

State Of Maryland

2025 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Maryland Deaf Community Center		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Lewis Young	Fair	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Frederick County	\$500,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Maryland Deaf Community Center at 720 N. East Street, Frederick		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
8. Special Provisions		
[<input type="checkbox"/>] Historical Easement	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
Donna Kuzemchak		301-964-9988
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>The mission of MDCC is to have a Center where various members of the Deaf Community can gather for education, communication, social and referral purposes. MDCC will provide this with the following: Education ASL, computer, nutrition and other quality-of-life classes Communication Public announcements in ASL/Video messages. Meetings government, service providers and the Deaf Community. ASL classes for service providers. Emotional Support Application assistance, referrals, access to internet and computers, support navigating languages often complex and prohibitive to people whose first language is not English. Social A barrier-free space where deaf and hard of hearing people can join for classes, exercise, arts and crafts, games and other activities</p>		

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

Maryland Deaf Community Center (MDCC) is a Frederick-based 501(c)(3) formed by a group of Frederick County Deaf citizens who saw the need for a centralized, barrier-free space where all Deaf and Hard of Hearing people would be welcomed. Legally organized in 2020, MDCC has been working to build such a space to meet the social, emotional, and informational needs of the Deaf community as well as provide a bridge between the ASL and other language speaking communities.

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	\$1,434,000
Design	\$310,000
Construction	\$2,864,000
Equipment	\$1,690,000
Total	\$6,298,000

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

Funds raised, interest and investments	\$548,000
State of Maryland PayGo	\$2,500,000
Frederick County	\$500,000
City of Frederick	\$500,000
Rural Maryland Council (2024, 2026)	\$250,000
State of Maryland LBI (2025,2026)	\$1,000,000
Federal Earmark	\$1,000,000
Total	\$6,298,000

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
Complete	Complete	12/03/2024	12/31/2026
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	
378000.00	Site not ready	2,000+	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
	\$2,500,000	Land purchase, site development, beginning construct	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Maryland Deaf Community Center PO Box 4131 Frederick, MD 21705		720 N East Street Frederick, MD 21701	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	3 - Frederick County		
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:	Linda Stoltz	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	240-575-2240		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
Linda Stoltz, President 5667 Crabapple Drive Frederick, MD 21703 Linda.Stoltz@deafmdcc.org 301-676-3020 (Text Only)		Property appraisal	

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
4 part time	5 full time	200000.00	275000.00
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?			Yes
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
Plans for the space include renting the			
E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	0		
Space to be Renovated GSF			
New GSF			

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

Complete new build (2025-2026)

28. Comments

Maryland Deaf Community Center (MDCC) purchased land (720 N. East Street, Frederick) in 2022, and has begun construction. The Community Center will provide Deaf and Hard of Hearing people throughout the state a space to connect and access resources, educational, cultural and social programs as well as connect with the hearing population.

MDCC will be a one stop center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to get referrals for Deaf friendly medical, housing, mental health agencies, nursing homes, assisted living facilities and other necessary information. It will provide outreach to the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and hearing population to encourage connection and communication as well as classes to help this communication. It will increase enrollment of deaf students in colleges and trade schools and reduce the risk for "brain drain" among those who have summers off. It will help increase employment of members of the Deaf community, with only 53% currently employed. It will help increase the number of Deaf owned businesses in Frederick, with Frederick hosting 35% of the state's deaf business owners. This Center will be the first in the State of Maryland to provide a space for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities a place to interact with each other as well as with the hearing community.

The primary language of approximately 200,000 Maryland residents is American Sign Language (ASL). For this segment of our community, information is obtained predominantly through visual-spatial mode and much less by auditory means. Over 90% of children born deaf are born to hearing parents. 2-3% of children are born deaf, and 70% don't have access to language. Early learning is so important that extra funds have been directed to help, yet many of these children don't have access to that significant need. MDCC will provide space and programming for the children and their parents to learn a language together to better communicate.

Historically, members of the ASL-using community are socially collective and look out for each others' best interests. Information gleaned by one member is openly and often rapidly shared with the community. Nonetheless, delayed access to information has resulted in countless missed opportunities. MDCC will help provide these opportunities.

MDCC will be a safe haven for Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals, their families, and the rest of the community. The facility will also have a gym which will bring the Deaf and hearing community together in ways that aren't always available. Hearing parents who have Deaf children will have a place to take their children for recreational activities. Hearing children will be learning ASL from a young age, which will provide another extended connection for this community and will help expand understanding of the Deaf culture to the hearing population.

MDCC should not be confused with MSD (Maryland School for the Deaf), which is also located in Frederick. MSD is pre-K through High School for deaf students. It provides education programs for students until they turn 21. MDCC will work with the entire community, including MSD and all other organizations that provide support for the Deaf community.