

State Of Maryland 2017 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate LR # Bill #		House LR # Bill #		2. Name Of Project
lr1621	sb0242			St. Francis Neighborhood Center
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
Robinson				
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)				5. Requested Amount
Baltimore City				\$500,000
6. Purpose of Bill				
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the St. Francis Neighborhood Center				
7. Matching Fund				
Requirements: Equal			Type: The matching fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act.	
8. Special Provisions				
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title			Contact Ph#	Email Address
Christi Green			410-215-1454	cgreen@stfranciscenter.org
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)				
<p>We are a nonprofit 501(c)(3) community based organization in the Reservoir Hill, West Side of Baltimore City; founded in 1963, independent of any church affiliation. Our mission is committed to ending generational poverty through education, inspiring self-esteem, self-improvement, and strengthening connections to the community. We offer year round youth development programs for children living below poverty and their families. We also offer an Adult Literacy Program, Computer Lab, personal finance & job readiness workshops, a greening/community improvement program, Yoga, an annual Health/Resource Fair, and space for Narcotics Anonymous meetings, other community organizations and more. All of our current programs, services, and events are of no cost to the public. We partner with over 30 neighborhood coalition and countless community organizations.</p>				

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

The Center is a small, but has made significant impact for 54 years. We need to renovate the current facility. Half of the space is unusable or not functional. The space being used is in dire need of repairs. The full basement is unusable due to water damage; the front porch need completely replaced; small rooms need to be expanded; restrooms repaired, electric and plumbing need replaced; a better lit facility inside and out for safety and efficiency. With the renovation and expansion, we intend to provide: Safe and functional space for community educational programming and gatherings with programming; triple the number of participants an opportunity to utilize the Center, programs, resources, and services (we have a wait list); fulfill the mission of the organization to end generational poverty through educational programs. We have completed the visioning process with community stakeholders and are currently completing the conceptual design.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	\$4,250
Design	\$217,600
Construction	\$3,525,400
Equipment	\$200,000
Total	\$3,947,250

13. Proposed Funding Sources - (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Private Foundations	\$1,497,250
Historic Tax Credits	\$100,000
Matching In Kind	\$600,000
Proposed State Bond Bill Allocation	\$500,000
Individual Contributions	\$850,000
Bond Bill 2016	\$100,000
CDBG 2016	\$300,000
Total	\$3,947,250

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
05/01/2015	04/30/2017	06/01/2017	06/01/2018
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised	16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site		17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete
250000.00	75,000		225,000
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
2016	\$100,000	This capital project, phase 1 (complete)	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
St. Francis Neighborhood Center Corporation 2405 Linden Ave. Baltimore, MD 21217			
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	40 - Baltimore City		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[]	[]	[X]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Christi Green	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	4102151454		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
1002 S. Potomac St. Baltimore, MD 21224			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
5 FT, 7PT	8 FT, 14 PT	485000.00	800000.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			No
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
n/a			
E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
n/a			
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	6000		
Space to be Renovated GSF	6000		
New GSF	12000		

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion

pre-1920

28. Comments

The Center renovation and expansion has the full support of the community. As the community's center, the visioning process of this project was completed with stakeholders that include community members, program participants, funders, volunteers, partners, staff, Board of Directors, and more.

Since being a recipient of a bond bill in 2016 for the first time in our 54-year history of \$100,000, we made significant progress with your support. We met with the Maryland Historical Society and have support from Amanda Apple; we will continue to work with her to ensure the renovation and expansion is within the society's requirements. We purchased 2401 & 2403 Linden Avenue from the City (we own 2405 & 2407/9 Linden). We have moved from a conceptual design to a schematic design; are working with a development company, civil engineer and builder (Southway); we completed Phase 1 of the project, which was replacing the leaky roof (\$65,000), water sealing the basement, insulating the attic, and other energy saving updates. We more than matched our \$100,000 bond bill from 2016; received \$300,000 from CDBG; and increased individual fundraising significantly, \$250,000. We need your support to start phase 2, and complete the remaining renovation and expansion we are ready to continue the transformation of this infamous street corner once only known for its gang and drug activity.

The Center has an iconic presence and history of dedication. In 1963, it started as an outreach center by two local Catholic churches. Within two years, the churches ran out of funding and planned to close the Center. The priest assigned to the Center, Father Tom Composto, in his commitment to the neighborhood refused to give up on the infamous "Whitelock Street," (known for drugs and gangs), and instead left the priesthood and remained at the Center. He became known as the "Pope of Whitelock Street." He lived at and ran the Center until his death in 2010. Our plan of renovation and expansion stays in alignment with his original vision for the Center and the neighborhood.

Reservoir Hill continues to struggle but is a beautiful neighborhood with great people. Unfortunately, it was just blocks from the recent unrest in April 2015. According to BNIA 2013, 47% of the children in the area live below poverty (compared to 35% overall in Baltimore City). The Unemployment Rate is 21.9%, compared to Baltimore City average at 14.2%. 37.7% of residents are unemployed and looking for work compared to 9.9% Baltimore City average. 24% have less than a high school or GED. 97.4% of students are African American compared to 84.5% Baltimore City average; 90.6% of students received Free & Reduced Meals, compared to 85.1% in Baltimore City.

To address these distressing statistics and the community's pressing needs, we also surveyed the neighborhood and it was clear youth programs were essential. The Center then established the innovative after school youth development program, the Power Project, in the spring of 2009, and youth summer program in 2010--in addition to our other community and educational programming. Our youth programs always have a wait list of 30 more children, and 100% live below the poverty line. We are currently filled to capacity. Our youth programs have received City, State, and National recognition; we are a 21st Century Community Learning Center.