



MEDIA ADVISORY

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A Decade of Study and Determination Ends in Graduation from Montgomery County Community College

(LANCASTER, PENNA. May 17, 2021) – Annamarie Parker will achieve a lifelong goal when she graduates with her associate degree in liberal studies on May 20 from Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell.

Parker, a resident of Philadelphia, is a senior supervisor with [VisionCorps'](#) contract management services (CMS) group in Philadelphia. **She is legally blind and began her journey toward a higher education degree in 2011, when she enrolled in community college.**

Her challenges were many: attending and preparing for classes while working full-time, finding and accessing help to make the texts and materials accessible to a person who is blind, and convincing skeptical teachers that she could do the work in spite of her disability. She plans to use her degree to advance in her career and hopes to continue her education.

“It was so frustrating, I was spending more time making my material accessible than learning the material,” said Parker. She transferred to Montgomery County Community College in 2019, and her learning experience improved. She received more accommodations, and was able to focus on her classroom learning, and complete her degree, which included several business courses.

“Annamarie had the determination to succeed,” said Carolyn Madison, vice president of contract management services at VisionCorps. “She worked hard to overcome the problems with making texts and materials accessible, so she could learn.”

WHAT: Annamarie Parker graduates from Montgomery County Community College
WHY: Determined student who is blind conquers obstacles to graduate
WHEN: 2 p.m., Thursday, May 20, 2021
WHERE: Montgomery County Community College, 340 DeKalb Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422

To interview Annamarie Parker, please call Carol at 215-872-8239.

[VisionCorps](#) is a nonprofit with a goal of empowering people who are blind or vision impaired to attain independence by providing them with the tools and training, including employment, to empower them. The organization serves almost 2,000 individuals with rehabilitation services in Lancaster, Lebanon, Chester, York and Adams counties. VisionCorps' prevention services include KidSight, which screens more than 8,000 children annually for vision loss.

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