ANNUAL REPORT 2025

ABELL FOUNDATION


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FOUNDATION

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Cover photo: KIPP Baltimore
Inside cover photo: Farm Alliance of Baltimore

*All photos courtesy of grantee organizations.

A Letter from Our President & CEO

I write this letter with a deep sense of gratitude, and an equally deep sense of responsibility.

2025 was Bob Embry's final year leading the Abell Foundation, closing out nearly four decades in which he transformed the institution into something Baltimore, indeed most communities, had never seen: a foundation willing to use every tool in its kit — grants, investments, loan guarantees, research, lawsuits, phone calls, and yes, weekend trash pickup along Roland Avenue — in service of a single, stubborn belief that Baltimore could deliver a better future for all its residents.

The organizations he helped build and sustain over the years — Center for Urban Families, Thread, Turnaround Tuesday, the Ingenuity Project, CollegeBound, and so many more — are not abstractions. They are, quite simply, the reason thousands of Baltimoreans enjoy a path forward that did not exist before Bob decided to build one. I am one of them. There is no version of my own story, or of Baltimore Corps, without Bob's early and unwavering support. I am honored to follow him and to collaborate with our team, partners, and communities to write Abell's next chapter.

2025 was an important and challenging year for Baltimore and for Abell. A federal stop-work order upended refugee resettlement overnight, and our grantees — the International Rescue Committee, Global Refuge, and World Relief — had to hold together housing, jobs, and legal support for families who had been in this country for mere months. Federal safety-net changes put SNAP and soon, Medicaid out of reach for refugees who had already been extensively vetted. Against that backdrop, our grantee partners did not just hold the line — they innovated. Moveable Feast proved that medically tailored meals cut hospital visits by nearly a quarter and returned $3 for every dollar spent, a finding substantial enough to help unlock a $13 million state investment. The CASH Campaign helped Baltimoreans claim $13.8 million in tax credits they had earned but might otherwise have left on the table. Housing counselors, tenant attorneys, and organizers won real policy change — pre-eviction notice requirements, expanded access to counsel, and mold and lead protections — that will outlast any single grant. And Roca, PIVOT, HOPE, and a growing constellation of reentry organizations kept proving that the choice between public safety and second chances is a false one.

Across every program area, Abell awarded $11 million in 2025 to organizations doing this work — in health and human services, community development, workforce development, education, criminal justice and addiction, and the environment. Behind every figure in this report is a Baltimorean who is more stably housed, better employed, more likely to graduate, and now living in a safer city.

So where do we go from here?

Economic mobility is the through-line connecting nearly everything the Abell Foundation touches: a family's chance to build wealth, a young person's path to a good job, a small business's ability to take root in a neighborhood long denied investment, a start-up bringing innovation to the market and opportunity to the city. These strategies address the same problem from different angles. That will be my lens as president and CEO: sharpening Abell's focus as a driver of upward economic mobility for the people of Baltimore, and holding fast to Bob's conviction that this city's residents — particularly those who have been locked out by segregation, disinvestment, and discrimination — are not a problem to be managed but an asset to be invested in and supported.

Abell also has a role to play beyond Baltimore's city limits. People and communities everywhere are asking questions and searching for answers about how to achieve their American Dream at a time of sweeping, dramatic, and dizzying change. We intend for Abell to be a lighthouse in that sense — a place whose light is visible well past our own harbor, illuminating what works, so that other cities and other funders can see a way through the same waters.

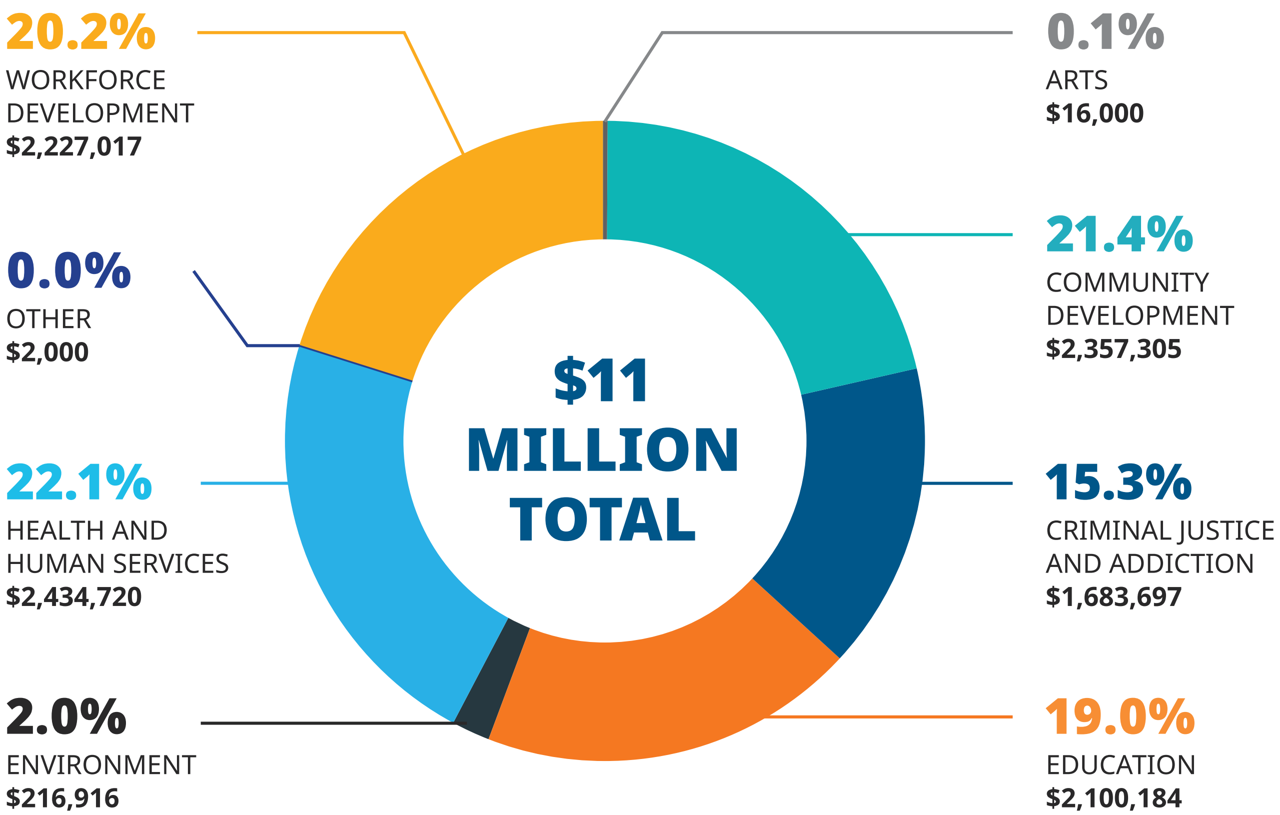
Bob Embry built an institution capable of that kind of ambition. My job now is to make sure it lives up to it. Thank you for reading this report, and for believing, as we do, that Baltimore's best days are ahead of it.

Fagan Harris
President & CEO

Our Commitment

Baltimore is brimming with potential, but because of historic segregation, disinvestment, and persistent racial discrimination, we have yet to fully realize all we can be. The Abell Foundation is committed to improving health, economic, and educational outcomes in Baltimore City so that all people can thrive.

Amount of funding awarded in 2025 by program area*



**Reflects reduction for cancellations, refunds, and grant-related expenditures; excludes grants with unmet conditions.*

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Refugee Resettlement Agencies

Since the end of World War II, the federal refugee program has served as a legal pathway to the United States for people who have been forced to flee their home countries to escape war, violence, or persecution. Immediately after Inauguration Day in late January 2025, the Trump Administration issued a stop-work order to all refugee resettlement agencies. While the stop-work order halted new refugees from entering the United States, it also cut all federal funding to support individuals and families who had recently arrived in the United States.

During the first quarter of 2025, the Abell Foundation helped Baltimore's three refugee resettlement agencies – International Rescue Committee (IRC), Global Refuge, and World Relief – maintain essential staffing and provide direct financial assistance to its clients.

IRC

In February 2025, the Abell Foundation awarded the IRC $150,000 in emergency support. In 2025, the IRC supported 93 refugee families consisting of 282 individuals across 93 households, as well as 300 walk-in clients of other humanitarian statuses. Of the 582 individuals served, the IRC helped more than 130 people maintain housing with direct rental assistance; 400 clients enroll in public benefits (refugees are no longer eligible for SNAP benefits as of November 2025, however, and will not be eligible for Medicaid as of October 1, 2026); placed 240 clients in jobs with an average starting wage of $17.73/hour; and helped 123 people submit green card and citizenship applications.

Global Refuge

After the federal stop-work order, the Abell Foundation allowed Global Refuge to reprogram a $157,900 grant to sustain its Baltimore Welcome Center. Its Post-Arrival Stability and Empowerment (PASE) program enrolled 184 individuals across 54 households into comprehensive case management and career services. Global Refuge helped 39 adults secure stable or better jobs (out of 47 adults seeking employment). Its case management also helped clients coordinate mental health and health services, enroll in public benefits, and enroll in public school.

World Relief

In April 2025, the Abell Foundation provided World Relief with $100,000 in emergency support. Ninety percent of these funds were used to help 45 Baltimore City families – all of which had been in the United States for less than eight months – maintain housing through rental assistance. Beyond its use of Abell grant funds for direct client assistance, World Relief provided 141 individuals with employment support and 300 clients with legal services. They also activated teams of volunteers to provide family-to-family support.

Challenges ahead

While the Abell Foundation helped refugee-serving organizations maintain stability and the capacity to support its clients last year, challenges remain. Not only has the refugee resettlement program been effectively dismantled, but refugees who are already in the United States continue to be targeted.

In November 2025, refugees lost access to SNAP benefits, and in October 2026, they will also lose access to Medicaid. In late 2025, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) ordered the comprehensive review of more than 230,000 refugees who were admitted during the Biden administration, including about 10,000 Marylanders and 800 Baltimore area residents. Refugees have already undergone extensive vetting before being allowed into the United States, including multiple security checks, biometric screening, and in-person interviews. The USCIS can require those refugees to undergo a re-interview process to reprove the grounds of their refugee claim (past persecution or well-founded fear of persecution). Any discrepancies, whether due to an official error, interpretation issue, or memory lapse due to the passage of time or trauma can be grounds for rejection with no pathway to appeal.

In this volatile landscape, the IRC, Global Refuge, World Relief, and other community-based organizations continue to support clients with employment services so that families can sustain themselves and with legal support during potential re-vetting as refugees continue their pathway to naturalization and U.S. citizenship.

The Food is Medicine Movement – Moveable Feast

The “Food is Medicine” (FIM) movement refers broadly to efforts to promote health and well-being through food and nutrition. Access to nutritious food is a key driver of health outcomes and can reduce the risk for a number of diet-related chronic diseases, including diabetes and hypertension. Community members surveyed as part of the Baltimore City Health Department’s 2023-24 Community Health Needs Assessment identified diabetes and hypertension as the second and third leading community health concerns facing the city (only substance use ranked higher). While both conditions can be treated with medication, access to healthy food is a cost-effective strategy for preventing these diseases and other health problems associated with them.

FIM interventions can take many forms, but one of the most effective approaches is providing medically tailored meals – meals designed by a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist to address an individual’s specific health conditions. Moveable Feast, a longtime Abell grantee accredited by the national Food Is Medicine Coalition, is the leading provider of medically tailored meals in Maryland. Last year, Moveable Feast prepared and delivered more than 425,000 medically tailored meals to nearly 2,500 clients.

In 2025, with funding from the Abell Foundation, Moveable Feast published an evaluation of the impact of its services on health outcomes. Among other things, the evaluation found that Moveable Feast clients experienced a 24% reduction in hospital visits and a 21% reduction in avoidable healthcare visits after receiving the meal delivery service, while related healthcare expenses declined by 33%. Clients who had the highest health expenses prior to receiving Moveable Feast services experienced the largest improvements, with a 38% reduction in hospital visits, 35% reduction in avoidable health visits, and 59% reduction in healthcare expenses among this group. The study calculated the return on investment for Moveable Feast’s services at 300%.

Based on these findings, the Maryland Department of Health recently announced a $13 million investment in Moveable Feast and Food and Friends, a DC-area provider of medically tailored meals, to provide meals to clients with uncontrolled diabetes. Over the next two years, this investment will enable Moveable Feast to more than double the number of clients it serves, providing critical nutrition support to thousands of chronically ill individuals in Maryland.

2025 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES GRANTS

10:12 SPORTS • BALTIMORE, MD
$30,000
In support of the Sports Mentoring Program.

4MYCITY INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of general operations.

THE AGOGE PROJECT INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$30,000
In support of year round, free out-of-school programming serving middle and high school students.

AMICA CENTER FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS • WASHINGTON, DC
$100,000
In support of high quality and client centered legal and social services for unaccompanied children in Maryland.

ASSOCIATED CATHOLIC CHARITIES INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$100,000
In support of the Esperanza Center's general operations.

BALTIMORE FURNITURE BANK, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY UPLIFT ALLIANCE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$60,000
In support of general operations.

BALTIMORE OUTREACH SERVICES • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of the BOS Recovery & Renovation Capital Project.

BALTIMORE URBAN BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (BUBA) • BALTIMORE, MD
$30,000
In support of general operations.

B'MORE FOR HEALTHY BABIES, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY BALTIMORE CIVIC FUND • BALTIMORE, MD
$226,000
In support of three years of funding for strategic health communications and intensive work in Upton/Druid Heights and Patterson Park North & East.

CIVIC WORKS INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$49,950
In support of benefits application navigation.

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN OF BALTIMORE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$60,360
In support of elevating advocacy for Baltimore's foster youth.

THE DOULA ALLIANCE OF MARYLAND, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY ELEPHANT CIRCLE • PALISADE, CO
$20,000
In support of developing the Maryland doula and birth worker workforce to improve maternal health, particularly for Black and Brown communities.

DRINK AT THE WELL INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$40,000
In support of general operating costs of Hon's Honey Social Enterprise.

EPISCOPAL REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT CENTER ALLIANCE, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY CATHEDRAL OF THE INCARNATION • BALTIMORE, MD
$30,000
In support of ERICA's general operations.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES DBA SPRINGBOARD COMMUNITY SERVICES • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of the Director of Youth Services position.

FOOD RESCUE BALTIMORE, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY 4MYCITY INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$15,000
In support of Food Rescue Baltimore's general operations.

GOVANS ECUMENICAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (GEDCO) • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of GEDCO CARES drop-in center.

HARLEM LACROSSE BALTIMORE • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of general operations.

HOUSE OF RUTH MARYLAND • BALTIMORE, MD
$61,425
In support of strengthening survivor support in Southeast Baltimore.

IDENTITY ACCESS PROJECT • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of a partnership with the Franciscan Center to provide vital documents for individuals experiencing homelessness, housing instability, and health care needs.

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE • BALTIMORE, MD
$150,000
In support of emergency needs for refugees and humanitarian immigrants.

JUST NEIGHBORS • ANNANDALE, VA
$65,000
In support of the Lawyer in the Library Project.

KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE • WASHINGTON, DC
$50,000
In support of Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)-Maryland's general operations.

LEADER BREEDERS INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$20,000
In support of youth mentorship, leadership development, and violence prevention strategies through basketball.

LEFTOVER LOVE INC. • OAKLAND, MD
$25,000
In support of rescuing leftover food from Baltimore-based businesses and providing it to those in need.

MARYLAND DENTAL ACTION COALITION INC. • COLUMBIA, MD
$100,000
In support of a two-year campaign to address gaps in access to oral health for children, underserved communities, and Medicaid participants.

MARYLAND FOOD BANK • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of empowering local partners through critical infrastructure improvements and targeted investments in communities facing severe food insecurity.

MEDSTAR HARBOR HOSPITAL • BALTIMORE, MD
$20,000
In support of MedStar Harbor Hospital MVP+ program expansion.

MOVEABLE FEAST INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$100,000
In support of the Home Delivered Meals program.

PUBLIC JUSTICE CENTER INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$45,000
In support of increasing cash benefits for low-income families.

SANDTOWN WINCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY FAMILY SURVIVOR NETWORK • BALTIMORE, MD
$25,000
In support of Sandtown Winchester Community Collective's (SWCC) general operations.

SHAREBABY • BALTIMORE, MD
$40,000
In support of providing essential items to meet the increasing needs of caregivers of babies and toddlers in Baltimore City.

SHEPHERD'S CLINIC • BALTIMORE, MD
$30,000
In support of Shepherd's Clinic's general operating costs, enabling it to provide free health care to low-income people who do not qualify for public health insurance and cannot afford private health insurance.

SO WHAT ELSE INC. • BETHESDA, MD
$25,000
In support of hunger relief program in Baltimore City.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF BALTIMORE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$25,000
In support of Promise Housing.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF BALTIMORE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of the Beans and Bread Homeless Day Resource Center.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF BALTIMORE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of the Front Door Rapid Rehousing Program.

TAHIRIH JUSTICE CENTER • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of free legal and social services for immigrant survivors facing gender-based violence.

THE TENDER BRIDGE INC. • PARKVILLE, MD
$30,000
In support of general operating expenses.

UEMPOWER OF MARYLAND • BALTIMORE, MD
$60,000
In support of UEmpower of Maryland, which aims to increase food security and provide transitional employment in Carrollton Ridge.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE • BALTIMORE, MD
$35,000
In support of oral health for uninsured and underserved children (OH-UUC).

UP2US SPORTS DBA COACH ACROSS AMERICA • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of Tier 1 expansions into Baltimore City Middle Schools.

WASHINGTON URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE • WASHINGTON, DC
$18,200
In support of expanding into Title 1 Baltimore City Public High Schools.

WORLD RELIEF • TOWSON, MD
$100,000
In support of direct assistance for refugee and immigrant households.

YOUTH EMPOWERED SOCIETY • BALTIMORE, MD
$37,815.69
In support of the YES Drop-In Center.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Rental Household Stabilization and Eviction Prevention

Baltimore City has long faced a persistent eviction crisis among low-income renter households. For two decades before the pandemic, more than 7,000 Baltimore households were evicted each year. The underlying causes are structural: high rent burdens, a shortage of safe and affordable housing, limited tenant knowledge of rights and defenses, and a rent court process that has historically favored high-volume, repetitive landlord filings over meaningful tenant participation. Many renters with legitimate defenses to nonpayment of rent were unable to raise them effectively or present their defense before a judge. Although pandemic-era protections and rental assistance temporarily reduced evictions, filings and removals have climbed again, even if they remain below pre-COVID levels.

The consequences are severe and lasting. Evictions disrupt employment, children's schooling, health, household stability, and access to future housing. An eviction record can push families into prolonged housing insecurity and homelessness. Research has shown that eviction both reflects and deepens poverty; in Baltimore, racial and gender disparities compound the harm, with Black women disproportionately affected.

Abell's support helped bring these inequities into public view and build the evidence base for reform, supporting complementary activities among a handful of organizations. Starting with research on best practice, Public Justice Center's 2015 report, *Justice Diverted: How Renters are Processed by the Baltimore City Rent Court*, documented the imbalance between landlords and tenants in Baltimore's rent court. The report's findings, amplified by growing national attention to eviction as both a cause and consequence of poverty, helped shift the policy conversation toward due process, tenant protections, and prevention. Two additional reports strengthened the case for intervention. *The Economic Impact of an Eviction Right to Counsel* demonstrated that legal representation gives tenants a fairer opportunity to present defenses and can reduce public costs associated with displacement. *Assessment of Maryland's Need for Eviction Prevention Funds* made the case for direct assistance as a cost-effective strategy to stabilize families, pay landlords rent owed, and avoid the downstream costs of homelessness and instability.

Public Justice Center (PJC) pairs research with direct legal representation, know-your-rights education, class action litigation, agency advocacy, and legislative work. Its tenant practice supports renters in Baltimore rent court and tenants facing foreclosure-related displacement, retaliation, illegal eviction, or other threats to stable housing. They also use class action lawsuits, advocacy with government agencies, and legislative advocacy to change practices and policies so that tenants can maintain stable and safe housing. They have provided legal assistance to thousands of tenants over the past decade and sought systemic change through advocacy for policy change and appellate decisions that reshape the rules governing eviction.

Jews United for Justice (JUFJ) has strengthened this work through grassroots organizing and city and state advocacy. Working closely with PJC and renter coalitions, JUFJ trains members, mobilizes residents for hearings and public actions, and helps build the political support needed to pass tenant protections. Its Baltimore and Maryland networks expand the reach of coalition campaigns and keep pressure on decision makers to address housing insecurity.

Civil Justice fills a complementary role by providing reduced-fee, or "low bono," representation through a statewide attorney network, with a focus on tenant debt defense, aggressive debt collection, and consumer protection. Since 2020, its work has shielded nearly $1 million in Baltimore City family assets from wage garnishments and bank account attachments, while tenants have been awarded about $655,000 in damages for illegal evictions and unlawful debt collection practices.

During the COVID-19 emergency, Abell funding through the Baltimore Civic Fund paid consultants to help the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success (MOCFS) design and rapidly deploy the city's $62.3 million in federal **Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)** funds. Federal funds helped prevent eviction for more than 8,000 Baltimore City households whose wages and hours had been disrupted, allowing families to remain safely housed during the public health emergency. Civic Works provided on-the-ground application navigation at District Court for renters seeking eviction prevention grants in partnership with MOCFS. Its walk-in assistance helped process a backlog of 290 applications, with confirmed receipt of $590,000 in rental assistance for 71 households.

Together, these research, advocacy, legal, and implementation efforts helped keep thousands of households stably housed and advanced major reforms. The state now requires landlords to send a 10-day pre-filing notice before filing for eviction; mandates access to counsel in eviction proceedings for limited-income tenants; and has appropriated $42 million for Access to Counsel implementation from FY2023 through FY2028. Maryland also created the Community Schools Rental Assistance Program, funded at $10 million in FY2027, to provide emergency assistance to families with children in community schools facing eviction or utility shutoff.

Additional reforms have strengthened renters' rights and housing quality protections. Baltimore city now requires universal landlord licensing. Courts may dismiss complaints when landlords are not in compliance with lead risk reduction requirements; tenants who are survivors of domestic violence have greater protections; utility billing transparency has improved; landlords must accept government-issued checks that allow tenants to "pay and stay;" and mold assessment and remediation requirements have been established.

Intergenerational Wealth Building

Homeownership is a major driver of racial inequality in intergenerational wealth. In 2022, the median Black household's wealth was $44,900, compared to $285,000 for white households. With unprecedented new opportunities for homeownership in Baltimore – due in part to the Baltimore Vacants Reinvestment Initiative (BVRI) – the Abell Foundation has supported a number of initiatives focused on homebuyer education and resources to support wealth building, homeownership preservation, and wealth transfer. These initiatives include:

- Providing technology and one-on-one financial counseling to help prospective buyers improve their overall financial position to become mortgage ready, which can take months or years.
- Creating pathways to sustainable homeownership and avoiding predatory and deceptive real estate lending practices.
- Supporting housing counseling agencies' client management efforts.
- Helping homebuyers qualify for down payment and closing cost assistance.

Project Own's easy-to-use app-based interface called "Rooted" pairs aspiring homeowners with qualified financial coaches and increase case load efficiencies for housing counseling agencies. Housing counseling agencies use Rooted to reduce time dedicated to non-counseling tasks by an average of 13 hours per week and streamline follow-up efforts.

Through Rooted, Project Own supported 279 new homeowners in 2025. Program graduates saved an average of $2,292 toward down payment and closing costs and increased credit scores by an average of 37 points. Ninety-nine clients attained mortgage readiness, creating $19.2 million in mortgage purchasing power, and 41 successfully purchased homes.

Neighborhood Trust Financial Partners (NTFP) provides financial interventions tailored to low-wage workers, such as coaching to decrease burdensome debt, accessing benefits, navigating complex financial challenges, and savings towards goals such as home purchase or other needs. By partnering with local institutional partners, NTFP offers critical financial coaching services while also testing a new direct-to-consumer engagement strategy. In the last grant period, NTFP delivered one-on-one financial coaching to 294 low-wage Baltimoreans, deepened relationships with three existing partners, and launched new partnerships with six local employers.

NTFP clients recouped hundreds of dollars spent on high-interest loans and fees by eliminating predatory debt products, refinancing with 0%-interest debt consolidation loans, and negotiating settlements with creditors. It reduced collections debt and late payments, and ended harassment by collectors, improving clients' credit and reducing financial stress. To ease the burden of living expenses without resorting to predatory products, NTFP also enrolled clients in SNAP, Medicaid, and other public assistance programs, and provided free tax preparation services and rental assistance. The organization also guided clients through student loan forgiveness programs, medical debt issues, and correcting mistakes on their credit reports.

Of the low-income workers served, 74% of served were low- to moderate income (<80% of AMI) with a median wage of $37,260 and 35% were supporting dependents. The median age was 37; 78% identified as Black, 4% as Latino; and 64% were women. For these clients, their paychecks often do not cover essentials, forcing many to take on debt to make ends meet.

Hope Harbor Community Development Corporation supports equitable housing, economic, and community development revitalization along the western corridor of Edmonson Avenue and surrounding neighborhoods. Its Edmondson Corridor Revitalization Strategy focuses on acquiring and renovating blighted and vacant properties and supporting legacy homeowners in 12 communities: Allendale, Edgewood, Edmondson Village, Hunting Ridge, Irvington, Rognel Heights, Saint Josephs, Ten Hills, Tremont, Uplands, Westgate, and West Hills. Hope Harbor believes this investment will attract qualified, prospective homebuyers to these communities that are poised to benefit from planned commercial redevelopment.

2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

BALTIMORE BREW, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY MD DC PRESS FOUNDATION • BALTIMORE, MD

$50,000

In support of local accountability reporting.

BALTIMORE COMMUNITY TOOLBANK • BALTIMORE, MD

$40,000

In support of general operations.

BALTIMORE DIGITAL EQUITY COALITION, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY UPLIFT ALLIANCE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$25,000

In support of general operations.

BALTIMORE GREEN SPACE • BALTIMORE, MD

$50,000

In support of preserving and sustaining Baltimore City community green spaces in 2025-2026.

BANNER NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNITY CORPORATION • BALTIMORE, MD

$80,000

In support of general operations for programs serving vulnerable young people and older adults.

CIVIC WORKS INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$150,000

In support of expanding access to energy-saving home upgrades for low-income Baltimore families.

CIVIL JUSTICE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$40,000

In support of Civil Justice's Economic Justice Program.

COMMUNITY LAW CENTER INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$40,000

In support of legal and advocacy work involving vacant properties, land use, and community economic redevelopment.

COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING ASSISTANCE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$35,000

In support of home purchase, improvement and energy-savings to revitalize neighborhoods of Northwest Baltimore.

FOOD & WATER WATCH • WASHINGTON, DC

$30,000

In support of continued expansion of equitable and affordable water access in Baltimore City.

GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE • BALTIMORE, MD

$15,700

In support of 2025 membership dues.

HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$140,000

In support of the Middle Neighborhoods Vacants Reduction Program.

IMPACT HUB BALTIMORE • BALTIMORE, MD

$35,000

In support of knitting a stronger fabric of small to midsize business support.

INVEST YORK ROAD • BALTIMORE, MD

$25,000

In support of community asset-building through intervention purchase of vacant properties, renovation, and reuse.

JEWS UNITED FOR JUSTICE • WASHINGTON, DC

$20,000

In support of organizing for Baltimore renters' rights and policies that prevent evictions.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY WHITING SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING • BALTIMORE, MD

$150,000

In support of the Baltimore Healthcare Innovator Talent Retention Program.

LATINO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER • WASHINGTON, DC

$25,000

In support of the Baltimore City Small Business Services and Lending Program.

MARYLAND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT CORPORATION, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY NEIGHBORHOOD IMPACT INVESTMENT FUND • BALTIMORE, MD

$200,000

In support of the Baltimore Vacants Reinvestment Initiative philanthropic support fund.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT • LANHAM, MD

$250,000

In support of a data analyst for the Baltimore Vacants Reinvestment Initiative.

MARYLAND PHILANTHROPY NETWORK • BALTIMORE, MD

$19,070

In support of 2025 membership dues.

MARYLAND VOLUNTEER LAWYERS SERVICE • BALTIMORE, MD

$75,000

In support of preserving Black legacy homeownership in Baltimore City.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES OF BALTIMORE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$50,000

In support of creating and preserving affordable homeownership.

NEIGHBORHOOD TRUST FINANCIAL PARTNERS • NEW YORK, NY

$35,000

In support of the TrustPlus Financial Health Solution financial coaching program.

NO BOUNDARIES COALITION INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$30,000

In support of community-powered produce at Fresh at the Avenue.

PARITY BALTIMORE INCORPORATED • BALTIMORE, MD

$60,000

In support of Pathways to Homeownership.

PRO BONO RESOURCE CENTER OF MARYLAND INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$99,780

In support of expanding the scope of services provided by the Tax Sale Prevention Project (TSPP).

PROJECT OWN INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$25,000

In support of general operations associated with the digital mortgage readiness application Rooted.

PUBLIC JUSTICE CENTER INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$37,500

In support of advocacy to reduce evictions and advance tenants' rights to safe and habitable housing.

RAILS-TO-TRAILS CONSERVANCY • WASHINGTON, DC

$135,000

In support of implementing an equitable development strategy to guide planning and construction of the Baltimore Greenway's northern segments.

REBUILD METRO • BALTIMORE, MD

$135,000

In support of reinvestment in Johnston Square: A Blueprint for Baltimore.

REBUILDING TOGETHER BALTIMORE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$80,000

In support of home repair for low-income homeowners in Baltimore City.

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION • BALTIMORE, MD

$40,000

In support of the Family Stability Program.

THE VENETOULIS INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL JOURNALISM • BALTIMORE, MD

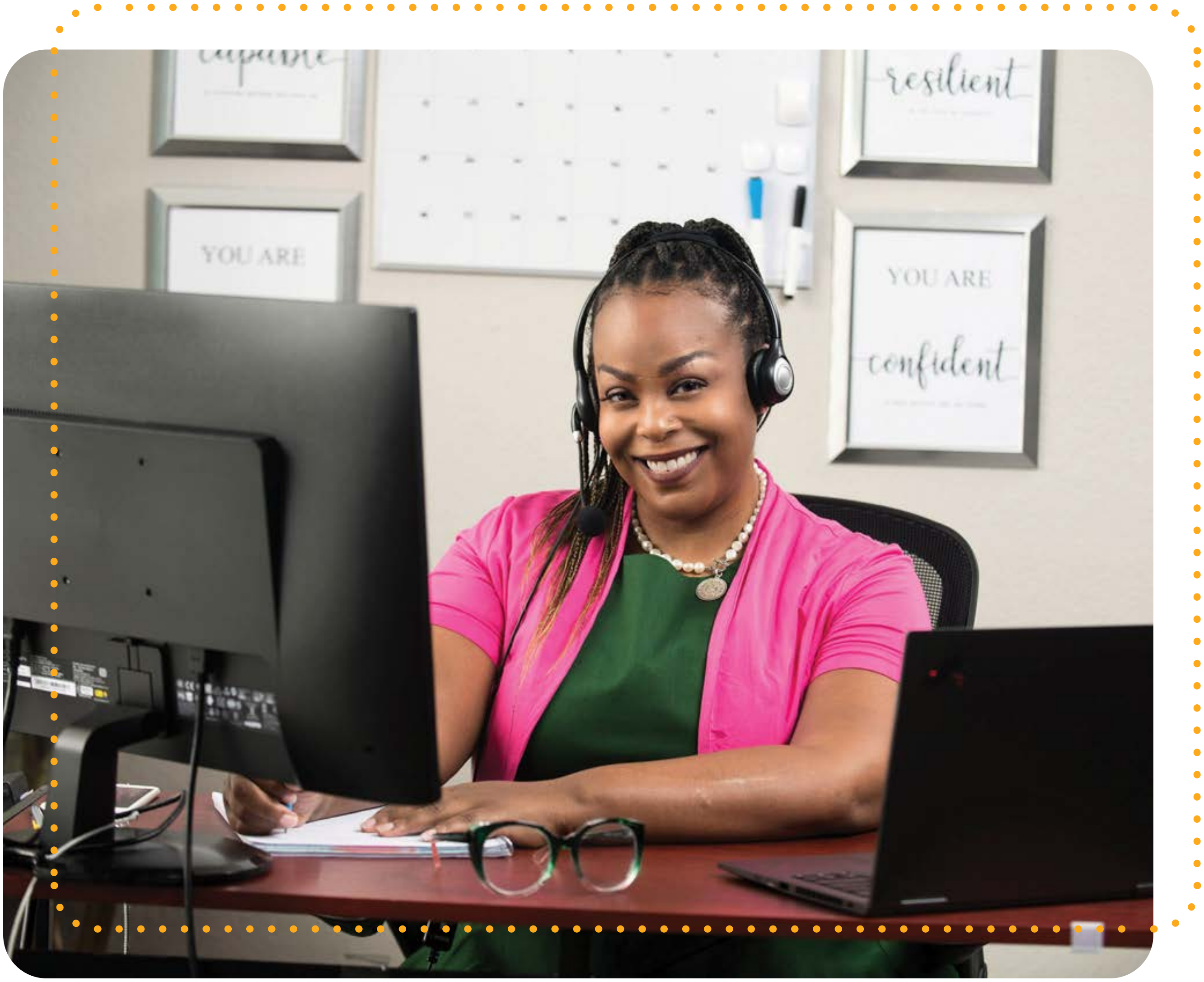
$100,000

In support of expanding data journalism at The Baltimore Banner.

WHITELOCK COMMUNITY FARM, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY ST. FRANCIS NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER • BALTIMORE, MD

$25,000

In support of the Nourish Whitelock Community Stewardship Program.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Accessing the Earned Income Tax Credit

For low-income working families that do not earn enough money to make ends meet, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC) are proven tools for reducing food insecurity and other material hardships by lowering tax liabilities or increasing tax refunds. Studies show that the EITC is linked to improved employment and health outcomes, as well as increases in child school achievement and future earnings.

The CASH Campaign of Maryland – Creating Assets, Savings, and Hope — was launched in Baltimore in 2001 to increase access to the EITC by providing free tax preparation through trusted community partners. Last year, CASH provided free tax preparation to 7,789 tax filers in Baltimore across 11 tax sites, saving residents $2.3 million in filing fees. With the help of 398 volunteers, CASH helped Baltimore taxpayers claim $13.8 million from the EITC and receive $19.6 million in federal and state refunds.

Beyond free tax preparation, CASH offers year-round financial education, which includes virtual and in-person classes and ongoing one-on-one financial coaching sessions. In 2025, CASH taught 8,458 individuals through 269 classes and coached 140 new clients. Among these clients, 49% reduced their consumer debt, and 58% increased their credit scores.

CASH also plays a crucial role in benefits assistance, helping families access public benefits like rental, utility, and nutrition assistance from more than 20 different programs. In 2025, CASH screened and connected 245 households to public benefits valued at $279,687, aiding families in maintaining stable housing and managing household expenses.

In the late 1990s, Maryland created its own state-level EITC that provides benefits that reduce or eliminate the amount of state and local income taxes owed. For the last 20 years, CASH has advocated to increase the value of the EITC and to extend the credit to young adults without children and taxpayers with individual taxpayer identification numbers who do not qualify for the federal EITC, many of whom are immigrants. The Maryland EITC now supports 440,000 workers with over $1 billion in EITC funds.

Last year, through the leadership of the Maryland Office of the Comptroller, the Maryland General Assembly legislature voted to set aside $1.2 million over four years to pay for efforts to reduce the number of eligible taxpayers who do not apply for the state EITC or CTC. CASH's annual state grant has been increased to support the free tax preparation infrastructure for low-income families in Baltimore and throughout Maryland.

In addition to supporting the CASH Campaign of Maryland, in 2025, Abell supported research conducted by the **Urban Institute** to better understand the barriers that prevent Maryland residents from claiming the tax credits in Baltimore. Research findings are informing how the Maryland Office of the Comptroller deploys the Maryland General Assembly funding for outreach to low-income families. Through these efforts, Maryland is experiencing an increase in the percentage of tax filers claiming the EITC and CTC.

2025 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

BIOTECHNICAL INSTITUTE OF MARYLAND INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$104,000

In support of breaking barriers in biotech.

CASH CAMPAIGN OF MARYLAND • BALTIMORE, MD

$100,000

In support of providing low-income individuals and families in Baltimore City with free tax preparation and asset-building services that increase financial security and promote economic mobility.

CENTER FOR URBAN FAMILIES INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$300,000

In support of economic success programming for Baltimore residents.

CIVIC WORKS INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$50,000

In support of Civic Works YouthBuild: creating pathways to sustainable careers through education, skills development, and community service.

FAITH AND WORK ENTERPRISES INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$68,000

In support of expanding the individualized workforce development process.

FRIENDLY LOVING OPPORTUNITIES • BALTIMORE, MD

$100,000

In support of the Friendly Loving Opportunities Apprenticeship Program.

HEARTSMILES • BALTIMORE, MD

$100,000

In support of Year-Round FLEX (fundamentals of leadership, entrepreneurship, and career exploration).

JANE ADDAMS RESOURCE CORPORATION • BALTIMORE, MD

$100,000

In support of creating pathways out of poverty for low-income Baltimore communities.

LEARNING IS FOR TOMORROW INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$25,000

In support of adult education and workforce support services for learners with low literacy ability levels and learning challenges.

LUTHERAN IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICE DBA GLOBAL REFUGE • BALTIMORE, MD

$157,900

In support of the Baltimore Welcome Center Matching Grant Program and initial resettlement services for new Baltimoreans.

MARYLAND NEW DIRECTIONS INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$120,000

In support of general operating costs.

NATIONAL CENTER ON INSTITUTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES • MILLFORD MILL, MD

$125,000

In support of holistic workforce development with wraparound services for Baltimore Vocational Training Center (VTC).

ROSE STREET COMMUNITY CENTER, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION • BALTIMORE, MD

$300,000

In support of general operations.

TURNAROUND TUESDAY INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$125,000

In support of the Turnaround Tuesday Jobs Movement.

UNITE HERE MID ATLANTIC TRAINING AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND • PHILADELPHIA, PA
$50,000
In support of unionized job training and apprenticeships.

THE URBAN INSTITUTE • WASHINGTON, DC
$25,000
In support of helping Maryland connect underserved families to state tax credits.

VEHICLES FOR CHANGE INC. • HALETHORPE, MD
$200,000
In support of the Full Circle Auto Repair & Training Center.

YOUTH SOLUTIONS NETWORK • JOPPA, MD
$50,000
In support of the Youth Workforce Empowerment Initiative.

EDUCATION

Expanding High-Quality Seats through Capital Grantmaking

The Abell Foundation has a long history of supporting the expansion of more high-quality seats in Baltimore City through capital grantmaking. Abell has helped catalyze capital projects in Baltimore City through direct support of capital campaigns, securing improved financing conditions through loan guarantees, and advocacy for public funding through bonds or earmarks.

Clay Hill Public Charter School

In 2019, the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners approved the charter for Clay Hill Public Charter School. At the time, Southeast Baltimore had a deficit of 1,800 academic seats, causing overcrowding, large class sizes, and the highest school building utilization rate (111%) of the city's six planning areas. With a growing Latino/a population, this region of the city continued to experience population growth that far outpaced the addition of quality instructional seats.

Abell grants have helped to fund critical capital needs for the new school including roof and window repair, electrical upgrades, classroom and corridor improvements, upgrades to become ADA compliant, as well as internet and technology installation. This funding was supplemented by public investment in the form of a charter school start-up grant that covered furnishings and internal materials.

Since Abell's initial grant in 2021, the school has been flourishing with 540 total students enrolled and an extensive waitlist. Based on formative assessment data, students at Clay Hill have outperformed their peers in reading/language arts, math, science, and social studies, and the overall attendance rate of 90% exceeds district averages. In 2025, Clay Hill was granted a five-year renewal of its charter. Clay Hill has provided much needed, high quality, instructional seats in a region of the city that continues to see increased population growth.

Hampstead Hill Academy

In 2005, Hampstead Hill Academy (HHA) converted to a neighborhood charter school under the management of the Baltimore Curriculum Project (BCP). HHA is one of the highest performing and most diverse schools in Baltimore City and is one of only two Baltimore schools to earn an elusive five stars on the MSDE's school rating system.

Hampstead Hill Academy has yielded outstanding academic results despite being in a school building that far exceeds its programmatic capacity. Prior to Abell's capital commitment, HHA served over 850 elementary and middle school students in a building that had a state-rated capacity of 668 students.

A capital grant of $250,000 from the Abell Foundation helped catalyze the buildout of additional classroom spaces, enlargement of existing classrooms, and the building of a new, dedicated gymnasium with "run off" space and seating for spectators. The expansion provided approximately 15,000 square feet of additional space and 5,000 square feet of renovated space, increasing the facility's overall footprint by 23%. The capital expansion also enabled Hampstead Hill Academy to continue as a hub for the community by providing more flexible space for school and community uses, such as athletic programs, performing arts programs, and community outreach programs.

The Loyola School

The Loyola School (Loyola Early Learning Center) opened in 2017 as a licensed preschool and early-childhood education program for low-income children in Baltimore City. A capital grant from the Abell Foundation in 2023 helped fund the reconstruction of five rowhouses at Calvert and Madison Streets in Mount Vernon, helping the school grow from serving 80 students in Pre-K to 1st grade to 200 students in Pre-K to 4th grade. The project included the construction of 10 classrooms, a library, science lab, tech-computer center, multi-purpose recreational facility, nurse's station, storage space, and offices for teachers and staff. Many students go on to attend St. Ignatius Loyola Academy or Sisters Academy for middle school, and Cristo Rey Jesuit in East Baltimore for high school, creating an educational ecosystem that allows for a seamless pipeline from Pre-K through high school.

The Loyola School has an over 90% average student retention rate from year to year. The Educational Software for Guiding Instruction assessment, which evaluates Pre-K students for kindergarten readiness, found that 91% of students demonstrated readiness. Eighty-five percent of Loyola students are at or above grade level in reading and data shows advances in the number of students at grade level and above grade level from beginning to middle of the year.

Patterson Park Public Charter School

Patterson Park Public Charter School (PPPCS) opened in 2005 as a K-4 elementary school located in the former St. Elizabeth's Catholic School building. In 2007, with the support of loan guarantees provided by the Abell Foundation, the school expanded into its second building, opening its doors to middle school students in 2008. An Abell capital investment in 2026 enabled PPPCS to acquire and renovate the adjacent St. Elizabeth Church so it could be permitted for educational use. With this grant, PPPCS will expand its footprint by nearly 20,000 square feet and add 60 Pre-K seats.

Patterson Park Public Charter School has a strong record of performance and organizational stability. The school maintains a 93% average daily attendance rate in comparison to a City Schools average of 86.2%. The school currently serves 727 students, and their performance on the most recent round of state assessments yielded a 44% proficiency in eighth grade language arts (compared with a 31% average throughout Baltimore City).

Patterson Park Public Charter School was one of five Baltimore City charter schools to receive a full eight-year charter renewal, the longest term available. Amongst the three sections of the charter renewal rubric, PPPCS was given a score of effective in academics, highly effective in school climate, and effective in financial management and governance. PPPCS has an extensive waitlist and is one of the more racially and economically diverse campuses in Baltimore, with 42% of students identifying as Latino/a, 43% as Black, 12% as white , and 3% as another race. Twenty-five percent of the student body are multilingual learners, and 56% of families are eligible for Title I support.

KIPP Baltimore

KIPP Baltimore is the city's largest public charter school, enrolling 1,450 K-8 students annually. KIPP also supports approximately 2,000 alumni through its KIPP Forward program. KIPP moved to its Walbrook campus in 2019, a building that was constructed in 1971 and had minimal renovation work over the past 50 years.

In 2023, the Abell Foundation awarded a capital grant in support of KIPP's $6.2-million capital campaign. This campaign included the renovation and buildout of a new early learning wing with four Pre-K classrooms and learning spaces to support 80 additional Pre-K learners, two new library/media center facilities (one for elementary students and one for middle school students), and the construction of a new early childhood playground structure.

Ninety-three percent of KIPP Baltimore alumni graduate from high school compared to a 70% graduation rate for all City Schools students; 70% go on to attend college compared to the national average of 46%; and 20% who complete eighth grade at KIPP go on to earn a four-year college degree, nearly double the national average for low-income students of color. According to 2023 mClass data, KIPP Baltimore students outperformed a national sample in literacy skills in decoding and comprehension in grades K-2.

2025 EDUCATION GRANTS

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS/DIGITAL HARBOR HIGH SCHOOL, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE • BALTIMORE, MD

$24,685

In support of 75 Digital Harbor High School students participating in driver's education courses and behind the wheel training, resulting in the acquisition of a driver's license.

BALTIMORE CURRICULUM PROJECT INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$35,000

In support of addressing chronic absenteeism (CA) in six Baltimore Curriculum Project (BCP) schools through targeted interventions models.

BALTIMORE EDUCATION RESEARCH CONSORTIUM • BALTIMORE, MD

$30,000

In support of general operating support for the Baltimore Education Research Consortium to develop research-practice partnership projects.

BALTIMORE KIDS CHESS LEAGUE INC. • COCKEYSVILLE, MD

$65,000

In support of the 2025-2026 afterschool chess program for nearly 1,900 K-12th grade students in over 50 City Schools

BALTIMORE'S PROMISE, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE • BALTIMORE, MD

$250,000

In support of the 2026 Summer Funding Collaborative, an aligned fund that directs resources to high-quality summer programs for low-income children in Baltimore City.

BALTIMORE'S PROMISE, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE • BALTIMORE, MD

$200,000

In support of core operations, slot expansion, and sustainability for the Grads2Careers program.

THE BOOK THING OF BALTIMORE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$30,000

In support of general operations.

BUILDING STEPS INC. • BROOKLANDVILLE, MD

$40,000

In support of STEM workshops, college advising, internships, and college-directed programming.

CITY TEACHING ALLIANCE • BALTIMORE, MD

$80,000

In support of general operating expenses for the City Teaching Alliance educator training and support program targeted at 55 incoming teachers and 300 educators.

THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL • BALTIMORE, MD

$25,000

In support of general operations.

FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE • BALTIMORE, MD

$30,000

In support of providing Ongoing Assessment Project (OGAP) mathematics training to 96 math instructors at 10 of the Focus Forward Improvement Community (FFIC) schools.

FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE • BALTIMORE, MD

$50,000

In support of general operations.

FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE • BALTIMORE, MD

$40,000

In support of technical assistance and grant writing support for 10 Baltimore City early childcare providers seeking to apply for Blueprint Pre-K Expansion funding.

IMENTOR BALTIMORE • BALTIMORE, MD

$40,000

In support of one-on-one mentorship programming for 215 students during the 2025-2026 school year across three partner schools.

IMPROVING EDUCATION • BALTIMORE, MD

$60,000

In support of the expansion of the All Children Ready initiative.

INGENUITY PROJECT INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$350,000

In support of the 2025-2026 Ingenuity Project, an advanced math, science, and research program for 915 middle and high school students in Baltimore City.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY • BALTIMORE, MD

$25,000

In support of Project BioEYES.

MARYLAND BOOK BANK • BALTIMORE, MD

$60,000

In support of general operations.

SAINT LUKE'S YOUTH CENTER • BALTIMORE, MD

$30,000

In support of general operations for community programs including the SLYC after school program and Camp Imagination.

SPECIAL EDUCATION POLICY AND ADVOCACY PROJECT, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE • BALTIMORE, MD

$100,000

In support of a policy advocate position at the Special Education Policy and Advocacy Project, which will work toward comprehensive special education reform across the state.

STEM CENTER OF EXCELLENCE INC. • OWINGS MILLS, MD

$40,000

In support of the Fibonacci Center at Gaslight Square (1401 Severn St) in Pigtown.

STEM CHAMPIONS OF BALTIMORE, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE • BALTIMORE, MD

$55,000

In support of the STEM Champions Competition Clubs, which will engage 600 students in 50 middle and high schools in preparation for the National Science Olympiad.

TEACH FOR AMERICA-BALTIMORE • BALTIMORE, MD

$100,000

In support of empowering TFA corps members and alumni for lasting impact in Baltimore.

UMBC FOUNDATION • ADELPHI, MD

$50,000

In support of the Reach Together Tutoring Program (RTTP) and Math Summer Program.

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND • ADELPHI, MD

$55,000

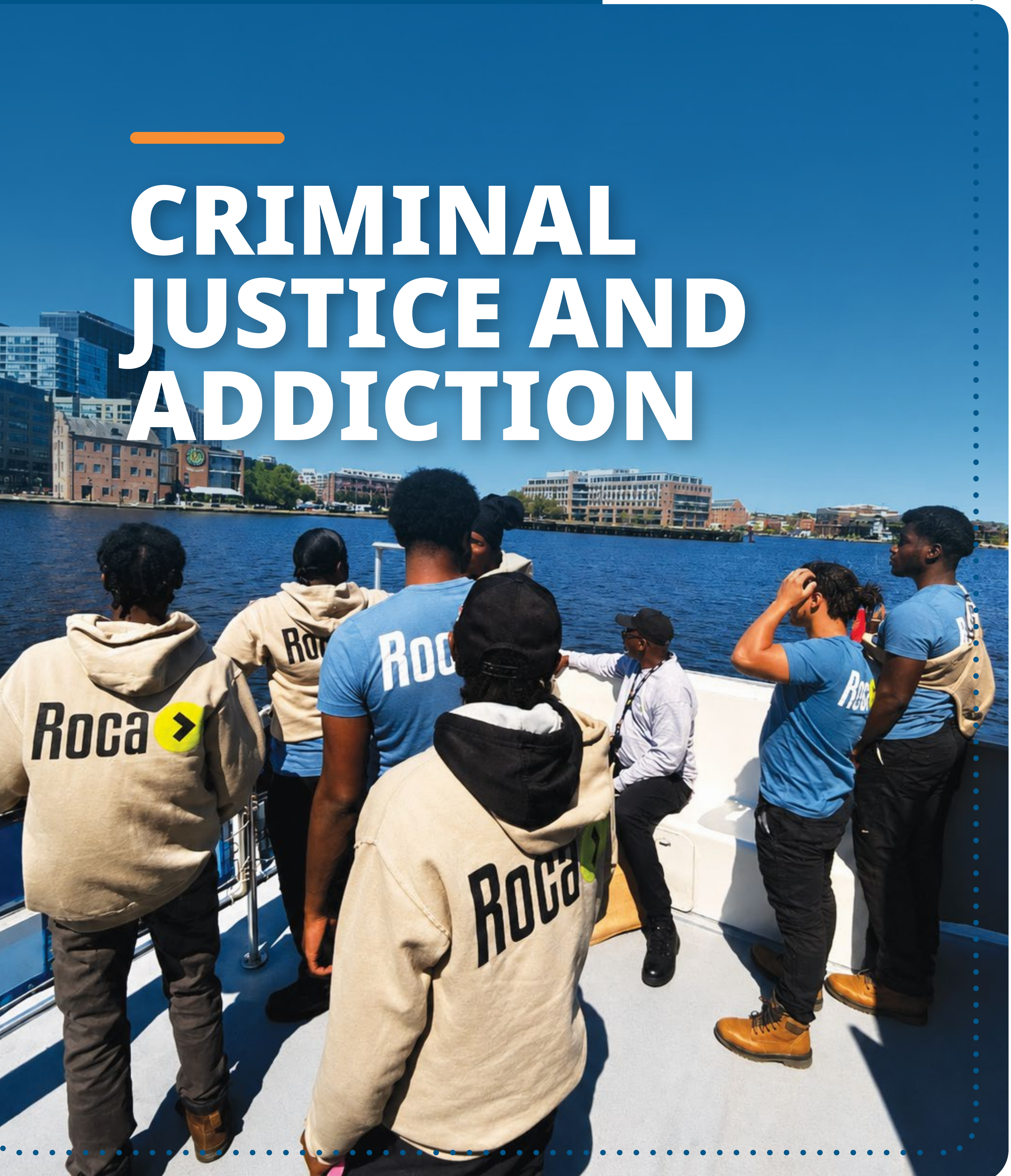
In support of the new Empowered Educator program, which is designed to move conditionally certified teachers toward full certification via an online, asynchronous alternative teacher licensure pathway.

THE URBAN ALLIANCE FOUNDATION INC. • WASHINGTON, DC

$80,000

In support of Urban Alliance Baltimore's internship and workforce development programs in 2025-2026.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND ADDICTION



Reducing Recidivism and Improving Reentry Outcomes

Although the number of individuals returning from state prison to Baltimore has declined by more than 40% over the past decade, more than 1,300 people still return to the city each year, making Baltimore the primary destination for returning citizens in Maryland.

Approximately one-third of those released from prison return to custody within three years, and among young adults under age 26, the rate rises to nearly one in two. These figures underscore the importance of effective reentry services that help individuals successfully reintegrate into their communities.

For many, reentry means navigating challenges such as securing housing, finding employment, accessing treatment and health care, obtaining identification, reconnecting with family, and meeting the requirements of community supervision. Through its grantmaking, the Abell Foundation supports organizations that address these challenges through parole preparation, wraparound services and case management, education, and policy advocacy aimed at improving opportunities for successful reintegration.

In recent years, the Abell Foundation has supported a number of organizations and initiatives working to improve outcomes for people returning from incarceration, including:

- **PREPARE**, Maryland's first nonprofit dedicated specifically to helping incarcerated individuals navigate the parole process through workshops, consultations, parole packet preparation, and post-release support. In 2024, PREPARE provided workshops for more than 450 individuals, conducted over 500 parole consultations, and developed more than 80 parole packets and reentry plans. The organization currently supports approximately 100 formerly incarcerated individuals and is aware of only two returns to incarceration among participants released to the community.
- **Helping Oppressed People Excel (HOPE)**, a peer-led organization that provides mentoring, case management, housing assistance, and employment support to help returning citizens achieve stability after release. Since 2017, HOPE has worked with 145 returning citizens, with only two participants returning to custody, both for technical violations rather than new criminal charges.

- **PIVOT**, which supports women impacted by the criminal legal system through workforce development, case management, mentoring, mental health services, housing support, and other wraparound services designed to promote long-term stability. The program serves approximately 200 women annually through pre-release services, intensive cohort-based programming, and referrals, and reports a recidivism rate of 5% since its inception.
- **Goucher Prison Education Partnership (GPEP)**, which provides college-level education to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated students at the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women and formerly at the Maryland Correctional Institution–Jessup. The program serves approximately 130 students annually, who maintain an average GPA above 3.0, and graduates 40% of degree recipients with honors.
- **BUILD and Out for Justice** work alongside formerly incarcerated individuals to advance policy and systems changes that support successful reentry. Both organizations have played leading roles in advocacy efforts to expand access to housing, record expungement, voting rights, and other opportunities for people returning from incarceration.

"What if we just remembered that returning citizens are our family members? Our friends? What if we just called them our loved ones?"

Antoin Quarles, Founder,
Helping Oppressed People Excel (H.O.P.E.)

This work is far from over, and individuals returning to Baltimore deserve meaningful opportunities to achieve their full potential. While Baltimore has made progress, many people coming home from prison still face significant barriers to housing, employment, and stability. The Abell Foundation will continue to support organizations and policy efforts that help individuals successfully return to their communities and thrive.

2025 CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND ADDICTION GRANTS

THE BALTIMORE STATION • BALTIMORE, MD
$59,380
In support of enhancing veteran housing: replacing failing hot water heaters to ensure reliable, safe, and efficient hot water access for homeless veterans in the residential recovery program.

BALTIMORE YOUTH ARTS, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY UPLIFT ALLIANCE • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of general operating funds and the continuation of arts education, paid job training, and reentry support for young people involved in the juvenile justice system.

CHARM CITY CARE CONNECTION • BALTIMORE, MD
$75,000
In support of bridge funding for operations.

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY HOUSING INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$100,000
In support of operating costs for Earl's Place, which provides supportive recovery housing for men.

FROM PRISON CELLS TO PHD INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of general operating funds to provide reentry and higher education support to returning citizens.

GATEKEEPERS CORPORATION • HAGERSTON, MD
$48,636
In support of the Gatekeeper reentry program expansion into Baltimore City.

GOUCHER COLLEGE • TOWSON, MD
$65,000
In support of general operations and expansion of the Goucher Prison Education Program (GPEP).

HELPING OPPRESSED PEOPLE EXCEL, FISCALLY SPONSORED BY UPLIFT ALLIANCE • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of H.O.P.E.'s peer-led reentry program connecting returning citizens to resources, stability, and community through mentoring, lived experience, and individualized support.

THE HIVE MD • WESMINSTER, MD
$50,000
In support of providing personalized, trauma-informed reentry support that connects justice-impacted individuals to essential resources and community networks.

HUMAN RIGHTS FOR KIDS • WASHINGTON, DC
$25,000
In support of general operations for Human Rights for Kids' work to end felony murder and solitary confinement for juveniles and preventing placement of youth in adult prisons.

THE JUSTICE POLICY INSTITUTE • WASHINGTON, DC
$75,000
In support of general operations for the Justice Policy Institute, which focuses on advancing criminal justice reform through research and education on parole and pretrial justice reform in Baltimore City.

MANUMISSION HOUSE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$100,000
In support of two years of funding to provide housing and reentry support for justice-impacted students pursuing higher education in Baltimore City.

MARIAN HOUSE • BALTIMORE, MD
$100,000
In support of general operations for transitional and permanent housing for women and children.

NCADD-MARYLAND • BALTIMORE, MD
$25,000
In support of general operations to advance harm reduction services and expand treatment access for individuals with substance use disorders, including those in detention.

PREPARE INC. • GAITHERSBURG, MD
$75,000
In support of general operations for PREPARE's parole hearing and reentry program serving incarcerated men and women in Maryland.

ROCA INC. • BALTIMORE, MD
$500,000
In support of Roca Baltimore's intensive, trauma-informed efforts to reduce gun violence.

SAFE EXIT INITIATIVE • BALTIMORE, MD
$40,000
In support of the HARBOR Baltimore Street Outreach & Drop-In Center Program for victims of human trafficking.

UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE FOUNDATION • BALTIMORE, MD
$50,000
In support of general operations for the Center for Criminal Justice Reform, a trusted intermediary and policy partner advancing community-led efforts to reform Maryland's criminal justice policies and practices.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE • BALTIMORE, MD
$55,680
In support of EMBRACE Reentry Program.

WOMEN'S HOUSING COALITION • BALTIMORE, MD
$100,000
In support of general operations.

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Justice is Racial Justice

Farm Alliance of Baltimore

For the past 15 years, the Farm Alliance of Baltimore (FAB) has helped member farms and gardens transform vacant lots and open space into local food production. Led by long-time urban farmer and practitioner Denzell Mitchell, it is both Baltimore's premier urban teaching farm and a primary source of technical support to member farms, gardens, and individual farmers. Trainees learn on-site at FAB's Black Butterfly Farm, located on a seven-acre parkland property in South Baltimore, gaining hands-on experience and skills in farming and farm management. Member farms benefit from the organization's training to improve soil health, share best practices for sustainable production, distribution of seedlings, marketing, and combined produce sales at the Waverly Farmers' Market, all of which strengthen the food environment and build resilience in increasing production of locally grown food.

Amid growing concerns of food insecurity, social and economic disadvantage of residents living in neighborhoods lacking fresh, nutritious produce, and energy footprints for conventional agriculture fueling climate change, growing locally sourced produce is a unique way to promote access to nutritious food for underserved communities, support development of a workforce and revenue-generating farming businesses, reduce the energy inputs in food production, increase pollinator habitat, and contribute to community-building and productive repurposing of vacant land in neighborhoods.

FAB has grown from nine urban farm members in 2013 – when Abell first supported FAB to match SNAP purchases with "Double Dollars" – to 46 active members. FAB's networking events and resource sharing provides urban farmers and growers with practical tools and skills training, including composting, water conservation, and post-harvest handling to sustain, strengthen, and expand food and farm production in Baltimore City. Collectively, FAB member farms and growers steward 25 acres in Baltimore City. In the past year alone, the organization:

- Harvested 21,000 pounds of produce, which was distributed at community giveaways, sold at the farmers' market and market stands, and purchased by the Maryland Food Bank and other organization for distribution to food-insecure households in Baltimore.
- Generated $52,000 in revenue from produce sales.
- Distributed 16,000 seedlings, 204 pounds of cover crops planted, and 215 pounds of organic fertilizer applied, improving soil health and productivity of member farms throughout Baltimore City.

2025 ENVIRONMENT GRANTS

CHESAPEAKE CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK • TAKOMA PARK, MD

$60,000

In support of promoting clean energy, electrification, and fossil fuel accountability in Baltimore and across Maryland.

ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY PROJECT • WASHINGTON, DC

$25,000

In support of the Baltimore Environmental Justice Campaign.

FARM ALLIANCE OF BALTIMORE INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$60,000

In support of general operations.

NEW ECOLOGY INC. • BALTIMORE, MD

$41,916

In support of preparing rowhomes and residents for home modifications that center on housing stabilization, energy efficiency and savings, and increasing resilience for a changing climate.

Small Grants

In 2025, the Abell Foundation also awarded small grants of $10,000 or less to the following organizations:

ARTS

Bolton Hill Community Association

Maryland Citizens for the Arts

Young Victorian Theatre Company

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Adopt A Block Inc.

Another Life Saved Organization (ALSO)

Associated Black Charities

Docs in Progress

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore

Enoch Pratt Free Library

Filbert Street Garden

Hope Harbor Inc.

Neighborhood Culinary Alliance Corporation

Technical.ly Media, fiscally sponsored by The GroundTruth Project

Victorine Q. Adams Gardens Inc.

Your Baltimore Community Development Corporation

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & ADDICTION

Baltimore Action Legal Team

Beginning Effective Recovery Together

Behavioral Health Leadership Institute Inc.

Beyond Rhetoric Corporation

Determined to Live Transition House Inc.

Holistic Life Foundation Inc.

House of Change Inc.

KEYS Empowers Inc.

Manumission House Inc.

Tendea Family Inc.

EDUCATION

Adelante Latina Inc.

Arts Education in Maryland Schools Alliance

Arts Every Day

Baltimore Bolts Inc.

Baltimore City College High School, fiscally sponsored by Fund for Educational Excellence

Baltimore STEAM Inc. DBA Baltimore Robotics Center

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

The Birthday Books Project

Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church

CHARM: Voices of Baltimore Youth, fiscally sponsored by Fund for Educational Excellence

Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School

Child First Authority

CollegeBound Foundation Inc.

Fund for Educational Excellence

Johns Hopkins University Whiting School of Engineering

Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University

The Sanctuary Collective

Youth As Resources

ENVIRONMENT

Baltimore Compost Collective, fiscally sponsored by Ridge to Reefs

Groundswell

National Aquarium Inc.

National Wildlife Federation

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Abortion Fund of Maryland

AZIZA PE&CE

Baltimore Urban Leadership Foundation aka The Door

Challenge 2 Change Inc., fiscally sponsored by Uplift Alliance

Cloverdale AC/BBA

Comité Latino de Baltimore and Sanctuary Streets, fiscally sponsored by Latinos United Network for Advocacy

Corner Team Inc.

Fishes and Loaves Pantry

Girls on the Run of the Greater Chesapeake

Ho Ho Ho Inc. DBA Santa's Helpers Anonymous

Immigration Outreach Service Center

Led Ladies

Leftover Love Inc.

Liberty Village Project, fiscally sponsored by Fund for Educational Excellence

Love & Cornbread Inc.

Maryland Youth and the Law

MissionFit Inc.

Mitigating Lives Incorporated

Sisters Circle Inc.

Somebody Cares Baltimore

Teens With Trauma

University of Maryland School of Medicine

Wide Angle Youth Media

OTHER

Baltimore Council on Foreign Affairs

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Art with a Heart

B&O Railroad Museum

Basic Automotive Training and Sponsorship Inc.

Caroline Center Inc.

Clay Pots

Develop More Foundation Inc.

East Monument Main Street Incorporated

Excellence & Ambition Inc.

The Flowers Whiting Initiative, fiscally sponsored by No Boundaries Coalition Inc.

HeartSmiles

Maryland Regional Direct Services Collaborative

Phase 3 Training Corporation, fiscally sponsored by Fusion Partnership Inc.

Solvivaz Nation LLC DBA Conscious Heads Barber Shop, fiscally sponsored by Ingram Family Foundation Inc.

Publications

Abell Reports

EXPANDING APPRENTICESHIPS IN MARYLAND (JANUARY 2025)

The apprenticeship model is designed to provide employers with a pipeline of workers with the specific skills and knowledge needed while simultaneously offering jobseekers with paid on-the-job learning structured to ensure career progression and wage growth. For decades, apprenticeships in America have proven a win-win for businesses and labor. In Maryland, the number of registered apprenticeships for adults and youth has been expanding rapidly, but total numbers of apprentices remain relatively small in Baltimore. This report, written by Linda Dworak of the Baltimore Workforce Funders Collaborative, digs into the unique opportunities and challenges of expanding apprenticeship in Maryland and Baltimore.

EVIDENCE OF RACIAL BIAS IN HOME APPRAISALS IN THE BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA (MARCH 2025)

The Reinvestment Fund authored an analysis of Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) Home Appraisal Data for Baltimore, examining key indicators of appraisal activity on a basis, focusing on the percentage of appraisals below the contract sales prices, analyzed by census tract racial composition. This report provides a set of data-based recommendations designed to address any observed racial disparities and/or data deficiencies that limit a comprehensive understanding of the degree to which appraisal bias impacts the Baltimore community.

"JUSTICE BY GEOGRAPHY": IMPROVING PRETRIAL ELECTRONIC MONITORING IN MARYLAND (MAY 2025)

Electronic monitoring is widely used in Maryland to track those on pre-trial release or community supervision following a conviction, but implementation varies significantly by local jurisdiction, with some maintaining public systems and others – including Baltimore – outsourcing the function to private contractors. This report, authored by the Justice Policy Institute, documents the scope of electronic monitoring use in Maryland, analyzes differences in policy and practice, and considers unintended consequences of EM, such as increased incarceration due to technical violations of the conditions of release. It compares Maryland's policies to national best practices and makes recommendations for reform.

BEYOND THE HEADLINES: WHAT WE KNOW AND DON'T KNOW ABOTU BALTIMORE YOUTH CRIME AND JUSTICE (DECEMBER 2025)

Even as Baltimore celebrated historic reductions in gun violence, local, state and even national media continued to broadcast headlines warning of crime by city youths ages 17 and younger, local leaders hosted high-profile events about youth crime, and state lawmakers proposed tightening statutes pertaining to young people accused of breaking the law. This report analyzes data available from key entities engaged with crimes charged to young people—the Baltimore Police Department, the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services, the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy, and, because many youths are charged in the adult criminal justice system and placed in adult facilities, the state's Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

Abell Foundation Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Financial Position

December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
ASSETS		
Investments	$279,314,360	$257,205,270
Direct investments	$21,288,760	$20,688,750
Program-related investments and other loans, net	$244,861	$1,426,941
Property and Equipment	$7,758,006	$7,991,424
Other assets, net	$8,233,769	$9,221,278
Total Assets	**$316,839,756**	**$296,533,663**
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Grants scheduled for future payment	$3,427,360	$5,468,407
Guarantee liabilities	$83,765	$86,955
Payables and other liabilities	$3,283,924	$ 3,438,532
Total Liabilities	**$6,795,049**	**$8,993,894**
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES		
Net assets without donor restrictions	$310,044,707	$287,539,769
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	**$316,839,756**	**$296,533,663**

Complete audited financial statements are available upon request.

Abell Foundation Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of **Activities**

Years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
REVENUE		
Dividends, interest, partnership revenues	$5,245,719	$5,220,144
Rental Revenue	$1,587,194	$1,347,798
Realized gains (losses), net	$27,946,072	$7,243,712
Unrealized gains (losses), net	$5,605,330	$7,229,685
Other	$417,333	$656,562
Total revenue	**$40,801,648**	**$21,697,901**
EXPENSES		
Grants and grant related expenditures	$11,232,755	$12,072,349
Administrative and other expenses	$4,398,670	$4,192,955
Property operating expenses	$1,209,548	$1,321,623
Investment expenses	$1,230,737	$1,282,857
Federal excise tax provision	$225,000	$400,000
Total expenses	**$18,296,710**	**$19,269,784**
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	$22,504,938	$2,428,117
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS		
Beginning	$287,539,769	$285,111,652
Ending	$310,044,707	$287,539,769

Staff and Trustees

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*All photos courtesy of grantee organizations.

The Abell Foundation
111 S. Calvert Street
Suite 2300
Baltimore, MD 21202–6174

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