

THE
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ABELL
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FOUNDATION

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ANNUAL REPORT
2010

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, and the former publisher of *The Baltimore Sun*. 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, particularly Baltimore City.

From its beginnings, the Foundation has supported a wide range of community needs. 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, Sr. With the passing of Mr. Black in October 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, W. Shepherdson Abell, Jr., George L. Bunting, Jr., Thomas B. Butler, Robert C. Embry, Jr., Harrison Garrett, Robert Garrett, Benjamin Griswold III, Jacqueline C. Hrabowski, William L. Jews, William E. McGuirk, Jr., Sally J. Michel, Edwin F. Morgan, Donald H. Patterson, William F. Schmick, Jr., John E. Semmes, and Walter Sondheim, Jr.

A new generation of leadership has made its impression on the Foundation's mission to act as an agent of change. The mission has been broadened to include special emphases on public school reform, community development, workforce development, and health-related human services, including drug treatment and transitional services for returning ex-offenders.

The Foundation's current assets reflect the financial success of *The Baltimore Sun* and the generosity of Mr. Harry C. 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; and most recently, the result of private direct investments.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

FOOD RESEARCH & ACTION CENTER/ MARYLAND HUNGER SOLUTIONS

Many neighborhoods in Baltimore City lack full-service grocery stores and have in their place a mosaic of convenience and corner stores that, for the most part, stock packaged goods and processed foods, and do not offer fresh fruits and vegetables. The lack of access to healthy foods in Baltimore neighborhoods has been identified as a contributing factor in disproportionately high rates of obesity, diabetes, and hypertension. These underlying health conditions and chronic diseases, in turn, lead to a need for expensive interventions and health treatments. Concern about resident nutrition and the geographic disparities in accessing healthy food led to the creation of the Baltimore Food Policy Task Force, convened by the city's Health and Planning Departments. The first goal listed in the final task force report is to promote and expand farmers' markets throughout Baltimore City, with acceptance of food-stamp Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) benefits as a primary method to achieve this.

Maryland's move to replace paper food-stamp vouchers with cost-saving electronic payment systems unintentionally resulted in food-stamp recipients no longer being able to use their vouchers to purchase fresh produce at local farmers' markets. In 2010, with grant funding from The Abell Foundation of \$20,000 and additional \$30,000 funding from the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation and the Wholesome Wave Foundation, Maryland Hunger Solutions worked with three Baltimore farmers' markets to initiate a pilot project to both remedy the electronic payment barrier and to address the city's top food policy priority. For the project, farmers' markets in Park Heights, Highlandtown, and Waverly/32nd Street were selected, based on the interest of market management on neighborhood location, accessibility, and the diversity of produce offerings. Maryland Hunger Solutions provided training around and installation of wireless EBT machines, and promotion to encourage food-stamp recipients to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables at the markets. Technical assistance was provided to help markets select an EBT card service, purchase an EBT machine, set up an accounting system using tokens, market EBT services to low-income residents and farmers, and oversee market-day operations.

The EBT pilot began with seasonal openings of the market operations in June and July 2010. During the season through the end of November 2010, the three markets saw combined EBT sales of fresh fruits and vegetables in the amount of \$13,046, representing 668 separate sales transactions. Additional spending through promotional incentive coupons offered to EBT recipients to "double their dollars" totaled \$1,375. Most of the sales occurred at the Waverly Farmers' Market, and there are reports of food-stamp recipients taking two buses across town to access the Waverly market. Each market also accepted credit and debit transactions by any customer for a nominal fee, which was intended to offset the costs of administering the machine and the token system. More than 600 credit and debit transactions were processed, with the Waverly market again having the highest volume. The ability to process debit and credit cards boosted revenue at the Waverly market by an additional \$75,000 in food purchases.

Customers accessing food stamps through the EBT pilot were surveyed by the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future, and 98 percent said that the markets' acceptance of food-stamp benefits was the main reason they came to the particular farmers' market, and 83 percent said that they had increased their consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables as a result of shopping at the farmers' markets. EBT customers reported that they were delighted with the incentive dollars, which allowed them to double their purchases up to \$5 per visit.

In the second year of the pilot, Maryland Hunger Solutions will expand its outreach campaign to not only promote the markets' ability to accept federal nutrition benefits electronically, but also to encourage increased participation by families and households in the food-stamp program through community eligibility screenings. Maryland Hunger Solutions will provide operating support to each of the markets to cover the cost of administration of the token system and funding for the incentive coupons that increase purchasing power of food stamps. In addition to the three markets, Maryland Hunger Solutions will expand its scope to support the development of a new Saturday market at the West Baltimore MARC station. This area is considered by the Baltimore City Planning Department as one of the prime "food deserts" in the city in which residents lack proximate grocery stores and access to fresh produce.

HOMES FOR AMERICA/SCATTERED SITE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

In 1995, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Maryland filed a lawsuit on behalf of a class of approximately 15,000 (at that time) current, former, and prospective African-American tenants of Baltimore City public housing, alleging that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC) violated the Fair Housing Act by operating predominantly racially and economically segregated public housing developments, and denying tenants access to regional housing and economic opportunities. At the time, nearly 90 percent of public housing and 75 percent of all government-subsidized housing in the Baltimore region were located within Baltimore City. In 1999, as part of the federally funded HOPE VI demolition of Broadway Homes public housing located near Johns Hopkins Hospital, the HABC was required, through a court-ordered consent decree, to provide 58 units of replacement public housing located throughout the region in low-poverty, racially integrated neighborhoods.

Homes for America, a nonprofit housing developer based in Annapolis, MD, was awarded the contract to develop the Broadway Homes replacement housing units through a competitive request for proposals issued by the HABC. Since 1994, Homes for America has been developing and renovating affordable housing with on-site services for low- and moderate-income households and persons with special needs. To date, they have constructed or renovated 34 affordable rental-housing communities and 100 affordable homeownership units in Maryland. Homes for America also provides technical assistance and consulting services to other nonprofits and local governments in developing housing and implementing housing plans.

Following the competitive award by the HABC, Homes for America worked to pursue the mobility project, negotiating a funding contract with the HABC, securing additional funding through the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and other sources, purchasing the houses, and fully renovating them for occupancy. The Abell Foundation provided a \$40,000 grant to Homes for America in support of predevelopment and legal costs of the project. To ensure compliance with the court consent decree, the location of each house was carefully selected to adhere to strict neighborhood criteria: a poverty rate of less than 10 percent; less than 5 percent public or subsidized housing; located within a mile of public transportation; in a school district where school performance exceeds the state average. Each proposed house purchase was approved by the ACLU, HABC, and HUD, with locations of the houses approved in each jurisdiction throughout the Baltimore region including Baltimore County, Baltimore City, Anne Arundel County, Howard County, and Harford County.

New residents have moved into all 58 of the properties and, to date, no family has left the program voluntarily. Selected residents are families who either lived in public housing or were on the public housing waiting list, with priority for families displaced by the redevelopment of Broadway Homes. Household incomes of participating families are correspondingly very low and average \$17,000 annually. The new residents are mostly African-American, female-headed households with school-age children.

The challenges faced by these families in relocating and adjusting to a new community; new housing; new schools; and living within a new radius for accessing employment, grocery and retail stores, medical services, and other services were daunting. Anticipating resident needs for assistance in making the adjustment, Homes for America created a full-time staff position of Resident Services Case Manager to assist tenants in taking full advantage of opportunities in their new communities, and to maximize the positive benefits for participants. The funding for the two-year position is provided by the HABC, Homes for America, and The Abell Foundation. The case manager helps families link to services and benefits to which they are entitled, access training and employment opportunities, connect to resources to help them remain in their homes, and help children stay in school with support needed to be successful students.

Academic research on mobility demonstration projects has measured the family benefits of moving from high-poverty to low-poverty neighborhoods, including improved achievement among school-age children, increased participation in higher education and the labor force, and reduced welfare dependency. A recent report published by the Century Foundation confirms these findings with research showing that children from poor households in Montgomery County perform better on standardized math and reading tests when they attend schools with affluent children.

Through informal and ACLU-administered surveys, families living in houses developed by Homes for America report that they regard their new housing situation as safer and better for their children, and observe that their children's behavior

has improved. To determine the household effects of the move to low-poverty neighborhoods, the case manager will document for each household the types and frequency of services and referrals received. At the end of two years, outcomes for families will be measured by changes in training and employment history, educational history of adult family members, school performance of children, on-time rental payment, and mobility into nonsubsidized housing.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND ADDICTIONS DAYSPRING PROGRAMS, INC.

Dayspring Programs, Inc. (Dayspring) fills a critical gap in the service continuum for women and children in Baltimore City; it is the only residential treatment facility in Baltimore City that allows for more than two children in a family and children over 12 years of age to live with their mothers during drug treatment. It offers treatment, housing, and support services to its residents, along with programs such as Head Start, which focuses on the needs of the children in its care.

Dayspring grew out of the Coalition for Homeless Children and Families, a collaboration of 30 groups interested in the welfare of homeless children in Baltimore City. It was incorporated as a 501(c) (3) organization in 1997 to provide a continuum of housing and support services for homeless families who are struggling with addiction. In 2007, Dayspring's transitional housing program was certified as a long-term residential treatment program. Dayspring has been awarded the Standards of Excellence Seal given by the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations.

For the last fiscal year, 85 percent of Dayspring clients were either working, in school, or enrolled in job-training programs, and 89 percent remained drug free. Of those who relapsed, only 1 percent did not choose to enter treatment or to continue in a treatment program. Dayspring estimates that each year, three to four families are able to leave the program and take responsibility for their own rent or, in some cases, purchase a home. In addition to the 18 transitional housing units for families, Dayspring also has 63 Shelter Plus Care units throughout the community that are used to transition clients to permanent housing.

Dayspring, in partnership with the Historic East Baltimore Community Action Coalition (HEBCAC), has located a new site, a vacated school building around the corner from its current location. This building, at 1125 North Patterson Park Avenue, will, when renovated, house Dayspring offices, four Head Start programs, and 10 transitional housing units. Dayspring will also build a three-story, 24,500-square-foot addition that will contain 28 permanent housing apartments, and will allow for the cost-effective consolidation of Head Start programs under one roof. The project site is located in a distressed area surrounded by empty lots and abandoned houses; the hope is that it will help stabilize the community and be a catalyst for further development. The Abell Foundation awarded a capital grant of \$250,000 in support of Dayspring's expansion.

EDUCATION

INCENTIVE MENTORING PROGRAM

One-third of Baltimore children live in single-parent families, and more than 40 percent live in families with incomes only slightly above the federal poverty level. The financial hardship and insufficient support that often accompany poverty make Baltimore's youth particularly susceptible to chronic absence from school, lack of academic engagement, involvement with drugs and gangs, and, ultimately, failure to graduate from high school. If the cycle of poverty is to be broken, adolescents and their families have a critical need for social and academic support systems.

While widespread poverty exists in the Baltimore region, the same region is home to prestigious colleges and universities that attract a diversity of students, many of whom do not choose to stay in the city after graduation or completion of residency. Most of these students and faculty do not make strong local connections both personally and professionally that provide the impetus to remain in Baltimore, adding their strengths to civic life.

The Incentive Mentoring Program (IMP) is an innovative mentoring model that creates a community of high school students, college students, and volunteers working together to achieve IMP's goals. Founded in 2004 by Sarah Hemminger, a Johns Hopkins School of Medicine student, IMP uses a family-style mentoring model to guide low-performing students through high school and college. Students with poor academic performances and psychosocial challenges are selected for the program during their ninth-grade year. These students are enrolled in IMP for seven continuous years through college graduation. Currently, IMP serves 79 students in five different cohorts at Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School and the Academy of College and Career Exploration. IMP matches each high school/college student with a "family" of up to 10 volunteers from the Johns Hopkins University undergraduate/graduate programs and individuals from the Baltimore community. The IMP family provides a support structure to combat self-destructive influences and help IMP students make the best decisions.

A core value of the IMP model is "never to give up" on anyone in the IMP family – student or volunteer. IMP volunteers do "whatever it takes," from meeting with teachers, providing rides to school, and making sure that IMP students have a place to live. The program has developed customized programs (including college planning, academic tutoring, summer programming, SAT preparation, and community service); individualized services (health and wellness service access, legal affairs, and life coaching); and an innovative training and Internet resource structure to support students and volunteers. IMP families work closely with biological families, friends, teachers, and community providers to alleviate distractions and problems, allowing students to better engage in their studies.

IMP has set its goals high: to achieve a 100 percent high school graduation rate and a 100 percent college acceptance rate. Outcomes for the first two IMP cohorts have been impressive: 94 percent of these students received physical examinations and vision screening, 97 percent of the participants in the first two

cohorts graduated from high school, and 88 percent of those students enrolled in college immediately following high school graduation. IMP students are currently attending Bowdoin College, Morgan State University, Purdue University, and Trinity College, among others. IMP expects an 80 percent six-year college graduation rate from its first cohort participants. Furthermore, the program has engaged more than 400 volunteers from Hopkins and the greater Baltimore community who are working directly with IMP students. 100 percent of IMP high school graduates will pursue post-secondary academic and/or career goals. Along with this impressive record of results, a secondary goal of the program is being realized: A number of these volunteers have chosen to make their homes in Baltimore.

According to Ms. Hemminger, IMP's recent expansion to a new high school with support from The Abell Foundation (\$5,000 in 2008; \$69,056 in 2009; and \$90,000 in 2010) will help IMP expand and draw additional student volunteers from Hopkins, some of whom will remain in Baltimore and contribute their services to resolving quality-of-life issues.

ACLU FOUNDATION OF MARYLAND, INC./ EDUCATION REFORM PROJECT

Since 1987, The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Maryland has been effectively advocating for Maryland children, including the most disadvantaged and at risk, to receive an adequate public education. In the past 15 years, through its Education Reform Project, the ACLU of Maryland has helped establish an education funding system that has provided increased support for school children across the state. In particular, the ACLU has leveraged more than \$1.7 billion in state funds in support of Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools); it has successfully advocated for the expansion of pre-kindergarten classrooms, for alternatives to suspension, and for a focus on maintaining high rates of attendance. Due in no small part to the ACLU's Education Reform Project, state funding for the children in poverty in City Schools is now the highest in the state. Since 2003, The Abell Foundation has provided \$350,000 in support of the ACLU's education agenda.

With a belief that all children deserve safe, warm school buildings, the ACLU has taken on the daunting challenge of ensuring that all Baltimore City's public school children attend schools with facilities that are conducive to learning. City Schools estimates that as much as \$2.8 billion is needed for facility improvements, and recognizes that most City Schools' buildings are in dire need and do not meet education standards. More importantly, at the current rate of funding, it will take decades to complete the necessary improvements. To address the problem, the ACLU's Education Reform Project has developed a multi-pronged campaign advocating for increased and smart spending on school construction and renovation. The plan employs a combination of commissioned studies to measure the impact of poor facilities on student achievement, and develop a process to uncover creative ways to generate additional revenue at the local and state level.

- *Increases in School Construction Funding.* In its 2004 report, the State of Maryland estimated that \$4 billion would be required to bring all of the buildings within the statewide system to minimal adequacy. Since then, the ACLU has mounted successful campaigns designed to increase both overall state funding and the percentage of state capital funding allocated to City Schools. As a result, \$263 million was approved for the state's FY 2011 capital budget; of that, \$28.5 million was earmarked for City Schools. Even in the midst of financial cutbacks, state capital funding for the current year was maintained at \$250 million statewide. In addition, the ACLU campaigned successfully to support City Schools' efforts to increase its capacity for borrowing, gaining the ability to use 30-year bonds, rather than the current 15-year ones.

- *Protection for Aging Schools Funding.* Maryland's Aging Schools Program was established to fund the costs of maintenance projects (asbestos removal, roof repair, etc.) for pre-1970 school facility projects that do not qualify for school construction bonding. Over the past several years, the Education Reform Project has led the successful effort to keep the program viable.

- *Facility Studies Published.* With a goal to create public interest in reform of the unaddressed need for state-of-the-art school buildings, The Abell Foundation provided a grant to the ACLU to publish the June 2010 study, *Buildings for Academic Excellence: A Vision and Options to Address Deficient School Facilities in Baltimore City* available at www.aclu-md.org/reports/buildings_excellence. The ACLU presented this study and its recommendations to the Baltimore City Council, supported by testimony from teachers, parents, and students. The attention given to the study prompted the Mayor to create a task force to address the \$2.8 billion need in school renovation and repair. The Education Reform Project then released a companion report, *A Proposal to Finance a Full Scale Modernization of Baltimore City Public School Facilities*, which was prepared by the Maryland Budget & Tax Policy Institute and detailed a financing method to reach the \$2.8 billion. It is available at www.aclu-md.org/aPress/Press2010/121510_MBTPI.html. The task force's recommendations are due by summer 2011.

- *Management Improvements in City Schools Capital Request & Facilities.* At the urging of the ACLU, City Schools again applied for a far more ambitious level of funding for capital than it had traditionally—with positive results. The conversations about the scale of need have led to bigger-picture thinking about the type of planning needed in support of City Schools' modernization. The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners recently approved a consultant to perform a detailed assessment that will serve to prioritize future capital projects, and help determine what repairs and renovations are needed, building by building.

- *Parent and Student Advocacy for Facility Funding.* In keeping with its strategy for actively engaging and educating City Schools' parents and students, the ACLU recruited City Schools' parents and the Maryland Parent Teacher Association to testify before legislative committees regarding the needs of school systems in Maryland, especially the buildings most in need of renovation. Trained high school students testified on behalf of the legislation proposed by City Schools to extend its bonding capacity. This advocacy helped restore, and add, funds to the Aging Schools program.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MARIAN HOUSE

Marian House is a transitional housing program offering homeless women a safe and supportive environment in which to rebuild their lives. The women at Marian House struggle with addiction to either drugs and/or alcohol. Seventy percent are ex-offenders, with 61 percent having felony convictions on their records. Chronic mental illnesses are diagnosed in 40 percent of the women, while 46 percent have histories of domestic violence, and 52 percent have been sexually assaulted or abused.

Annually, at least 70 percent of Marian House residents successfully complete the program, based on the following indicators: securing appropriate housing, obtaining adequate income, maintaining structured responsible living habits, developing an appropriate personal support system, and coping with major problems. Of the individuals leaving the transitional housing program, 81 percent moved into permanent housing, and 64 percent were employed. During FY 2009 (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009), Marian House provided housing and comprehensive services for 133 women and 51 children.

Marian House provides services at three levels. The initial program (Marian House I) serves individual women in Marian House's original 14-bed facility. The average length of stay ranges from four to eight months; residents benefit from weekly individual and group counseling, instruction in daily living skills, setting of educational goals, and job training. Marian House II, with an extended stay of up to 24 months, addresses the problem of sustaining supportive services beyond the eight-month limit of the traditional Marian House program. Marian House III and Serenity Place are permanent housing initiatives. At each stage of the program, residents have access to case management and other supportive services.

Marian House has 28 apartments in Marian House I (transitional housing phase), but only 15 apartments are available for its step-down facility (Marian House II). Inevitably, a number of individuals are not able to gain access to the additional housing and supports offered by Marian House II. To offset this gap, Marian House acquired a property adjacent to its headquarters, which provides housing to five additional residents that Marian House II supports. The Abell Foundation provided a grant of \$50,000 to support the new Marian House II facility, along with \$25,000 to fund case management services for women enrolled in Marian House I and II. Prior grants to Marian House were awarded in 2007 (\$64,000) to support case-management services at Serenity Place and in 1999 (\$100,000) to support the expansion of Marian I and II housing units.

JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH/ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF INCREASING MARYLAND'S ALCOHOL TAX

Although illegal, alcohol use by adolescents in the United States is one of the leading public health problems facing this age group. According to the most

recent national data, one in four high school students in Maryland is a binge drinker, which was defined as an individual who consumed five or more drinks within two hours at least once in the past 30 days. Moreover, each year, one-third of deaths among 15- to 20-year-olds in Maryland is caused by alcohol. A 2007 report by the U.S. Surgeon General warned that “[u]nderage alcohol consumption in the United States is a widespread and persistent public health and safety problem that creates serious personal, social, and economic consequences for adolescents, their families, communities, and the nation as a whole.”

Numerous studies have shown that increasing alcohol taxes is an effective means of reducing underage and excessive drinking. A 2003 report by the National Research Council and the Institute of Medicine recommends that states raise excise taxes on alcohol as one of four key strategies for reducing alcohol consumption by minors. Likewise, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends increasing alcohol taxes because of the “strong evidence of effectiveness for reducing excessive alcohol consumption and related harms.”

Despite strong evidence of the public health benefits of increasing alcohol taxes, prior to 2011 Maryland has not raised taxes on beer and wine since 1972, and on distilled spirits since 1955. With a \$24,754 grant from The Abell Foundation in 2009, two prominent researchers from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health—Dr. David Jernigan and Dr. Hugh Waters—conducted a study of the potential health and economic effects of increasing the alcohol excise tax in Maryland. A second Abell grant of \$29,304 in 2010 enabled Drs. Jernigan and Waters to conduct a follow-up study of the economic effects of alcohol excise taxes that expanded upon their 2009 research. The results of these studies were published in two reports, the first released in December 2009, and the second in January 2011.

Together, the two studies added significantly to the growing body of research on the effects of alcohol taxes. Among the key findings:

- Alcohol consumption costs the State of Maryland between \$3.5 billion and \$7.1 billion each year, including direct costs such as expenditures for medical care and criminal justice, and indirect costs such as lost productivity as a result of premature death, illness, institutionalization, and crime.
- A dime-per-drink increase in Maryland’s alcohol excise tax would generate an estimated \$215.6 million in new revenues, and would save the state \$225.2 million in alcohol-related costs. Increases in economic productivity resulting from a proposed dime-per-drink increase in the alcohol tax would outweigh any job losses in the alcohol industry. In addition, if alcohol tax revenues are dedicated to health-care needs (including mental health), jobs would be preserved and created in these fields.
- Alcohol tax rates in Maryland and surrounding states have little relationship to retail prices, making it unlikely that individuals will travel to neighboring states with lower alcohol tax rates to purchase alcohol.

Both studies received significant positive attention in the press, including editorials in both The Baltimore Sun and The Washington Post, lauding the reports and endorsing an increase in the state's alcohol tax rates. Informed in part by the two Abell-funded studies, the Maryland General Assembly passed, and Governor O'Malley signed, the first increase in Maryland's beer and wine taxes in 38 years, and the first increase in distilled spirits taxes in 56 years.

BALTIMORE HEALTHCARE ACCESS/ THE EVERGREEN PROJECT HEALTH INSURANCE COOPERATIVE FEASIBILITY STUDY

According to the United States Census Bureau, 14 percent of Marylanders did not have health insurance coverage in 2009, an increase from the 12 percent who lacked health insurance in 2008. During the same time period, employer-sponsored health coverage in the state declined from 68 percent in 2008 to 67 percent in 2009, continuing a trend that has existed for several years of employers who are discontinuing health insurance coverage or shifting some of the costs of coverage to employees under high deductible, high co-pay health plans.

A recent report by the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Health Research and Educational Trust found that the national average annual cost of employer-sponsored family health insurance coverage increased 114 percent between 2000 and 2010, while the average employee contribution to these plans increased 147 percent. The study found that the average annual cost for family coverage in the United States was nearly \$14,000 in 2010, of which employees paid an average of \$4,000. With insurance costs so high, it is not surprising that so many people in Maryland—and throughout the country—are uninsured.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA), more commonly known as the federal health-care reform law, contains a number of measures aimed at increasing the number of people who are covered by health insurance in the United States, including a mandate requiring that all U.S. citizens have health insurance beginning in 2014, or face income tax penalties. To offset the cost of this mandate for people who earn too much to be eligible for government-sponsored insurance (Medicaid) but who cannot afford the high cost of private health insurance, the PPACA provides tax credits to reduce health insurance premium costs for those earning up to 400 percent of the federal poverty level, and reduced cost sharing for families with incomes up to 250 percent of the federal poverty level. Even with these subsidies, however, the health insurance plans currently available on the private market may be out of reach for many individuals and families with low to moderate incomes.

With a \$125,000 grant from The Abell Foundation, a group known as The Evergreen Project is working to design a new health insurance model that will be affordable for people in Maryland with incomes between 133 percent and 400 percent of the federal poverty level. Founded by former Baltimore City Health

Commissioner—and current Howard County Health Commissioner—Dr. Peter Beilenson, the project is guided by a group of advisors with expertise in health-care delivery, insurance management, and finance, which is exploring the feasibility of creating a regional, nonprofit health insurance cooperative. Under the PPACA, Congress appropriated \$6 billion in start-up funding for nonprofit health insurance cooperatives in an effort to create competition in the private health insurance market. The Evergreen Project hopes to tap these funds to create a patient-owned health insurance plan that will incorporate some of the most promising ideas in the national health-care arena, including the creation of primary care medical homes with salaried health-care providers and health coaches who will work with patients to achieve health improvement goals, and financial incentives for both patients and doctors to minimize costs by practicing preventive health care.

Funding from The Abell Foundation will enable The Evergreen Project to conduct a feasibility study that will examine technical issues, market research, business and financial models, and regulatory issues. The study will address four key questions that are critical to determining the viability of the proposed health insurance cooperative:

- Can the model demonstrate financial viability?
- Can it attract a sufficient number of doctors and be acceptable to hospitals?
- Can it attract a sufficient market share of members?
- Can it compete with existing commercial insurance plans?

The answers to these questions, along with the results of an actuarial study to be conducted by an independent agency, will determine whether The Evergreen Project will move forward to create a nonprofit health insurance cooperative in Maryland.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ALTERNATIVE DIRECTIONS, INC.

In FY 2010, more than 5,400 noncustodial parents became incarcerated in Maryland. As the law holds now, if a noncustodial parent is sent to prison with an existing child-support obligation, child-support payments owed continue to accrue during his or her incarceration. Unfortunately, the vast majority of noncustodial parents entering the correctional system are unaware of this requirement, and past legislative efforts in Maryland to automatically suspend child-support payments during incarceration have failed. A Reentry Policy Council of the Justice Center report found that a person leaving prison may owe \$10,000 to \$20,000 in child-support payments, as well as debts for court costs, fees for representation by the Public Defender, fines, and supervision fees. The Maryland Department of Human Resources is working to automatically reduce child-support order amounts upon incarceration, but thousands of incarcerated noncustodial parents are still accumulating arrearages.

A 2005 University of Maryland Department of Social Work report found that in Baltimore City, 41 percent of all child-support arrearages are owed by noncustodial parents who have been incarcerated. This personal debt often exceeds \$25,000. Under federal law, a child-support enforcement agency can garnish up to 65 percent of an individual's wages for child support. This leaves very little money to pay the other debts owed to the state, not to mention a current need for food, shelter, clothing, and medical care. The report concludes that "financial pressures and paycheck garnishment resulting from unpaid debt can increase participation in the underground economy and discourage legitimate employment," thus perpetuating a system that fails children and their families.

In 2010, with \$44,280 in funding from The Abell Foundation, Alternative Directions held 63 workshops at the Maryland Transition Center; the Maryland Institution for Women in Jessup; and the Maryland Reception, Diagnostics and Classification Center for 367 incarcerated noncustodial parents. A total of 129 child-support modification motions were filed with the proper court. Of those, 90 motions were approved. With an average child-support order of \$50 per week, these successful modifications have resulted in savings of \$234,000 of uncollectable debt, which could have led to wage garnishments, suspension of drivers' licenses, negative credit reports, and incarceration.

Eleven individuals filed and successfully had a detainer for child support lifted. This allows these individuals to become eligible for additional Department of Corrections programs during their incarceration, improving their quality of life, and increasing their chances for successful reentry.

SEEDCO *EARN*BENEFITS

Many public benefits programs are underutilized among residents in Maryland and Baltimore. For example, four out of every 10 Marylanders who qualify for food stamps are not receiving them. With funding from The Abell Foundation and others, Seedco, a national workforce development and community development organization, developed *EarnBenefits* Baltimore, a Web-based initiative that helps individuals and families apply for 22 different federal and state benefits, including the Maryland Earned Income Tax Credit, the Maryland Insurance Plan and Children's Health Insurance Program, the Maryland Energy Assistance Program, and food stamps. *EarnBenefits* is designed to streamline eligibility screening for benefits, application submission, and tracking of submitted applications.

Since launching in October 2006, *EarnBenefits* Baltimore has screened more than 10,000 households and provided more than 8,100 with application assistance. In total, more than 6,400 households have successfully accessed 9,694 benefits, valued at almost \$9.5 million. The highest enrollments were in food stamps, the Maryland Energy Assistance Program, the Primary Adult Care program, and free tax preparation.

Access to benefits is particularly difficult for those individuals who have been incarcerated. To address this need, Baltimore Healthcare Access, an EarnBenefits Baltimore partner, worked with Seedco, the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, the Maryland Department of Human Resources, the Baltimore City Health Department, and the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services to develop a strategy to implement EarnBenefits within the Baltimore City Detention Center. With funding of \$75,000 from The Abell Foundation and funding from other foundations, two case managers began working at the Baltimore City Detention Center in December 2010 to assist 720 inmates who are within 60 to 90 days of release with accessing food stamps, Medicaid, and Primary Adult Care. The case managers are following up with each client for at least 30 days upon release to confirm enrollment, as well as successful linkage to primary-care, mental-health, and addiction treatments, as needed.

To date, of the 30 inmates released since the start of the program, 83 percent have either sustained or been connected to health insurance. Another 50 percent have been successfully enrolled in food stamps, and 37 percent are awaiting approval. Only one person has been reincarcerated within 30 days of his release.

CONSERVATION

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY PROJECT

The Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) is committed to improving the enforcement of the Clean Water and Clean Air Acts, which mandate protection of the environment and of public health, by working with a carefully planned and successful strategy, utilizing policy analysis, public advocacy, and litigation. Over the course of 2007, the EIP undertook extensive reviews of local, state, and federal permit processes as they relate to coal-fired power plants. Armed with the power of the Freedom of Information Act, the EIP has been able to examine existing permits or discover the lack of them. In the process, the agency has uncovered violations that had been dismissed or do not reflect compliance with enforcement measures.

With Abell grants of \$35,000 in 2009 and \$125,000 in 2010 in continuing support of the cost of legal fees, the EIP has been able to identify the "dirtiest" coal-fired power plants in Maryland. Based on the findings of a review of the state's permitting process and year-round compliance records, the EIP filed objections with the Maryland Department of the Environment's permit application process, to argue for correction of many deficiencies. The EIP has reached out to other environmental groups to identify opportunities to work for reform of the power-plant permitting and enforcement process.

In the summer of 2009, on behalf of local residents, the EIP filed suit against Mirant's Chalk Point power plant for burning dirty residual fuel oil without installing required pollution controls. The EIP's comments on a draft Clean Air Act permit, along with the lawsuit it filed with the Chesapeake Climate Action Network

against the Maryland Department of the Environment for its failure to issue a Clean Air Act permit, resulted in the Maryland Department of the Environment initiating its own suit against the Mirant Corporation, requiring Mirant to burn cleaner natural gas.

Later in 2009, on behalf of the Defenders of Wildlife, Sierra Club, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, and the Patuxent Riverkeeper, the EIP filed a notice of intent to sue for a number of other Clean Water Act violations at the Mirant Brandywine coal-combustion waste landfill. Mirant had been illegally discharging toxic fly ash into the Mataponi Creek; ground water under the site indicated pollution exceeding drinking water standards. Working with the Maryland Department of the Environment, the EIP defeated Mirant's motion to dismiss the law suit.

Most recently, under the Maryland Open Government Initiative, the EIP expanded its permit review and enforcement strategy. This work involved negotiating a settlement with Constellation Energy to strengthen the permit for a coal-combustion waste landfill located in a Curtis Bay neighborhood. The work resulted in an agreement that will make the permit one of the most protective of coal-ash landfill permits in the United States. The new Maryland requirements will require semi-annual monitoring and analysis of an extensive list of coal-ash pollutants. Constellation Energy will also be required to cover the coal ash daily and to cap the landfill within 90 days of the last disposal in order to minimize leaching of highly toxic pollutants. Constellation Energy is bound to take corrective action as well as maintain a \$1 million bond for more than 10 years in the event of any contamination leaking from the landfill. The community associations located in the area will be made aware of any seepage. The EIP's concern for overburdened communities has resulted in greater enforcement of water- and air-quality compliance for healthier communities.

HARRY R. HUGHES CENTER FOR AGRO-ECOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK

Despite more than two decades of efforts to improve the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay, high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus continue to degrade the water, causing "dead zones" covering nearly one-third of the Bay during the peak summer months. Runoff of excess nitrogen coming directly from crop lands leaches into the Bay. As part of its program designed to close the gap between the agricultural community on the Eastern Shore and local and state environmental advocates concerned about the water quality of the Bay, the Harry R. Hughes Center has, with support of a \$75,000 three-year funding grant from The Abell Foundation, undertaken research on the uses of switchgrass planting to reduce subsurface nitrogen seepage from croplands located on the Chester River leading to the Bay. In 2008, under the direction of Dr. Ken Staver, the center created a three-year pilot project: Study of Environmental Benefits from Establishing a Switchgrass Production Base in the Chester River Watershed. By planting stands of perennial switchgrass in buffer settings over 100 acres, totaling 11 different tracts of cropland, the project provides the opportunity for developing expertise in the growing of switchgrass—a filter to prevent nutrient loss from the land and a potential source of biofuel.

The choice of using switchgrass for the pilot program was deliberate because of the following attributes: It is fast growing, is native to Maryland, has a 10-foot root system, grows well in wetlands, and provides excellent habitat for wildlife. The specific objectives of the program were:

- To explore options for making buffer zones more economically sustainable while maintaining water quality and habitat benefits;
- To evaluate production capacity, nutrient uptakes, and fuel characteristics of switchgrass;
- To monitor changes in subsurface nitrogen losses and changes in total soil nitrogen and carbon storage before and after converting from annual row crops to switchgrass;
- To evaluate how stands of switchgrass are used as critical refuge bird habitat during the winter months;
- To determine the optimum density of planting;
- To carry out soil coring to determine changes in nitrate concentration in the soil profile; and
- To determine the potential revenue from the harvesting of switchgrass for an end-use market as a biofuel.

The Center installed shallow groundwater sampling wells that are being monitored on an ongoing basis to determine the effects of changes to the nitrate leaching rates. To date, there are indications that for every acre of cropland that is converted to switchgrass, a reduction of 30 pounds in nitrate leaching to groundwater is expected. The Center has taken a leadership role in testing best management practices to reach the performance-based targets of nutrient reduction by the year 2025. It plans to expand the viable options.

THE
.....
ABELL
.....
FOUNDATION

.....
2010 GRANTS

EDUCATION

ACLU Foundation of Maryland, Inc. \$50,000
Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the Baltimore City Education Reform Project, designed to ensure that schools serving disadvantaged students receive equal funding and resources. This strategy includes education, community organizing, advocacy efforts, and lawsuits.

Art on Purpose..... \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward support of the Art Leadership program for students at Civitas School, Baltimore Freedom Academy, and Afya Public Charter School. The program identifies and prepares students to be candidates for summer jobs in the arts. Working with 30 high school and 100 middle school students, Art on Purpose teaches participants art skills transferable to the workplace.

Arts Education in Maryland Schools Alliance..... \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For continued support and expansion of programs to integrate arts into the curriculum of Maryland's public schools.

**Baltimore City Public Schools/East Baltimore
Community School \$5,000**
Baltimore, MD

For summer planning and academic programming for students in grades five through eight. The purpose of the initiative is to evaluate the academic programming, to build on its existing strengths, and to develop data-driven best practices.

**Baltimore City Public Schools/
National Academic League (NAL) \$167,000**
Baltimore, MD

For support of the 2010-2011 National Academic League in 28 Baltimore City public middle schools. The NAL games are designed to function as competitive events, with team practices after school two to three times a week under the guidance of teacher coaches. Interscholastic competitions are held every two weeks. Teams that place first and second go on to compete nationally through video conferencing. The goal is to bring to academic competition the same visibility and spirit of school rivalry that exists in sports competition.

**Baltimore City Public Schools/Paul Laurence
Dunbar High School \$5,000**
Baltimore, MD

For the purchase of equipment required by the Dunbar Robotics Team. The team of 16 to 20 members is committed to spend three to four hours per week in the classroom as well as in after-school clubs, and to participate in local and regional weekend competitions.

Baltimore City Public Schools/Roland Park

Elementary/Middle School \$5,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward curriculum development and construction costs of the writing laboratory for The Write Place, a program at Roland Park Elementary/Middle School serving 900 Baltimore City public school students.

Baltimore City Public Schools/Tench Tilghman

Elementary/Middle School \$50,000

Baltimore, MD

For the purchase of computers and equipment to update a computer lab. The lab will provide access to information technology and the resources designed to enhance academic achievement in math and reading skills. Access to digital, still and video camera, audio recording, video editing, and graphic and photo manipulation will allow the school to provide an environment where students can explore state-of-the-art technology.

Baltimore Kids Chess League, Inc. \$63,670

Baltimore, MD

For support and expansion of the 2010-2011 BCPS Chess Education Project, an after-school program operating in 60 Baltimore City elementary, middle, and high schools. The long-term goal is to increase the number of after-school chess clubs by serving as a resource for chess education, teacher training, and activities to bring together students and community advisors, and encourage participation in regional competitions.

Baltimore Reads, Inc. \$100,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward operating costs of Baltimore Reads, in support of a self-sustaining Book Bank Book Exchange. By expanding the sale of used books online, Baltimore Reads expects higher revenues that, in turn, are expected to help cover operating costs and provide wider distribution of more than 100,000 books to Baltimore school children.

Baltimore Talent Education Center \$25,000

Baltimore, MD

Funding to expand a string music program for Baltimore City pre-K to high school students in five locations. These programs serve as feeders to the TWIGS program at the Baltimore School for the Arts, Tuned-In Program at the Peabody Institute, and Sinfonia and Sinfonietta at the Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestra.

CollegeBound Foundation, Inc. \$105,000

Baltimore, MD

For fifth-year support of the College Retention Project for 300 Last Dollar Grant recipients at participating colleges. The goal of the project is to increase college graduation rates among low-income and first-generation college students from Baltimore City public schools. The program includes one-on-one and group on-campus counseling sessions; parent/student seasonal workshops; emergency hot lines; and identification of learning assistance centers, labs, tutorials, and remedial services.

The Community School, Inc. \$10,670
Baltimore, MD

For support of the College Support and Dual Enrollment Initiative serving students and graduates of the Community School. The program provides ongoing support for students to graduate from high school or pass their GEDs, and enter and remain in college.

Fund for Educational Excellence \$261,420
Baltimore, MD

Two-year funding for support of School Everyday!, an initiative to address chronic absenteeism in Baltimore City public schools. This program builds partnerships with community groups and churches, and identifies students and families most in need of attendance support.

Fund for Educational Excellence \$42,500
Baltimore, MD

For general operating support and to implement a strategic mission designed to respond to particular needs of the school system: district fundraising, research, design development, implementation plans; project management for selected innovation; and exploration of policies and best practices.

Gilman School \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward the support of the 2011 Baltimore Independent School Learning Camp. The four-week summer camp offers 45 academically promising Baltimore City public school students entering third, fourth, and fifth grades the opportunity to participate in Gilman School's learning enrichment program. It provides individualized and group classes in language arts, geography, science, mathematics, and a foreign language, as well as cultural field trips and recreational activities. The goal is to reduce the loss of academic skills often experienced by at-risk students during summer break.

Greater Homewood Community Corporation, Inc. \$95,000
Baltimore, MD

For support of the Experience Corps Upper Grades Pilot Project, designed to serve fourth- and fifth-grade students in high-needs Baltimore City public schools. The project awards grants to five schools in support of strategies designed to increase academic achievement.

The GreenMount School \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward the installation of portable classrooms to accommodate a kindergarten program.

Historic East Baltimore Community

Action Coalition, Inc. \$75,000

Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the L@TCH technology program in five Baltimore City public schools: Coppin Academy, Rosemont Elementary, Collington Elementary, Southwest Baltimore Charter, and Reach Academy. The two-year expansion of the pilot project provides home computers, printers, Internet connection, training, and support for 1,000 additional families. The goal of the project is to increase student attendance and academic progress through increased parental involvement.

Incentive Mentoring Program (IMP) \$90,000

Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the IMP mentoring program for students at Dunbar High School and for the expansion of the program to the Academy for College and Career Exploration. Over the course of the seven-year mentoring program (from the end of freshman year in high school through graduation from college), this family-style mentoring approach provides services year-round to 30 students identified as failing to meet minimum requirements. With teams of volunteers from Johns Hopkins University and Medical School graduate programs, the program addresses academic basic human needs: transportation, day care, job-placement referrals, drug treatment, college application, and tutoring services. Mentors meet with students as needed, three to seven times a week.

The Ingenuity Project \$430,000

Baltimore, MD

For support of the 2010-2011 Ingenuity Project, an advanced math, science, and research curriculum for 510 Baltimore City public middle and high school students. The program provides opportunity for participants in national competition.

Institute of Notre Dame (IND) \$23,870

Baltimore, MD

Toward support of the implementation of Project Lead the Way, a national curriculum that introduces 18 to 20 students a year to biomedical sciences. IND provides internships with two local hospitals.

Johns Hopkins University/Center for

Social Organization of Schools \$66,000

Baltimore, MD

For first-year support of a Baltimore Education Research Consortium (BERC) research study on the record of Baltimore City public school students' rate of graduation from high school and college. The College On Track report will use data from the classes of 2003-2004 to analyze factors predictive of students' applying, enrolling, and remaining in college.

KIPP Baltimore, Inc..... \$50,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward operating support of the KIPP Harmony Academy, an elementary school enrolling 250 kindergarten and first-grade students. KIPP programming calls for high standards of academic achievement and conduct, along with a commitment to a longer school day, including Saturdays and summer school sessions.

Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA)..... \$19,210
Baltimore, MD

“Last Dollar” support toward tuition and related fees in support of a Baltimore City public school graduate enrolled in MICA’s 2010-2011 school year.

Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) \$38,000
Baltimore, MD

For membership to the National Student Clearinghouse. The objective of the clearinghouse is to procure student data and create a longitudinal data system on college enrollment, performance, retention, and graduation rates for every Maryland high school graduate. The data will be made available to all school systems in Maryland, and the current status of college enrollment and outcomes will be posted on MSDE’s website.

New Leaders for New Schools \$150,000
Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the New Leaders-Baltimore program designed to recruit and develop outstanding school principals for Baltimore City public schools. After five weeks of coursework at the Summer Foundations Institute, and a one-year full-time residency working as an assistant principal alongside a mentoring principal, the New Leader is placed as a principal in a Baltimore City public school. Throughout the first year, the New Leader receives professional development, coaching, and support. Each New Leader is expected to make a six-year contractual commitment to serve in Baltimore City public schools.

Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University \$40,000
Baltimore, MD

Two grants for continued support of the Music Teacher Mentoring Program for Baltimore City first- and second-year public elementary and middle school music teachers. Two Peabody Institute mentors work with individual teachers, as needed, to ensure that new teachers are provided with the long-term teaching skills not available through the limited professional development opportunities within the school system. Special attention is given to lesson planning; delivery of lessons; teaching of rhythm, tone, and instrument care; and strategies of classroom management. The program also provides a forum for music teachers to share ideas.

The Piney Woods School. \$88,670
Piney Woods, MS

To provide scholarships for students from Baltimore City public schools to attend a college preparatory boarding school for the 2010-2011 school year; and to fund the salary of a Retention Counselor. The counselor provides a range of services, including monitoring class attendance and participation, overseeing study hall and dormitory behavior, and acting as a liaison and advocate for students and their families.

Public Justice Center, Inc.. \$124,000
Baltimore, MD

For support of the second phase of the School Continuity Project to increase educational outcomes for homeless Baltimore City public school students and for those awaiting foster-care placement. The goal is to collaborate with City Schools and create a plan for compliance to improve the educational outcomes of homeless and foster-care children. The center assists with planning, training school personnel, and monitoring the effectiveness of new school system practices for homeless children.

Public Justice Center, Inc.. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For the cost of a consultant to monitor City Schools compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and to develop an advocacy strategy.

Rose Street Community Center. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

In support of the School Everyday Coach program at Tench Tilghman Elementary/Middle School. The goal is to increase daily attendance and reduce tardiness. Three coaches take responsibility for students' attendance.

South Baltimore Learning Center. \$34,500
Baltimore, MD

For capital improvements to expand the center to accommodate the External Diploma Program, an adult literacy program that awards a high school diploma.

St. Cecilia Roman Catholic School \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward support of the CityWide Special Education Advocacy Project for Baltimore City public school students with disabilities.

Teach For America Baltimore \$150,000
Baltimore, MD

Ongoing support for expenses related to the cost of recruiting, selecting, and training of 160 additional Teach For America (TFA) corps members, as well as developing TFA alumni for leadership positions in Baltimore City public schools for the 2010-2011 school year. TFA will continue to provide ongoing support to the 160 corps members entering their second year of teaching.

The Urban Alliance Foundation, Inc. \$120,000
Washington, DC

Two-year funding to launch a Career Counseling program by the Urban Alliance Baltimore Program for noncollege-bound students at Northwestern High School for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years. The High School Internship Program provides paid internships, individual job-placement assistance, financial aid, alternative education programs, proprietary school and apprenticeships, practice interviews, and resume review. A year-long job-readiness and life-skills curriculum is offered to high school juniors and seniors.

Urban Teacher Center, Inc. (UTC) \$200,000
Baltimore, MD

Two-year funding for support of the Urban Teacher Center, committed to preparing teachers for Baltimore City's neediest public schools. The UTC recruits outstanding candidates, equips them with state-of-the-art training, and links their certification to the performance of students. The program serves as a model for teacher preparation and state licensure linked to performance. All UTC fellows make a four-year commitment that includes a one-year residency of coursework combined with a teaching assignment to a group of six to eight students under a supervising teacher, followed by a three-year placement as a full-time teacher in a high-needs urban school. UTC fellows complete their Master's of Education degrees within the second year and receive a full state dual certificate in elementary and special education based on their students' performances.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Baltimore HealthCare Access, Inc. \$125,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward the cost of a feasibility study for the implementation of the Regional Non-Profit Health Insurance Cooperative, designed to expand health -care coverage for the working poor and underserved residents of Maryland. The study will examine technical issues, product design and actuarial modeling, market research, business and financial operational models, and regulatory issues.

Baltimore Mental Health Systems, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

In support of a strategic planning session on housing development for the mentally ill of Baltimore City.

Baltimore Stars Coalition/AAU \$40,000
Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the volunteer-operated Baltimore Stars Basketball Program serving 120 inner-city boys, ages eight to 17. The program provides opportunities to compete in AAU state and national basketball tournaments, and in addition to teaching basketball skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship, the program provides educational support that includes mentoring, tutoring, and SAT preparation.

Baltimore Youth Lacrosse Foundation \$10,000

Baltimore, MD

Two grants for the support of an expansion of the Baltimore Youth Lacrosse League, and to create a summer program for at-risk inner-city middle school boys.

Brooklyn Browns Football and Cheer Program \$5,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward the purchase of uniforms for the Brooklyn Browns Football and Cheer Program. Along with teaching football and cheerleading skills, the program teaches the values of responsible citizenship.

Catholic Charities \$50,000

Baltimore, MD

Two grants for continued support of the Traveler's Aid Voucher Program at the Samaritan Center. The purpose of the program is to assist homeless persons who want to move out of Baltimore City to reunite with family, find employment, and/or access treatment for substance abuse, and who are in need of vouchers for bus travel to a new location. Persons using the program must have a contact in the destination city willing to assume responsibility for finding accommodations.

Catholic Charities \$60,000

Baltimore, MD

For continued support of eviction prevention and utility assistance programs administered by the Samaritan Center. The program provides direct financial assistance to approximately 100 low- income households at risk of eviction and/or facing loss of utility services.

Civic Works \$5,000

Baltimore, MD

For the design and implementation of a grading and irrigation plan for the Real Food Farm site, which will utilize hoop houses for organic farming at Lake Clifton Park. The farm, with its hoop houses, orchard and tree nursery, serves as an educational setting for Lake Clifton High School students, a community learning center, and a source of produce for farm stands in the Coldstream-Homestead-Montebello and Belair-Edison neighborhoods.

Food Research & Action Center \$50,000

Washington, DC

For continued support of Maryland Hunger Solutions, an anti-hunger advocacy program for low- income residents of Baltimore City to access federally funded nutrition programs, including food stamps and the WIC program (Women, Infants, and Children). Focus is on expanding the free classroom breakfast program, advocating for improved administrative and legislative policies to eliminate access barriers, and working to assure Maryland's participation in the newly approved federal after-school meal program, as well as the weekend and holiday supper program for children and adults.

The Franciscan Center \$230,000
Baltimore, MD

Two grants for continued support of the Emergency Services and Energy Assistance Programs. The center offers relief services that include utility assistance, eviction prevention grants, prescription and dental co-pays, transportation bus tokens, identification documents, referrals to job-training programs, and enrollment in entitlement programs.

Friends of Patterson Park, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For the purchase of a basketball scoreboard and ceiling mounting for a backboard in the Virginia S. Baker Recreational Center. The center houses two teen Department of Recreation leagues, a young women's team, another for students from Hampstead Hill Academy, and neighborhood pick-up games. By improving the facility, the center offers a safe and healthy environment for out-of-school activities.

Greater Baltimore Tennis Patrons Association, Inc. \$30,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward support of after-school and summer tennis programs serving the Greater Homewood Tennis Aces, Park Heights Tennis Aces, and Frankford Tennis Aces. More than 400 at-risk Baltimore City youth ages six to 16 participate and receive tennis instruction, support for study habits, and healthy meals.

Health Care for the Homeless, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

To provide emergency placement in motels for up to 20 homeless persons with disabilities.

Housing Authority of Baltimore City \$268,125
Baltimore, MD

To provide security deposits for 200 families participating in the Special Mobility Housing Choice Voucher Program. Tenants are given Housing Choice vouchers to move into private rental housing in nonimpacted areas outside Baltimore City. This program offers interested tenants the opportunity to move into areas offering safety and security, better schools, and improved health outcomes.

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health \$29,304
Baltimore, MD

To develop and disseminate a briefing paper on the economic, health, and safety effects of an alcohol tax increase in Maryland. The paper will include analyses of the impact of an increase in Maryland's alcohol taxes on worker productivity, job creation and loss, and the likelihood of crossing state borders to purchase alcohol.

The League for People with Disabilities, Inc. \$100,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward renovation costs of a therapeutic swimming pool. The pool's controlled temperature is expected to increase mobility and range of motion for League clients with disabilities, as well as neighbors in surrounding communities.

Loving Arms, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For the cost of a consultant to train staff in the use of a new accounting system, federal and state reporting requirements, and accounting standards. The grant will help cover the cost of background clearances for new staff and volunteers. Norma and Robert's House, a program of Loving Arms, provides short-term, safe, and nurturing shelter and support services to eight male and/or female youth who are runaways, homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless.

Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative
Education Fund, Inc. \$37,500
Baltimore, MD

Toward support of an initiative to increase health-care coverage among uninsured and disadvantaged populations in Maryland. The objectives are to expand health-care coverage by ensuring that the State of Maryland creates a comprehensive plan to implement federal health-care reform, propose solutions to address local coverage and funding gaps, educate Marylanders about new coverage opportunities, and advocate for an increase of the alcohol tax.

Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative
Education Fund, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward expenses to fund a reception at the Governor's Mansion in recognition of the accomplishments of the Maryland Health Care Coalition.

Maryland Foster Youth Resource Center \$25,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward costs of providing supportive resources to current and former foster youth. The center provides information, training, service linkages, counseling, GED preparation, and job-training programs for youth transitioning to independent living.

Mission Possible Ministries, Inc. \$36,000
Baltimore, MD

For the purchase and installation of a fire alarm and sprinkler system for three houses providing shelter to 27 homeless men in West Baltimore. Mission Possible offers clean, safe furnished rooms, along with two meals a day and assistance in finding employment and permanent housing within an 18-month period.

NAMI-Metropolitan Baltimore, Inc. \$19,825
Baltimore, MD

Toward peer education and support programs for up to 48 mentally ill Baltimore City homeless persons. The programs include peer-to-peer education that teaches participants how to manage their illness and access needed services, and workshops for staff to help them interact with mentally ill clients.

The Northeast Youth Association, Inc. \$10,000
Baltimore, MD

Two grants for support of operating costs and travel for the Northeast Football League, serving at-risk youth, ages five to 15, to participate in the national Pop Warner football championship.

Parks & People Foundation. \$60,000
Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the Hooked on Sports program serving more than 1,000 Baltimore City public school students in grades four to 12. The participants, while being exposed to the basic fundamentals of playing organized sports and the value of team work and fair play, are required to maintain a “C” average and 95 percent school attendance.

Project HEALTH Baltimore \$45,000
Baltimore, MD

Seed funding for the implementation of a Family Help Desk program at the University of Maryland Medical Center to serve at-risk mothers with newborns. The Family Help Desk is manned by trained student volunteers. After conducting an extensive needs assessment, the volunteer then works with the patient to identify and secure required resources, provide information, determine eligibility criteria and connect with resources, and assist in completing applications for resources. Student volunteers experience the health-care system as well as gain understanding of the link between health and poverty.

The Salvation Army \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For general support of services provided for the homeless and needy.

Santa Claus Anonymous. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

In support of the 2010 Santa Claus Anonymous Campaign.

Santa’s Helpers Anonymous, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward support of the “Elves Bring Christmas to Those in Need” program for low-income families and the elderly in Baltimore City.

The Shepherd's Clinic \$50,000

Baltimore, MD

For continued support toward operating costs of a clinic providing primary and specialty health care services for approximately 2,000 uninsured persons in Baltimore City.

South Baltimore Emergency Relief, Inc. \$24,000

Baltimore, MD

For general operating support of the food pantry and the energy assistance program. The center, open Monday through Thursday, provides food, toiletries, and infant products, as well as financial assistance to prevent utility terminations and evictions, and to purchase prescription medications.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND ADDICTIONS

A Step Forward, Inc. \$5,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward assistance with the payment of utility bills and a matching requirement for a Volunteer Maryland Coordinator in support of a transitional housing facility serving homeless men and women who suffer from substance addiction, along with challenging issues such as financial deprivation, mental health, past incarceration, and unemployment.

The Baltimore Station \$100,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward the renovation of several properties in the Sandtown-Winchester area in West Baltimore to create the Baker Street Station, a long-term residential facility for homeless men, primarily veterans, with addictions. Once the renovation is completed, the facility will house 40 individuals and provide recovery services for up to 24 months.

Chesapeake Center for Youth Development, Inc. \$65,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward support of the Juvenile Intervention and Family Independence Project in Baltimore City. Working with youth who are at-risk of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system, the center provides ongoing case management to include individual and family counseling, substance abuse treatment, monitoring, and mental health services for up to a year or more. In addition, the center will arrange transportation to court, school meetings, and appointments.

Deborah's Place, Inc. \$10,000

Baltimore, Maryland

Two grants for repairs and furnishings of a property in the Park Heights community for a transitional housing facility serving up to eight women recovering from substance abuse. The women are encouraged to go back to school, find jobs, or participate in job-training programs such as STRIVE. They are required to attend NA/AA meetings and pay \$325 a month for rent.

**Druid Heights Community Development Corporation . . . \$100,000
Baltimore, MD**

Two grants toward the purchase of a six-unit apartment building to provide housing to clients in the Maryland Reentry Program. This program will serve clients who have graduated from a transitional housing setting, but are stabilized and employed, and are moving toward independent living.

**Druid Heights Community Development Corporation \$5,000
Baltimore, Maryland**

For the purchase of furniture for a New Life facility, a transitional housing program providing substance abuse treatment services.

**Episcopal Community Services of Maryland \$50,000
Baltimore, MD**

Toward continued support for 50 ex-offenders enrolled in the eight-week Jericho Reentry Program. By providing stable housing for up to one year, clients benefit from case management, job training, life-skills training, and job placement. Typically, clients are in need of addiction treatment, mental health services, housing, furthering education, and positive role models.

**The Light of Truth Center, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD**

Toward payment of expenses for property insurance, utilities, and an occupancy permit for a supportive housing facility at 244 North Patterson Park Avenue, designed to serve women recovering from substance abuse.

**Marian House, Inc. \$75,000
Baltimore, MD**

Toward renovation costs for the expansion of five additional units of the Marian House Transitional Program, and toward support of the accompanying transitional housing and supportive services program for homeless women and children. The opportunity to stay up to 24 months affords clients weekly individual and group counseling, daily living skills training, planning for education and job training, and placement services.

**NCADD-Maryland (National Council on
Alcoholism and Drug Dependence) \$5,000
Baltimore, MD**

Toward the cost of a statewide poll to determine the level of voter support for raising the alcohol beverage tax as a way to fund addiction treatment and prevention services.

NCADD-Maryland \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For general support of the NCADD-Maryland program that provides education information and assistance to combat alcoholism and other drug addictions. Through coalition building, information sharing, and active engagement with policy makers, NCADD provides technical assistance and timely action alerts to treatment and recovery communities.

New Vision House of Hope, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Emergency funding toward the cost of utility bills for two transitional houses, and for the purchase and installation of a new furnace.

Safe Haven in the Junction \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For general support of a transitional housing facility for 15 homeless men recovering from substance abuse. Expenses cover utility bills, household supplies, learning materials for GED preparation, drug testing, and an alcohol breathalyzer.

TAEL Enterprise, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward the cost of minor repairs, water and utility bills, and food for a transitional housing facility for homeless women.

Together We Can, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For the purchase of furniture, appliances, and supplies for two additional residential facilities for persons recovering from substance abuse.

Tuerk House, Inc. \$250,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward the renovation of the Weisman-Kaplan House at 2525 Maryland Avenue, in support of its program to expand a long-term residential substance abuse treatment facility for Baltimore City males. The expansion will provide access for nine more men to participate in the halfway house program and additional space for meetings and administrative offices.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1000 Friends of Maryland \$80,000 **Baltimore, MD**

Two-year funding in support of land use and transportation policy reform at the state and local levels, and an initiative to “Keep Farmers Farming.” A public agenda will be created by 1000 Friends to encourage the redevelopment of existing communities; advocate for the preservation of the state’s remaining open spaces, and agriculture and forest lands; and develop Smart Growth transit and transportation plans.

Adopt A Block, Inc. \$5,000 **Baltimore, MD**

Toward renovation costs of a house in East Baltimore as part of the week-long Compassion Commission Project. This summer program brings together more than 200 youth from the East Coast to participate in a week of volunteering—committed to rebuilding an abandoned rowhouse, cleaning up alleys and neighborhood streets, and painting recreation centers and public schools.

Baltimore City Department of Planning \$10,000 **Baltimore, MD**

For support of radio advertising designed to reach Baltimore City’s low-income residents in the 2010 Census count. Efforts are intended to improve the rate of mail-in returns, ensure the accuracy of Baltimore’s population count, and maximize the city’s eligibility for federal formula grant dollars and elected representation.

Baltimore City Department of Planning \$20,000 **Baltimore, MD**

Toward staffing costs of a Food Policy Coordinator to implement recommendations of the 2009 Baltimore City Food Policy Task Force. The coordinator will focus on expanding urban agriculture, community-supported agriculture shares of local farm produce, and community gardens; launching street vending with refrigerated trucks to reach isolated areas (“food deserts”); expanding links with local farmers and institutions; and providing input in rezoning to allow agricultural uses.

Baltimore County Agricultural Resource Center, Inc. \$5,000 **Cockeysville, MD**

In support of the New Farmer Trainee Program, designed to promote the local sustainable food system by providing novice farmers with hands-on experience and classroom knowledge over a one-year period, before placing them in a position to start their own farm operation. In conjunction with the Cooperative Extension of Maryland, the program will assist trainees in locating farmland for lease or sale.

Baltimore Development Corporation \$120,000

Baltimore, MD

For continuing support of administrative expenses in support of Maglev-Maryland, a program to develop a magnetic levitation high-speed train between Baltimore and Washington. When fully operational, the train would reduce travel time between the two cities to less than 20 minutes.

Baltimore Efficiency and Economy Foundation, Inc. \$12,500

Baltimore, MD

Toward a study to address solutions to the problem of the negative financial impact of properties owned by nongovernmental nonprofit organizations exempt from Baltimore City property taxes. The study will analyze best practices in other cities and offer recommendations for improving tax fairness and increasing revenues.

Baltimore Green Space. \$5,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward an internship for the Baltimore Green Space – Green Sites Project, designed to preserve and support community gardens, pocket parks, and other community-managed open spaces in Baltimore City.

Baltimore Harbor Waterkeeper. \$100,000

Baltimore, MD

For support of an aeration system pilot study as part of an effort to protect and restore the water quality of the Baltimore harbor. The study will report on the effectiveness of the use of aeration in reducing and eliminating dead zones within the Inner Harbor, as well as recommend the size and scope of aeration systems necessary to make a difference in oxygenation levels within the Chesapeake Bay and address problems of water quality and habitat protection in the Bay.

Baltimore Neighborhood Collaborative \$50,000

Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the Foreclosure Prevention and Mitigation Services initiative designed to increase the capacity of community development organizations in targeted neighborhoods. Support includes pre- and post-purchase counseling and legal assistance.

Banner Neighborhoods Community Corporation \$20,000

Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the Home Maintenance Program designed to enable elderly, low-income homeowners in Southeast Baltimore to remain in their homes. The program serves more than 350 homeowners in need of minor maintenance repairs such as checking and cleaning gutters, moving air conditioning units, changing ceiling light fixtures, and testing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Belair-Edison Neighborhoods, Inc. (BENI) \$35,000
Baltimore, MD

For continued support of neighborhood revitalization through pre- and post-purchase homeownership counseling. The objectives of the program are to increase the number of pre-purchase housing counseling clients who are seen in both individual and group counseling sessions; to expand BENI's financial education program by tracking and supporting clients into early homeownership; to protect homeownership rates and track homeownership values; and to conduct marketing efforts that encourage greater homeownership investment in Northeast Baltimore.

Carroll Museums, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward expenses related to securing the inner stairwell of the Phoenix Shot Tower, a national tourist destination in Jonestown. Once the repairs are completed, the Tower's upper regions and roof will be accessible to the public.

Civic Works \$50,000
Baltimore, MD

For continued support of Project Lightbulb, an energy-conservation pilot project for residents of the Coldstream-Homestead-Montebello and Belair-Edison neighborhoods. The program offers free home energy education and energy-saving assistance to low-income households. Trained AmeriCorps members implement practical strategies to combat rising energy costs, including: hot water heater and water-pipe insulation; light bulb replacement with compact fluorescent bulbs; installation of carbon monoxide detectors; low-flow showerheads and faucets; and the setting of appropriate thermostat temperatures.

Community Law Center, Inc. \$80,000
Baltimore, MD

For support of a program designed to provide legal remedy for Baltimore neighborhoods suffering from property neglect. In collaboration with the Citizens Planning and Housing Association, the Community Law Center will research, prepare, and file a lawsuit to force a specific real estate investor to bring his vacant properties in the neighborhood up to code and, as part of remedial action, transfer properties to responsible owners. The intent is to create a legal process for preventing property neglect and improve the quality of life in the affected neighborhoods.

Comprehensive Housing Assistance, Inc. \$65,000
Baltimore, MD

To hire a project coordinator for support of the Senior Home Repair and Modification Program in Northwest Baltimore. The program is designed to respond to the changing lifestyle needs of low-income senior and disabled homeowners by providing them with access to affordable home repair and modification services. These efforts are expected to improve the quality of life for the seniors and the disabled in their own homes and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Health Care for the Homeless, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For a study to assess effects of a LEED (Leadership Environmental and Energy Design)-certified building on the working environment. Research will provide evidence of the impacts of the LEED building on the built environment, specifically, health, safety, and staff issues in health-care facilities.

Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc. \$75,000
Baltimore, MD

For continued general support of a partnership of banks, foundations, government agencies, and community organizations committed to strengthening 15 underserved neighborhoods targeted for revitalization. Healthy Neighborhoods, in turn, provides grants to neighborhoods for marketing, community organizing, and projects designed to preserve and improve real estate values. It offers below market-rate loans for home improvements and homeownership counseling, technical and architectural services, and construction management.

Historic East Baltimore Community
Action Coalition, Inc. \$100,000
Baltimore, MD

Capital funding toward the renovation of Northeast Market to allow for the sale of locally grown, organic foods. The purpose of the renovation is to update the façade and improve the appearance of the stalls, and to provide a venue for expanded and more diverse food options for local residents, Johns Hopkins employees, and visitors.

Homes for America \$40,000
Annapolis, MD

Two-year funding toward the salary of a full-time Resident Services Case Manager, to provide support for expansion of the Broadway Replacement Homes Program. The case manager will help families address the problems of how to obtain entitled benefits, access training and employment opportunities, receive assistance with financial management, and get help with connecting to resources that will not only help them remain in their homes but will also keep their children in school.

Innovative Housing Institute \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward the preparation of a grant application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Sustainable Communities Initiative. The purpose of the initiative is to improve regional planning efforts that integrate housing and transportation decisions and increase state, regional, and local communities to incorporate livability, sustainability, and social equity principles into land use and zoning.

Maryland ABCD Network \$5,000
Sykesville, MD

Toward support of promoting Affordable Housing Land Trusts for homeownership opportunities in Baltimore City. By controlling the land on which housing is built, community land trusts provide an opportunity to revitalize a community through construction or renovation of housing that is affordable and less vulnerable to foreclosure.

Maryland PIRG Foundation \$25,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward continued support of the Smart Energy Solutions Program, a statewide campaign to promote energy policies focused on energy efficiency and conservation. Maryland Public Interest Group will provide research and analysis on the implementation of new utility energy-efficiency programs, and seek to measure the effectiveness of the programs in meeting state goals for reduction of energy use. The campaign will send the message that it is state policy to provide funding for energy policies and programs aimed at lowering residential energy costs, providing relief to the lowest income customers, creating jobs, and reducing the negative public health impacts of pollution and carbon dioxide emissions from energy generation and distribution.

Mi Casa, Inc. \$25,000
Washington, DC

Toward start-up costs and the first phase of the Johnston Square Homeownership Project. Initiated by the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, the project focuses on renovating vacant houses, and increasing homeownership and employment for local contractors and residents.

Moveable Feast, Inc. \$21,227
Baltimore, MD

Toward the purchase and installation of a back-up generator, additional shelving systems, and security cameras to enhance the facility's state-of-the-art kitchen. Movable Feast provides nutritionally appropriate meals, groceries, and counseling to homebound persons living with HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. The kitchen also serves as a setting for job training in the culinary skills for the unemployed and underemployed.

National Wildlife Federation. \$15,000
Annapolis, MD

Toward support of a feasibility study of offshore wind farms within Maryland. The purpose of the research is to assess economic benefits of offshore wind energy for the launch of a large-scale grassroots outreach effort.

Office of the Mayor \$35,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward consulting fees to assist in implementing a leadership agenda by developing a vision for the Mayor's priorities and providing training for the Mayor's staff. The consultant will help to determine effective ways to set priorities, clarify roles, and redefine job descriptions.

St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center \$50,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward staffing costs for the expanded Foreclosure Prevention Program. In response to the recent high rate of foreclosures, with additional funding, St. Ambrose will be able to provide increased default and reverse-mortgage counseling services, in person, by phone, and electronically.

St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore, Inc. \$200,000
Baltimore, MD

Additional funding for capital renovations and expansion of the Beans & Bread Outreach Center, which serves more than 2,300 homeless and economically vulnerable individuals daily through its hot-meal program. By expanding the programming space and waiting area, Beans & Bread will be able to deliver a wider range of basic services to many more clients.

Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore, Inc. \$55,000
Baltimore, MD

For the creation of a “State of the Harbor” report card to set a baseline for measuring water quality and health of the Baltimore harbor, and to enable future comparisons to document progress toward making the harbor safe for swimming and fishing. An action plan with steps to address pollution and deteriorating condition of the water will accompany the report.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Alternative Directions, Inc. \$44,280
Baltimore, MD

Toward funding of child-support modification workshops in Maryland Correctional Institutions. The purpose of the program is to increase the number of child-support modifications filed by the incarcerated in an effort to reduce the amount of arrearages to which persons are entitled under Maryland law. The staff continues to work with the Maryland Child Support Enforcement Administration and courts to simplify the support medication forms, develop new outreach materials and methods, and ensure that motions filed are effective at bringing about payment modifications.

Art with a Heart \$30,000
Baltimore, MD

For support and expansion of the 2010 Summer Job Program, a visual-arts program for 30 at-risk youth in the Rose Street community. As part of the six-week summer work experience, students will create 60 marketable art pieces, including decoupage furniture and mosaics for sale at Artscape.

**Baltimore Alliance for Careers in
Healthcare, Inc. (BACH) \$90,000
Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of pre-allied health bridge programming, which provides entry-level health-care workers with the requisite basic skills for post-secondary training; career coaching, which improves the job retention and advancement of frontline health-care workers; and the BACH Fellows program, which provides Baltimore City public school students with experience working in hospitals over the summer.

**Baltimore Water Alliance \$50,000
Baltimore, MD**

Toward the development and implementation of a green jobs work-placement program in horticulture, landscaping, and urban agriculture. The program will target a team of three high school graduates between the ages of 18 and 24 from under-represented neighborhoods to be hired as AmeriCorps volunteers over a 10-month period. With the help of the team, the Alliance plans to plant more than 300 trees, remove three acres of invasive plants, disconnect 100 residential downspouts, install 50 rain barrels, and assist Real Foods Farm in growing winter vegetables and maintaining community gardens. On completion of the training period, AmeriCorps volunteers will transition to respective career paths.

**BioTechnical Institute of Maryland, Inc. \$75,000
Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of the BioSTART and Laboratory Associates Programs. Each model involves 24 weeks of training and has been designed to enable high school graduates to pursue entry-level lab technician positions in bioscience.

**CASA de Maryland, Inc. \$150,000
Hyattsville, MD**

For continued support of the Baltimore Worker Employment Center for day laborers and low-income workers. The program provides employment placement services, financial literacy classes, free tax preparation, referrals to legal and social services, English as a Second Language classes, identification cards, and assistance with naturalization applications.

**Center for Urban Families \$328,000
Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of STRIVE Baltimore, a job-training and placement service for men and women. The STRIVE model, an intensive three-week workshop, focuses on job readiness, job placement, post-placement support, one-on-one and group counseling, parenting skills, and case management.

Civic Works \$83,473

Baltimore, MD

Toward the creation of the Energy Retrofit Contractor Development pilot project. The project will identify and select a contractor from the Westport community to provide six months of classroom and on-the-job training teaching installation, air sealing, and cool roofing as steps to establish an energy-efficiency retrofit business.

GROUP Ministries, Inc. \$105,370

Baltimore, MD

For the purchase of one house in the Rosemont community, and to provide on-the-job training in home renovations for 10 ex-offenders. The men will be placed in a pre-apprenticeship program with outside contractors.

Harbor City Services, Inc. \$25,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward continued support of operating costs of a document-management, moving/storage, and warehouse business, providing full-time and part-time employment to 30 Baltimore City residents with psychiatric disabilities. The business secures contracts with medical centers, financial and real estate firms, and law firms and social service programs, and is able to provide above minimum-wage jobs.

Job Opportunities Task Force \$50,000

Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the Baltimore CASH Campaign, an initiative designed to increase the use of the Earned Income Tax Credit. Baltimore CASH plans to serve 10,000 tax filers by operating 15 to 17 free tax-preparation sites and training 200 volunteers. As the internal capacity of high-volume sites continues to grow, the quality of services and customer satisfaction will be monitored. Plans call for strengthening and expanding financial education/asset development activities for low-wage tax filers.

Learning Is For Tomorrow, Inc. (LIFT) \$22,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward general support, and for securing additional space for expansion of adult literacy and job-training programs for residents of Southeast Baltimore. LIFT specializes in providing educational services to adults with a variety of learning disabilities and then connects the literacy instruction to employment, and it helps students compose résumés, apply for jobs online, and improve interviewing skills. Moving into a larger space means more classrooms and computers, which will allow the facility to serve more students, many of whom are being referred to other low-literacy programs.

Maryland Center for Veterans

Education and Training, Inc. \$200,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward renovation costs and the purchase of updated equipment and new furnishings for a facility in support of service to homeless veterans. The therapeutic residential setting offers shelter and an array of services to enable homeless veterans to rejoin their communities. Its employment program offers job development, placement, workshops, résumé preparation, and training in interviewing skills.

Moveable Feast, Inc. \$25,000

Baltimore, MD

For continued support of the Culinary Arts and Life Skills Training Program for unemployed and underemployed Baltimore City residents. The program enrolls 32 students each year into a 12-week program, teaching the basics of commercial kitchen operations and menu planning. Graduates are placed in entry-level food service positions paying a living wage with benefits.

A New Faith Community \$8,000

Baltimore, MD

Toward renovation costs for expansion of the Clay Pots Tutoring Center, an adult literacy and GED program for residents of West Baltimore. The community wellness center/coffee house serves as a safe, inviting center for continuing education classes preparing candidates for GEDs and English as a Second Language, as well as for employment in visual arts and music.

Rose Street Community Center. \$300,000

Baltimore, MD

For continued support of drug treatment and job-training programs. Rose Street serves more than 90 people a week, and provides transitional housing for an average of 45 to 50 men and women. The center offers mental health services, gang mediation, GED classes, tutoring, art classes, and shelter for homeless youth.

Seedco. \$75,000

New York, NY

For expansion and continued support of *EarnBenefits* Baltimore, a technical-assistance initiative to help more than 3,000 low-wage workers access benefits and income supports. The Web-based screening tool helps individuals and families apply for 22 different federal, state, and city benefits. An effort is being made to identify a Baltimore-based intermediary to take on the day-to-day operations, and to develop a fiscal and management infrastructure to support a network oversight.

Vehicles for Change, Inc. \$73,500

Baltimore, MD

For continuation and expansion of an initiative to provide 35 donated, repaired, and state-inspected cars to low-income persons in Baltimore City. To be eligible to purchase a car, a potential owner must reside in Baltimore City, qualify as being low income, have a job or job offer, and need a car for employment purposes.

Women’s Housing Coalition \$7,500
Baltimore, MD

For contractual services and related expenses to provide workforce development assistance to women in permanent supportive housing programs. The purpose of the initiative is to improve the employment outcomes of the residents by having a part-time job coach who identifies educational and training programs that best suit the residents’ employment and career goals. This will provide all residents the opportunity to participate in better-matched programs that meet their needs.

CONSERVATION

American Farmland Trust \$45,000
Washington, DC

Toward support of Clean Water for the Chesapeake Bay, a project designed to reduce nutrient runoff into the Chesapeake Bay and to improve its water quality. The focus of the three-year campaign is to engage local farmers in adopting best practices, and developing and supporting policies to increase agricultural-inclusive actions. With participation of seven local farmers in Maryland, a demonstration project using Best Management Practices Challenge Tools, American Farmland Trust will introduce the computerized systems to determine how to calculate more exact amounts of fertilizer needed. This measured approach is expected to reduce the amount of nitrogen spread on the fields, thus lowering nutrient runoff.

**Blue Water Baltimore (formerly
Baltimore Water Alliance) \$30,000**
Baltimore, MD

For a challenge grant to launch an inaugural membership campaign for Blue Water Baltimore, a merger of five Baltimore watershed associations. By creating a consolidated organization with a common mission, the newly formed organization will be able to increase its capacity, be cost efficient, reduce duplication, attract and retain specialized staff, expand volunteer opportunities, undertake more effective fundraising, and work toward creating a stronger and more united voice for local watersheds.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

In support of the 2011 Environmental Legislative Summit. The summit will focus on issues that include implementation of a stormwater utility program to address failing systems, sustained funding for the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund, continued smart-growth strategies, and wind energy.

Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) \$25,000
Takoma Park, MD

Additional funding for staffing support of the Maryland Open Government Campaign, the goal of which is to make existing environmental laws more effective, encouraging Maryland leaders to enact changes in the state's enforcement program, and to build a network of informed Maryland citizens working toward internal institutional reforms. By acting as a "watch-dog" group, CCAN will use grassroots mobilization to organize public comments and testimonies at permit hearings. It will also identify and recruit well-informed experts in public health, biological sciences, and climate issues to represent citizens in affected communities, and to voice their concerns about noncompliance among known polluters and lack of enforcement.

Environment Maryland Research & Policy Center, Inc. . . . \$40,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward support of the Restore the Chesapeake Bay campaign. Environment Maryland, in response to the Restoration Executive Order to restore the Chesapeake Bay, is undertaking research to inform decision makers about pollution issues, holding press conferences and arranging for media coverage—all toward educating the community about the need for upgrades of sewage treatment plans, and for reduction of nutrients and fertilizers on farms and lawns that leach into the bay waters.

Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) \$125,000
Washington, DC

To support a fellowship position for the Brooklyn/Curtis Bay/Hawkins Point Environmental Justice campaign. The campaign will focus on monitoring waste permits of industrial plants located in communities experiencing high levels of pollution, and will undertake an analysis of the health and environmental impacts of the emissions data. By working with locally affected communities, EIP will hold workshops on the permit process, allowing citizens to be in a stronger position to voice their rights for clean air and water.

Maryland League of Conservation Voters
Education Fund \$10,000
Annapolis, MD

For continued support of the Environmental Connections Project, in support of expanding capacity, educational outreach, and grassroots programs to energize voters about public policy issues such as global warming, land protection, and Bay restoration.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Baltimore Clayworks \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

In support of a satellite location of Baltimore Clayworks at the Newborn Ministries Jubilee Art Center in Sandtown-Winchester. The center offers workshops and classes for senior adults, adults, youth, and multi-generational groups in a dedicated clay studio. The new facility makes it possible for Baltimore Clayworks to provide the opportunity for an underserved population to explore artistic programming.

Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward support of the 15th annual three-day Baltimore Book Festival. The funding allows the festival to increase its hours of operation as well as expand its space to accommodate 25 new exhibitors, along with more than 200 authors, booksellers, and publishers.

Creative Alliance, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

Toward redesign and upgrade of the Creative Alliance website. Centered in the former Patterson Theater, funding allows the Alliance to provide interactive artistic and educational programming to a wider audience. The upgrades intend to improve connections to social media, ticketing, and marketing, and the development of virtual tours.

High Zero Foundation, Inc. \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For continued support of an annual international festival of experimental music and culture that emphasizes improvisation and collaborations, and features musicians from Baltimore and around the world. In addition to the 20 large-scale concert sets, the festival includes free workshops, street and site-specific performances, private recording sessions, and collaborations.

Maryland Citizens for the Arts Foundation (MCA) \$5,000
Baltimore, MD

For ongoing promotion of the importance of the arts to quality of life in the state. By building a broader base of support of grassroots advocates for the arts, the MCA works to maintain support of the arts on legislators' agendas.

Museum of Ceramic Art \$36,000
Baltimore, MD

For support of the 2010-2011 in-school and after-school ceramic art programs in 41 Baltimore City public middle schools. Aligned with the Maryland State Content Standards and integrated with core subjects, the nine-month hands-on program aspires to reinforce reading, writing, math skills, and creative arts. The program provides each full-time art teacher with two wheels, a kiln, tools and supplies, coaching, professional training workshops, a stipend to run the after-school ceramic club twice a week, and opportunities for monthly networking. Arrangements are made annually for a student collaborative to create permanent ceramic tile murals for public venues such as Hollins Street Market and North East Market.

OTHER

Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers \$16,500
Baltimore, MD

Two grants for 2010 and 2011 membership dues.

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

EDUCATION

BCPS/City Neighbors Charter School.....	\$4,000
BCPS/Hamilton Elementary/Middle School	\$4,000
The Carnegie Institution	\$3,660

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Baltimore-Chesapeake Rugby Foundation.....	\$1,755
Baltimore City Health Department	\$3,000
Be More, Inc.....	\$2,500

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND ADDICTIONS

Druid Heights Community Development Corporation	\$2,515
Nu Direction/LEAP	\$4,661
Office of the Public Defender	\$3,200
Pleasant Housing Supportive Program.....	\$3,000
Power Inside/Fusion Partnerships	\$4,500
Theodore House, Inc.	\$4,967
Transitioning Lives, Inc.	\$4,234

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Job Opportunities Task Force	\$1,000
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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Baltimore Green Map/Fusion Partnerships.....	\$3,470
Downtown Partnership of Baltimore.....	\$400
Federal Hill Main Street, Inc.	\$1,650
Greater Homewood Community Corporation, Inc.	\$2,000
Office of the Mayor	\$2,800
Southeast Community Development Corporation	\$1,650

CONSERVATION

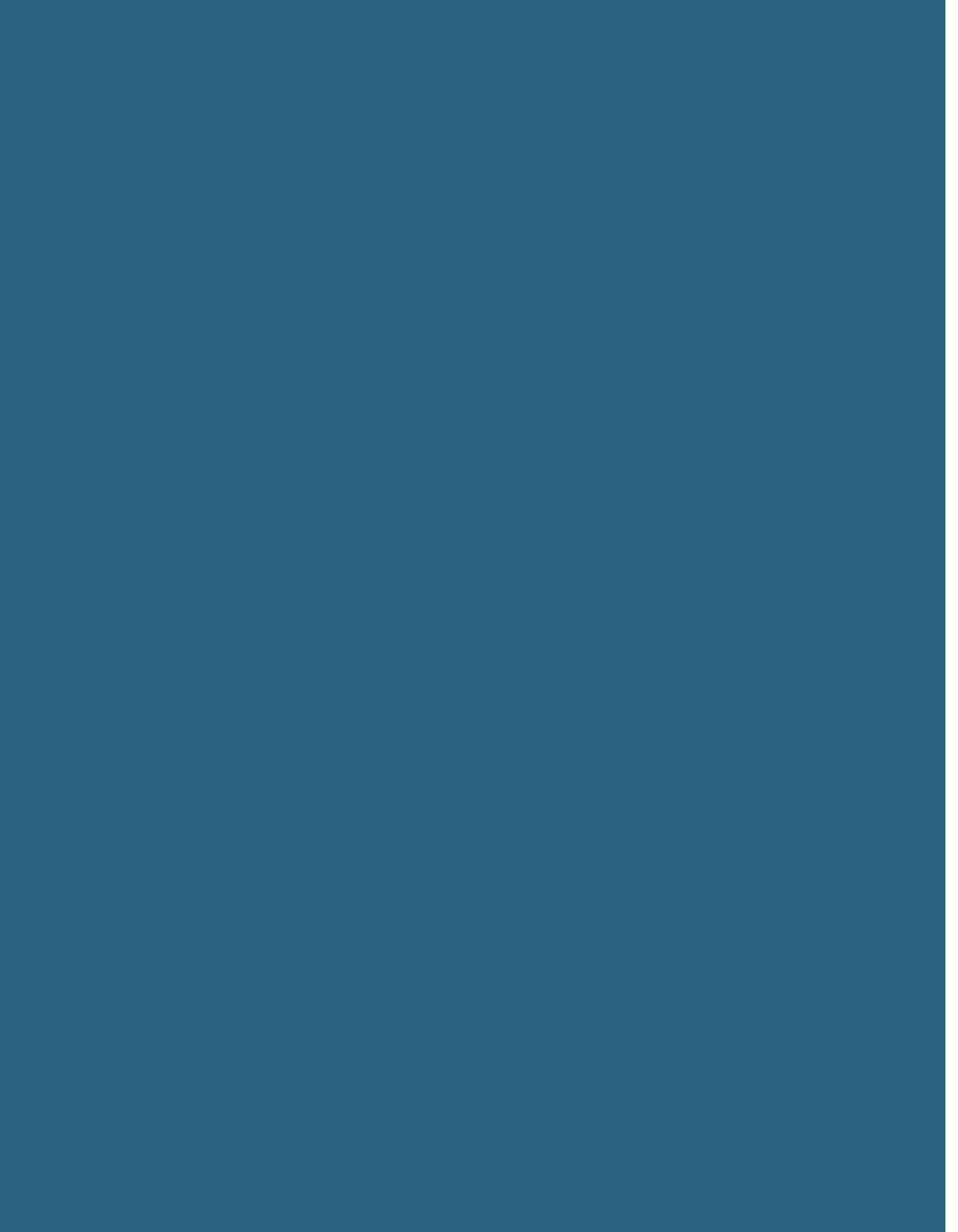
Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers.....	\$2,500
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ARTS AND CULTURE

Young Victorian Theatre Company	\$2,000
Young Victorian Theatre Company	\$2,000

OTHER

The Foundation Center.....	\$1,000
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FINANCIAL

STATEMENTS

2010

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statements of Financial Position

December 31,	2010	2009
ASSETS		
Investments (Note 2 and 3)	\$306,459,400	\$170,096,482
Accrued dividends and interest receivable	798,520	3,556,674
Program-related investments, net	5,329,855	2,728,857
Royalty receivable, net (Note 2)	26,664,288	—
Cash value of life insurance and other assets, net (Note 5)	4,067,546	3,627,757
Total Assets	\$343,319,609	\$180,009,770
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Grants scheduled for future payment (Note 4)	\$ 2,160,500	\$ 6,079,224
Guarantee liabilities (Note 7)	28,377,243	22,475,440
Payables and other liabilities (Note 5)	3,340,653	1,975,635
Total Liabilities	\$ 33,878,396	\$ 30,530,299
Commitments and contingencies (Notes 6 and 7)		
Net assets, unrestricted	309,441,213	149,479,471
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$343,319,609	\$180,009,770

Complete financial statements available on request.

Statements of Activities

For the Years Ended December 31,	2010	2009
OPERATING REVENUE:		
Dividends	\$ 2,618,551	\$ 1,477,409
Interest	9,780,239	2,405,245
Partnership loss, net	(1,825,541)	(619,729)
Incentive tax credit refund	250,000	213,500
Royalty income (Note 2)	99,322,851	9,919,795
Other	233,107	416,948
Total Operating Revenue	110,379,207	13,813,168
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Grants approved	7,414,604	6,234,975
Matching gifts program	231,597	291,464
Direct charitable activities	149,928	279,599
Administrative expenses	2,555,536	2,509,390
Investment expenses	749,345	807,980
Federal excise tax provision	1,293,701	102,422
Total Operating Expenses	12,394,711	10,225,830
Increase in net assets before investment gains	97,984,496	3,587,338
INVESTMENT GAINS (LOSSES):		
Realized gains (losses) on sales of investments	17,934,682	(3,484,019)
Unrealized loss on program-related investments	(971,956)	(1,075,176)
Unrealized loss on guarantees	(5,774,000)	(6,892,082)
Unrealized gain on investments (Note 3)	50,788,520	28,093,738
Net Investment Gains	61,977,246	16,642,461
Change in unrestricted net assets	159,961,742	20,229,799
Unrestricted net assets, beginning of year	149,479,471	129,249,672
Unrestricted net assets, end of year	\$309,441,213	\$149,479,471

Complete financial statements available on request.

GUIDELINES FOR GRANTSEEKERS

The Abell Foundation seeks to serve the needs of Maryland in general, and Baltimore in particular. The Foundation meets the changing needs of the community 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 to gather pertinent information about communitywide issues.

The Foundation's 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 health and human services organizations to support programs designed to help underserved, disadvantaged, and at-risk populations achieve fuller and more meaningful participation in the community, and to address issues of hunger and homelessness. Support is given to community development-related activities designed to expand the Baltimore region's economic base, job opportunities, tourism, and neighborhood revitalization. Workforce development initiatives designed to meet the needs of the unemployed and underemployed are also of interest.

The Foundation also focuses on support for programs and initiatives that increase public safety and reduce recidivism, with a special emphasis on transitional services for returning ex-offenders that promote successful community reentry and decrease the likelihood of reincarceration. It provides support for programs that increase the availability and effectiveness of substance abuse treatment for uninsured and underserved individuals within Baltimore City.

The Foundation provides funds to cultural organizations that are committed to building a diverse base of support and conducting strong outreach and educational programs. It also supports

environmental programs that seek to preserve and protect Maryland's ecologically significant and endangered natural resources—land, air, and water.

Only organizations with a 501(c)(3), 509(a)(1), 509(a)(2), or certain qualifying 509(a)(3) tax-exempt status are funded. Four types of grants are awarded: planning, seed funding (for start-up and demonstration projects), program development, and capital. Though grants are awarded on a one-time basis, the Foundation may make multi-year grants in exceptional cases. Decisions on the Foundation's funding preferences rest on criteria that include:

1. Demonstration of need;
2. Clearly defined goals and objectives;
3. Evidence of strong fiscal management and ongoing operational support;
4. Impact or 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; and
8. Ability to evaluate effectiveness of the program.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Requests for grants should be initiated by a one-page letter describing the applicant's mission and scope of activities, along with 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 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:

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., President, The Abell Foundation, 111 South Calvert Street, Suite 2300, Baltimore, MD 21202-6174.21202-6174.

ABELL PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletters and full reports are available in hard copy and on the Internet @ www.abell.org.

NEWSLETTERS

MARCH

The Case for City Cyber Schools: Can online learning make a difference in Baltimore City's bricks-and-mortar schoolhouses and beyond?

Abell Salutes: The Retention Program of CollegeBound: Keeping the dream of college alive by keeping the dreamer in college.

APRIL

Maryland Clean Water Enforcement Falling Short: At stake, continued deterioration of the Bay and health of local economy. New study calls for redesign of state's enforcement and increased funding.

MAY

Confidentiality Laws: Protection for Kids or Cloak of Secrecy for Agencies? Private vs. the public's interest in knowing about children at risk and in trouble.

Abell Salutes: Banner Neighborhoods: Helping residents stay fixed in their homes by keeping their homes fixed up.

JUNE

Baltimore City's School Buildings Not Making the Grade: Nearly nine in 10 need modernization to accelerate academic gains. New ACLU report highlights need: four recommendations for getting the job done.

JULY

Foster Children Are Our Children: Are they finding homes with families they can call their own?

Abell Salutes: Baltimore City College Speech and Debate: Adding successful years to the successful record of 138 years.

AUGUST

Vitamins and Violence: Can micronutrients make students behave, schools safer, and test scores better? Vitamins and violence theories remain tantalizing. The idea seems like common sense to many.

SEPTEMBER

Why Can't Johnny Read? Baltimore's school-based vision-screening program may be leaving thousands of children with uncorrected eyesight problems. Six recommendations for strengthening the system.

FULL REPORTS

JUNE 2010

Building Teacher Quality in Baltimore City Public Schools. A study prepared for the National Council on Teacher Quality, a nonpartisan research and advocacy organization committed to restructuring the teaching profession. The purpose of this study was to identify areas in which better district and state policies and practices might lead to improved teacher quality in Baltimore City, even absent other enhancements such as increased funding for better school leadership.

Buildings for Academic Excellence: A Vision and Options to Address Deficient School Facilities in Baltimore City. A report by the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) Foundation of Maryland. The report asks the city, state, and federal officials, and the greater Baltimore community, to act now—to improve the substandard physical condition of Baltimore City school buildings.

RADIO:

The Abell Hour. "Midday" (12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.) WYPR, National Public Radio in Baltimore, is a magazine-format radio show during which host Dan Rodricks interviews informed guests who speak about issues of interest to the community. The first in what is planned to be a monthly series of The Abell Hour debuted on October 25, 2010.

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