

THE  
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ABELL  
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FOUNDATION

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ANNUAL REPORT  
2003

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

*Our Fiftieth Anniversary Year*



## 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, 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.

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. With the passing of Gary 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 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 education, community development, and health-related human services.

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

## OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

The Abell Foundation traces its origins to December 31, 1953, when it was established to operate as the philanthropic program of the A.S. Abell Company, publishers of the *Baltimore Sun*. For over 30 years, the A.S. Abell Company Foundation generously supported needs across the community spectrum. On October 17, 1986, the A.S. Abell Company was sold, a president hired, its assets grown tenfold, and the name changed to The Abell Foundation.

New leadership brought new perspectives. The Foundation's mission was broadened to include the researching and publishing of reports, and the identification by the Foundation of critically needed and generally overlooked initiatives in the areas of public policy and programming affecting Baltimore and Maryland.

The Abell Foundation continues to honor its legacy while refining its programming in recognition of changing times and continuing challenges.

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## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### HUMAN SERVICES

#### **GAUDENZIA, INC.: EXPANSION OF ITS LONG-TERM RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT SERVICES**

Despite heightened public awareness and political commitment during the 1990's to address Baltimore City's severe drug problem and unprecedented success in securing State and private resources for the treatment of the City's addicts, there remains a serious shortage of long-term residential treatment facilities in the City. Of the approximately 7,400 treatment slots funded by the State in FY2001, the majority are for either methadone maintenance (56 percent) or outpatient drug-free treatment (31 percent), which are the least expensive modalities. By comparison, there are very few slots for residential treatment of any kind (5 percent), and even fewer residential slots with an average stay as long as six months (3 percent). In light of this severe shortage, The Abell Foundation approved a \$1.525 million loan guarantee to Gaudenzia, Inc. in September 2001 to acquire and renovate a vacant nursing home in the Park Heights Avenue neighborhood. Gaudenzia, a nonprofit organization that has been operating 40 long-term residential and outpatient drug treatment programs throughout Pennsylvania, was the successful respondent to a Request for Proposals (RFP) that the Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems, Inc. (BSAS) issued in partnership with the Foundation in the spring of 2001.

Gaudenzia's proposal, which sought to operate a therapeutic community drug treatment program with a capacity to serve 130 men, women and children for up to one year, was judged to be by far the most attractive, both programmatically and fiscally. With a guaranteed funding stream from the Maryland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration for operation of the residential facility, the Foundation agreed to guarantee a five-year \$1.525 million loan for the acquisition and renovation of the vacant nursing home. Construction began in November 2001, and the building was ready for occupancy in May 2002 when it became the first long-term residential treatment center to open in Baltimore City in 30 years.

One year later, the Park Heights Avenue facility was fully occupied, and Gaudenzia had to turn away numerous applicants every month. In light of the urgent need for increased long-term residential treatment in the City, and responding to a plea from former Administrative Judge Ellen Heller of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, who daily saw the destructive consequences of the chronic scarcity of residential treatment in the City, the Foundation initiated a search for an additional suitable site to expand Gaudenzia's services. The Foundation also joined in discussions with the trustees of the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, seeking to partner in funding the capital costs of another

residential facility. In October 2002, the Foundation discovered a 3 1/2-acre site in the 3600 block of Woodland Avenue, three blocks from the Park Heights Gaudenzia facility. The owner agreed to donate the site if it was to have a public interest use; and the property, valued at \$465,000, was then deeded to a non-profit entity, Shannon House, Inc., to await development.

With a commitment from the Mayor and Baltimore City Health Commissioner to secure \$2.5 million to operate the new residential treatment facility, the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation approved a \$1.05 million award, with an initial first payment of \$250,000 toward pre-development costs, while The Abell Foundation approved a \$2.5 million loan guarantee secured by the \$4 million facility (including the land). Razing of vacant sheds and warehouses and site preparation has begun for construction of the new 150-bed facility, with a projected completion date of July 2005.

**EPISCOPAL HOUSING CORPORATION: CURRY HOUSE**

In 2003, the Episcopal Housing Corporation (EHC) applied to The Abell Foundation for funding to develop a single-family dwelling in West Baltimore as an Oxford House, to serve up to eight men in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction. EHC has been a pioneer in bringing the Oxford House model to Baltimore, establishing four such houses over the past seven years, three in the City and one in Baltimore County.

The Oxford House mission is to promote recovery from drug and alcohol addiction. The first Oxford House was established in 1975 in Silver Spring, Maryland. In its simplest form, an Oxford House is a democratically run, self-supporting drug-free group home. The number of residents in each house may range from four to 15, with houses for men, for women and for women with children. Since 1975, there has been an explosive growth of Oxford Houses, now numbering well over 1,000, located throughout the nation. In Baltimore, there are 11 active Oxford Houses, with the capacity to serve 82 residents.

The Oxford House model fills a serious gap in residential services available to recovering addicts in the Baltimore region. It provides a structured environment for recovering addicts who have stabilized their lives and found employment, but who still require the support and reinforcement of their peer group in a small, drug-free community. Given the severity of the Baltimore region's problems, with addiction affecting approximately 60,000 residents, the need for Oxford Houses far outstrips the existing supply.

The model is also important because, once up and running, an Oxford House is financially self-sustaining. A condition of participation is that a resident has employment and pays a modest rent (\$40 to \$50 per week). The three governing principles for an Oxford House charter are as follows:

- the house must be democratically run;
- the house must be financially self-supporting; and
- the house must expel any resident who returns to using alcohol or drugs.

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In 2002, EHC, in partnership with St. James' Development Corporation, an affiliate of the St. James' Episcopal Church, acquired a vacant property in West Baltimore. Having secured a commitment from the State for a 1 percent interest rate rehabilitation loan, a small grant from the Maryland Affordable Housing Trust and funds from the City's Lead Abatement Fund, EHC approached The Abell Foundation and the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation for matching funds to close the financing gap. Each foundation awarded \$27,200 and rehabilitation of the building, named the Curry House, was completed in 2003. Residents are referred from the Samaritan Community Program, a small faith-based program serving addicts from the community operated by the nearby Memorial Episcopal Church.

#### **BALTIMORE POLICE FOUNDATION: EMPLOYEESTAT**

The Operations Bureau within the Baltimore City Police Department (BCPD) benefits significantly from COMSTAT, a crime data and analysis system that permits the BCPD to implement a data-driven approach to crime management. By contrast, the Administrative Bureau of the BCPD lacked an analogous real-time personnel data and analysis system covering the nearly 4,000 sworn and civilian members of the Police Department. As a consequence, command staff used crude and inadequate mechanisms when it evaluated officers or made personnel changes.

BCPD recognized that its lack of a single, comprehensive clearinghouse of easily accessible personnel data seriously compromised the BCPD's ability to upgrade the professionalism and effectiveness of its force. In 2003, The Abell Foundation provided \$89,120 to the BCPD to acquire and implement EmployeeStat, a computerized officer performance analysis system. EmployeeStat has been developed by a software designer who is intimately familiar with the BCPD and its needs and who has created a similar system for the Los Angeles Police Department.

To date, the primary achievement of this system has been to take a fragmented and inaccessible database and make it possible for command staff to pull up an officer's name and learn of his or her years in service, number of arrests made, number of citizens' complaints against that officer, sustained internal affairs investigations, sick leave, vehicle accidents and missed court dates. Previously, these records were scattered among many units, handwritten lists and separate reports. The ability to create a comprehensive personnel report has been critical to evaluating and rewarding good performance objectively and in identifying problem officers before their difficulties endanger the community or the reputation of the Department. Command staff has also identified significant benefits of the new system: 1) it permits staff to identify particular strengths of a given officer so that when an area in the City is targeted by COMSTAT for a particular crime-fighting strategy, staff is able to deploy individ-

ual officers in the most effective manner; and, 2) as officers leave the police force through retirement or dismissal, staff retains the capacity of a comprehensive automated system to identify and foster early on the leadership qualities and skills of incoming employees.

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF BALTIMORE CITY:  
SECTION 8 MOBILITY COUNSELING PROGRAM**

Throughout much of the 20th century, housing policy in the United States concentrated low-income families in public housing projects, which were typically built in racially segregated, inner-city neighborhoods. The policy resulted in the construction of massive public high-rise housing developments that concentrated thousands of poor minority families in very small areas. It is now widely recognized that the policy was misguided. The areas of concentration were marred by blight, unemployment, high rates of crime, and poorly performing, segregated schools.

In recent years, the federal Section 8 housing voucher program has replaced public housing as the nation's principal form of low-income rental housing assistance. In Baltimore City (and elsewhere) public housing projects are being demolished and replaced with Section 8 vouchers, which allow tenants to rent housing in the private rental market. Families with vouchers typically pay approximately 30 percent of their income in rent, with the vouchers covering the remainder of the market price for moderately priced rental units.

Although Section 8 has the potential to enable families to escape the concentrated poverty and blight of the inner city, in practice their options are often limited to low-income and transitional neighborhoods where landlords are more willing to accept Section 8 vouchers and to lease to low-income families. Moreover, some Section 8 families are reluctant to move away from familiar neighborhoods where family and friends live, and where their churches, schools and other support networks are located. Others are simply unfamiliar with neighborhoods outside the City and may not know how to find rental housing in suburban neighborhoods; still others have financial barriers to renting housing in the private market, where landlords scrutinize credit histories and require security deposits before families can move in.

To help families overcome these and other barriers and to move into economically stable, racially integrated neighborhoods outside Baltimore City, the Housing Authority of Baltimore City contracted with two private agencies to provide counseling and supportive services to families with Section 8 vouchers. These agencies counsel clients about the benefits of moving to "non-impacted" neighborhoods outside the City, work with families to repair any credit problems they may have, recruit landlords in suburban neighborhoods who are willing to rent to participants in the program, and help clients identify apartments that meet their needs. The programs also provide post-placement

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counseling and support for at least one year after the move to assist each family in making a smooth transition to its new community and to help resolve problems that may arise between the family and the new landlord.

Some families who want to participate in these programs have been unable to save the funds needed for a security deposit or other move-related expenses. To overcome this barrier, The Abell Foundation awarded a grant of \$82,500 to the Housing Authority of Baltimore City to help defray the cost of security deposits for families in these programs, and to provide transit vouchers and passes to assist program participants with the cost of employment-related travel during the first year after they move. All families who participate in the programs are required to save money toward the cost of the move, with savings goals determined case by case. Families that cannot pay all the expenses associated with a move are offered grants of up to \$500 to help defray the costs of security deposits. When these families move out of program-subsidized apartments and security deposits are refunded, these funds go back into the grant program to assist other families. In addition, families that do not have cars and that need assistance paying for public transportation for work-related activities (job training, job interviews, or travel to work), will receive grants of up to \$75 to pay for bus passes and/or public transportation vouchers.

#### **CENTER FOR APPLIED RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, INC. (CARTA)**

Despite improvements in recent years in its rate of births to teen mothers, Baltimore City continues to outpace most other major U.S. cities. In the year 2000, according to a recent report by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Baltimore had a teen birthrate of 86 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19, higher than 76 of the nation's 100 largest cities. Between 1990 and 2000, Baltimore's teen birthrate declined 26.8 percent. This improvement, though significant, was far smaller than the declines experienced by some other major cities during the same period. St. Louis saw its teen birthrate drop 42.2 percent between 1990 and 2000, and Detroit's dropped 39.3 percent. Although Baltimore has made significant strides in addressing this issue, much remains to be done.

The Abell Foundation is a longtime supporter of teen pregnancy prevention efforts in Baltimore City. In 1998, amid growing concerns about Baltimore City's high teen pregnancy and birth rates, the Foundation produced a report, *Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Efforts in Baltimore City*, documenting findings of a survey of adolescent pregnancy prevention providers in Baltimore City, and outlining recommendations for improvements in adolescent pregnancy prevention services. In June 2001, the Family League of Baltimore City produced *Paths to Reducing Teen Pregnancy in Baltimore*, a follow-up to the Abell report that assessed the training and capacity-building needs of Baltimore City's teen pregnancy prevention providers. These two reports reveal



the following challenges that undermine efforts to effectively address teen pregnancy in Baltimore City:

- Many teen pregnancy prevention programs don't track basic data on client visits and services provided to clients, making it difficult to ensure continuity of care or assess program effectiveness.
- Utilization of programs is low; only 20 percent of teen pregnancy prevention programs operate at capacity.
- Many programs do not incorporate best practices identified in current teen pregnancy prevention research.
- Coordination of teen pregnancy prevention efforts in Baltimore is limited.

In response to these findings, The Abell Foundation asked CARTA to document best practices from cities that have achieved significant reductions in teen pregnancy and birth rates in recent years, and to conduct a strategic planning process to assess how Baltimore City can more effectively address the issue. With a grant of \$35,859 from The Abell Foundation, CARTA began its charge by gathering demographic and teen birthrate data from a number of large cities, and then selected two cities, Detroit and St. Louis, for a more in-depth analysis. CARTA developed information from key sources from those cities about teen pregnancy prevention practices, and conducted research on best practices nationally, and on teen pregnancy prevention services in Baltimore City. This information was presented to representatives from Baltimore City's youth-serving agencies at a strategic planning session in July 2003. Participants discussed policy, programming, funding and advocacy support efforts needed to improve teen pregnancy prevention initiatives, and identified a range of critical and feasible efforts that could lead to further reductions in the City's rate of teen childbearing.

Based on the information gathered from the July 2003 working group session, together with additional information from the comparison cities, CARTA has compiled a list of recommended strategies to address the teen birthrate in Baltimore. These recommendations will be shared at a second working group session in 2004, when participants will be asked to outline action steps needed to implement the recommended strategies. After the second working group session, CARTA will prepare and disseminate a policy brief outlining recommendations.

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### **NORTH AMERICAN FAMILY INSTITUTE, INC.**

Despite significant declines in juvenile arrest rates in recent years, far too many Baltimore City youth continue to enter the revolving door of the juvenile justice system. In 2001, nearly 10,000 Baltimore City residents under the age of 18 were arrested, the majority for nonviolent offenses. In a study of Maryland's juvenile detention population (those incarcerated in secure detention facilities), researchers found that 88 percent of the youth in detention were there for nonviolent offenses, while only 12 percent had committed violent offenses.

Recent reports in the media reveal that conditions in Maryland's juvenile detention facilities are deplorable, and young people languish in these overcrowded facilities far too long. A recent report by the Independent Juvenile Justice Monitor, an investigative agency that reports to the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families, identified numerous problems at the Cheltenham Youth Facility, including overcrowding, inadequate staffing, and violent behavior.

Research has shown that family-centered and community-based alternatives are more effective at preventing delinquency than juvenile detention facilities: community- and family-based interventions reduce recidivism rates by up to 80 percent, and similar interventions are effective in preventing delinquency among high-risk youth who have not yet been arrested. In addition to the social benefits of reducing recidivism and preventing delinquency, community-based programs typically cost far less than incarceration.

Recognizing the need for alternatives to incarceration for Baltimore City youth, the North American Family Institute (NAFI) partnered with the Family League of Baltimore City, the Baltimore City Department of Social Services, the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services and the Centennial-Caroline Street United Methodist Church to develop a short-term structured shelter for at-risk Baltimore City youth involved with the Departments of Juvenile Services and/or Social Services. The shelter, known as Aunt CC's Harbor House, will be located at 1031 East Monument Street in the former parsonage of the Centennial-Caroline Street United Methodist Church, which has been vacant for several years.

Funded in part with a \$50,000 grant from The Abell Foundation, Aunt CC's Harbor House will provide a staffed, secure, stable, temporary home for up to 15 youth, ages 11 to 17, who cannot return home because of family crisis, nonviolent juvenile offenses, a record of running away, or some other reason, but for whom a secure juvenile detention facility is not appropriate. NAFI will operate the facility and provide services to the youth and their families, including needs assessments, counseling, medical and mental health referrals, on-site remedial education services, comprehensive service planning and coordination with referring agencies. To the extent possible, students will continue to attend the schools they had attended prior to placement at Harbor

House to minimize disruption of their education. Harbor House will provide structure and stability to the youth until they are ready to move to an appropriate long-term placement with a family, to a foster or adoptive home, or to a group home. Eligible youth will have the opportunity to stay at Harbor House up to 90 days, with a projected average stay of 30 days. Harbor House will operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, so that the participants in the program can enter at any time.

In addition to NAFI's expertise in operating programs for youth at high risk, Harbor House will benefit from a partnership between the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services and the Baltimore City Department of Social Services, which will jointly refer youth to the program and coordinate in providing services to them and their families. The program is a model of collaboration between public and private agencies and a faith-based institution, the Centennial-Caroline Street United Methodist Church.

#### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STUDY: OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO OBTAINING A DRIVER'S LICENSE**

In today's world, owning a car may no longer be a luxury but a necessity. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in the State of Maryland, 86 percent of workers 16 years and older drive to work (74 percent drive alone) while only 7 percent rely on public transportation. Even in Baltimore City, with a public transit system, access to a car is thought to be necessary. According to a recent study conducted by the Job Opportunities Task Force, 70 percent of the region's low-skill jobs are in the suburbs, yet low-skill workers are concentrated in Baltimore City. Many of the low-skill jobs are not easily accessible by public transit, and many of the better paying jobs for low-income workers require a driver's license.

In 2003, The Abell Foundation commissioned a study by Michael Robbins to examine Maryland's policies for insuring a car and obtaining a driver's license: the study found that Maryland has set some of the most restrictive policies in the country. It is the only state requiring adults to attend driver education school at a cost of \$250 to \$300 and to document 40 hours of accompanied driving before obtaining a driver's license. The study asserted that this policy creates a substantial roadblock for low-income persons attempting to get a license and a windfall for driver education schools. Although Maryland law requires driver education schools to have an assistance plan that permits low-income individuals to obtain driving instruction, the study found that this requirement to assist low-income individuals is not effectively implemented or enforced.

The study also noted that in 1999 Maryland instituted a new Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) requirement. GDL exists in some form in 37 states. GDL programs generally have three stages: 1) a minimum supervised

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learning period (learner's permit), 2) a provisional, intermediate license after the driving test is passed that limits unsupervised driving in high-risk situations, and 3) a full-privilege driver's license, available only after completion of the first two stages. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and a number of national safety organizations endorse GDL, which has been demonstrated to reduce teenage crash rates, in Maryland and elsewhere. Given that Maryland has a graduated license program, the study recommended that Maryland revisit its policy that all drivers, regardless of age, be required to attend driver education school.

According to the study, the cost of insurance is a major obstacle for low-income Marylanders for whom owning a car is a necessity. According to figures provided by the Maryland Insurance Administration, insurance rates for Baltimore City are almost double the average rates statewide. The study recommended that Maryland consider establishing a low-cost automobile insurance pilot program for Baltimore City.

Finally, the study found that drivers' license suspensions are a barrier to employment for many noncustodial parents. Maryland's child support enforcement regulations require that individuals who are more than 60 days in arrears in child support payments shall have their driving privileges suspended. The study recommended that this policy be revised and that the Motor Vehicle Administration and Child Support Enforcement Administration (CSEA) remove barriers to obtaining a work-restricted license that would authorize a person to drive to and from work.

According to the Legal Aid Bureau, many noncustodial parents do not know that work-restricted licenses are available to them, or they have been told, incorrectly, that they may not get a work-restricted license until arrears are fully paid. Thus, the study recommends that the MVA and CSEA develop clear regulations and policies on how to obtain a work-restricted license.

### **MARYLAND VOLUNTEER LAWYERS SERVICE**

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a powerful work incentive that lifts more children out of poverty than any other federal aid program. For working families with incomes below the poverty level, the EITC can increase income significantly. For example, a Maryland family with two or more children earning \$10,500 can increase income by almost 50 percent through the federal EITC (\$4,204) and State EITC (\$757). According to a Brookings Institution study, in 1998 almost 76,000 Baltimore families claimed the EITC, or 28 percent of tax filers in the City. EITC refunds for 1997 totaled \$122 million in Baltimore City, with an average refund of \$1,575.

Estimates suggest that approximately 15 to 25 percent of eligible families do not claim the EITC, despite its value to families and to the City as a whole, and it is likely that this rate is higher in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty. Furthermore, many people who do claim the EITC forfeit a significant portion of their refund to pay commercial tax preparers and to purchase high-

priced Refund Anticipation Loans (RALs). In 1999, according to the Brookings Institution study, 52 percent of EITC recipients in Baltimore City (almost 40,000 people) purchased a RAL, paying up to \$200 to a tax refund service in order to get what they are led to believe is the quickest possible return.

Other cities, most notably Chicago, have launched campaigns to increase access to the EITC, resulting in millions of dollars in tax refunds to low-income families. In 2001, the Annie E. Casey Foundation hired a consultant to coordinate a working group in Baltimore City charged with increasing the number and capacity of the City’s free tax preparation sites and increasing EITC outreach. One member of the working group was the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS); since 1995, MVLS has been preparing income tax returns for low-income taxpayers who qualify for the EITC. The initial campaign resulted in the opening of 14 new free tax preparation sites and the filing of 461 returns.

In 2002, the campaign was expanded to include other foundations’ support, including a \$40,000 grant from The Abell Foundation, along with participation from The Johns Hopkins Medical System (which opened a free tax preparation site for its employees), and leadership support from Baltimore City Mayor Martin O’Malley. MVLS provided technical assistance to the 14 sites that opened. As a result, the Baltimore CASH (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) Campaign nearly doubled its 2002 tax season goal, preparing 1,981 tax returns and recruiting and training more than 180 volunteers. The CASH Campaign helped Baltimore residents recoup \$2.7 million in federal refunds, and save approximately \$301,000 in tax preparation fees (average of \$200 per filer). Three-hundred thirty-three families were connected to asset-building services such as financial services and homeownership counseling.

In 2003, funding for the Baltimore CASH Campaign was expanded again, including a \$50,000 grant from The Abell Foundation. The Campaign focused on supporting higher-volume, high-capacity sites and added two employer sites, the University of Maryland Medical System (in partnership with the University of Maryland School of Law) and Mercy Hospital. The Campaign also developed a larger marketing strategy. To date, the CASH Campaign has trained 250 volunteers and prepared more than 3,200 returns. By the end of the 2003 tax season, the Campaign expects to have prepared 3,900 returns, a 97 percent increase from 2002.

**GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL**

Sector employment initiatives look to a particular industry to expand or improve employment opportunities for low-wage individuals. These initiatives create pathways to higher earnings for entry-level workers and at the same time help high-growth industries fill needed positions. Good Samaritan Hospital decided to create its own sector program with a pathway for its lower-paid employees to enter patient care positions and eventually become nurses.

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Like all Maryland hospitals, Good Samaritan has been greatly affected by the national and state nursing shortage. Although one-third of the Hospital's nursing staff has 20 years or more of nursing experience, the average age is 44. As these nurses near retirement, the Hospital does not have the staff to meet its patient-care needs. Good Samaritan estimates that a large percentage of its entry-level and lower-paid employees are unable to take advantage of educational and training opportunities because they do not own a computer or do not have the means and time to attend college. In 2001, hospital staff identified 254 of its entry-level employees who were Baltimore City residents and who would benefit from an opportunity to upgrade their skills and advance their careers. Of the 254 employees, 91 percent were African American, 76 percent were female, and 32 percent were between the ages of 18 and 39.

In 2002, Good Samaritan received a \$55,444 grant from The Abell Foundation to "grow its own nurses" by offering a clinical nursing assistant (CNA) certificate program to its employees and by creating two learning centers: a clinical classroom "nursing simulation center," where trainees can learn hands-on technical skills; and a computer classroom "e-learning center," where participants can improve their professional knowledge through computer-based instruction.

Good Samaritan held three nursing assistant classes for 15 employees and 24 job seekers from the surrounding community. All 39 graduates are now employed at Good Samaritan, and the Hospital continues to offer nursing assistant classes, with 17 participants graduating from the most recent program.

In March 2003, Coppin State College introduced Good Samaritan employees to its Coppin Academy for Pre-Nursing Success (CAPS) program, which is designed to enroll high school students and disadvantaged employees in nursing school. The response from Good Samaritan employees was immediate: 75 employees took the nursing school entrance exam, but unfortunately no one passed. Coppin State and Good Samaritan then offered remedial math and reading classes over the summer at the hospital. Thirty students completed the test preparation and took the test in August 2003; this time, 14 passed the exam.

Thirty students are now taking two college classes a week at Good Samaritan. With a \$63,900 grant from The Abell Foundation, hospital staff works with the students to ensure they attend class, and to help solve child care and transportation problems. Good Samaritan invests in the program by providing tuition assistance and staff support. The Hospital's goal is to assist at least 15 students in completing the requirements to enroll in nursing school.

According to Good Samaritan, the nursing assistant and CAPS programs have increased employee morale, contributed to a drop in the job vacancy rate, and helped reduce use of costly temporary services.

## EDUCATION

### **BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM: HIGH SCHOOL REFORM**

An unprecedented \$20.75 million public/private venture to reform Baltimore City's zoned high schools was launched in 2002 by the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS), 11 Baltimore-based foundations and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The Abell Foundation is one of the major contributors to this five-year effort to break up the City's eight neighborhood high schools into smaller, more rigorous and more personalized schools. For years, students not admitted into Baltimore City's elite citywide high schools have been shunted to Baltimore's zoned schools, where significantly fewer than half of entering students graduate. Another key strategy of the reform efforts is the opening of six to eight "Innovation High Schools" administered by external partners who operate with greater autonomy and bring much-needed best practices to a high school setting.

Additional funds are an integral part of the high school reform blueprint, as is the oversight and accountability structure. The High School Steering Committee, which manages the reform, includes members from the Maryland State Department of Education, the Baltimore Teachers Union, the Baltimore City School Board, the CEO of the BCPSS and key staff, as well as The Abell Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation and the Open Society Institute. This working committee has been instrumental in making policy recommendations to the Baltimore City School Board, identifying obstacles to the reform, creating programs for leadership development of principals, and overseeing the outcomes of the initiative. An important long-term goal is to provide all students with more choice in their selection of a high school.

In the first two years, the high school reform effort has resulted in the transformation of two large zoned high schools into seven smaller schools. Today, 4,500 students attend one of seven newly created high schools with populations of 200 to 700 students. In addition, the High School Initiative has resulted in the establishment of four of the eight new Innovation High Schools: two opened in fall 2003 (New Era Academy and the Baltimore Freedom Academy) and two are slated to open in fall 2004 (Talent Development High School and the Academy of College and Career Exploration).

Early data from these new, small high schools indicate improvements in the learning climate and engagement of students. Attendance for these smaller high schools in the first three months of the 2003-2004 school year is 84 percent, versus 77 percent in the remaining large zoned high schools. Particularly impressive is the 92 percent attendance rate at the two new Innovation High Schools. These schools are also safer, as evidenced by a decline in reportable police incidents. The three new smaller schools that now comprise

THE  
ABELL  
FOUNDATION  
HAS BEEN  
A MAJOR  
CONTRIBUTOR  
OF THE  
HIGH SCHOOL  
REFORM  
PROGRAM,  
SET UP TO  
BREAK UP  
BALTIMORE  
CITY'S LARGE  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
HIGH  
SCHOOLS INTO  
SMALLER ONES.

Lake Clifton High School reported only 16 incidents in the first half of the current school year, versus 112 incidents in the 2002-2003 school year. The Steering Committee will be closely monitoring academic performance of students as well.

Two additional zoned high schools will be restructured in fall 2004. Less than three years into the high school reform initiative, educational options for over 6,000 of Baltimore's most disadvantaged high school students have been increased in number and quality.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **NEIGHBORHOODS OF GREATER LAURAVILLE – SLAVIE FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK: FAÇADE AND HOME IMPROVEMENT LOAN PROGRAM**

The neighborhoods of Arcadia, Beverly Hills, Moravia-Walther, Morgan Park and Waltherson have high rates of homeownership, and appealing and varied housing styles, but the housing has typically been under-assessed and undervalued. In the spring of 2001, to show visible improvements in the neighborhoods, increase housing values, and encourage other homeowners and homebuyers to invest, The Abell Foundation committed to guarantee 10 percent of each home improvement loan made by Slavia Federal Savings Bank to a homeowner or new home purchaser in Lauraville and surrounding neighborhoods.

Slavia agreed to offer maximum loans of \$20,000 at a below-market rate with no post-rehabilitation house value threshold. Such a threshold can limit the amount of a traditional loan when area housing is undervalued, making it difficult for owners to borrow for improvements and leading to a further lack of investment. The loans can be used to improve the outward appearance of houses and to renovate interiors, especially kitchens and bathrooms, which improve livability and typically add value immediately.

The Neighborhoods of Greater Lauraville, Inc., the nonprofit sponsor of the program, markets the loans to current owners and prospective buyers through its website, direct promotions and special events. The organization works to pre-screen and qualify applicants prior to referral to Slavia.

In the past two years, Slavia has made 21 loans for a combined value of \$344,000 in home improvements. In the same period, the Neighborhoods of Greater Lauraville reports that housing values have increased 22 percent in Greater Lauraville while housing prices in Northeast Baltimore have increased 11 percent overall. With steady demand for the program, The Abell Foundation and Slavia have agreed to double the size of the loan pool to \$600,000.



### **ASTOR COURT APARTMENTS**

A key to improving educational opportunities for Baltimore City schoolchildren is attracting and retaining excellent and enthusiastic teachers. The Abell Foundation encouraged the owners of a vacant Charles Village apartment building to create a residence for teachers where mutual support would counter the sense of isolation that new teachers often encounter when working long hours. Its convenient location in the center of the City, affordable rents and a built-in community of peers are designed to appeal to teachers beginning their first years in the teaching profession.

Built in the 1920s, the four-story Astor Court Apartments has been redesigned into 36 apartments and first-floor commercial space for retail stores. The \$4.9 million cost of the project is being financed through a unique collaboration of public and private sources. The Abell Foundation is guaranteeing a first mortgage by M&T Bank and Fannie Mae. The State and City have each provided loans from multiple sources. Federal and State historic tax credits are being used to pay 40 percent of the rehabilitation costs. A City property tax freeze at pre-rehabilitation costs, a bridge loan from private nonprofit Maryland Community Capital and loans from St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church and The Abell Foundation complete the complex financing package.

Located adjacent to a Safeway Supermarket and across the street from a CVS Pharmacy and Hollywood Video, the long-vacant building had been an eyesore. The renovation of the building is critical to continued residential and economic development of the area within the former Goucher College historic district. One block to the north, a closed public library has been renovated into the Village Learning Place, a resource and mentoring center for the neighborhood's youth. Two blocks south, the prestigious Lab School will relocate into a former Goucher academic building. The Astor Court Apartments are currently under construction and scheduled to open for occupancy in 2004.

**ASTOR COURT  
APARTMENTS, AN  
ACCOMMODATING  
RESIDENCE FOR  
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IN PART  
THROUGH A  
MORTGAGE  
LOAN  
GUARANTEE  
BY THE  
ABELL  
FOUNDATION.**



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

2003 GRANTS

ARTS AND

CULTURE

COMMUNITY

DEVELOPMENT

CONSERVATION/

ENVIRONMENT

EDUCATION

HEALTH AND

HUMAN SERVICES



**ARTS AND CULTURE**

**Art With A Heart . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

In support of art therapy as part of the drug rehabilitation program offered by the Rose Street Community Center. The Center also provides job training and educational services.

**B&O Railroad Museum . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward interim funding for the Museum’s operations during its extended closing for the replacement of the 1884 Passenger Car Roundhouse roof and repair of exhibits damaged by weather.

**Baltimore Clayworks, Inc. . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For the establishment of a satellite ceramic art studio in Mondawmin Mall. The easily accessible center is providing hands-on ceramic art experiences for disadvantaged youth and women, adults and seniors from the surrounding neighborhoods.

**Baltimore Museum of Industry . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For emergency funding to offset loss of operating revenues suffered as the result of flood damage from Hurricane Isabel.

**Baltimore Shakespeare Festival, Inc. . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

In support of the Teen Performance Program. This outreach program makes it possible for Baltimore area high school students to mount a fully staged Shakespearean production for the public, and provides them the opportunity to work with theater professionals.

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

For continued support of the restoration and revitalization of the 175-year-old Phoenix Shot Tower as a tourist destination. The Tower features a light and sound show and displays depicting the Tower’s history.

**Everyman Theatre . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For a feasibility study of a new location for a park and theater on Amtrak’s former parking lot near the Pennsylvania Railroad Station.

A GRANT  
 BY THE  
 ABELL  
 FOUNDATION  
 TO THE  
 BALTIMORE  
 SHAKESPEARE  
 FESTIVAL, INC.  
 MADE IT  
 POSSIBLE  
 FOR AREA  
 HIGH SCHOOL  
 STUDENTS  
 TO STAGE A  
 SHAKESPEARE  
 PLAY, AND  
 TO WORK  
 WITH  
 PROFESSIONAL  
 ACTORS.

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

Toward expenses to stage a series of eight interactive performances for children on Sundays during the summer. The purpose of the programming is to help establish the Pagoda Plaza as a family neighborhood center.

**Museum of Ceramic Art . . . . . \$20,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward the cost of providing support for a ceramic arts program in 23 Baltimore City public middle schools for the 2003-2004 school year. Support includes supplies, equipment, staging public art exhibitions, teacher training and stipends.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**Baltimore City Department of Housing  
and Community Development . . . . . \$75,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Second-year funding for the Neighborhood Conservation Program, a community conservation initiative in the outer-ring neighborhoods such as Ashburton, Forest Park, Lauraville and Windsor Hills. The purpose of the project is to identify vacant properties within highly marketable neighborhoods and to determine whether current owners intend to reinvest, whether the properties are suitable for acquisition and rehabilitation, and whether abandoned properties should be demolished.

**Baltimore Development Corporation . . . . . \$25,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

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

**Baltimore Efficiency & Economy Foundation, Inc. . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For an evaluation of the Department of Recreation and Parks Aquatics Division's management of Baltimore City swimming pools.

**Baltimore Heritage, Inc. . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For expenses related to workshops designed to encourage the use of historic rehabilitation tax credit incentives in Baltimore City's historic districts.

**Belair-Edison Neighborhoods, Inc. . . . . \$25,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward expenses of the Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative, which will help fund the collaborative effort to strengthen participating Baltimore neighborhoods. Expenses funded include salary for a marketing coordinator to promote neighborhood reinvestment and to match homeowners and homebuyers to home improvement financing opportunities.

**Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity . . . . . \$90,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For partial renovation costs of 15 vacant houses for sale to low- and middle-income families, and for the purchase of a pickup truck to facilitate construction.

**Downtown Partnership of Baltimore . . . . . \$50,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of the Façade Improvement Program coordinator's position. The coordinator markets and administers a façade grant program funded by the City of Baltimore. By offering matching grants to property owners, the Partnership encourages private investment in downtown properties and businesses to improve the physical appearance and market appeal of Baltimore City's downtown. The program targets buildings that are in violation of zoning and building codes.

**Friends of Patterson Park. . . . . \$25,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For support of initiatives to revitalize Patterson Park. Friends of Patterson Park advocates for capital improvements and develops events and programs for year-round activity in the park. By maximizing the public use and appreciation of the park, the initiatives are expected to increase the desirability of the surrounding neighborhoods, improve safety, and create a sense of stewardship of the park as a city resource.

**Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc. . . . . \$100,000**

Start-up costs of a new nonprofit organization to expand the Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative beyond a pilot. To attract new homebuyers and encourage existing homeowners to invest in Baltimore's neighborhoods, Healthy Neighborhoods, Inc., offers renovation loans and marketing assistance. The program aims to increase homeownership, the market value of homes, and the attractiveness of participating Baltimore neighborhoods.

**Johns Hopkins University Institute  
for Policy Studies . . . . . \$5,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For the completion of a study on the current rental housing market in Baltimore City.

**League of Women Voters of Maryland, Inc. . . . . \$5,000  
Baltimore, MD**

In support of the Symposium on Gambling, a forum to debate the issues associated with the development and operation of slot machines in Maryland.

**Live Baltimore Home Center . . . . . \$40,000  
Baltimore, MD**

To underwrite the costs of a program designed to attract new homebuyers and renters to Baltimore City. The Center provides neighborhood profiles and tours to prospective residents, creates a semi-annual City Living Resource Guide, maintains an extensive website, works with realtors to promote City and State homebuyer incentives, and participates in home buying outreach.

**Office of the Mayor . . . . . \$60,000  
Baltimore, MD**

Two-year funding in support of the Baltimore City Immigration Outreach Initiative, to encourage permanent residency in Baltimore City.

**Patterson Park Community  
Development Corporation . . . . . \$20,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of an initiative to clean streets and alleys in a 22-square-block area of the Patterson Park community. The strategy is designed to improve the appearance of the neighborhoods and to encourage residents to invest in neighborhoods adjacent to Patterson Park.

**Preservation Maryland . . . . . \$25,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of the Historic Communities Investment Fund, a matching grant program designed to create additional historic districts in Baltimore City. These new and expanded districts will be eligible for the Maryland State historic rehabilitation tax credit refund.



**Rebuilding Together Baltimore . . . . . \$25,000**  
**Parkton, MD**

Two-year funding for staffing to expand programs providing emergency repairs to low-income homeowners through volunteers and donations.

**Reservoir Hill Improvement Council . . . . . \$100,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward staffing costs of a rehabilitation specialist and a housing counselor to support the first year of Baltimore City’s acquisition, renovation and resale of 200 houses in an effort to revitalize the Reservoir Hill neighborhood.

**The Restoration Conservancy . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For research to investigate options for amending Maryland State brownfields laws to conform to federal laws.

**CONSERVATION/ENVIRONMENT**

**1000 Friends of Maryland . . . . . \$45,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For general support to continue promotion of Smart Growth strategies, designed to stabilize and revitalize existing communities while protecting Maryland’s natural resources.

**1000 Friends of Maryland . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For the production of a report, “Greening the Budget: 11 Ideas for Protecting the Environment and Easing Maryland’s Fiscal Crisis, 2004.” The report, part of a national effort aimed at fighting threatened budget cuts in environmental programs in cities and states, suggests strategies to close loopholes in the tax code, eliminate subsidies for pollution and deter other cuts of environmentally damaging projects.

**Audubon Maryland-DC . . . . . \$30,000**  
**Bozman, MD**

The funding makes it possible for the Audubon Center in Patterson Park to continue serving as a conservation resource, providing a broad range of educational programs for all ages, adult workshops and family events.

**\$45,000 WAS  
AWARDED TO  
1000 FRIENDS  
OF MARYLAND  
TO PROMOTE  
THE STATE’S  
SMART GROWTH  
STRATEGY, TO  
STABILIZE,  
REVITALIZE  
AND PROTECT  
MARYLAND’S  
NATURAL  
RESOURCES.**

**Center for Watershed Protection . . . . . \$50,000**  
**Ellicott City, MD**

For continued support of the Builders of the Bay program, designed to convene a series of county roundtable task forces. These roundtables investigate existing building codes and ordinances in their respective counties and make recommendations to their planning commissions, to ensure that each county's building codes are environmentally sensitive and economically feasible.

**Chesapeake Bay Foundation . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Annapolis, MD**

In support of the 2004 Environmental Legislative Summit.

**The Chester River Association . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Chestertown, MD**

For partial funding of the position of a riverkeeper to monitor activity on the Chester River, so as to protect water quality and biodiversity from degradation. As changes in land use impact the watershed, the riverkeeper is expected to maintain a presence at local planning boards and keep the public informed about best conservation practices.

**Herring Run Watershed Association . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For operating funds during a leadership transition, to ensure active stewardship in the watershed.

**Maryland Environment Trust . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Crownsville, MD**

In support of an initiative to secure donated voluntary easements as an alternative strategy to land acquisition.

**Maryland Public Interest Research Foundation . . . . . \$38,500**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For continued funding of the Preventable Poisons Project, an initiative to reduce mercury and dioxin pollution from medical waste incinerators in Maryland.

**Scenic Maryland, Inc. . . . . \$5,000**  
**Annapolis, MD**

Continued support for statewide scenic conservation efforts. The objectives of the program are to educate citizens about scenic conservation, serve as a local watchdog on billboard measures, and work in partnership with other conservation organizations to protect Maryland's scenic beauty.

**EDUCATION**

**American Civil Liberties Union**

**Foundation of Maryland. . . . . \$50,000**

**Baltimore, MD**

For support of the Baltimore City Education Reform Project, designed to ensure that schools serving disadvantaged students receive adequate and equitable funding.

**Archdiocese of Baltimore. . . . . \$15,000**

**Baltimore, MD**

To help pay tuition at area parochial schools for children of families living in the Patterson Park community.

**Archdiocese of Baltimore. . . . . \$85,000**

**Baltimore, MD**

To provide scholarships enabling Baltimore City at-risk students to attend parochial schools in Baltimore City during the 2003-2004 school year, as part of a longitudinal study to compare academic achievement of students at parochial schools with the control group at public schools. By participating in this model program, the at-risk students are expected to benefit from smaller classes, one-on-one instruction, and a more structured educational setting.

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

**Baltimore, MD**

In support of programs designed to integrate the arts into the core curricula at Maryland’s public schools.

**The Baltimore Algebra Project . . . . . \$5,000**

**Baltimore, MD**

In support of the summer training/planning session for the Math Literacy Workers program for the 2003-2004 school year.

**Baltimore City Public School System/**

**Baltimore City College. . . . . \$37,990**

**Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of the 2003-2004 Speech and Debate/Mock Trial Program.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
Baltimore City College . . . . . \$15,705  
Baltimore, MD**

To fund recruitment of qualified candidates to teach in City College High School's International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement programs.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
Midtown Academy . . . . . \$50,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For support of expenses, including curricular support, building repair and maintenance for the 2003-2004 school year. Created as part of Baltimore City's New Schools Initiative, the Midtown Academy now offers education from kindergarten through eighth grade.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
National Academic League . . . . . \$122,185  
Baltimore, MD**

In support of the 2003-2004 National Academic League in 30 Baltimore City middle schools. The League provides extracurricular interscholastic programming in an atmosphere of competitive excitement traditionally associated with athletic events.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
New Schools Initiative . . . . . \$42,191  
Baltimore, MD**

To fund the cost of retaining a coordinator for Baltimore City's New Schools Initiative for the remainder of the 2003-2004 school year. The coordinator oversees the development of charter schools and works with non-profit operators to convert existing public schools, or start a new public school. The New Schools Initiative enjoys greater autonomy in governance, staffing, programming and budgeting.

**Baltimore City Public School System/  
Roland Park Elementary/Middle School . . . . . \$5,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For support of the Write Place Writing Center, a writing and arts program, for the 2003-2004 school year.

**Baltimore Curriculum Project, Inc. . . . . \$578,600**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For the implementation of the Baltimore Curriculum Project for the 2003-2004 school year. The project provides planning and management oversight of four Baltimore City public schools as part of the New Schools Initiative, offers a combination of Direct Instruction and Core Knowledge curricula and serves as an incubator for pilot strategies.

**Baraka School, Inc.. . . . . \$143,900**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For expenses to phase out a boarding school for 40 at-risk underachieving Baltimore City middle school students. The school, located in Kenya, offered a nine-month residential academic program. Baraka graduates will continue to be monitored through high school graduation.

**Commonweal Foundation, Inc. . . . . \$24,900**  
**Silver Spring, MD**

For support of the 2003-2004 Pathways to Success boarding school scholarships for 12 at-risk, financially needy Baltimore City public school students. All Pathways scholars are required to have summer jobs and to participate in school-based employment or community service during the school year.

**Core Knowledge Foundation, Inc.. . . . . \$99,770**  
**Charlottesville, VA**

For the continued implementation of the Core Knowledge Preschool Curriculum in all Baltimore County Head Start Centers and pre-kindergarten programs in four Baltimore City public schools. The professional development and resources in literacy, math, science, social skills and the arts are intended to improve the quality of instruction and teachers as well as provide for increased student achievement in kindergarten and beyond.

**Fund for Educational Excellence . . . . . \$80,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

In support of school principal development.

**Fund for Educational Excellence . . . . . \$21,500**  
**Baltimore, MD**

To support the costs of creating a website for Teaching That Works, a math curriculum for fourth- and fifth-grade students. Teaching That Works aligns the Baltimore City math curriculum with Maryland's new testing program. With this grant, Maryland teachers can receive online guidance and access curricular lessons and materials that have proven successful in raising math achievement in City schools.

**TO SUPPORT  
THE AGENDA  
OF THE  
BALTIMORE  
CURRICULUM  
PROJECT, INC.,  
DESIGNED  
TO ENRICH  
FOUR BALTIMORE  
CITY PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS,  
THE ABELL  
FOUNDATION  
AWARDED  
THE PROJECT  
\$578,600.**

**Gilman School . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For support of the 2003 Baltimore Independent School Learning Camp, a summer enrichment program for 45 Baltimore City fourth and fifth graders.

**The Ingenuity Project . . . . . \$500,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

In support of the 2003-2004 Ingenuity Project, an intensive math and science curriculum for more than 450 Baltimore City public elementary, middle and high school students, with emphasis on scientific research and preparation for national competitions.

**Institute of Notre Dame . . . . . \$20,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward an endowment to provide scholarships and financial aid.

**Johns Hopkins University/  
Center for Social Organization of Schools . . . . . \$25,135**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For the 2003-2004 evaluations of designated Abell-funded education initiatives.

**KIPP Foundation . . . . . \$10,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

A planning grant for the KIPP Harbor Academy. As a small, middle school model, KIPP is built on the philosophy of high expectations, student and family commitment, longer school hours, autonomous school leadership and focus on academic achievement. Students are expected to make a commitment to the fine and performing arts in after-school and Saturday morning programming.

**Learning, Inc. . . . . \$20,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For support of The Learning Cooperative, a dropout recovery/academic credit program for Baltimore City at-risk middle school students.

**Office of the Mayor . . . . . \$50,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

To help fund the Baltimore City Mayoral Fellowships, Summer 2003. The purpose of the program is to develop a staff recruitment pipeline within City government, by recruiting and training fellows for permanent City government positions.

**Parks & People Foundation . . . . . \$15,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

To underwrite recruitment costs of college students serving as teachers in SuperKids Camp 2003. The summer camp is a six-week educational, cultural and recreational program developed for third-grade Baltimore City public school students performing below grade level.

**The Piney Woods School . . . . . \$65,521**  
**Piney Woods, MS**

To provide scholarships for selected underachieving at-risk male students from Baltimore City for the 2003-2004 school year. The grant also includes funding for a retention counselor whose responsibilities are to encourage positive attitudes, appropriate social behavior and academic achievement.

**Saint Frances Academy. . . . . \$8,400**  
**Baltimore, MD**

To provide scholarships for former Baraka School students in a parochial school setting where more than 95 percent of the students graduate and go on to college.

**Teach For America-Baltimore . . . . . \$100,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For the continued support of recruitment, training, and professional development for Teach For America Corps members in Baltimore City public schools. These recent college graduates make a two-year commitment and are offered an opportunity to earn a Master of Arts in Teaching at The Johns Hopkins University.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Baltimore ACORN/  
American Institute for Social Justice . . . . . \$65,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For second-year funding of a comprehensive lead poisoning prevention program in the Park Heights Avenue area. The initiative assesses lead hazards in homes and refers families to lead poisoning prevention and treatment resources.

**Baltimore American Indian Center, Inc. . . . . \$5,000  
Baltimore, MD**

Toward administrative costs to operate a center serving Native Americans in the Baltimore region. The Center provides a wide range of services, including housing, health care, employment, cultural programs and activities for senior citizens.

**Baltimore City Office of Homeless Services. . . . . \$5,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For the development of a report on youth homelessness in Baltimore.

**Baltimore City Office of Homeless Services. . . . . \$5,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For two summer interns to research the effectiveness of the City's eviction prevention program and prepare an analysis of the Code Blue Program, a supplemental emergency shelter system activated in inclement cold weather, during the winter of 2002-2003.

**Baltimore Mental Health Systems . . . . . \$10,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For support of the Mental Health Policy Institute for Leadership and Training, designed to develop a plan for a systemic model focusing on access to mental health care for low-income persons.

**Baltimore Police Foundation . . . . . \$89,120  
Baltimore, MD**

For the purchase and implementation of EmployeeStat Early Warning System. Its state-of-the-art computerized performance analysis system makes possible rapid and effective deployment of police personnel.



**Banner Neighborhoods Community Corporation . . . . \$30,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For support of the Patterson Park Youth Programs, including basketball and football leagues, a reading club, an art club and a youth employment project.

**BioTechnical Institute of Maryland, Inc. . . . . \$50,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of a biotechnology laboratory training program for disadvantaged Baltimore City high school graduates. The program prepares the graduates for positions as bioscience technicians in various biotechnical companies/laboratories. The Institute also designs specialized training programs for existing entry-level laboratory workers in client-specific skills and procedures, affording the workers the opportunity for advancement.

**Center for Applied Research and  
Technical Assistance, Inc. (CARTA) . . . . . \$35,859  
Baltimore, MD**

To fund a study, "Identifying Programmatic and Collaborative Strategies to Reduce Teen Childbearing: A Blueprint for Change for Baltimore City." The study will document practices in teen pregnancy prevention in other cities, and will undertake to develop a strategic plan to improve the quality and delivery of teen pregnancy prevention services.

**The Center for Fathers, Families and  
Workforce Development. . . . . \$350,000  
Baltimore, MD**

Fifth-year funding of the STRIVE Baltimore Program, a comprehensive job training and placement service for unemployed and under-employed men and women. The three-week program prepares participants for the workforce through workshops that focus on attitude modification and the development of job readiness skills. Core services include job placement with long-term follow-up, one-on-one and group counseling, and case management.

**The Center for Fathers, Families and  
Workforce Development. . . . . \$68,516  
Baltimore, MD**

In support of the JumpStart Electrical Training Program. The 40-hour, one-week course is designed to train STRIVE graduates to become electricians' helpers. STRIVE'S goal is to train 40 participants and place 32 graduates into employment, and enroll JumpStart graduates in the Associated Builders and Contractors Apprentice Program.

FIFTH-YEAR  
FUNDING OF  
\$350,000 WAS  
AWARDED  
BY THE  
FOUNDATION  
TO THE  
CENTER FOR  
FATHERS,  
FAMILIES, AND  
WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT,  
IN SUPPORT  
OF JOB  
TRAINING  
AND PLACEMENT.

**Center for Poverty Solutions . . . . . \$50,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For expansion of the Baltimore City Public School Pantry Program. The goal is to supplement families' food budgets while at the same time encouraging parents to take an active role in their children's education. In exchange for volunteering in the schools, parents are eligible to attend classes on nutrition, budgeting, and economic meal planning, and to receive free food once a month.

**Children's Rights Council . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Hyattsville, MD**

In support of the Safe Haven Access Visitation Center at the Providence Baptist Church. The Center, assisting children of separated, divorced and never-married parents, creates a supervised situation where the parents can coordinate court ordered visitations of their children in a safe environment. Referrals are made through the courts, attorneys, counselors, mediators and social workers.

**Citizens Planning and Housing Association . . . . . \$49,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward staffing of an eviction reform initiative in Baltimore City. The initiative will study the legislative provisions and court processes with a view to reducing the number of evictions.

**The Enterprise Foundation . . . . . \$100,000**  
**Columbia, MD**

Two-year funding for the continuation of the Re-Entry Partnership (REP) initiative, expanding the program into the Park Heights Avenue area. REP incorporates both a pre-release and post-release component to work with offenders on work readiness, life skills and social needs. In order to ensure the ex-offender a smooth transition back into the community, REP makes available an array of support services, including transportation at time of release.

**Episcopal Housing Corporation . . . . . \$27,200**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For the development of Curry Oxford House, a residential treatment center for eight recovering male addicts, in Lafayette Square. The Oxford House model provides a structured environment and is democratically run, self-supporting, and drug-free. Each resident must have employment and pay weekly rent; if found to be using alcohol or drugs, the resident is asked to leave immediately.

**Episcopal Social Ministries . . . . . \$25,000**

In support of the Collington Square Re-Entry Program Expansion Project. The eight-week faith-based program offers support services, job training and job placement to addicted men and women in recovery.

**Fusion Partnerships, Inc. . . . . \$50,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For support of Power Inside, a literacy, life skills and community reintegration program for women currently or formerly incarcerated in the Baltimore City Detention Center. The purpose of the program is to reduce the recidivism rate among the female transient jail population.

**Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation . . . . . \$63,900  
Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of a pilot nursing program designed to enroll Good Samaritan Hospital employees in nursing school at Coppin State College. Nursing and remediation classes are offered to 30 Good Samaritan employees on-site at the hospital.

**Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake, Inc. . . . . \$132,233  
Baltimore, MD**

Third-year funding of the SEETTS program (Supporting Ex-Offenders in Employment, Training and Transitional Services), a workforce development initiative for persons leaving Maryland prisons and returning to Baltimore City. The program, providing 14 weeks of transitional services for up to 120 inmates at a time, assists participants in securing gainful employment through job readiness.

**Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake, Inc. . . . . \$150,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For startup costs of Project Bridge, a transitional employment project for ex-offenders returning to Baltimore City. After completing five weeks of training prior to release from prison, participants are referred to work crews for three months before being placed into employment. Project Bridge is a partnership among Goodwill Industries, Catholic Charities, Second Chance and STRIVE.

**Harbor City Services, Inc. . . . . \$25,000  
Baltimore, MD**

Toward the development of a remanufacturing business to provide employment for Baltimore City residents with psychiatric disabilities. The business focuses on the production of rebuilt shopping carts.

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

To provide funding for emergency sheltering of the homeless and medically vulnerable who appear on the doorstep of Health Care for the Homeless.

**Health Care for the Homeless . . . . . \$52,781**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward the six-month due diligence phase of a capital relocation of Health Care for the Homeless that includes the obtaining of zoning approval, hiring of a project manager, architectural fees for preliminary drawings, costs of technical engineering support, and an environmental assessment.

**Healthcare Workers Training Institute . . . . . \$10,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For support of a job training and education program for low-skilled health care workers in partnership with Baltimore City hospitals. The object of the partnership is to provide skills training, adult education services, computer instruction and career counseling to entry-level wage earners, all leading to job promotion and retention in health care occupations.

**Historic East Baltimore Community  
Action Coalition, Inc. . . . . \$80,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Two-year funding in support of Dee's Place, a non-traditional substance abuse recovery center serving residents in East Baltimore. A 24-hour recovery program, Dee's Place provides a safe and welcoming facility to recovering addicts at risk of succumbing to relapse because of the unavailability of services for them during off-hours. The coalition refers clients to health, housing and employment services.

**Homeless Persons Representation Project, Inc. . . . . \$100,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of a program designed to promote legal representation for Baltimore City ex-offenders in helping them remove past convictions from their criminal records. The program educates ex-offenders about ramifications of their criminal records, sentencing procedures, probation and parole, and waiver of filing fees. The program also researches policies designed to reduce reincarceration due to technical and parole violations.

**Housing Authority of Baltimore City . . . . . \$82,500**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For the implementation of the special mobility programs established in accordance with the Thompson v. HUD partial consent decree. The program provides financial assistance and counseling to families served by the Section 8 Mobility Counseling Program. It is designed to encourage rental assistance recipients to move out of inner-city neighborhoods into surrounding county neighborhoods that offer a better quality of life.

**I Can . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For funds to replace a furnace in an emergency shelter for homeless men and a convalescent care unit for medically fragile men referred by Health Care for the Homeless.

**I Say No 2 . . . . . \$37,500**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For the acquisition of a vacant property to serve as faith-based transitional housing for 16 addicted women and their children in the Westport/Cherry Hill neighborhoods. The program assists participants with job searches and addresses their health and legal issues, while encouraging them to attend counseling and Narcotics Anonymous meetings, adhere to household rules and perform community chores.

**Job Opportunities Task Force . . . . . \$30,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For continued support to expand educational experiences for eligible prison inmates, establish linkages with employers receptive to hiring ex-offenders, advocate for dropout prevention strategies and recovery programs in nontraditional educational settings, and urge the simplification of forms of all income support programs, such as Medicaid and food stamps.

**Koinonia Baptist Church . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For support of Project Safe Haven, an after-school program for children in the South Charles Village, East Baltimore and Baltimore/Midway communities.

**THE  
FOUNDATION  
AWARDED A  
GIFT OF  
\$30,000  
TO JOB  
OPPORTUNITIES  
TASK FORCE  
TO SUPPORT  
PROGRAMS  
DESIGNED TO  
AID PRISONERS  
EXPAND  
RECOVERY  
PROGRAMS.**

**Legal Aid Bureau, Inc..... \$150,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Fourth-year funding for an initiative to address financial needs of noncustodial parents burdened with child support obligations. The program provides individual representation to more than 200 noncustodial parents, addressing systemic problems with the child support enforcement system through litigation. The program also works with the Child Support Enforcement Administration to improve statewide child support policy and to educate service providers and noncustodial parents.

**Love Center for Women and Children ..... \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Emergency funding for operating costs of a residential facility for homeless addicted women and their children.

**Maryland Society for Sight ..... \$18,479**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of the Mobile Eye Care for the Homeless Expansion Program. The program's van visits five locations each month and provides free eye examinations and glasses.

**Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service ..... \$50,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

To support the Baltimore CASH (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) Campaign, an initiative to increase the use of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and free income tax preparation service. The goal of the program is to increase the number of tax returns prepared for low-income taxpayers eligible to receive the EITC.

**Mental Health Association of Maryland, Inc..... \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For costs related to producing a survey of mental health providers regarding dual-diagnosis services in Baltimore and Maryland.

**NAACP-Baltimore Branch ..... \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward renovation costs of office space and the Community Computer Lab.

**Nazareth Lutheran Church ..... \$9,294**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward costs of renovation, furniture and household items for the creation of Nazareth House II, a second transitional housing facility for recovering male addicts in Highlandtown.

**North American Family Institute, Inc. . . . . \$50,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Capital funding for renovations of Harbor House, a short-term residential shelter for 15 youth in Baltimore City in need of a safe haven. This secure home will serve youth referred by the Departments of Juvenile Services and Social Services who need temporary shelter because of family crises, nonviolent juvenile offenses, or records for running away. Before being reunited with their families, or placed in a foster, adoptive or group home, the youth receive counseling, medical and mental health referral, and on-site remedial educational services.

**The Northeast Youth League, Inc. . . . . \$30,535**  
**Baltimore, MD**

For the renovation costs of the baseball field at DeWees Park in the Mid-Govans community of northeast Baltimore. The field provides an expanded and safe athletic program for neighborhood youth.

**Park Heights Community Health Alliance . . . . . \$200,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward the construction costs of a community-based and-managed Men's Health Center serving uninsured and underinsured low-income men in the Park Heights Avenue community. The health complex serves approximately 3,000 men annually, offering comprehensive medical services, including primary medical care, health education, disease screening, management of HIV/AIDS, counseling for substance abuse and mental health, and support group therapy.

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

For support of the after-school Youth Sports Programs for 1,300 elementary and middle school students in Baltimore City public schools. It is expected that players will maintain at least a C average and 90 percent school attendance.

**Patrick Allison House. . . . . \$40,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Two-year support for a therapeutic transitional housing program to serve ex-offenders in Baltimore City who are facing re-entry challenges of housing, drug treatment, and employment.

**Patterson Park Community  
Development Corporation . . . . . \$5,000**  
**Baltimore, MD**

Seed funding for the establishment of the Baltimore Panteras, a new soccer program for children in East Baltimore.

**Patterson Park Community  
Development Corporation . . . . . \$5,000  
Baltimore, MD**

Start-up costs of an additional Port Recovery House, a substance abuse recovery program. The residents are provided spiritual counseling and offered jobs in local businesses or with Patterson Park Rental Services.

**Recovery Network Foundation. . . . . \$25,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For renovation costs of a facility to be used as a transitional housing program for 15 uninsured and indigent addicted males in Baltimore City. The program will also address the medical, legal, occupational, vocational, educational and future housing needs of the residents.

**Rose Street Community Center . . . . . \$150,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For continued support of drug treatment and job training programs for 2003-2004. The Center supports job training, educational opportunities, after-school tutoring programs for neighborhood youth, and drug treatment programs. The Center also provides weekly stipends to participants to assist with living expenses while enrolled in self-help programs.

**St. Martin Church of Christ, Inc.. . . . . \$5,000  
Baltimore, MD**

For a feasibility study of outreach programs serving the disadvantaged in Madison Park and the surrounding communities.

**The Samaritan Center . . . . . \$49,970  
Baltimore, MD**

For funding of the Travel Voucher Program, providing homeless persons in need of travel assistance with vouchers for bus travel.

**Second Chance, Inc. . . . . \$23,000  
Baltimore, MD**

To provide trainee stipends for a job training program in construction industry trades for unemployed Baltimore residents.

**Sharp-Leadenhall Planning Committee . . . . . \$24,216  
Baltimore, MD**

For the purchase and installation of video cameras inside and outside the Sharp-Leadenhall development, designed to control crime.



**The Shepherd's Clinic** ..... \$65,000  
**Baltimore, MD**

Two grants for continued funding of operating costs to provide primary medical and dental care to uninsured people in Baltimore City.

**Sylvan Beach Foundation, Inc.** ..... \$5,000  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward four-month operating funding during the transition to the opening of the Foundation's new Mt. Washington ice cream shop, a job training program for ex-offenders.

**United Way of Central Maryland** ..... \$50,000  
**Baltimore, MD**

For general support of United Way's effort to address human services and health needs in the Central Maryland region.

**University of Maryland Baltimore County** ..... \$5,000  
**Baltimore, MD**

To provide tuition and related fees for coursework in the Social Work Department for a STRIVE Baltimore employee.

**University of Maryland School of Law** ..... \$5,000  
**Baltimore, MD**

In support of the Civil Legal Needs Assessment project of the Drug Policy and Public Health Strategies Clinic.

**Vehicles for Change, Inc.** ..... \$45,000  
**Baltimore, MD**

Fifth-year funding of a transportation program to provide reconditioned cars for participants of the Affordable Housing Initiative program, and to other low-income residents of Baltimore City who need cars to get to work.

**Youth Enterprise Services, Inc.** ..... \$7,000  
**Baltimore, MD**

Toward the purchase of a property for use as a residential treatment facility for at-risk adolescent males.

**OTHER**

**Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers** ..... \$9,000  
**Baltimore, MD**

For 2003 membership dues.

**VEHICLES FOR  
CHANGE, INC.  
RECEIVED  
\$45,000  
FROM THE  
FOUNDATION  
TO HELP  
PROVIDE  
RECONDITIONED  
CARS TO  
LOW-INCOME  
WORKERS  
WHO NEED  
CARS TO GET  
TO WORK.**

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

**ARTS AND CULTURE**

Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts.....	\$2,500
Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts.....	\$5,000
Emmart Memorial Award.....	\$2,500
High Zero Foundation, Inc.....	\$3,000
Office of the Mayor.....	\$2,500
Osmosis Theaterworks.....	\$2,500
Pumpkin Theatre.....	\$1,500

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore.....	\$3,500
Greater Homewood Community Corporation.....	\$2,500
Preservation Maryland.....	\$3,000
St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center.....	\$2,749
The York Road Partnership/GEDCO.....	\$ 850

**CONSERVATION/ENVIRONMENT**

Chesapeake Bay Foundation.....	\$3,000
Lower Shore Land Trust.....	\$ 800

**EDUCATION**

Archdiocese of Baltimore.....	\$ 902
Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers.....	\$5,000
Baltimore City Public School System/William Paca Elementary School.....	\$2,000
Everyman Theatre, Inc.....	\$3,600
Fund for Educational Excellence.....	\$2,000
Johns Hopkins University.....	\$3,138
Maryland Center for Character Education.....	\$1,908
Maryland Center for Character Education.....	\$ 638

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Alternative Directions, Inc.....	\$3,200
Baltimore City Foundation .....	\$5,000
Baltimore City Health Department.....	\$4,000
CASA of Maryland, Inc.....	\$4,950
CeaseFire Maryland .....	\$ 200
Fusion Partnerships, Inc. ....	\$2,000
Homeless Persons Representation Project, Inc. ....	\$4,745
Homestead United Methodist Church.....	\$5,000
Madison Square Buccaneers Inner-City Youth Program, Inc. ....	\$2,000
McKim Community Association .....	\$2,150
Planned Parenthood of Maryland, Inc.....	\$ 475
Public Justice Center, Inc.....	\$2,900
Rose Street Community Center .....	\$4,962
The Salvation Army .....	\$5,000
Santa Claus Anonymous .....	\$5,000
Tai Sophia Institute.....	\$5,000

**OTHER**

Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers .....	\$ 500
The Foundation Center .....	\$1,000

ADDITIONAL  
GRANTS OF  
\$5,000  
OR LESS  
HAVE BEEN  
AWARDED  
TO 40  
OTHER  
GRANTEES.

## GUIDELINES FOR GRANTSEEKERS

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

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

The Foundation considers requests from health and human services organizations to support programs designed to help the 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 also 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 provides funds to selected cultural organizations that are committed to building a diverse base of support and conducting strong outreach and educational programs. It also supports programs that seek to preserve Maryland's ecologically significant and endangered natural resources.

Only organizations with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status are funded. Three types of grants are awarded: planning, seed funding (for start-up and demonstration projects), 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;
8. Ability to evaluate effectiveness.

## Application Procedures

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

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

### Deadlines:

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, Suite 2300, 111 South Calvert Street,  
Baltimore, MD 21202-6174.

## ABELL PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

As part of its mission to identify and promote discourse on community issues, The Foundation publishes a newsletter, The Abell Report, and a variety of commissioned studies and other publications. In 2002, The Abell Foundation began distributing all of its publications over the Internet. All Abell publications can be downloaded from the Foundation's Web site, [www.abell.org](http://www.abell.org).

### FEBRUARY

#### **The Invisible Dyslexics: How Public School Systems in Baltimore and Elsewhere Discriminate Against Poor Children in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Early Reading Difficulties.**

The delay in early diagnosis and treatment has disastrous academic consequences for our school children. Remedial action is called for and the Baltimore City School System should lead the way.

**Abell Salutes:** SEETTS, for helping to turn lives around on both sides of "the fence."

### MARCH

#### **A System In Collapse: Baltimore City Suffers From an Overwhelmingly High Caseload of Tenant Evictions.**

Hurt in the process are tenants, landlords, the City of Baltimore, and its neighborhoods. The volume of cases and the practice of allowing tenants' belongings to be deposited in the public right-of-way are unacceptable. The problem is fixable.

**Abell Salutes:** Ingenuity, for taking Baltimore City public school students "all the way to the top."

### JULY

#### **Who and What's at Stake in "High Stakes" testing?**

Maryland is at a critical juncture in its deliberations on the implementation of the new High-Stakes High School Assessment program. The State's decisions will determine who graduates from our high schools, and with what qualifications.

**\*Abell Salutes:** The violence intervention program at U of M's Shock Trauma: Saving victims' lives, taxpayers' money.

## SEPTEMBER

### **The Baltimore Region is Moving Toward Greater Economic School Segregation—In the Face of Recent Data Reconfirming the Educational Value of Greater Economic Integration.**

Renowned urbanologist David Rusk argues for and makes the case that a more balanced income mix in the classroom would lift achievement levels for students from low-income families.

**Abell Salutes:** Maternity Center East. Clinic, counseling center and home: “women like to come in just to talk.”

## NOVEMBER

### **A License to a Better Life: Owning a Car is Often a Necessity for Living and Working in Maryland.**

For many low-income families, getting a license and maintaining ownership are unattainable goals. Barriers to drivers’ licensing and ownership must be lowered.

**Abell Salutes:** Planned Parenthood’s Emergency Contraception Project for “calming nerves,” for “putting minds at ease.”

## DECEMBER

### **Maryland’s Critical Area Act of 1984 Was Created to Find the Citizenry’s Best Interests Between Two Competing Needs — to Preserve the Environment and to Accommodate Development in Maryland.**

Expanding the Critical Area Approach to protecting forest and farmland statewide would represent a pragmatic solution to a far-reaching problem.

**Abell Salutes:** Neighborhood Conservation Program (NCP), “helping neighborhoods build upon existing strengths.”

## SPECIAL REPORTS

**“Maryland’s Critical Area Act of 1984,”**  
authored by Saunders C. Hillyer

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