

State Of Maryland

2026 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Helens Place Community Cafe		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
	Embry	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Baltimore City	\$200,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Helens Place Community Cafe facility		
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
Dawood Thomas		443-869-7675
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>My Father's Plan's mission is to empower youth and build communities through mental health awareness, vocational training, youth development programming, youth recreational sports, and apprenticeship programs. We equip youth with essential life skills and opportunities for growth. Our goal is to instigate an immediate shift in behavior, confidence, and self-awareness among the youth we serve, as well as within the broader communities we engage with.</p>		

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

Helens Community Cafe is a neighborhood-based community cafe located along the York Rd corridor in Baltimore City. The project will incorporate a welcoming accessible community space that provides job training and employment opportunities for young adults from the surrounding communities, while also serving as a gathering and meeting place for senior residents and neighbors. Revenues generated by the cafe will be reinvested to support youth development, workforce readiness, and community-based programming, contributing to neighborhood revitalization, economic opportunity, and community stability.

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	\$100,000
Design	
Construction	\$200,000
Equipment	
Total	\$300,000

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

State of Maryland Bond Initiative	\$200,000
Private Funds - In Kind Donations	\$100,000
Total	\$300,000

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
7/1/2026	9/30/2026	10/20/2026	4/30/2026
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
100000.00	400		5,000.00
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
None			
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	43A - 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:	My Fathers Plan	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	4438697675		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
4017 OLD YORK RD, BALTIMORE, MD 21218			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
35	39	312000.00	200000.00
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	TBA		
Space to be Renovated GSF	TBA		
New GSF	TBA		

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion	
28. Comments	
<p>The Community Cafe will be a welcoming inclusive space designed to bring people together over affordable food and drinks while fostering connections, creativity and local engagement. More than just a cafe, it serves as an infrastructure for youth development and community investment through community cleanups and community events.</p> <p>The project aims to strengthen community relationships, provide a safe inclusive gathering space for seniors, create local employment and volunteer opportunities, promote sustainability and social responsibility.</p> <p>Through collaboration and shared ownership, the community cafe will become a vibrant, community-driven space that reflects local values and needs of the York Rd corridor.</p> <p>Pre-Construction Planning Goal: Finalize all details before physical work begins</p> <p>Site Preparation and Demolition Goal: Prepare the space for renovation or build-out.</p> <p>Structural and Core Construction Goal: Build the framework and essential systems.</p> <p>Interior Build-Out Goal: Create the cafe environment</p> <p>Fixtures, Furniture, and Equipment Goal: Install operational and aesthetic elements.</p> <p>Inspections and Compliance Goal: Ensure Legal and Safety approval.</p> <p>Final Touches and Pre-opening Preparation Goal: Prepare for launch.</p>	