

THE  
.....  
ABELL  
.....  
FOUNDATION  
.....  
ANNUAL REPORT  
1998

SINCE ITS  
INCEPTION,  
THE ABELL  
FOUNDATION  
HAS BEEN  
DEDICATED  
TO THE  
ENHANCEMENT  
OF THE  
QUALITY OF  
LIFE IN  
BALTIMORE  
AND MARYLAND



## A HISTORY OF THE ABELL FOUNDATION

The Abell Foundation, formerly known as The A.S. Abell Company Foundation, was established on December 31, 1953, on the initiative of the late Harry C. Black, philanthropist and then chairman of the board of the A.S. Abell Company, publishers of the Baltimore Sunpapers. Since its inception as a private foundation incorporated in Maryland, The Abell Foundation has been dedicated to the enhancement of the quality of life in Maryland.

From its beginnings, the Foundation has supported needs across the community spectrum. Early records show gifts to hospitals, educational institutions, culture and the arts, and human services—including the Associated Jewish Charities and the United Negro College Fund of Baltimore, Inc.

The Foundation's mission, though shaped early on by Harry C. Black, was given firmer definition over the years by his nephew and successor, Gary Black. With the passing of Gary Black in October of 1987, the mantle of leadership was passed to his son, Gary Black, Jr., who had trained a lifetime for the position.

The Foundation's leadership over the years has been supported by persons of remarkable dedication and community involvement: William S. Abell, Thomas B. Butler, George L. Bunting, Jr., Harrison Garrett, Benjamin Griswold, III, Robert Garrett, William E. McGuirk, Jr., Sally J. Michel, Edwin F. Morgan, John E. Semmes, William Schmick, Jr., W. Shepherdson Abell, Jr., Donald H. Patterson, William L. Jews, and Walter Sondheim, Jr.

A new generation of leadership has made its impression on the Foundation's mission; its charge to itself has consistently been to act as an agent of change. The mission has been broadened to include special emphases on public education, economic development, and health-related human services.

The Foundation's current assets reflect the financial success of the Baltimore Sunpapers and the generosity of Mr. Harry Black, who left a portion of his estate to the Foundation. On October 17, 1986, the resources of the Foundation were increased substantially by the sale of the A. S. Abell Company.

In carrying out its mission, the Foundation continues to honor the legacy of its founder and early directors, while redefining its programs in recognition of changing times.

THE  
FOUNDATION'S  
CHARGE  
TO ITSELF  
HAS BEEN  
TO ACT  
AS AN  
AGENT OF  
CHANGE

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Although the Foundation continues to support needs across the community spectrum, a crime rate in Baltimore City that is much too high, and the perception that the rate is even higher, command our special focus. To be responsive, the Foundation looks for initiatives designed to yield long-term solutions, and at the same time confront the crime problem's urgency on a day-to-day basis. Some programs stand out for the results they have achieved.

Foundation grants have been awarded to the *Public Justice Center* for a juvenile justice reform project aimed at reducing overuse and misuse of the juvenile detention system; to *Human Rights Watch* for an investigation of children accused of crimes who have been waived into adult criminal court and detained in the Baltimore City Jail; to *Partnership For Learning* for remedial tutoring for juveniles who are first-time offenders and diagnosed with learning disabilities; to the *Maryland Association of Resources For Families and Youth* to support the newly established Maryland Juvenile Justice Coalition for advocacy on behalf of youthful offenders in Baltimore City at risk of being waived to adult criminal court; to *Offender Aid and Restoration* for "Steps to Sufficiency," a life-skills and job training internship program for ex-offenders; to *Second Chance* for a new mentoring/job training program for ex-offenders returning to Baltimore from state prisons; to *Lawyers at Bail* to provide legal representation at bail hearings to nonviolent misdemeanor defendants who cannot make bail, do not have a defense lawyer, and are at high risk of pretrial incarceration; to the *Institutes For Behavior Resources* to buy a mobile health services vehicle to deliver methadone and counseling to heroin addicts; to *Recovery In Community* to support addicts seeking treatment with a comprehensive street outreach and case management system in three heavily drug-infested neighborhoods in West Baltimore; and to the *Safe and Sound Campaign* to support a Kennedy School of Government research team that will develop and implement a strategy for reducing juvenile homicide and drug-related violence in Baltimore City.

## EDUCATION

### THE 100 BOOK CHALLENGE

A November 1997 article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* described an independent reading program in Philadelphia's public schools that showed promise as a tool for raising low test scores and improving the availability of books in Baltimore City public schools. The fledgling program, called The 100 Book Challenge, is designed to help teachers, families, and administrators create literate environments in which children learn to love reading and become better readers.

Both common sense and educational research suggest that the more one reads, the better one reads. Students who report that they read regularly have demonstrated superior literacy development. It is also true that students in high-poverty areas like Baltimore City often have difficulty becoming fluent readers. "The provision of a rich supply of high interest books is a feasible policy for improving English learning," (Mangubhai and Elley, 1982), yet schools, particularly urban ones, lack the resources to provide a wide selection of books in a school library, much less a classroom. In 1997, only 22 of 122 Baltimore City's public elementary schools had a full-time librarian; 55 schools

had no library staff at all. Furthermore, although some schools offered an independent reading period, very few had a structured program or, more importantly, an adequate classroom library to supplement reading instruction.

Developed by reading specialist Jane Hileman, The 100 Book Challenge provides a framework for inspiring, monitoring, and rewarding student initiative in reading achievement. It is designed to increase students' self-directed reading with structured daily reading practice both at home and in school. The program supplements a school's existing reading instruction program with the following components:

- 30 minutes a day of independent reading in the classroom;
- rotating classroom libraries (250 books each) of books labeled and grouped by level of difficulty from pre-primer to eighth-grade levels;
- books to take home each evening that are monitored as homework;
- choice of books based on students' current reading levels and interests;
- incentives and awards to recognize readers' efforts; and
- a challenge to each student to read 100 books with a year-end goal of 300 books.

In the spring of 1998, The Abell Foundation offered elementary schools in Baltimore City the opportunity to pilot The 100 Book Challenge in the 1998-99 school year. Ultimately, ten schools were selected to implement the program in 110 kindergarten to sixth-grade classes. Participating schools are Belmont, Calvin Rodwell, Cecil, Curtis Bay, Eutaw Marshburn, George Washington, Holabird, Mary Rodman, Medfield Heights, and Patapsco. Training materials and 28,000 books were provided to the schools, and the program was formally launched in fall 1998.

As of January 1999, The 100 Book Challenge has expanded to 132 classrooms and 2,725 students. In the first four months of the program, 1,400 students read more than 100 books and 71% of students have moved up at least one reading level in that time. More than 100 students have read more than 300 books. According to site coordinators, half of the students take books home on a nightly basis and read to family members. Teachers report that The 100 Book Challenge complements the two new elementary reading series, Open Court and Houghton Mifflin, adopted by Baltimore City Public School System, and that students are reluctant to put down their books at the end of the reading period. Most schools have recruited parent volunteers to coach students, particularly younger readers, during the 30 minutes set aside for independent reading. Parents, teachers, and students praise the quality and quantity of books provided for all reading levels. Students who once scoffed at reading now have favorite genres and authors. The literacy culture is contagious: some schools have started books clubs and others have created libraries and book challenges for parents and school staff.

These promising results will be further studied by classroom observations and analysis of standardized test scores administered in October 1998 and June 1999.

THE  
100 BOOK  
CHALLENGE  
HAS  
EXPANDED  
TO 132  
CLASSROOMS  
AND 2,725  
STUDENTS

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **PATTERSON PARK COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION/HOME VALUE GUARANTEE**

Over the past several years the Foundation has worked in partnership with the Patterson Park Community Development Corporation (formerly the East Fayette Street Community Development Corporation) to create incentives for new homebuyers to purchase in the neighborhoods north and east of Patterson Park. The programs have attracted the interest of new homebuyers, but the neighborhood continues to experience an overall out-migration of residents, increased absentee ownership, and crime. As a result, residents and potential homebuyers, seeing signs of decline, have become concerned about a potential drop in their property values. Fear of loss in property values becomes a reason for homeowners to leave and for potential homeowners not to buy and improve their homes, creating a self-fulfilling prophecy.

In an effort to counter this trend and build optimism and confidence for homeowners who invest in the community, the Foundation is funding the Patterson Park Community Development Corporation's Home Value Guarantee. The Home Value Guarantee provides assurance to current and prospective homeowners who enroll in the program that the value of their houses will not decrease. New homebuyers and existing homeowners enrolling for the guarantee agree to live in and maintain their houses for at least five years and pay an annual fee. If and when a homeowner decides to sell, in the event the sale price is less than the house value at the time of enrollment, the guarantee is invoked and the Foundation pays the difference.

The guarantee program is modeled on similar stabilization programs in the Chicago area, the oldest of which has been in operation for over 20 years. Thousands of homeowners have enrolled in these community programs and only a handful of claims have ever been paid. The Chicago programs demonstrate that if homeowners don't move abruptly and the neighborhood continues to attract new homeowners, the real estate market stays healthy, housing values increase, and the neighborhood improves.

The program is currently being advertised to homeowners in the area served by the Patterson Park Community Development Corporation and used as a marketing tool to encourage new home purchases. The organization expects 100 households to enroll during the first year.

## **HUMAN SERVICES**

### **LAWYERS AT BAIL**

While recent public scrutiny has focused on the most egregious examples of Baltimore City's severely troubled judicial system, data gathered by a pilot project of the University of Maryland School of Law revealed that hundreds of defendants charged with mostly nonviolent misdemeanors are being jailed at the bail stage because they cannot make bail, they do not have defense lawyers, and no prosecutor reviews arrests to determine whether charges should have been filed.

Criminal filing and disposition statistics for 1998 show that 50,231 (58%) of Baltimore District Court cases that entered the system concluded without a conviction. Yet of the approximately 2,000 people who are incarcerated in Baltimore City daily on nonviolent, usually misdemeanor charges, a very high percentage are jailed for at least 30 days before appearing in court. The social and economic costs of detaining the pretrial prison population in this manner are substantial. In 1997, for instance, it was estimated by the University of Maryland Law School that taxpayers paid about \$20 million for incarcerating people in Baltimore who had not been convicted of any crime. Aside from the cost of incarceration and needlessly adding to a jail population that is already seriously overcrowded, many people lose jobs, benefits, and homes while in jail. In light of these alarming findings, the Foundation awarded \$486,190 for start-up costs and two-year funding to implement the Lawyers at Bail (LAB) Pilot Project.

Designed and overseen by Professor Douglas L. Colbert, a professor at the University of Maryland School of Law, the LAB project employs paralegals and attorneys and provides legal representation at Baltimore City Jail bail reviews to nonviolent detainees screened for the type of charge that represents no threat to the public. Data gathered from the first seven months of operation show that of those for whom LAB has obtained release, about 60% were employed at time of arrest and had families and stable living situations. Countering predictions that such clients would fail to appear at court, over 96% of LAB clients appeared for their trials. Additional data are being collected to undertake a statistical analysis to compare two groups, one represented by LAB attorneys and a control group of LAB-eligible clients who were not represented by counsel at their bail review hearings. Additionally, a cost-benefit analysis is to be conducted which will focus upon the savings realized from LAB's early representation.

The LAB project has already furnished vital information for legislation sponsored by the Maryland State Bar Association in the 1999 session of the General Assembly: the "Smart Courts" bill, designed to provide additional resources to the Public Defender's office to ensure representation at bail hearings.

### **RECOVERY IN COMMUNITY**

The Foundation committed \$1 million for each of two years to implement Recovery in Community. The initiative differs from existing drug treatment efforts in that it provides a street outreach component, comprehensive case management and follow-up services designed to rehabilitate, find employment, and bring stability to the participants' lives. The holistic focus, with its emphasis on employment and support services for the addicts' families, is intended to reverse the pattern of recovering addicts experiencing relapse after returning to neighborhoods deeply mired in the drug culture.

The program will operate in the same three neighborhoods in Southwest Baltimore, Franklin Square, Boyd Booth, and Fayette at Monroe Streets, that are the subject of David Simon and Edward Burns' *The Corner*, the acclaimed book about drug problems in Baltimore City. These three neighborhoods have already been targeted for additional law enforcement effort

**THE  
LAWYERS  
AT BAIL  
PROJECT HAS  
FURNISHED  
VITAL  
INFORMATION  
TO THE  
MARYLAND  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**

by the State's HotSpots initiative to reduce crime by teaming police and probation officers and providing resident education. HotSpots will cooperate with Recovery in Community. By addressing the related issues of drugs and crime in this way, the Foundation supports Mayor Schmoke's efforts to expand Baltimore City's overwhelmed drug treatment programs.

An important component of Recovery in Community is its built-in evaluation mechanism; findings are expected to provide data that will help determine the program's effectiveness, and be useful in overall studies of drug-related crime. Baltimore City Healthy Start, Inc., a subsidiary of the Baltimore City Health Department, has been chosen to lead the effort because of its track record for providing effective social service programming in community-based settings.

### **STRIVE/BALTIMORE**

Although there is a significant lack of reliable information and analysis on workforce and economic development conditions in the Baltimore area, and particularly about jobs available for very low-income individuals, there is an emerging consensus among prospective employers that the supply of qualified labor to meet current and future job needs is insufficient, particularly for entry-level positions. Frequently, employers find that low-skill workers, especially young unemployed inner-city males, have deficient motivation and serious life-skill problems.

Searching for a job training/placement model with a successful approach to these intractable problems, the Foundation was impressed with the 15-year record of success demonstrated by East Harlem Employment Services/STRIVE. This program, which now has affiliate programs in seven major cities and operates 12 sites in boroughs in New York, emphasizes attitudinal training, job placement and post-placement support. The program prepares participants for the workforce through a strict, demanding three-week workshop (120 hours) focused on the attitudes needed for successful entry-level employment. STRIVE's priority is to work with those most in need. Over the past five years, the 19 STRIVE programs have placed over 14,000 low-income people in jobs at a cost of approximately \$1,500 per placement. Three-quarters of STRIVE graduates are still working after two years.

Given this excellent track record, the Foundation encouraged Baltimore Healthy Start to replicate the East Harlem program and awarded a \$250,000 start-up and first-year operating grant, with the understanding that the Baltimore program would also seek training funds from the Empower Baltimore Management Corporation, the organization that oversees Baltimore's Empowerment Zones. STRIVE/Baltimore was established in the late spring of 1998, with staff receiving extensive training from the East Harlem STRIVE program.

Over the first nine months of operation, STRIVE/Baltimore has graduated 141 participants, 70% of whom have been placed in jobs. The key to the program's success is follow-up with graduates. STRIVE stays in contact with working graduates for two years following employment and tailors its follow-up to the needs of each individual and of his or her employer. The frequency of contact with graduates is whatever it takes to keep individuals on the job or, if



employment is terminated, to place them in new jobs. Early STRIVE/Baltimore outcome data indicate a 75% job retention rate for its graduates, which mirrors the promise and the success of the East Harlem program on which STRIVE/Baltimore is modeled.

**BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM/  
HARFORD HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
BEHAVIORAL OPTOMETRY PROGRAM**

Behavioral optometry is an expanded area of optometric practice requiring advanced training and professional certification. Behavioral optometrists distinguish between *visual acuity* and *vision*. Visual acuity is defined by how well we see at a distance and is typically tested with a Snellen eye chart. There are several other vision disorders that fall into three broad categories: difficulties in tracking, inefficiencies in eye teaming, and focusing problems. These problems can interfere with visual processing—the ability to use visual images for learning.

Vision therapy or training includes a set of clinical interventions to correct and mitigate the effects of several diagnosable vision disorders. These interventions depend on the nature and severity of the problem. Vision therapy is conducted under the supervision of an optometrist with specialized training and may include exercises to strengthen certain eye muscles, temporary use of an eye patch, and learning techniques that improve how the eyes function together.

Dr. Paul Harris is a local behavioral optometrist with a national reputation in the field. With support from The Abell Foundation, Dr. Harris has initiated a program at Harford Heights Elementary school to screen students for vision problems, direct a vision therapy intervention, and evaluate the program's impact on reading progress and standardized test scores. A matched control group will be screened but will not receive vision therapy.

In the fall of 1998, 178 fourth-grade students were screened. Fewer than one-third of these students are reading at grade level; 26% are reading at second-grade level or lower. A strong correlation was found between low reading levels and the presence of visual problems. Testers found that children with vision problems scored below the average for their age group on tests for the mechanics of reading; that is, they were reading much more slowly and showed evidence of stopping frequently and regressing to re-read words or lines.

In 1999 at least 75 students will receive vision therapy intervention at school. Their vision and reading performance will be tested and compared to those of students who do not receive the intervention.

**THE BIOTECHNICAL INSTITUTE OF MARYLAND, INC.**

Maryland has established itself as a major biotechnical center, yet the shortage of highly trained laboratory workers has seriously hampered growth in the past few years. Part of the problem is that as biotechnical companies mature, the job skills they require change. Maryland readily meets the demand for highly-skilled engineers, scientists and researchers that young biotechnical companies require. However, as these companies mature and move into product development, a different kind of worker is needed with a special

IN 1999

AT LEAST

75 STUDENTS

WILL RECEIVE

VISION

THERAPY

INTERVENTION

AT SCHOOL

blend of skills. Currently, most lab technicians hold college degrees, come from outside Maryland and, predictably, after one or two years they leave to pursue graduate or medical school programs. This attrition leaves biotechnical companies and research organizations with a costly loss of continuity and the need to re-teach technical skills.

Recognizing the seriousness of this situation, the Foundation awarded a \$227,600 planning and implementation grant to establish the Biotechnical Institute of Maryland. The Institute and its core curriculum were designed by Margaret B. Penno, Ph.D., Associate Professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Dr. Penno has gained national recognition for her expertise in devising specialized trainings tailored to the specific needs of a range of biotechnical companies and research centers.

The Institute represents a practical model for recruiting and moving into the workforce a new cadre of "light blue-collar" workers in Baltimore, comprising individuals who have a high school education, including graduates of the Baltimore City Public School System's Biotechnology Tech Prep Program, interested in pursuing skilled jobs. Additionally, low-skill workers in the areas of maintenance, security, and cafeteria/food preparation, who traditionally have very little opportunity for career advancement, could, with specific training, move into the biotechnical field. The advantages of training such workers as lab technicians are availability, long-term commitment, skill-specific expertise, and reasonable cost. The advantages to the workers are equally beneficial, including starting salaries of \$20,000 with full benefits, and the potential for acquiring additional skills and moving into higher-skill biotechnical jobs within a company. To date, the Institute has successfully demonstrated the feasibility of the laboratory training model through collaboration with Baltimore City Community College, Empower Baltimore Management Corporation, and several local biotechnical companies that have already received successfully trained candidates from the Institute or have committed to contract with the Institute for lab technician training.

#### **BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM/ BEST FRIENDS**

With two grants to Baltimore City middle schools, the Foundation has initiated the Best Friends program in Baltimore. Best Friends is a nationally recognized youth development program for middle school girls. The program creates a rival peer culture among the girls that promotes high standards of behavior, particularly sexual abstinence, avoidance of alcohol and drugs, and striving for academic excellence. The program offers the girls exposure to many caring women who reinforce the messages of the program.

Best Friends consists of a monthly group class, a weekly fitness class, individual mentoring sessions, and other activities. The girls are in a program activity at least 100 hours during the school year. The year ends with a public recognition ceremony honoring the girls and allowing them to thank the many people who have made the program possible and supported them.

In May 1998, 35 girls from Canton Middle School were honored in a ceremony as the first Baltimore Best Friends. School administrators and students' mothers were present to congratulate the girls for their commitment to

the values of the program. The girls performed, read, and received pendants acknowledging their ongoing commitment to each other and themselves, to maintain their high standards of friendship, saying “no” to drugs, focus on persevering with personal goals, and delaying sexual activity at least until after high school graduation.

A second Abell grant to Hamilton Middle School enabled the program to grow to 98 girls, 48 from Canton and 50 from Hamilton. In addition, two elementary schools in Baltimore have initiated the program with funding from the State. At the spring 1999 recognition ceremony, 98 middle-school girls and 66 fourth graders will be honored.

**INSTITUTES FOR BEHAVIOR RESOURCES/  
MOBILE HEALTH SERVICES VEHICLE**

Baltimore’s population of substance abusers is estimated to number around 60,000. The crime and health problems associated with rampant illicit drug use are taking a devastating toll on the city. It is estimated that 85% of all felonies committed in the City are drug-related, while intravenous drug use accounts for 75% of all AIDS cases in the City. Because of the very large numbers of drug abusers, Baltimore’s treatment programs, especially those non-hospital-based outpatient facilities for drug treatment and rehabilitation, are overburdened. This situation persists, despite the recent significant increase in funding and the expansion of treatment slots created by Mayor Schmoke’s newly established Substance Abuse Initiative. Waiting lists for programs still occur, and methadone detoxification and maintenance programs frequently require those seeking treatment to wait for many days for an opening.

Because of the high incidence of crime that accompanies drug use and dealing, neighborhoods and organizations are increasingly less tolerant of indigenous treatment programs, despite the likelihood that those who would benefit from the programs are individuals who live in the very communities that oppose the establishment of new clinic facilities. The “not-in-my-back-yard” syndrome is becoming entrenched to the point where it is virtually impossible to establish new drug treatment programs in the City.

In response to this problem, in 1992 the Institutes for Behavior Resources (IBR) pioneered the first Mobile Health Services program, dispensing methadone to heroin abusers at five sites around the City. The program utilized four specially designed motor homes converted to dispense methadone safely and to provide counseling and some primary health care services to opiate users around the City. Because these vehicles have received very heavy usage over the years, they are now in frequent need of repair. The Foundation awarded IBR \$119,338 to acquire a larger, state-of-the-art vehicle, the purchase of which has significantly expanded IBR’s capacity to serve heroin users and to provide, in collaboration with the University of Maryland’s School of Medicine, clinical and counseling services to additional underserved sites around the City.

**THE  
FOUNDATION  
AWARDED  
\$119,338 TO  
INSTITUTES  
FOR BEHAVIOR  
RESEARCH  
FOR PURCHASE  
OF A  
STATE-OF-THE-ART  
VEHICLE**

## **MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES/AFTERCARE PROGRAM**

For six years The Abell Foundation has supported family planning education and clinical services in the Baltimore City Women's Detention Center. In 1998 a supplemental grant was awarded to develop an aftercare component for women released from detention. With a Foundation grant of \$14,169 in June 1998, the family planning staff at the detention center established a pilot follow-up program for ex-inmates. This project seeks to make family planning services available to women who have been released and who often have no access to health services.

The profile of a female inmate mirrors that of the most at-risk women in the community: poor, often drug-abusing women who do not access health services for themselves or their children. As many as 80% of women inmates are active drug abusers. Many are incarcerated for minor drug-related offenses. These inmates, as a group, have repeat pregnancies and poor track records of contraceptive use. These women typically are not connected to regular health services; immediately upon release they are not eligible for Medical Assistance, which is suspended for inmates.

The program is based at a clinic of the Baltimore City Health Department, which previously had not effectively recruited this population for services. The counselor from the Detention Center has established a voice-mail line and advertised the service with flyers and business cards distributed in the jail. Women who want follow-up services are offered cash incentives to comply with the quarterly visit regimen. Keeping appointments is emphasized to ensure that women maintain a connection to the health care system. The goal of the program is to increase patients' use of a reliable contraceptive method and to ensure that the patient selects the best method for her own needs. If a patient requests birth control but needs a Pap smear first or must return at a different point in her cycle, a partial incentive is paid and the balance provided upon her return.

From July to December 1998, 22 weekly clinic sessions were held, serving 302 women. An average of 20 women was seen in each clinic session. Two hundred and sixty-six women requested and received birth control. The return rate (percentage of women returning for quarterly check-ups) is approximately 70%.

## COMMUNITY DIRECT INVESTMENT

### CHARLES THEATER

Cinemas that offer art films are critical to Baltimore City's cultural infrastructure. Art film theaters are not immune to the national trends driving movie houses to increase the number of screens. After agreeing to show a movie for a set amount of time, a single-screen theater remains financially vulnerable insofar as it cannot drop a poorly attended film or extend a popular hit. The owners of the single-screen Charles Theater responded by assembling a redevelopment plan to add four new screens in an adjacent building, and more than double the number of seats. More seating and more screens offer the potential for better features and bigger audiences, increasing the profitability of the business and adding vitality to the neighborhood surrounding the theater.

As an investment in a for-profit program, with a commitment to community improvement, The Abell Foundation guaranteed a loan by Mercantile-Safe Deposit and Trust in the amount of \$720,000 for the construction of the new theaters. The Maryland State Department of Housing and Community Development's Neighborhood Business Development Program, the City's Baltimore Development Corporation, and the sale of historic rehabilitation tax credits provided additional funding for the \$1.4 million project.

The buildings on the 1700 block of North Charles Street housing the expanded Charles Theater were built in 1902 as a streetcar barn for the Baltimore City Passenger Railway. The Charles Theater building was redeveloped in 1938 as a newsreel theater with seating for 485. The adjacent structure was for many years a bowling alley. In the 1940s, a second floor was added above the bowling alley to house the Famous Ballroom, a venue for jazz musicians. The newsreel theater was renamed the Charles Theater in the late 1950s and two decades later became an art film theater. The project reunites the buildings for a common purpose, adapting the structures for reuse. The new entrance and concession stand will be located in the newly renovated space and the former lobby will house a 45-seat café. The existing theater will remain intact and the four new theaters will be equipped with stadium seating.

One block north of the renovated Pennsylvania Station, the Charles Theater is located in an area of midtown that has suffered from long-term underinvestment. The expanded theater is expected to attract three times the number of people to the block in the critical evening hours. After the theater's completion in Spring 1999, the increased number of moviegoers is intended to provide the "critical mass" to spark additional reinvestment in entertainment venues and restaurants by developers and entrepreneurs.

THE  
EXPANDED  
CHARLES  
THEATER  
IS EXPECTED  
TO ATTRACT  
THREE TIMES  
THE NUMBER  
OF PEOPLE  
TO THE  
AREA



THE  
.....  
ABELL  
.....  
FOUNDATION  
.....  
1998 GRANTS

ARTS AND  
CULTURE

CONSERVATION  
AND  
ENVIRONMENT

ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION

HEALTH AND  
HUMAN  
SERVICES





## ARTS AND CULTURE

### Arts Education in Maryland

**Schools Consortium ..... \$5,000**

For expenses related to a conference for deans of arts and deans of education. The conference will address the impact of the Maryland State Department of Education's newly approved arts standards on all teachers. The standards, contained in *Maryland Essential Learner Outcomes for the Arts*, encompass the outcomes, expectations and indicators for four fine arts disciplines: music, dance, theater and visual arts.

**AXIS Theatre of Maryland, Inc. .... \$10,000**

Toward production and marketing costs of producing eight American plays annually.

**Baltimore Opera Company ..... \$11,840**

For implementation of Project Figaro, an educational outreach initiative for students at Southwestern and Western High Schools. In partnership with Treatment Resources for Youth, the Opera has designed a semester-long interactive curriculum introducing 120 students to opera through in-school study units, pre-opera lecture/dinners, performances, and backstage tours.

**Baltimore Shakespeare Festival, Inc. .... \$12,500**

For support of a 13-week residency program at Baltimore City College. The program will provide students with an opportunity to work side by side with professional directors, actors, and technicians in mounting an abbreviated production of a Shakespeare play.

**Baltimore's Festival of the Arts, Inc. .... \$25,000**

For support of the 1999 CityArts Grant Program, designating funds to provide a variety of cultural activities in underserved neighborhoods.

**Black Cherry Puppet Theater ..... \$32,500**

Challenge grant for construction costs of a permanent home for a theater and puppetry center as part of a revitalization effort in the Hollins Market neighborhood.

**Children's Theater Association ..... \$5,000**

Toward a feasibility study that will include financial strategic planning, marketing, and architectural analysis.

**Everyman Theatre, Inc. .... \$20,000**

For general support toward financial stabilization, to encourage growth of a small theater dedicated to providing work for established professional Equity actors living in the Baltimore/Washington region, and presenting performances at affordable prices.

THE  
FOUNDATION  
PROVIDED  
GRANTS  
TO SUPPORT  
LOCAL OPERA,  
THEATER,  
AND ARTS  
EDUCATION

**Fund for Educational Excellence ..... \$7,900**

For costs related to a four-week Shakespeare Summer Camp where students will mount an hour-long production of *Macbeth* for public audiences. The purpose of the theatrical experience is to enhance students' self-confidence, public speaking skills, stage presence, language development, team building, and critical thinking skills.

**The Municipal Opera Company of Baltimore, Inc. .... \$5,000**

For general operating costs of the season's activities, including workshops, school tours, and main stage production of Mozart's *Così Fan Tutti*.

**National Arts Stabilization ..... \$250,000**

Three-year funding for second generation of the Baltimore Arts Stabilization Project for mid-sized cultural organizations to enhance their managerial and financial skills in order to adapt and thrive in the changing economic environment. This goal will be achieved by strengthening each organization's capacity for financial planning, budgeting, forecasting, accessing financing, and development of realistic long-range plans.

**National Museum of Ceramic Art and Glass ..... \$27,600**

For expansion of the classroom and after-school ceramic art club program into Garrison, Fallstaff, Roland Park, and Westport Middle Schools. Each student participating in the after-school club is expected to maintain at least a 90% attendance rate and a "C" average.

**Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University .. \$500,000**

Ten-year funding for a study on the impact of arts education on students' academic success, focusing on at-risk children in Baltimore's inner city. Twenty-five students will be selected to receive scholarships to study music or dance at the Peabody Preparatory, while another 25 students will form a control group. The evaluation will track the academic performance of the two groups over a ten-year period.

**University of Maryland Baltimore County/**

**Maryland Stage Company ..... \$50,000**

For support of the 1998 summer performances of Chekhov's *The Seagull* at Center Stage.

## CONSERVATION/ENVIRONMENT

### **1000 Friends of Maryland ..... \$75,000**

For support of a statewide community outreach program to stimulate public support for regionally responsive community revitalization and land conservation. With a membership of active environmentalists and representatives from the business community, 1000 Friends will develop an action plan focused on stemming sprawl and directing growth and investment to existing communities and strategically designated growth areas, consistent with Maryland's Smart Growth legislation.

### **Aberdeen Proving Ground Superfund**

#### **Citizens Coalition ..... \$5,000**

Challenge grant for emergency funding to hire an administrator responsible for managing the EPA technical assistance grant.

### **Catonsville Community College ..... \$11,713**

For development of a Baltimore Green Business Network Project to increase business and institutional participation in the activities of the Gwynns Falls Watershed Association. In partnership with Parks & People Foundation and the Trust for Public Land, local groups are being encouraged to participate in the stewardship of the 14-mile hiking and biking trail, now under development, that will link Leakin Park to the Inner Harbor.

### **Chesapeake Bay Foundation ..... \$5,000**

Toward reprinting the 1998 State of the Bay Report.

### **Friends of Jug Bay ..... \$10,000**

For the purchase of computers and office equipment for the Interactive Wetlands Education Project at the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary. The purpose of the computer project is to integrate the outdoor education program with interactive hands-on computer-linked exhibits and to provide access to an encyclopedic database.

### **Maryland Public Interest**

#### **Research Group (MaryPIRG) ..... \$15,000**

In support of the 1998-99 Baltimore City Public School System Pesticide Use Reduction Project designed to address the issue of health risks associated with pesticide use in the schools, and to promote safer alternatives. MaryPIRG will create educational materials for teachers, parents, and staff, and will host training for Baltimore City school staff.

### **The Trust for Public Land ..... \$100,000**

Continued support for the completion of Phase 1 (scheduled for June 1999) and the development of Phase 2 of the Gwynns Falls Trail project, a 14-mile hiking and biking trail from Gwynns Falls/Leakin Park to the Inner Harbor. Once completed, the trail will provide access to urban wild lands, recreational facilities, and cultural and historic sites.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Archdiocese of Baltimore ..... \$31,650**  
Second-year funding of the Inter-Vicariate Task Force on Regional Issues educational campaign, developed to address issues facing metropolitan Baltimore. The funds are earmarked for facilitator training and production of a video and study program booklets for use at symposia and a series of parish meetings.
- Baltimore Development Corporation..... \$62,500**  
For staffing to market Baltimore's Foreign Trade Zone, and to develop a strategic plan for the Zone's management and expansion to include a trucking and warehouse business.
- Baltimore Office of Promotion..... \$5,000**  
For support to expand educational programs and family-oriented activities at the 1999 Baltimore Waterfront Festival.
- Charles Village Community Foundation, Inc..... \$5,000**  
For a feasibility study of the South Charles Village revitalization project.
- Citizens' Agenda for Maryland ..... \$5,000**  
Continued funding for the development of a citizens' agenda to create and preserve a fair economy, livable communities, and representative government.
- Citizens Planning and Housing Association ..... \$90,000**  
For support of the Committee on the Region and its Campaign for Regional Solutions. The campaign has been designed to educate residents in the region about issues of common concern, to develop a broader constituency for bold and politically challenging solutions, and to initiate projects that transcend jurisdictional lines and traditional parochial responses.
- Harford Road Partnership ..... \$30,000**  
Two grants for consultancy fees to develop and update an urban renewal plan to market and revitalize the commercial corridor of Harford Road, intended to strengthen the surrounding residential neighborhood.
- Harford Road Partnership ..... \$150,000**  
Three-year funding to support implementation of the Urban Renewal Project and ongoing marketing of the plan for revitalization of the commercial corridor along Harford Road to secure broad-based community input and support.

**Johns Hopkins University ..... \$40,000**  
 Two-year funding for expansion of the Live Near Your Work program, designed to stimulate homeownership in targeted areas in less stable neighborhoods near the Johns Hopkins Hospital and the Homewood campus.

**Johns Hopkins University/  
 Institute for Policy Studies ..... \$5,000**  
 For a study of Maryland's presence in the satellite/telecommunications industry.

**Johns Hopkins University/  
 School of Hygiene and Public Health ..... \$100,000**  
 For support of resource development funding for the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health research initiatives in public health and disease prevention.

**Patterson Park Community  
 Development Corporation ..... \$16,560**  
 To provide funding for overtime police foot patrol for the summer of 1998 in the Patterson Park community in an effort to reduce nuisance crimes, prostitution, and drug activity, which have been undermining the quality of life in the neighborhood.

**Patterson Park Community  
 Development Corporation ..... \$41,300**  
 For staffing and operating costs to develop and implement the Home Value Guarantee Program, designed to boost confidence and encourage homeownership in the neighborhoods surrounding Patterson Park.

**St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center ..... \$150,000**  
 Two-year funding for the Waverly/Pen Lucy Homeownership Project, a vacant housing rehabilitation program to provide affordable housing in stable neighborhoods.

**South East Community Organization ..... \$5,000**  
 To hire a summer intern for the Friends of Patterson Park, and for costs of printing the Master Plan for Patterson Park.

**University of Maryland at Baltimore ..... \$27,350**  
 For a feasibility study of the development of the Technology Commercialization Center at the Baltimore campus. The center, containing offices, research, and wet laboratories, would offer incubator space for the development of new businesses.

**\$150,000 WAS  
 AWARDED TO  
 ST. AMBROSE  
 HOUSING  
 AID CENTER  
 FOR A VACANT  
 HOUSING REHAB  
 PROGRAM  
 TO PROVIDE  
 AFFORDABLE  
 HOUSING**

**University of Maryland Baltimore County ..... \$36,000**

To provide stipends to members of the Baltimore Area Urban University Consortium for a publication on issues facing Baltimore City and the Baltimore metropolitan area. The publication will cover issues such as poverty, land use and growth management, crime, transportation, and race relations.

**Woman's Industrial Exchange ..... \$5,000**

For an architectural study of the Exchange building.

**Women Entrepreneurs of Baltimore, Inc. (WEB) ..... \$12,000**

To capitalize the WEB Loan Fund in order to increase the loan pool available for microenterprise development to graduates of the WEB entrepreneurial training program.

**EDUCATION**

**Advocates for Children and Youth ..... \$270,000**

Two grants for Students First, an advocacy project dedicated to improving the quality of education for students in Baltimore City public schools. In support of educational reform, Students First provides assessment of educational practices, policies, and programs, and makes recommendations for research-based programs and strategies.

**Advocates for Children and Youth ..... \$5,000**

For support of the Master Plan of the Baltimore City Public School System, and to assess the quality of design and implementation of the Transition Plan.

**Archdiocese of Baltimore ..... \$39,520**

For the continuation of scholarships enabling at-risk CHOICE program students to attend Baltimore City parochial schools. These students, participating in a national model program to prevent delinquency, are expected to benefit from smaller classes, one-on-one attention, and a highly structured educational setting.

**Archdiocese of Baltimore ..... \$79,470**

To provide scholarships for Baltimore City students to attend parochial schools in Baltimore City. This initiative will provide the basis for a study comparing the effectiveness of Catholic education with that of the Baltimore City Public School System in meeting the needs of children.

**Arts Education in Maryland Schools (AEMS)**

**Consortium..... \$20,000**

For general support of a statewide partnership advocating arts education as a basic component of public education. Based on research data, AEMS is dedicated to promoting the need for each county in Maryland to develop curricula incorporating arts standards and accountability that will meet Maryland's Schools for Success Goals 2000.

**Baltimoreans United in Leadership**

**Development (B.U.I.L.D.)..... \$99,780**

Two-year support of the School Counts Campaign, an initiative to increase higher education opportunities for persons receiving welfare assistance. The campaign encourages the pursuit of college-level education as a strategy for job advancement and economic self-sufficiency.

**Baltimore Academy of Excellence ..... \$19,800**

To provide scholarships for Baltimore City Public School System inner-city children who have faced suspension to attend a Christian school. The academy offers a year-round schedule, a comprehensive curriculum, small classes, and individualized counseling in an effort to turn around underachievement.

**Baltimore Academy of Excellence ..... \$23,825**

For the purchase of a 15-passenger van to transport students to and from school and on educational field trips.

**Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS) ..... \$5,000**

For support of the 1998-99 BCPSS Chess Project.

**Baltimore City Public School System/**

**Baltimore City College High School..... \$5,000**

For expenses related to the 1998-99 Speech and Debate program at City College High School.

**Baltimore City Public School System/**

**Character Education ..... \$12,000**

Toward staffing costs of the Character Education Project, designed to instill positive character traits in Baltimore City Public School System students.

**Baltimore City Public School System/**

**Greenspring Middle School ..... \$26,880**

For the purchase of uniforms for students receiving social services for the 1998-99 school year. The mandated uniform dress code has reduced disciplinary actions and the absentee rate, and has nurtured a sense of school pride and community.

**Baltimore City Public School System/**

**Laurence G. Paquin School ..... \$52,500**

For project design fees for the Paquin Little School Capital Expansion Project. The additional space will house an enhanced day care program, family health center, counseling and social work services, and expanded pre-school and kindergarten programs.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School ..... \$5,000**  
For continued support of the special SAT Head Start project.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
National Academic League ..... \$93,100**  
For expenses related to the 1998-99 National Academic League, in which 24 Baltimore City middle schools compete in intramural and national competitions. The games, which have generated the spirit and local media attention of athletic events, are intended to renew motivation and encourage higher academic achievement.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
100 Book Challenge ..... \$130,600**  
For support of The 100 Book Challenge, an independent reading program for students in ten Baltimore City elementary schools. By providing accessible and age-appropriate books in each classroom, the program encourages children to love to read and to become better readers. Each participant is challenged to read independently at least 30 minutes a day and to read 100 books a semester.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
Resident Teacher Program ..... \$5,000**  
For costs related to the 1998 Festival of Achievement.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
William Paca Elementary School ..... \$26,009**  
For the purchase of uniforms to create "The Uniform Closet," a school-based uniform store and exchange for students who need financial help to buy uniforms. The goal of the project is to improve uniform compliance to 100 percent and reduce disciplinary referrals.

**Baltimore Curriculum Project, Inc. .... \$1,573,000**  
Two grants for continued development and implementation of the Baltimore Curriculum Project in 18 Baltimore City elementary schools. The curriculum provides daily lesson plans blending two nationally-known curricula, Direct Instruction methodology and the Core Knowledge sequence content recommended by E. D. Hirsch.

**Baltimore Office of Promotion ..... \$5,000**  
For support of the Maryland High School Students Showcase at the 1998 Baltimore Book Festival.

**Baltimore Partnership for  
Vocational Education, Inc. .... \$50,000**  
Start-up costs and first-year expenses for a job training program in auto collision repair for at-risk Baltimore City high school students.



**Baltimore Police Department/Baltimore City Public School System/Walbrook High School/Uniformed Services Academy ..... \$150,000**  
 Capital funding for renovation and improvements for the Uniformed Services Academy at Walbrook High School.

**The Baraka School, Inc. .... \$1,167,500**  
 For operating funds for The Baraka School, a boarding school located in Kenya, East Africa, for at-risk, underachieving Baltimore City middle school boys.

**Charles Village Community Foundation, Inc. .... \$233,000**  
 Two grants for a feasibility study, capital funding, and start-up costs of the Village Learning Place to be operated in the old St. Paul Street library as a community-sponsored educational and cultural facility.

**Chesapeake Center for Youth Development, Inc. .... \$37,000**  
 For the purchase of collections and related equipment for the Chesapeake School Library and Media Center. The Chesapeake Center provides year-round instruction and supportive services for 140 students referred by the Department of Juvenile Justice.

**Circuit Court for Baltimore City ..... \$5,000**  
 For support of the Juvenile Reading Project/UPLIFT.

**CollegeBound Foundation, Inc. .... \$43,786**  
 For in-school college advising programs at Southwestern and Forest Park High Schools.

**CollegeBound Foundation, Inc. .... \$12,333**  
 To provide career counseling and assessment for juniors and seniors at Lake Clifton High School who are not planning to attend college.

**Commonweal Foundation, Inc. .... \$26,881**  
 For 1998-99 Pathways to Success scholarships for financially needy Baltimore City students seeking to attend boarding school.

**Community of Caring, Inc. .... \$168,405**  
 Second-year funding of a Character Education program for students in 16 Baltimore City public high schools. The curriculum has been designed to help prevent early sexual involvement and other destructive behavior by teaching values of caring, respect, responsibility, trust, and the family. The program is intended to create an environment in which students begin to understand the relationship between their values, decisions, and actions.

**THE  
 FOUNDATION  
 CONTINUES  
 TO SUPPORT  
 THE BARAKA  
 SCHOOL,  
 A BOARDING  
 SCHOOL IN  
 KENYA FOR  
 AT-RISK BOYS**

- Coppin State College ..... \$19,000**  
 For the purchase of math books for 380 students in grades one through five at Rosemont Elementary School, as part of a partnership with Coppin State College to develop and implement policies and programs including curriculum enhancements, staff development, parent involvement, and after-school activities.
- Enoch Pratt Free Library ..... \$40,000**  
 For expansion of the 1998 Team Read program, a summer reading project involving multiple partnerships with the Baltimore City Public School System, Police Athletic League centers, the Baltimore Ravens, and neighborhood organizations. Each partner organization is asked to set aside time in its summer program for independent reading, reading aloud, and trips to local libraries.
- Goucher College ..... \$8,881**  
 For a college application preparation program for economically disadvantaged students in Baltimore City public and parochial high schools.
- The Ingenuity Project ..... \$300,000**  
 For support of the 1998-99 Ingenuity Project, an intensive math and science curriculum for students in two Baltimore City middle schools and one high school. The intent of the multi-year program is to prepare students for national science competitions such as the Westinghouse Talent Search.
- Johns Hopkins University/  
 Center for Social Organization of Schools ..... \$36,115**  
 For evaluation of Years 3, 4, and 5 of the Maryland Core Knowledge curriculum being implemented in 40 Maryland schools.
- The Learning Bank ..... \$5,000**  
 For general support of literacy programs.
- Maryland Disability Law Center ..... \$20,000**  
 For support of the Citywide Special Education Advocacy Project to ensure that children with disabilities receive appropriate educational services. The project serves primarily low-income families who have at least one child with a disability, such as mental retardation or learning, speech/language, emotional, or behavioral problems.
- Maryland State Department of Education ..... \$49,737**  
 For salaries, materials, equipment, and supplies for the 1997-98 Character Education program being implemented in Maryland's elementary, middle, and high schools.

**Maryland State Department of Education/**

**Core Knowledge ..... \$91,493**

For support of the development of content standards for Maryland schools with the intent to align with the Core Knowledge content standards as the state learning outcomes are being reviewed and revised.

**Maryland State Department of Education/MSPAP ..... \$150,000**

For an evaluation of the Maryland School Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP), administered annually to all Maryland public school students in grades 3, 5, and 8.

**The Midtown Academy ..... \$75,000**

For renovation costs related to expansion of classrooms for additional grades (kindergarten through four) for a BCPSS New Schools Initiative school.

**New Song Community Learning Center ..... \$13,842**

Two grants for the purchase of Calvert School curriculum materials for the 1998-99 school year at New Song Academy, an extended elementary charter school located in the Sandtown-Winchester community.

**Osmosis Theaterworks, Inc./**

**Baltimore Shakespeare Partnership ..... \$35,000**

For support of the 1998-99 Baltimore Shakespeare Partnership, a collaboration among the Folger Shakespeare Library, Morgan State University, Baltimore City Public School System, and Baltimore County Public Schools. Offering teacher training and in-school support, this performance-based program culminates its yearlong effort with a two-day festival at Center Stage. This grant also provides support for a four-week summer camp focusing on an hour-long production of *The Tempest*.

**Parks & People Foundation/Supercamp ..... \$125,000**

For support of the 1998 Supercamp, an eight-week summer reading and enrichment camp for inner-city students entering the third grade who are performing below grade level.

**Payne Memorial Outreach, Inc. .... \$71,250**

For the purchase of Calvert Curriculum books and materials for Callaway Elementary School. The curriculum stresses basic skills, content learning, and production of high quality work.

**Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University . \$150,000**

For renovation costs of an off-campus facility located at 3-5 East Centre Street. The renovated building will house the university music bookstore, a small musical instrument repair studio, office space for Peabody Ventures, and showroom for a piano retailer.

**Piney Woods Country Life School ..... \$115,935**  
To provide scholarships and related expenses of a boarding school education for at-risk adolescent males from Baltimore's inner city.

**Teach for America ..... \$50,000**  
Third-year funding to recruit, select, train, and build an ongoing support network for Teach for America corps members currently teaching in Baltimore City public schools.

**Towson University ..... \$274,550**  
For the development and implementation of Operation Bootstrap, a computer technology training program for students at Frederick Douglass High School.

**University of Maryland Baltimore County ..... \$41,000**  
For evaluations of Abell-funded programs.

### **HUMAN SERVICES**

**Action for the Homeless ..... \$5,000**  
For support of the 1998 New Horizons Academy Camp for 80 children from emergency shelters in Baltimore City.

**Advocates for Children and Youth ..... \$48,000**  
For support of the Child Welfare Reform Project, advocating and monitoring reforms in the child welfare system. Particular focus will be given to providing technical assistance in setting up minimum qualifications and training programs for child welfare workers, urging elimination of delays on placement of children in foster care into schools, and advocating for an overhaul of the child fatality review system.

**American Civil Liberties Union  
Foundation of Maryland ..... \$352,726**  
For general support of activities to ensure all people are free from discrimination. Areas of special focus will include lack of representation for indigent detainees at bail review hearings, incidents of race discrimination, children's educational rights, and public housing.

**Archdiocese of Baltimore ..... \$12,000**  
Fourth-year funding for the True Love Waits program, a pregnancy prevention program encouraging sexual abstinence for adolescents and young adults.

**Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development (B.U.I.L.D.)..... \$60,000**  
 Two-year funding of a benefits administrator serving members of the Solidarity Sponsoring Committee, primarily low-wage employees of Baltimore City service contractors. The SSC health benefit package is offered to members who do not have private health insurance coverage.

**Baltimore City Health Department ..... \$198,552**  
 For years 2 and 3 of the implementation and continued evaluation of a pregnancy prevention program providing monetary incentives to 200 sexually active adolescent females in Baltimore City. The evaluation measures clients' medical appointment compliance, use of family planning methods, and pregnancy rates.

**Baltimore City Health Department ..... \$123,000**  
 For implementation of a pregnancy prevention program using monetary incentives.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
 School Breakfast Classroom Feeding ..... \$20,000**  
 To continue the School Breakfast Classroom Feeding program for the 1998-99 school year in nine schools. The program measures the effect of providing all students with breakfast on participation rates, attendance, tardiness, disciplinary action, trips to the school nurse, and academic achievement.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
 Hamilton Middle School #41 ..... \$33,560**  
 For the implementation of Best Friends, a pregnancy prevention program for at-risk adolescent females. The program consists of monthly group classes, weekly fitness classes, and individual mentoring sessions.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
 Harford Heights Elementary School ..... \$111,927**  
 For the implementation of a vision therapy program. The program will provide complete vision assessments for 100 fourth graders, offer an intensive course of vision therapy to at least 50 students, and evaluate the impact of the intervention on students' visual performance and academic achievement.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
 Walbrook High School ..... \$21,000**  
 For transportation costs of the 1998-99 Baltimore City Middle School Basketball League.

**THE  
 FOUNDATION  
 CONTINUES  
 ITS SUPPORT  
 OF THE  
 SCHOOL  
 BREAKFAST  
 CLASSROOM  
 FEEDING  
 PROGRAM  
 IN NINE  
 BALTIMORE  
 CITY SCHOOLS**

**The Baltimore Community Foundation, Inc./**

**Safe & Sound Campaign ..... \$75,000**

Two-year funding to develop and implement a strategy to reduce juvenile homicide and drug-related violence in Baltimore City. The objectives of the Youth Homicide and Violence Reduction Initiative are to find ways in which law enforcement, the court system, and other agencies addressing youth violence can work together in Baltimore City.

**Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc. .... \$68,010**

Two grants to provide staffing costs for six months of the Section 8 Mobility Counseling Project, designed to assist Baltimore City Section 8 rental assistance recipients to move out of inner-city neighborhoods into surrounding county neighborhoods that offer a better quality of life.

**Boy Scouts of America ..... \$78,000**

For expansion of the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts program to at-risk boys in the Cherry Hill community.

**Center for Poverty Solutions ..... \$9,280**

For a study of the correlation between Maryland's new welfare program and the number of families seeking assistance at emergency food and housing agencies.

**Center for Poverty Solutions ..... \$7,287**

Toward the purchase of a networked computer system to integrate the Center's merged organizations, Maryland Food Committee and Action for the Homeless.

**Center for Poverty Solutions ..... \$40,000**

For support of soup kitchens, food pantries and other emergency food providers, and support for the one-day Opportunity Fair at the Convention Center linking more than 3,000 homeless people with more than 30 service providers offering job training, dentistry, legal assistance, clothing and housing.

**Center on Juvenile & Criminal Justice ..... \$73,000**

To create a special education alternative to incarceration for institutionalized delinquent youth in Baltimore City. The program will identify 40 students with previously unidentified special needs or disabilities, and secure appropriate remediation resources and support services.

**Charles Village Community Foundation, Inc. .... \$11,693**

To provide enhancements to the Video Patrol Program at the Dallas Nicholas, Sr. Elementary School in an effort to reduce the number of crimes in the Charles Village neighborhood.

**The Children's Guild, Inc. .... \$50,000**

For capital costs related to the expansion of Kanner House, a residential care facility for severely emotionally disturbed young men.

**Christopher Place ..... \$75,000**

To provide alternative transitional housing options for graduates of the Employment Academy. The housing will operate largely on a self-governance model to provide an affordable stable environment during the early stages of employment.

**Citizens Planning and Housing Association ..... \$75,550**

For continued support of the Baltimore Citywide Liquor Coalition, designed to eliminate alcohol and tobacco advertising, and to reduce the density of liquor establishments primarily in poor Baltimore neighborhoods.

**Collington Square Non-Profit Corporation ..... \$80,401**

For support of the Mattie B. Uzzle Outreach Center's substance abuse, emergency, and outreach services for drug-addicted clients residing in East Baltimore.

**Communities of Care-Maryland/  
Advocates for Children and Youth ..... \$82,700**

For development of the Hope for the Children Replication Project. The feasibility study will develop an out-of-home placement for abused or neglected children in a secure community using a family-oriented, intergenerational, neighborhood-based model of supportive relationships and services.

**Community Law Center, Inc. .... \$20,000**

To provide legal services for community development in the Reservoir Hill and Druid Heights communities, particularly to complete vacant house receivership actions, self-help nuisance abatement cases, and drug-nuisance abatement cases, and to implement a defensible space plan in these neighborhoods.

**Episcopal Social Ministries, Inc. .... \$49,028**

To integrate aftercare services provided at Cathedral House Re-Entry Program with housing and other support services available through the Dayspring Communities Program and South Baltimore Station Shelter.

**Family & Children's Services of Central Maryland ..... \$5,000**

For a feasibility study to implement the Hope for Children program in Baltimore City.

**The Family League of Baltimore City, Inc. .... \$5,000**

To provide staffing for the Baltimore Alliance Against Child Abuse and Neglect to develop a community-wide, comprehensive campaign to reduce and prevent sexual offenses against children.

**Franciscan Center ..... \$57,484**

Capital funding for the construction of a parking lot for a comprehensive supportive service center for those most in need in midtown Baltimore.

- Garden Harvest, Inc.** ..... **\$40,000**  
 Third-year funding for management staffing of a rural community garden. The project is designed to foster a sense of community by bringing together volunteers from the region to mulch, plant, weed, and harvest food for the hungry in the Baltimore metropolitan area.
- Genesis Jobs/Job Opportunities Task Force** ..... **\$81,500**  
 For publication of a report on job opportunities available to unskilled and low-skilled job seekers in Baltimore City and surrounding areas.
- Hands On Baltimore** ..... **\$20,000**  
 Two grants in support of Serv-A-Thon '98, a day of service involving 2,000 volunteers who provided improvements at 38 city public schools.
- Helen Keller International** ..... **\$242,884**  
 For expansion of the Baltimore ChildSight®, an eye screening program for disadvantaged students in Baltimore City public schools.
- Helping Up Mission** ..... **\$100,000**  
 For completion of renovations for expansion of programs serving alcohol and/or drug-addicted homeless persons in the Baltimore metropolitan area.
- Homeless Persons Representation Project, Inc.** ..... **\$37,555**  
 For support of the F.I.P. (Family Investment Program) Outreach Program, a collaborative effort to advocate for supportive services for eligible recipients leaving welfare and seeking employment. Legal representation will be offered to help clients receive the services to which they are entitled.
- House of Ruth** ..... **\$160,000**  
 Two-year funding for enhanced counseling and therapeutic services for women and children who, as victims of domestic violence, have sought shelter at the expanded House of Ruth.
- Human Rights Watch** ..... **\$20,000**  
 For an investigation of children accused of crimes who have been waived into adult criminal court and are being detained in the Baltimore City Jail.
- Institutes for Behavior Resources** ..... **\$119,338**  
 For the purchase of a mobile health services vehicle designed to provide health and counseling services and distribution of methadone to heroin addicts in three HotSpots areas in Baltimore.
- Johns Hopkins University  
 School of Hygiene and Public Health** ..... **\$15,000**  
 For a study on the impact of Medicaid managed care on reproductive health services.



**Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine ..... \$223,600**  
 Two grants for consultants' fees and first-year operating costs of the Biotechnical Institute of Maryland. The Institute will provide customized hands-on training for lab technicians and secure training contracts with local biotechnical companies.

**Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine ..... \$38,111**  
 To conduct controlled clinical trials on cocaine withdrawal and develop treatment for cocaine dependence.

**Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine ..... \$150,000**  
 For a study to facilitate a trial of opioid injection therapy for heroin addiction.

**Kennedy Krieger Institute ..... \$240,000**  
 Two-year funding for general support of programs serving children with neurological disabilities.

**Manna House, Inc. .... \$10,000**  
 Second-year operating costs for the Thrift Shop, serving homeless, disadvantaged, and low-income persons in midtown Baltimore City, especially providing work clothes for those leaving welfare and seeking jobs.

**Maryland Association of Resources for Families and Youth ..... \$15,000**  
 For support of advocacy programs for juvenile offenders in Baltimore City who are at risk of being waived to adult criminal court. The initiative will address the living conditions and on-site educational programs for juveniles held at the Baltimore City Jail and conduct a demographic profile of the Baltimore City juvenile offender.

**Maryland Children's Initiative Education Fund, Inc. .... \$150,000**  
 Second-year funding of the Maryland Children's Initiative, designed to reduce teen smoking and support pro-child programs.

**Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services ..... \$14,169**  
 To provide financial incentives for follow-up family planning services to women who have been released from the Baltimore City Women's Detention Center.

**Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services ..... \$90,616**  
 Continued funding for family planning, educational, and counseling services for women at the Baltimore City Women's Detention Center.

THE  
 JOHNS  
 HOPKINS  
 SCHOOL OF  
 MEDICINE,  
 WITH  
 ABELL  
 SUPPORT,  
 TRAINS  
 LABORATORY  
 TECHNICIANS  
 FOR THE  
 WORKPLACE

**Moveable Feast/Maryland Community Kitchen ..... \$56,250**

Two grants toward staffing costs of an executive chef for the Maryland Community Kitchen. Modeled after the D.C. Central Kitchen, the Community Kitchen will recapture large amounts of reusable food from the Maryland Food Bank, the Second Harvest Program, and regional farmers to be redistributed as balanced nutritious meals to the needy, and will provide a certified 12-week training course in food preparation for homeless persons.

**Offender Aid and Restoration of Baltimore, Inc. .... \$80,000**

Two grants in support of the Steps to Sufficiency project providing life skills training and job training services through internships for ex-offenders. The program is designed to ensure job retention by encouraging the development of a strong work ethic and increased marketable skills before placement in jobs that pay living wages.

**Offender Aid and Restoration of Baltimore, Inc. .... \$12,572**

For support of the travel voucher project to serve persons detained at the Baltimore City Detention Center and Central Booking.

**Parks & People Foundation/Girls Basketball ..... \$13,535**

To provide equipment, tournament fees and traveling expenses for the Freeplay Girls Basketball team. The program will recruit 15 girls from City recreation centers and middle schools to form a 14-and-under team to play competitive basketball in at least seven national tournaments.

**Parks & People Foundation/Girls Soccer ..... \$182,686**

Two grants for the 1998 and 1999 Baltimore City Middle School Girls Soccer League, an after-school intramural sports program linked to academic and attendance goals.

**Parks & People Foundation/Boys Soccer ..... \$101,070**

For support of the 1998 Boys Middle School Soccer League. This academically based soccer program requires a 90% attendance and a "C" average of all student athletes.

**Parks & People Foundation/Girls Volleyball ..... \$15,000**

For support of the 1998-99 Baltimore City Volleyball Club for girls aged 10 to 18 in Baltimore City public schools.

**Partnership For Learning ..... \$10,000**

To provide intensive remedial tutoring to juveniles who are first-time offenders diagnosed with a learning disability. The intervention aims to reintegrate students into the school system, increase academic performances, decrease negative behaviors, and assist parents and guardians to become more effective.

**People Lacking Ample Shelter and Employment ..... \$50,000**

For support of the Housing Development Project, expanding its capacity to offer permanent housing to more multiply disabled homeless persons in Baltimore City.

**Public Justice Center, Inc. .... \$49,928**  
For implementation of the Juvenile Justice Reform Project, designed to address the overuse and misuse of juvenile detention. The objective of the program is to conduct a comprehensive investigation of existing programs and community-based alternatives to detention centers, to advocate for additional funding to establish high quality community-based alternative programs in Baltimore, and to monitor continued educational deficiencies in existing detention facilities.

**ReVisions, Inc. .... \$20,000**  
To expand day care facilities to accommodate an additional 100 persons, the Medical Day Care program, and job-training programs for chronically mentally disabled adults.

**Second Chance Project, Inc. .... \$50,000**  
For implementation of education, job-training, and mentoring programs for ex-offenders re-entering the community.

**Shepherd's Clinic ..... \$25,000**  
For the renovation of a neighborhood facility providing health care to people with jobs but no health insurance.

**South East Community Organization ..... \$20,000**  
To purchase a van for the Baltimore Caregivers Project. After creating quality jobs for low-skilled, unemployed neighborhood residents of Southeast Baltimore, the home care cooperative will transport newly trained health care workers to jobs in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and Howard counties.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society ..... \$50,000**  
For renovation and expansion of the St. Ambrose Family Outreach Center, offering comprehensive support services for those struggling against unemployment, hunger, homelessness, substandard housing, crime, addiction, and illiteracy.

**Traditional Acupuncture Institute, Inc. .... \$5,000**  
Toward general operating costs of the Penn North clinic for substance abusers.

**United Way of Central Maryland ..... \$75,000**  
For support of the 1998 United Way Campaign.

**University of Maryland School of Law ..... \$486,190**  
Two grants for two years' support of the Lawyers at Bail Project, a program providing legal representation early in bail review proceedings in order to prevent lengthy and costly stays in the Baltimore City Jail by nonviolent defendants who are unable to post bail.

**University of Maryland School of Medicine ..... \$24,973**

To develop a computer-based evaluation system for the Teen-Tot Clinic. The clinic, which provides services to parenting adolescents, will use the database to implement a reminder system for infant immunizations, contraception compliance and follow-up on adolescent patients' educational pursuits.

**Volunteer Maryland! ..... \$42,000**

For continued support of Connector Corps, a community-service program in 15 school districts in Maryland. The technical assistance will help ensure that Maryland students are involved in high-quality and meaningful projects while completing the state graduation requirement of 75 hours of student service.

**Youth As Resources ..... \$10,000**

Funding for community service projects that are designed and implemented by youth in the Baltimore metropolitan area. This youth-led grantmaking program encourages the development of skills for program planning, project management, program monitoring, and follow-up evaluations.

**ADDITIONAL GRANTS OF \$5,000 OR LESS  
HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS:**

**ARTS AND CULTURE**

A.D. Emmart Memorial Fund ..... \$3,000

**CONSERVATION/ENVIRONMENT**

The Baltimore-Linwood Association ..... \$3,000

Chesapeake Bay Foundation ..... 5,000

Herring Run Watershed Association ..... 3,000

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Baltimore Development Corporation ..... \$5,000

The Better Business Bureau of Greater Maryland, Inc ..... 5,000

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore/Business Over Breakfast ..... 2,000

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore/Charles Street Project ..... 5,000

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore/Study ..... 3,000

Greater Baltimore Committee/Venture Capital Study ..... 5,000

Greater Baltimore Committee/Baltimore Community Court ..... 3,430

Johns Hopkins University/Urban Issue Lecture ..... 1,200

Johns Hopkins University/Institute for Policy Studies ..... 975

The Morino Institute ..... 3,000

Southeast Development, Inc ..... 5,000

University of Baltimore/Schaefer Center for Public Policy ..... 2,000

**EDUCATION**

Baltimore City Public School System/New Schools Initiative ..... \$ 364

Baltimore City Public School System/School Breakfast Program..... 5,000

Baltimore City Public School System/Baltimore City College..... 4,000

Baltimore City Public School System/Baltimore City College/Lacrosse... .. 5,000

Baltimore City Public School System/Baltimore City College/Chess..... 4,500

Baltimore City Public School System/Baltimore City College/Debate.....	1,500
Baltimore City Public School System/Forest Park High School.....	5,000
Baltimore City Public School System/George Washington Elementary... ..	3,360
Baltimore City Public School System/Roland Park Elementary/Middle... ..	5,000
Calvert Institute for Policy Research.....	3,000
Maryland Coalition for Gifted and Talented Education.....	5,000
Patterson Park Community Development Corporation.....	2,500
University of Maryland Baltimore County.....	5,000

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Advocates for Children and Youth .....	\$5,000
Advocates for Children and Youth/HOPE .....	5,000
Baltimore City Public School System/Harlem Park Community School .....	1,320
Baltimore Curriculum Project, Inc .....	2,000
Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc .....	5,000
Baltimore Youth Hockey Club, Inc .....	2,700
Banner Neighborhoods Community Corporation .....	2,500
Catholic Charities .....	5,000
Center for Poverty Solutions .....	3,448
The Children's Home .....	5,000
Citizenship Law-Related Education Program .....	1,500
Family & Children's Services of Central Maryland .....	1,000
Frederick Community Action Agency .....	5,000
Full Gospel Fellowship Church .....	5,000
Greater Baltimore Community Housing Resource Board, Inc .....	5,000
Greater Homewood Community Corporation .....	2,500
Harford/Cecil Food Bank .....	4,000
House of Mercy, Inc .....	1,400
Johns Hopkins University/Television Study .....	5,000
Johns Hopkins University/Institute for Policy Studies .....	700
Johns Hopkins University/School of Medicine .....	5,000
Julie Community Center .....	5,000
Kennedy Krieger Institute .....	5,000
Madison Square Buccaneers Inner City Youth Program, Inc .....	1,000
Madison Square Recreation Center .....	1,500
Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training, Inc .....	4,500
Maryland Committee for Children, Inc .....	1,380
Maryland Department of Education .....	5,000
Offender Aid and Restoration of Baltimore, Inc .....	5,000
Office of the Public Defender/Report .....	4,900
Office of the Public Defender/Book .....	5,000
Parks & People Foundation/Elementary School Soccer .....	5,000
Parks & People Foundation/Boys Middle School Club Soccer .....	5,000
Parks & People Foundation/Fastpitch Softball League .....	4,901
The Salvation Army .....	5,000
Santa Claus Anonymous .....	5,000
Southeast Community Organization .....	5,000
University of Maryland Baltimore County .....	2,000
Youth Enterprise Services.....	5,000

**ADDITIONAL  
GRANTS  
HAVE BEEN  
AWARDED  
TO MORE  
THAN 50  
INSTITUTIONS**



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

### The Board of Trustees of The Abell Foundation, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of The Abell Foundation, Inc. (the Foundation) as of December 31, 1998 and 1997, and related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Abell Foundation, Inc. at December 31, 1998 and 1997, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

*Deloitte & Touche LLP*

Baltimore, Maryland  
March 26, 1999

## GUIDELINES FOR GRANTSEEKERS

The Abell Foundation seeks to serve the needs of Maryland in general and Baltimore in particular. In an attempt to be responsive to the changing needs of the community, the Foundation approaches its grantmaking by responding to unsolicited requests initiated by organizations demonstrating a high priority, unmet need; requesting proposals for special programs; initiating programs that address key issues that show promise of effecting systemic change; and commissioning studies designed to gather pertinent information about community-wide issues.

While the Foundation is dedicated to the enhancement of the quality of life, its interest is focused on public educational institutions with programs that encourage higher levels of achievement, further basic skills and enrichment, promote professional development, enhance curricula, increase parental involvement, and encourage the pursuit of higher education among the less affluent. The Foundation also supports the efforts of private institutions to provide educational opportunities for the economically disadvantaged.

The Foundation considers requests from human services organizations to support programs designed to reach underserved, disadvantaged, and at-risk populations to help them achieve fuller and more meaningful participation in the community. Priority is given to programs addressing issues of hunger and homelessness. Support is also given to economic development-related activities designed to expand the Baltimore region's economic base and job opportunities.

The Foundation provides funds to selected cultural organizations that are committed to building a diverse base of support and conducting strong outreach and educational programs. With a lesser sense of priority, the Foundation supports programs that seek to preserve Maryland's ecologically significant and endangered natural resources.

Only organizations with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status are funded. Four types of grants are awarded: planning, seed funding (for start-up and demonstration projects), capital, and endowment. Though grants are awarded on a one-time basis, the Foundation may make multi-year grants in exceptional cases. Decisions for the Foundation's funding preferences rest on criteria which include:

1. Demonstration of need;
2. Clearly defined goals and objectives;
3. Evidence of strong fiscal management and ongoing operational support;
4. Impact of benefit to the community;
5. Applicant's capability to achieve stated goals;
6. Determination that the project is not a duplicate effort;
7. Availability of other sources of financial support;
8. Ability to evaluate effectiveness.



## **Application Procedures**

Requests for grants should be initiated by a one-page letter describing its mission and scope of activities, a summary of the project with its goals and objectives, and amount requested. Should the Foundation be interested in the preliminary proposal, the applicant will be asked to submit a formal and detailed application.

Grants are awarded six times a year. Each applicant will be notified of any action that the Board of Trustees may take, usually within a week of the bi-monthly meetings.

Deadlines are as follows:

January 1	for February meeting
March 1	for April meeting
May 1	for June meeting
August 1	for September meeting
September 1	for October meeting
November 1	for December meeting

Proposals should be addressed to Mr. Robert C. Embry, Jr., The Abell Foundation, Suite 2300, 111 S. Calvert St., Baltimore, MD 21202-6174.

## **ABELL PUBLICATIONS**

As part of its mission to identify community issues, The Abell Foundation publishes and disseminates a variety of publications.

### **NEWSLETTERS: THE ABELL REPORT**

#### **FEBRUARY/MARCH:**

**“Data from Abell Foundation Project Concludes: Changes in Student Breakfast Program Will Increase Participation, Improve Performance”**

*Abell Salutes:* “The Debating Society at Baltimore City College High School”

#### **APRIL/MAY:**

**“Baltimore’s Poor Children Learn as Much as Middle Class Children During the School Year, But Fall Behind During the Summer, Hopkins Researchers Document”**

*Abell Salutes:* “Greenspring Middle School’s ‘Uniformity of Character’ program”

#### **JUNE/JULY:**

**“To Improve Children’s Test Scores, Move Poor Families”**

*Abell Salutes:* “Biotechnical Institute of Maryland: training the unskilled worker for the skilled biotech jobs”

## **TRUSTEES**

Gary Black, Jr., Chairman  
Robert C. Embry, Jr., President  
W. Shepherdson Abell  
George L. Bunting, Jr.  
Robert Garrett  
Jacqueline Hrabowski (beginning June, 1998)  
William L. Jews (until April, 1998)  
Sally J. Michel  
Walter Sondheim, Jr.

## **OFFICERS**

Robert C. Embry, Jr., President  
Anne LaFarge Culman, Vice President  
Frances Murray Keenan,  
Vice President for Finance  
Esthel M. Summerfield, Secretary

## **STAFF**

Nora M. Zietz, Director  
The Abell Venture Fund  
Carol A. Beck, Program Officer  
Health and Human Services  
Elizabeth E. Harber, Program Officer  
Economic Development  
Jane Harrison, Program Officer  
Health and Human Services  
Bonnie S. Legro, Program Officer  
Education  
Rebecca Murphy-Jones, Program Officer  
Education  
Gilbert Sandler  
Communications Officer  
Catherine B. Walsh, Senior Program Officer  
Education  
Holly R. Dixon  
Assistant to the Vice President  
Wanda D. Gresham  
Administrative Assistant  
Ellen H. Mullan  
Controller

## **AUDITORS**

Deloitte & Touche LLP

## **FINANCIAL ADVISOR TO THE BOARD**

David Testa, T. Rowe Price & Associates

## **INTERNS/RESEARCH ASSISTANTS**

Mary Katherine E. Abell  
Annette Amey  
Lawrence Finer  
Mavis Lawson  
Elizabeth A. Thomey

The Abell Foundation, Inc.  
Suite 2300  
111 S. Calvert Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-6174  
TEL.: 410-547-1300 FAX: 410-539-6579  
E-Mail: [abell@abell.org](mailto:abell@abell.org)  
<http://www.abell.org>