

State Of Maryland

2026 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Relay Children's Center Facility		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Brooks	Phillips	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Baltimore County	\$350,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Relay Children's Center Facility Repair and Preservation Project		
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
Rebecca Rodgerson, Director		443-244-0455
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>Relay Childrens Center is a nonprofit early childhood education center serving families in the Relay community of Baltimore County. The Center provides affordable, high-quality childcare and early learning services for children from approximately 24 months through prekindergarten, as well as before- and after-school care and summer programming for school-age children. The Center serves families of diverse economic backgrounds, including working families who rely on consistent, safe, and nurturing care in order to maintain employment. Relay Childrens Center is committed to supporting childrens social, emotional, and academic development while partnering with families to strengthen the surrounding community.</p>		

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
TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
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	
0	Approximately 30-40	56-65	
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)	
Relay Children's Center		1620 South Rolling Rd Halethorpe, MD 21227	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	44B - Baltimore 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:	Rebecca Rodgerson	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	4432440455		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
1620 South Rolling Rd Halethorpe, MD 21227			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
8	Approximantely 12	270000.00	285000.00
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			

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

1921

28. Comments

Relay Childrens Center (RCC) is currently facing serious and urgent building and structural issues that directly impact our ability to safely operate and continue serving families in our community. These issues include roof damage, water intrusion within interior walls, peeling paint and deteriorating drywall, ongoing seepage, and a ceiling collapse in one classroom that has rendered that space unusable. These are not cosmetic concerns; they are health, safety, and licensing-related issues that require immediate attention.

I have actively pursued every reasonable avenue to address these needs. I attempted to resolve the situation through insurance, which has proven insufficient. I have contacted the Historic Society and begun that process, though it is lengthy and complex. I am also researching and applying for grants. I have consulted with a trusted nonprofit advisor, who recommended engaging local government leadership to explore additional support and guidance.

The historic status of our building significantly complicates repairs. Because the building is historically registered, we are restricted in the materials, methods, and vendors that may be used. Many standard or lower-cost repair options are not permitted, which increases costs and extends timelines, even for urgent safety-related work.

Relay Childrens Center is an education-based nonprofit preschool that has served this community for over 40 years. The building itself has been part of the community for more than 100 years and is historically registered. We provide affordable childcare and early education to low- and moderate-income working families, enabling parents to maintain employment while their children receive consistent, high-quality care. We are a stable, trusted presence in the community.

In addition to serving families, RCC supports the broader community through partnerships and collaboration. For example, Arbutus Little League utilizes our property for practices and games. If RCC were forced to close, these community supports would end.

Closure would have significant and immediate consequences. Families would be forced to find alternative childcare on short notice. Parents could miss work, lose employment, or face serious financial hardship. Children would be displaced from a stable, nurturing educational environment. A long-standing community institution would be lost.

Due to the magnitude and urgency of the current capital needs, we are unable to provide salary increases, bonuses, or additional appreciation to our dedicated staff. Despite this, our teachers continue to provide high-quality early education and have remained committed through extremely challenging circumstances.

We are seeking support to help address these urgent capital needs. This includes assistance navigating historic tax credits, identifying available resources, and exploring whether a special appropriation or other emergency funding mechanism may be available to preserve this essential community institution. Without significant assistance, Relay Childrens Center is at risk of closure.

Our children, families, and staff are deeply important to us. We are proud to be an education-based nonprofit school that has served this community for more than four decades, and we are reaching out now in hopes of preserving RCC for the families and community who depend on us.