State Of Maryland
2026 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Gentle Giants Center for Connection		
2. Senate Sponsor	**3. House Sponsor**	
Howard County Senators	Howard County Delegation	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	**5. Requested Amount**	
Howard County	$750,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Gentle Giants Center for Connection		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements: Grant	Type:	
8. Special Provisions		
[ ] Historical Easement	[X] Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	**Contact Ph#**	**Email Address**
Jamie McIntosh		443-463-7084
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit equine welfare organization that facilitates the rescue of draft and draft cross horses from slaughter, abuse and neglect. Gentle Giants is one of the loudest national voices fighting to permanently end the slaughter of U.S. horses for human consumption. We've rescued over 1,500 horses who have been placed into permanent, loving homes. We house over 200 horses at our 300+ acre facility and offer lifetime sanctuary for those horses who are less likely to be adopted. In 2022, Gentle Giants was awarded the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries Outstanding Sanctuary Award, recognizing Gentle Giants as the top animal sanctuary internationally.		

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

The Gentle Giants Center for Connection will be a first of its kind program in Maryland, creating opportunities to experience the symbiotic relationship between humans and horses that cultivates a deep sense of enrichment, bridging the gap between two species through communication, empathy, and collaboration. Through shared experiences, and mutual trust, the relationship between humans and horses serves as a source of profound enrichment in both individuals' lives. These experiences will happen through equine facilitated learning programs, educational clinics, retreats. The center may also serve as a unique meeting space for businesses and the community. Our goal is to provide low to no cost options for participants from the Fire and Police Departments, Paramedics, Front-Line Workers, Women's Shelters, as well as caretakers for the elderly or disabled.

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	$0
Design	$0
Construction	$1,215,000
Equipment	$20,000
Total	$1,235,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources - (List all funding sources and amounts.)	
Legislative Bond	$750,000
Private Fundraising & Grants	$235,000
Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue (cash reserve)	$250,000
Total	$1,235,000

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**
8/1/2023	7/31/2026	1/1/2027	6/30/2027

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	N/A	1750

18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years		
Legislative Session	**Amount**	**Purpose**
2024	$150,000	Planning and design

19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee	**Project Address** (If Different)
Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue Society, Ltd. 17250 Old Frederick Rd. Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771	661 W Watersville Rd. Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771 (contiguous to 17250 Old Frederick Rd. Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771)

20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	9B - Howard 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:	Jamie McIntosh	**Has An Appraisal Been Done?**	Yes/No
Phone:	4434637084		No
Address:		**If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value**	
17250 Old Frederick Rd. Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	**Projected # of Employees**	**Current Operating Budget**	**Projected Operating Budget**
49	55	8250000.00	9500000.00

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

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	
Space to be Renovated GSF	
New GSF	8600

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

28. Comments

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration!