidre Price, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/College Provost

Subject: Appointment of Director for the East County Education Center

Date: July 8, 2024

After the completion of a national search, I am pleased to announce that Dr. Hamrawit Tesfa has accepted the appointment of Director for the East County Education Center (ECEC). This appointment began June 24, 2024.

Since April 1, Dr. Tesfa served Montgomery College as the interim director, the point of contact for all matters related to ECEC, as well as overseeing communication and operations, engaging with the campus community, and advancing opportunities for site enhancement. In addition, she has served as a resource connector to support responsiveness to day-to-day operational issues and strategic growth opportunities since. Through her interim appointment, Dr. Tesfa successfully led a wide variety of community engagement events, introducing prospective students and College partners to ECEC. Dr. Tesfa has played key roles in the planning and implementation of the ECEC Opening, Community Engagement roundtables, center events supporting recruitment and program activities, and in schedule and academic services development for the future. Her enthusiasm for expanding access to ECEC's educational opportunities "to meet all students where they are" has already been a catalyst for conversations about how we extend the College's reach and impact to the East County.

Previously, she served in the Office of Advancement and Community Engagement as a community engagement specialist since 2014, and she has been heavily engaged with community outreach for many years. In her MC role, she has initiated partnerships between the College and the Ethiopian Community, culminating in an MOU that resulted in the opening of the MC Community Engagement Office in Silver Spring. She has created partnerships with over 50 stakeholders from underserved communities. In addition, Dr. Tesfa has planned and led more than 200 workshops and activities focused on area immigrant communities including important aspects of enrollment such as financial aid, registration, technology pathways, and accessing county support. She led the 2020 Census effort in the DMV East African Community to raise awareness of the importance of the census and to encourage participation. Along with her MC role, since 2021, she has served as a board member on the Ethio-American Professionals Network, which provides leadership for a nationwide group. Since 2019, she also has served as the director of the Ethio-American Family Resource Center in Germantown.

Dr. Tesfa earned a bachelor of social work with a minor in psychology from Eastern Michigan