

HB1226 - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund Testimony.p

Uploaded by: Abigail Snyder

Position: FAV

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Written Testimony

**HB1226: Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund - Establishment
 House Appropriations Committee – March 9, 2023**

Support

Background: House Bill 1226 would establish the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund in the Department of Commerce to provide general operating support to nonprofit organizations in the State; establish the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund Evaluation Committee to evaluate applications from certain nonprofit organizations in the State for grants from the Fund; and establish criteria for eligibility for a certain grant from the Fund.

Written Comments: Nonprofit organizations are the backbone of our communities. These organizations provide essential services to Maryland residents. A 2020 Maryland Nonprofits survey of its clients found that 45% had less than 60 days cash reserve, and a third had less than 30 days. It is clear that these integral nonprofits need our support in order to operate.

By establishing the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and its Evaluation Committee, Maryland will be taking a step toward supporting its nonprofit community. With proper guidelines and vetting, organizations will be able to access needed grant funding from the State to further their missions. This bill has been carefully crafted to ensure that grants will go to small/medium-sized nonprofits in need rather than large institutions.

For these reasons, the Baltimore Jewish Councils asks for a favorable report on HB1226.

The Baltimore Jewish Council, a coalition of central Maryland Jewish organizations and congregations, advocates at all levels of government, on a variety of social welfare, economic and religious concerns, to protect and promote the interests of The Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, its agencies and the Greater Baltimore Jewish community.

Testimony HB 1226 Pro Bono Counseling .pdf

Uploaded by: Amy Greensfelder

Position: FAV

Pro Bono Counseling, Statement in Favor of House Bill 1226 – House Appropriations
Committee – March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-Chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee: Pro Bono Counseling supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits are vital to communities across Maryland. Organizations like Pro Bono Counseling help the state by providing services that complement and augment the services of state government, and are able to reach communities that may be hard for government agencies to connect with. Nonprofits provide vital food, physical and mental health, transportation, education, and mentoring services, and serve as points of connection in our communities as conveners, collaborators, and organizers.

However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow so that even more members of our communities can participate in the benefits they provide.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Much of the funding available to nonprofits comes with restrictions, which make it difficult for nonprofits to respond quickly to changing and growing needs. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities. This has become especially clear over the past few years, as nonprofits recognized new and emerging needs and identified larger populations in need of services. These additional services came with associated costs, and many nonprofits experienced a whiplash of funding.

Every day at Pro Bono Counseling 850 volunteer licensed mental health clinicians and 15 staff members work together to increase access to mental health care. We provide free long-term counseling with volunteer licensed clinicians and on-demand telephone-based mental health support through our WARMLine. These services are needed in our communities—annually, 3,000 people engage with PBC for counseling, WARMLine support, and information and referral. Since the start of the pandemic, demand has increased, care has become more complex, and we have incurred increased costs to meet these needs. Because our services are free of charge, there is no associated increase in income correlated with the increased costs. Unrestricted, operational funds would allow nonprofits like Pro Bono Counseling to continue to offer person-centered, trauma-informed care to Marylanders with barriers to accessing affordable mental health care.

You don't need to take my word for it: one of the most common ways that our clients express gratitude is by sharing that if they were in a better financial position they would donate so that our services would continue to be available for all Marylanders in need of mental health care. 95% of our clients have shared that they would definitely recommend Pro Bono Counseling to a loved one who is also in need of affordable mental health services.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, allowing organizations to hire adequate staff, thus improving the state's economy. It would help

government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, Pro Bono Counseling respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact information: Amy Greensfelder, Amy@ProBonoCounseling.org, 410-825-1001,
ProBonoCounseling.Org

HB1226_The Arc Maryland_Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Ande Kolp

Position: FAV



The Arc Maryland
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HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY FUND

House Appropriations Committee

March 9, 2023

Position: Support

The Arc Maryland is the largest statewide advocacy organization dedicated to supporting individuals with Intellectual and developmental disabilities to have the supports they need in the communities they choose. We support HB 1226 which would create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and require an appropriation to the fund of \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits perform critical functions for state operations. They provide safety net services and provide services and supports in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their local communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups where government cannot.

Unfortunately, these same organizations struggle to stay afloat. Many rely on grants and donations for their work. It is often an uphill endeavor to obtain the revenue they need to do their important work in fulfillment of their missions, to have sufficient reserves for emergencies, and to grow.

A designated appropriation of 100 million through the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund would provide unrestricted grants to small and midsized nonprofits of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues. This would provide a much needed boost to our nonprofits and ensure their continued operations.

The Arc Maryland, is considered a small to mid-sized nonprofit. We have 5 full time employees who lead our programming/training and other support initiatives for families and individuals with IDD. We rely heavily on donations, grants and a team of volunteers to ensure our statewide reach and effectiveness. An unrestricted grant would allow us to have less reliance on donations to survive. We would be able to pilot new programs to support families as special education navigators, and connect parents to other parents for natural supports. These are services that families need, but are not currently funded by another source. With these program enhancements made possible through an unrestricted grant, The Arc Maryland would be much more helpful to the Maryland families and professionals that often reach out to us for support for people with IDD (hospitals, schools, etc.)

We believe the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and expanding the reach of nonprofits' support to community members. For these reasons, The Arc Maryland respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Please contact: Ande Kolp, Executive Director of The Arc Maryland
akolp@thearcmd.org

Letter Supporting HB 1226.pdf

Uploaded by: Charlie Hoppa

Position: FAV



Reisterstown Improvement Association, Inc.

March 6, 2023

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Chair Barnes & Vice-chair Chang
House Appropriations Committee
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Barnes and Vice-chair Chang:

Reisterstown Improvement Association, Inc. (RIA) would like to express our strong support for House Bill 1226, Economic Development – Non-Profit Sustainability Fund. Its purpose is to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits like RIA are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and are often able to reach individuals and groups that have difficulty connecting by government agencies.

RIA's experience over the years has been that we struggle to obtain the revenue we need to fully meet our missions, address complex administrative requirements and lastly, our ability to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business and obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

RIA does the best it can with funding from Baltimore County and our own fundraising so that we can meet the needs and programs for our town. RIA strives to make our town an inviting destination for our visitors and warm and welcoming to our residents, businesses and property owners. The funding from this Bill can help alleviate our worry and concern to be able to meet our goals and vision to support our town.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on HB 1226 to create this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hoppa, President



202 Main Street, PO Box 856
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136
<https://www.reisterstown.com>



CDN HB1226 FAVORABLE.pdf

Uploaded by: Claudia Wilson Randall

Position: FAV



**TESTIMONY
HOUSE BILL 1226
APPROPRIATIONS
March 9, 2023
Position: FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Barnes and Members of the Appropriations Committee:

The Community Development Network of Maryland (CDN) is the voice for Maryland’s community development sector and serves nearly 200 member organizations. CDN—focuses on small affordable housing developers, housing counseling agencies and community-based non-profits across the state of Maryland. The mission of CDN is to promote, strengthen and advocate for the community development sector throughout Maryland’s urban, suburban and rural communities. CDN envisions a state in which all neighborhoods are thriving and where people of all incomes have abundant opportunities for themselves and their families.

CDN urges your support for House Bill 1226 to establish the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund in the Department of Commerce to provide general operating support to nonprofit organizations in the State; establishing the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund Evaluation Committee to evaluate applications from certain nonprofit organizations in the State for grants from the Fund; establishing criteria for eligibility for a certain grant from the Fund; etc.

The community-based sector continually faces criticism for not “acting like businesses” but when they do and expect payment for work completed, they get bureaucratic responses to their inquiries. Further, the sector provides vital services in communities throughout the state of Maryland. Without these services, disinvested communities have few actors working toward positive change and support. As a result, people needing housing, workforce development, housing counseling, legal services and other services do not get what they need.

Non-profit organizations need adequate operating capital available to carry out their missions. Inflation, supply chain delays and pandemic response has made everything more expensive in the last three years. Private and philanthropic support has favored bricks and physical investments over operational support. It has made the need for a Nonprofit Sustainability Fund more urgent as groups respond to community needs and work to build a state with greater opportunity.

We respectfully request a favorable report for HB 1226.

Submitted by Claudia Wilson Randall, Executive Director, Community Development Network

HB1226_ApraMaryland_Fav.pdf

Uploaded by: Conner Wolfe

Position: FAV

March 9, 2023

Testimony on House Bill 1226
Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund - Establishment
House Appropriations Committee

Position: Favorable

Apra Maryland is the professional development and networking resource for Maryland-area fundraising professionals who harness information and data to drive philanthropy. With our over 100 members, we urge your favorable report of House Bill 1226.

House Bill 1226 would establish and beginning in fiscal year 2025, require the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$100,000,000 for a Nonprofit Sustainability Fund within the Department of Commerce. This fund would benefit the approximately 6,824 Maryland nonprofit businesses tax-exempt under sections 501(c)(3), (4) or (6) of Internal Revenue Code with annual total revenue between \$50,000 and \$10,000,000. Research by the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies and Maryland Nonprofits suggests the smaller a nonprofit, the more likely that nonprofit is to be led by a woman or person of color.¹ Nonprofits in Maryland provide essential community services, enhance quality of life and employ nearly 13% of all non-governmental workers in the state according to the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics report.²

At the 2023 Maryland Nonprofits Legislative Preview, Governor Wes Moore described Maryland's nonprofit sector as "literally doing work that the government can't do, can't provide with the same level of speed and efficiency and on the ground touch." We believe Maryland government has a responsibility to support small and mid-sized nonprofits that employ Maryland-area fundraising professionals beyond the restrictive grants and contracts currently available. We strongly support the inclusion of Section 5-2306(H) requiring the disbursement of grant funds within 37 days of award.

We urge you to give House Bill 1226 a **favorable report**.

¹ "COVID-19 Pandemic and Racial Equity Survey: Report of Survey Findings," *Maryland Nonprofits*, November 2021, 13, <https://marylandnonprofits.force.com/nplnlb/s/covid19-pandemic-racial-equity-survey>.

² Chelsea L. Newhouse, "Maryland Nonprofits By The Numbers," *Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies*, November 2021, 6, <https://marylandnonprofits.force.com/nplnlb/s/maryland-nonprofits-by-the-numbers>.

Thank you,
Theresa Clark

President
Apra Maryland

MBQ-TestimonyHB1226.pdf

Uploaded by: Dr. Ryan Mullaney

Position: FAV



March 7, 2023

Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair
Appropriations Committee
Maryland General Assembly
Room 121, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chairman Barnes and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Mountainside Baroque, Allegany County's early music ensemble, I am writing in support of House Bill 1226, to establish a non-profit sustainability fund.

The Mission of Mountainside Baroque is to provide Allegany County with an additional layer of cultural enrichment in the form of a professional chamber music series focusing on music written before 1800. Performing these works in an accessible, yet historically informed style, allows our collective to present music to audiences with a renewed excitement and relevance to modern culture.

As always, and in order to maintain the highest possible standards, sustained annual funding from multiple public and private sector sources is crucial to the expansion and continuation of our organization's offerings. In addition to the traditional sources of funding (MSAC, Allegany Arts Council, City of Cumberland, etc.) we have sought out project grants from Maryland Humanities and Canal Place Heritage Area, as well as a new partnership with other local organizations including Allegany College and Cumberland Theatre to name just a few. We are doing our best to work together and be frugal and efficient with our public funding, making sure that building our community is always the top priority for our organization.

Through continuing to make new connections, we intend to expand our individual and corporate donations, which continue to make up at least one third of our annual income. Still, on the heels of a costly hit to economic growth from the ongoing pandemic, we see the need for expanded funding as programming expenses increase, and individual donations and support have decreased. HB 1226 would provide us the ability to continue to drive tourism and growth in our region through the arts, and on occasion, allow us to make up for revenue shortfalls that will prevent a reduction in programming – a very real possibility in the coming years. Perhaps a snapshot of how our income is used will provide additional context to the role that we play in our rural, mountain community.

As our last year's season title suggests, 2021-2022 was indeed "A Joyous Reunion." We mounted a full slate of programs from October to May, featuring two massive concerts with large chorus, vocal soloists, and orchestra that were originally planned as highlight concerts for our festival weekend: A grand 17th Century Vespers Service akin to those from the famed St. Mark's Basilica (Venice) in October, and cantatas and elaborate dance suites of J.S. Bach – the largest ensemble amassed in our 11-year history! We were also able to return to some of our beloved traditions, namely our annual Festival of Lessons & Carols, which was attended and enjoyed by a record crowd.

While the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic presented continued challenges including the reluctance of many to reengage in public life, we were able to adapt and maximize both our musical output and return. One example of this was to use a festival-type model: add Saturday evening “chamber” concerts, featuring smaller ensembles and contrasting music to Sunday’s “main” concert. The added value (and modest ticket prices) of these additional concerts entice out of town concertgoers to stay the night in Cumberland. A recent survey of our audiences showed that over the course of our season, we had nearly 250 visitors from more than 50 miles away, and nearly 100 visitors from over 100 miles away. Using the city’s funding, and by eliminating a concert weekend from our normal model, allowed us to present more concerts at less of a cost.

Our 2022-23 Season, *Chapels & Courts*, sees a return to the success of last season’s model, while restoring our typical 5 weekend series. Our season’s bookend concerts, Gems from Baroque Dresden (September) and Hark How the Songsters (April), also feature a contrasting Saturday chamber option; a tour “around the horn” and bawdy bar room “catches” which can’t be sung in any church – a continued effort to extend our programming to different venues and expand our audiences. Our new season will also see the return of our weeklong Mountainside Baroque Academy in June and will be jumpstarted by our Mountainside in the Schools program, providing one-on-one sample instruction for talented student musicians, and allowing them to preview the academy week.

All of these efforts center around our campaign to “Make a week(end) out of it” and promote tourism and investment in Allegany County’s economy. We maintain our commitment to emphasizing the livable and historic nature of our city and continue to foster budding relationships with our partner arts organizations so that our funding goes further. Our rich and varied way of life is something we all treasure and know the prospect of that will be appealing to those who come for a weekend, or a lifetime.

For the record, I would be glad to testify before the committee in person at any point in the future, should you think it helpful in considering this type of funding.

Thanking you, in advance, for your time and careful consideration of this testimony.

Very Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Mullaney', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Dr. Ryan M. Mullaney
Co-founder/Co-director – Mountainside Baroque

Saltzberg testimony in favor of HB 1226 - Nonprofi

Uploaded by: Elise Saltzberg

Position: FAV



To: Maryland House Appropriations Committee
For: HB 1226 – Economic Development – Nonprofit Sustainability Fund
Date: March 7, 2023
Testimony of: Elise Saltzberg, Saltzberg Consulting
Contact information: 410-486-3603 (office) 410-236-0758 (cell)
Email address: elise@saltzbergconsulting.com

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony in favor of creating a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund, with an appropriation of \$100 million annually. I have worked as a fundraising consultant to dozens of nonprofit organizations in Maryland since 2000, including many small and mid-sized nonprofits – the very organizations that would benefit most from creation of this Fund. These organizations help the State and State residents by providing services and opportunities, and enhancing quality of life. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with.

However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow. An unrestricted grant of 1.5% to 10% of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland’s small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland’s Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

Thank you again for the opportunity to present this testimony in favor of HB 1226.

HB 1226.pdf

Uploaded by: Eric Smith

Position: FAV



**Winning Strategies: Fatherhood, The Courts & Custody,
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Contact Number – 443- 768-8158

Email: winningstrategies.fcc@gmail.com

[Http://www.winningstrategiesfcc.org](http://www.winningstrategiesfcc.org)

March 7, 2023

House Bill 1226

The Maryland General Assembly
c/o The House of Representatives
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Delegate Anne Healey & The House Appropriations Committee:

Good Afternoon Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Appropriations Committee:

Our nonprofit organization cannot be there to testify on Thursday the 9th, however we offer this written testimony to get a favorable vote from the Appropriations Committee to grant the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund.

Nonprofits in Maryland help the citizens in Maryland to achieve a better-quality life in hard economic times as we are facing today and have in the past.

Sincerely,

Eric Smith

Eric Smith, Executive Director

HB 1226 Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Florence Champagne

Position: FAV



**Eliminating Heart Health Disparities Among
African American Women and Women of Color**

March 7, 2023

House Appropriations Committee

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. The Open My Heart Foundation supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with.

However, we struggle to obtain the revenue we need to fully meet our missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

One of the challenges I face, as an example, is in being able to hire a program coordinator to run the program to provide support, education and assistance that your constituents need in order create greater health equity, diversity and inclusion in our community. Some of the other challenges include having an accountant or bookkeeper in order to comply with the many grant requirements. One of our goals is to give back to heart and stroke survivors by assisting with medical copays.

For these reasons, the Open My Heart Foundation respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact information: Florence Champagne, florencedchampagne@gmail, 240-715-8703.

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Regards,



Florence Champagne
Chief Executive Officer

8704 Baskerville Place, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 · www.openmyheartfoundation.org 240-389-4361



HB 1226 Nonprofit Montgomery Testimony in Support

Uploaded by: Franca Brilliant

Position: FAV



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Franca Brilliant, Director of Advocacy & Development, Nonprofit Montgomery

House Appropriations Committee

March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. Nonprofit Montgomery supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Nonprofit Montgomery is a proud member of Maryland Nonprofits and we ourselves have 200-member organizations serving communities from Damascus in the North to Silver Spring in the South; from Poolesville in the West to Burtonsville in the East. We work to strengthen the nonprofit sector serving Montgomery County through leadership development, organizational capacity building, and peer-to-peer networking and support; increase the visibility of nonprofits and the work they do; and influence progress through advocacy and strategic partnerships.

More than half of our members have revenues of less than \$500,000, and many serve historically marginalized communities that are predominantly immigrant, black, or low income. Our members assist hundreds of thousands of Maryland residents with access to food and housing, mental and physical health services, cultural enrichment and workforce development, legal assistance and academic support, and a myriad of other services. They know their communities and provide culturally and linguistically appropriate support that strengthens the fabric of neighborhoods and enables all residents to thrive.

It is precisely these small, community-based organizations that have the most difficulty attracting operational support. Most public and private sector funding comes in the form of program money, with very little allocated to the infrastructure that enables organizations to consolidate and grow. Program grants are generally restricted to salaries and program activities. They rarely cover essential items such as bookkeeping, fundraising, human resources, IT, and databases. Even when funders allocate some money to back office costs, the amount they are willing to provide is insufficient for organizations to build the systems to support efficient operations. As a small nonprofit itself, Nonprofit Montgomery knows how hard it is to raise funds to allow us to run our businesses.



An unrestricted grant of 1.5 to 10 percent of revenues through the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund would provide a significant boost to an estimated 2,100 organizations annually. Our members told us they would, among other things, use this funding to build customer databases; develop onsite space to provide workshops, resource centers, and treatment facilities for their clients; offer professional development for staff; and strengthen marketing and communications. Through direct assistance to these organizations, this fund would have a multiplier effect, allowing them to simultaneously work more effectively and expand their reach to assist more residents.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help the government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, Nonprofit Montgomery respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact information: Franca Brilliant, franca@nonprofitmoco.org, 301-873-0402, www.nonprofitmoco.org

Light-House-Letter-_2023-03-07.pdf

Uploaded by: Heather Cassity

Position: FAV



10 Hudson Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Light House
A HOMELESS PREVENTION SUPPORT CENTER

Tel: 410.349.5056
www.AnnapolisLightHouse.org

The Light House

HB1226, Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund, Delegate Healey

Position: Favorable

House Appropriations Committee

February 9, 2023

Heather Cassity, Executive Director

hcassity@annapolislighthouse.org

To Whom It May Concern:

As Executive Director of The Light House Homeless Prevention Support Center in Annapolis, I would like to express my support of the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund. In the last few years, The Light House has been met with a dramatic increase in neighbors seeking our services. This is a direct impact from the pandemic, a volatile labor market, and the rising cost of housing and rent.

Recent statistics show that 47% of renters in our county are paying more than the recommended 30% or less of income on housing, putting their finances at risk by not allowing them to save for emergencies, cover their basic needs such as food, healthcare, and utilities, and putting them at risk of not being able to stay in their homes. Inflation and the rising cost of food, transportation, and other essentials has stretched many budgets beyond their limits as well. These factors combined with a major increase in mental health and addiction issues has put significant strain on our community.

Our neighbors who are chronically homeless, newly homeless, or at risk of homelessness need our support more than ever. The individuals and families who experience these hardships are showing up at The Light House every day in record numbers. Prior to 2019, our organization served an average of 2,000 community members in need annually across all our programs. Since the pandemic began in 2020, The Light House has been serving an average of 2,700 community members in need annually.

As a result, our operating expenses increased over 30 percent since the start of the pandemic. Over this past year, the amount of public funding to support COVID relief efforts has diminished, while inflation is causing further increases in our expenses. Market impacts are also affecting our private donors and their ability to make charitable donations. We foresee that our tightest budget will be this year as we continue to do our best to meet this increase in need in our community. Unrestricted grant funding would go a long way in helping The Light House fill this gap and serve our neighbors who need it most.

Sincerely,

Heather Cassity

Executive Director, The Light House Homeless Prevention Support Center

100m Letter 3.7.2023.pdf

Uploaded by: Heather Iliff

Position: FAV

This is the moment to care



1500 Union Avenue | Suite 2500 | Baltimore, MD 21211
P: 410 - 727 - 6367 | help@mdnonprofit.org
marylandnonprofits.org

Dear Governor Wes Moore, Speaker Adrienne Jones and Senate President Bill Ferguson,

The state of Maryland relies on nonprofit organizations to serve Marylanders in need, and the arts, culture, education, health, and the environment that we all enjoy as residents of the Free State. There is bipartisan agreement that nonprofits are part of the communities they serve and preferable to government agencies in understanding and meeting the needs of those communities.

With an unprecedented projected budget surplus in 2023, now is the time for Maryland to make good on its commitments to the nonprofits and the workers that have been asked to do “more with less” for decades.

A new state-funded \$100 million general operating grant fund proposed by Maryland Nonprofits will support small and mid-sized nonprofits serving communities in need. Small nonprofits are most likely to be led by people of color and insufficiently funded to meet the byzantine government regulations attached to traditional government grants and contracts. Currently, about 90% of all nonprofit funding goes to the small minority of very large organizations in the state. This fund will begin to level the playing field for community-based and community-accountable small and mid-sized nonprofit organizations.

The funding would be open to charitable nonprofits, with operating expenses between \$50,000 and \$10 million, physically located in Maryland, with limited exclusions. The program would assist an estimated 2,100 organizations statewide with an average grant of \$46,000. Grants will vary from 1.5% of the organization’s expenses to 10%, with smaller organizations receiving the higher percentages, and would be equitably allocated to all 24 counties including Baltimore City.

Sustainable small and mid-sized nonprofit organizations in every county in the state will foster community vitality and resiliency, while representing the needs and interests of Maryland’s diverse communities. The undersigned nonprofit organizations stand ready to partner with the State of Maryland to ensure communities in Maryland are able to receive high-quality programs and services from local, trusted nonprofit organizations.

Sincerely,



30 years strengthening organizations and networks for greater quality of life and equity





30 years strengthening organizations and networks for greater quality of life and equity



Statewide

Individuals

Molly Garyantes

Ms. Elizabeth Ann Briscoe

Organizations

Adoptions Together

Maryland Museums Association

Apra Maryland

Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence

Araminta

Maryland Out of School Time Network

Arts Education in Maryland Schools-
AEMS

Maryland Tourism Coalition

CAMP FIRE USA PATUXENT AREA

MSDA Charitable and Educational Foundation

Central Maryland Area Health Education Center

NAMI Maryland, Inc.

Community Development Network of Maryland

Preservation Maryland

Economic Action Maryland

Pro Bono Counseling

Intuitive Business Concepts

Rwcovery coalition of Maryland inc

LEAD Maryland Foundation

Saltzberg Consulting

Lead4Life, Inc.

Self-Directed Advocacy Network of Maryland, Inc. (SDAN)

Leadership Maryland

The Coordinating Center

Leveling the Playing Field

The National Center for Children and Families

Life Independent Veteran Adcoate

The Parents' Place of MD

Maryland Assembly on School Based Health Care

Trans Maryland

Maryland Lynching Memorial Project, Inc.

This is the moment to care



1500 Union Avenue | Suite 2500 | Baltimore, MD 21211
P: 410 - 727 - 6367 | help@mdnonprofit.org
marylandnonprofits.org

Allegany County

Individuals

Amy K Crowley

Kathy Wood

Organizations

AHEC West

Historic Frostburg, a Maryland Main Street Community, Inc.

Associated Charities of Cumberland, Inc

Maryland Rural Health Association

County United Way, Inc.

Western Maryland Area Health Education Center

Friends Aware, Inc.

Anne Arundel County

Individuals

Angila Curvey-Chukwu

Mr Darryl A Jones Sr

Cindy ONeill

Mr. Corwin T. Macklin

Dr Maria C Matiella

Rebecca Gonser

Eddie Adkins

Ronshaye Clark

Isabel Anne Malizia

Tarra Nystrom

Melanie Kincaid

Organizations

2nd LT RICHARD W COLLINS III
FOUNDATION

Accessible Resources for Independence

Anatomy Gifts Registry

ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH

Annapolis Immigration Justice Network

Anne Arundel County Food Bank, Inc.
Anne Arundel County Literacy Council
Aspirations Entrepreneurship Incubator
Bay Community Support Services
Bo's Effort
Bubbe's Closet
Cantori Cares, LLC
Charting Careers
Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating
Children's Theatre of Annapolis, Inc.
enBloom
Eta Eta Lambda Foundation, Inc.
Evolve KidsCare
Food 4 Thought Community Outreach
Services, Inc.
Food Basket Foundation International
(FBFI)
Good Neighbors Group
Harvest Resources in Anne Arundel
County
Helping Hands of America Inc.
Helping Hurting People, Inc.
HOPE For All, Inc.
Immigrant Connection at Path to Hope
("Path to Hope")

IT TAKES TWO, INC
Kingdom Kare, Inc
LETS GO Boys and Girls, Inc.
Life of Joy Foundation
Life Of Victory
Maryland Reentry Resource Center Inc.
Mpowerment Collective Corp
National Electronics Museum
National Trafficking Sheltered Alliance
Overcoming Abuse Through Healing,
Inc.
Pure Love Life Ministry
Race for Life, Inc
Recovery Anne Arundel
SDV
SpatialGIS
St. Philip Neri Catholic Church Food
Ministries
The Arc Central Chesapeake Region
The Community Foundation of Anne
Arundel County Arundel County
The Complete Player Charity
The Light House, Inc.
United Women in Faith, Asbury UMC
Annapolis

Wiley H. Bates Legacy Center

Baltimore City

Individuals

Amber Jones

Arthurine Walker

Barbara Reed-DiGia

Becky Davis

Chelsea Newhouse

Chris Landers

Curtis Funderburk

Curtis Humphries

Cynthia Ann Cummings

Dana Cole

Darin Crew

Dimetra m Quarles

Dominique Greene

Dorian Walker

Dr Kerri Moseley-Hobbs

Dr. Almarie E Donaldson

Elizabeth Grove

Erin S. O'Keefe

Gail Sunderman

Hannah Shaw

Janice Foreman

Jerri L. Kamicker, Grants Consultant

Jill Broske

Jill Cecil

JJ Vancura

John Joseph Marra

Karyn Polak

Kelli Banks

Maggie Fritz

Mariana Female Izraelson

Martha Hylton

Melinda Dell Fitting

MISS JJ Vancura

Misti McKeehen

Moira Fratantuono

Mr David Ian Sloan

Mrs Susan Bennett Anderson RN

Ms. Barbara K Shapiro

Ms. Jessica Robey

Ms. Leila Kohler-Frueh

Ms. Polly Riddims

Pamela Perkins Young PhD

Peter Berns

Peter Weitzmann

Peymaan Motevalli-Aliabadi

Reba Cornman

Sandra Brushart

Organizations

4MYCITY Inc

Access HEARS

AIDS Action Baltimore, Inc.

AIDS Interfaith Residential Services, Inc.

Araminta Freedom Initiative

Art-Official Experience Youth Inc.

Arts Every Day

Ballet After Dark

Balm in Gilead for Communities of Color
Inc.

Baltimore Adolescent Treatment &
Guidance Organization, Inc.

Baltimore Community ToolBank

Baltimore Green Space

Baltimore Operation Sail t/a Sail
Baltimore

Baltimore Outreach Services

Baltimore SquashWise

Baltimore Teacher Network

Sean O'Maille

Serena Watters

Sr. Debbie Liesen SSND

Stacy Handler

Walter Saba

Baltimore Women's Giving Circle

Beat the Streets Baltimore

Beautiful Butterflies, Inc.

Black Yoga Teachers Alliance, Inc

Blue Water Baltimore

B'More Clubhouse

Bmore empowered

Brain Injury Association of Maryland

Break A Difference

Breath of God Lutheran Church

BroadwayFoundation Incorporated

CASH Campaign of Maryland

Center for Infant & Child Loss

Centro SOL

CHAI: Comprehensive Housing
Assistance, Inc.

Chasing Your Dreams

Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School

Chimes	DRUM Healthy Families Inc.
Citizens Planning and Housing Association (CPHA)	Dyslexia Advocation, Inc
City of Refuge Baltimore, Inc	ELB Strategic Holdings, LLC dba Amaana Consulting
CityLit Project	Episcopal Diocese of Maryland
Clay pots... a place to grow	Everyman Theatre
Clayton Baker Trust	Evolving Minds
CLLCTIVLY	Faith in Family Community Center, Inc
Cloerdale AC/BBA, Inc.	Family League of Baltimore
Cody Young Empowerment Youth Charities	Fell's Point Main Street
Community Housing Associates	First Tee Greater Baltimore
Companions and Animals for Reform and Equity	Fostering Change Network Foundation
Concerted Care Foundation, Inc. NFP	Franciscan Center Inc
Cooperative Community Development Inc	FreeState Justice
Cornerstone Community Housing, Inc.	Friends of Morgan Lacrosse
COUNSELORS IN THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION CO.	Friendship Outreach Center Inc
Creative Nomads	Friendship Outreach Center Inc.
Dedicated To Saving Lives Inc.	Fuel Fund of Maryland
Disability Rights Maryland	Garwyn Oaks Northwest Housing Resource Center
Donna Bruce Unlimited Inc	GEDCO
Drink at the Well / Hon's Honey	Girls in the Game
	Govans Ecumenical Development Corporation
	Greater Baltimore Urban League

Greater Baybrook Alliance, Inc.
Habitat Chesapeake
Hampden Pet Resort
Helping Other People through
Empowerment, Inc.
Hoffberger Family Philanthropies
Homeless Persons Representation
Project
HTP Homes Inc
Hunger Free Zone
Imagine Me Ministries
Immigration Outreach Service Center
Islamic Leadership Institute of America
ISS-USA
Itineris, Inc
Jameson Supportive Services Inc.
Jumoke Community Based Care, Inc.
Know thy self Heal thy self
Leader Breeders Inc
Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Center
Let's Thrive Baltimore
LifeCareerPivoteers Inc.
Linda Felder House of Etiquette Inc
Love disabled kids

Love In The Trenches(LITT)
Love Regardless
Make Studio
Martin Pollak Project Inc.
Maryland Association of Resources for
Families & Youth (MARFY)
Maryland Cancer Society
Maryland Latinos Unidos
Maryland New Directions, Inc. (MND)
Maryland Nonprofits
Maryland Philanthropy Network
Maryland Women's Heritage Center
Medical Care Coaching Advocacy, Inc.
Medical Education Resources Initiative
for Teens (MERIT)
Michele's Haven, CDC, Inc.
Middle Grades Partnership
MissionFit Inc
Muslim Social Services Agency
NAMI Metropolitan Baltimore
National Great Blacks In Wax Museum
Next up Music & Culture
Nexus-Woodbourne Family Healing
Nosreme Baltimore, Inc

Nuestras Raices Inc
ONE More... ONE Less Mentoring Inc.,
Our Mother's Land
Outcast Food Network
Park Heights Saints Community Center,
Inc.
Paul's Place, Inc.
PDRC International
Peace and Love World
Pride Center of Maryland
Prodigy Youth Services Inc
Project JumpStart, Inc.
Project PLASE
Public Justice Center
Pure Love Foundation, Inc.
Requity Foundation Inc.
Roberta's House- A Family Grief Support
Center
Roland Park Community Center 501(c)3
RTL Foundation
Saint Luke's Youth Center
Sharon K. Harvey Memorial Foundation
Show Your Soft Side
Sisters Saving the City

Southwest Sports and Fitness Alliance
St Mary's Outreach Center
St. Francis Neighborhood Center
St. Ignatius Loyola Academy
Station North Tool Library
Strand Theater Company
Suitable Attire, Inc.
Susanna Wesley House
the Board Room Chess Inc
The Broken Wall Project
The Cavanagh House
THE CHAPLIN GROUP
The Chill Station, Inc.
The Chris Wilson Foundation
The Community Group Inc
The I Am Me Project Inc.
The Ingenuity Project, Inc.
The League for People with Disabilities
the Neighborhood Design Center
The Peale, Baltimore Community
Museum
Ulman Foundation
Weekend Backpacks
Wide Angle Youth Media

Wilcome Human Services, Inc

Women Leading Baltimore

Women's Housing Coalition

Young Successful Leaders Inc.

Baltimore County

Individuals

Bhim B K

Dr Christopher Swanson

Dr Laurie Taylor-Mitchell

Erika Summers

Katie Norton

Kelly Sage

Lauren Stranahan

Michael L Patz

Mr. Stephen Randall Rourke Esq.

Ms Katherine J Martin

Ms Sonia L Socha

Ms. Sonia L. Socha

Nicholas Alexopoulos

Octavia Cannedy Esq.

Robert Jenkins

Ronald T. McDade

Sarah Gibbons

Shalini J Morgan

Shelly McLaughlin

Steve Morgan

Toni Roth St. John

Veneeta Eason

Venishia Jordan

Organizations

A Better Chance Recovery LLC

ABC RECOVERY COMMUNITY
OUTREACH

Affiliated Sante Group

American Restroom Association

Baltimore Hunger Project

Board of Child Care

Bridge of Support, Inc.

Choo Smith Youth Empowerment

Community Advocates 4 You Inc

Community Assistance Network, Inc.

Community of Hope Health and Wellness
Conflict Resolution Center of Baltimore County
Contemporary Arts Inc.
Damascus Road Life Center
Dundalk Renaissance Corp.
Eastern Region Association of Forest and Nature Schools
Friends of Great Kids Farm
Heaven on Earth NOW
Historical Society of Baltimore County
Hunt Valley Business Forum
International Paruresis Association
Irvine Nature Center
Joseph & Vera Douglas Family Foundation, Inc.
Joyce's Home of New Beginning
Kingdom Community Development Corp
L.I.F.E. Inc
Ladies of Vision Charities, Inc.
Latino Education Advancement Fund
Maryland Business Roundtable for Education
My New Book Inc

Natural History Society of Maryland
NCIA
NeighborSpace of Baltimore County, Inc.
Our Children Matter Corporation
Pathfinders for Autism
Pressley Ridge
Progressive Steps Inc.
Prospect Hill Cemetery of Towson Inc.
Quality Life Solutions, Inc.
rebuild better together
Reggie Prostate cancer foundation
Rose of Sharon Equestrian School, Inc.
Sisterhood Agenda
Soul Soul Collective Farm, Inc.
STEM Equity Initiative
Steps of Hope - Guatemala
Student Support Network
Tammy's Angels
The Arc Baltimore
The Helping Hands Non-Profit Org
The Joy of Living
The Joy of Living's Women and Children Center
The Red Devils

Towson University GIVE (Grantwriting In Valued Environments)

Women of Valor, Inc.

Women's Law Center of Maryland, Inc.

Calvert County

Individuals

Deborah Shupe

Organizations

Alliance Against Seclusion and Restraint

Calvert Environmental Trust for Youth

Community Mediation Center of Calvert County

East-John Youth Center, Inc

Ladies of Charity Calvert County

Loving Care Senior Services, Inc.

Caroline County

Individuals

Kendall Teague

Organizations

Caroline County Council of Arts, Inc.

Martin's House & Barn

Carroll County

Individuals

Veronica Cool

Organizations

Caring Carroll

Carroll County Arts Council

Carroll County NAACP Youth Council

Carroll Technology & Innovation Council

Goodwill Housing Strategies

Mission Believe

Westminster Rescue Mission

Cecil County

Organizations

Cecil County Community Mediation
Center

Clinica Medica Primaria de Rising Sun

Deep Roots Inc

Fair Hill Environmental Foundation

Voices of Hope, Inc.

Charles County

Individuals

Carmella Davis Watkins

Jessica Minopoli

Organizations

Beyond the Classroom, Inc.

Maryland Diaper Bank

Camp St Charles

Poiema Movement, Inc

Canes and Scooters.org

Pure Play Every Day, Inc.

Center for Children

RESPONSIBLE RE-ENTRY

Charles county Charitable Trust

Seeds of Courage Inc.

Charles County Community Mediation
Center

Spring Dell Center

Stella's Girls Incorporated

CTLDomGroup Inc

The Jude House, Inc.

Dream Queen Foundation INC

Through Piscataway Eyes Inc

Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland
Community Charities, Inc.

University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Southern Maryland Alumni Chapter, Inc.

LIONS CAMP MERRICK INC.

Upward Thrive Academy, Inc.

Little Beans Orphan Ark Rescue, Corp

Dorchester County

Organizations

Awaken Recovery Foundation, Inc.

Eastern Shore AHEC

Harvesting Hope Youth and Family
Wellness

Midshore Meals til Monday

New Beginnings Youth and Family
Services

Richardson Maritime Museum,
Incorporated

Frederick County

Individuals

Andrea Baker

Dr. Lili Leonard

Josh Marks

Mrs Michelle Y Nusum-Smith

Ms. Caylee Marie Winpigler

Patricia G. Hanberry

Robert Nickey

Trejo R Jose

Organizations

Ausherman Family Foundation

CR Freedom Center

Envision Frederick County

Frederick Book Arts Center Inc

Heartly House, Inc.

Literacy Council of Frederick County

Mental Health Association of Frederick
County

National String Symphonia

Pinball EDU

Pulling for Veterans with PTSD

Steadfast House for Homeless Youth

The Freedom Center, Inc.

The Global Z Recording Project

The Ranch, Inc.

The Word Woman LLC

Garrett County

Organizations

Appalachian Parent Association Inc.

Garrett Workforce Housing Alliance

HART for Animals, Inc.

HUBZone Council, Inc

Reflection House

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P: 410 - 727 - 6367 | help@mdnonprofit.org
marylandnonprofits.org

Harford County

Individuals

Ana Carrera

Organizations

Bel Air Downtown Alliance

Cares Community INC

CHOSEN Community Development Corporation

Historical Miniatures Gaming Society, Inc.

Inner County Outreach, Inc.

Lights, Camera, Action Productions, Inc

The EPICENTER

The Harford Center, Inc.

Howard County

Individuals

Bayo C Oshinnaiye

Christy Ferguson

Jill Berry

Rita Jean Hamlet

Simon J. Sauvageau

Organizations

A Home Of Our Own Howard, Incl

Association of Community Services of Howard County

Bridges to Housing Stability Inc.

Columbia Community Care

Columbia Housing Center

Down Syndrome Association of Maryland

HC DrugFree

Health Tech Alley

Heritage Housing Partners Corp

Home Builders Care Foundation
Hosea Housing Resource Center
Howard County Autism Society
Howard EcoWorks, Inc.
Joan G Booze Educational Foundation
Maryland Horse Council Foundation
Maryland State Family Child Care Association
Monterey Institute of Natural Medicine
Neighbor Ride. Inc.
On Our Own of Howard County, Inc.

Rachell L. Gray Community Foundation
Rebuilding Together Howard County
ReigniteED Inc.
Respite Retreats
Sobar
The Arc Maryland
The Community Ecology Institute
Touch Stones Financial Wellness Services Company
Winter Growth, Inc.

Kent County

Organizations

Bayside H.O.Y.A.S., Inc.
HomePorts

Minary's Dream Alliance, Inc.
The Leaf Program, Inc.

Montgomery County

Individuals

Adrienne E McBride
Ana Astrid Molina
Andrew Kaminski
Chris Stephens
Christopher Botros
Christy Kenady
David D Therriault

Dr Stephanie Parson
Dr. Charles Otoigo Choti
James Gipson
Javaneh Pourkarim Esq.
Lorienne Beals
Luanne P. McKenna
Maria Herald

Marie Patcha

Michele Banks

Mr. Anthony Michael Shore II

Ms, Adrienne A Gude

Ms. Franca Brilliant

Organizations

AbodesJoy

AfriThrive Inc

APOYOnline-Association for Heritage
Preservation of the Americas

Arts on the Block

BlackRock Center for the Arts

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION AND SMALL BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT- CIESBD

Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping
Council

Child Justice, Inc.

CollegeTracks, Inc.

Community Bridges

Community FarmShare

Community Reach of Montgomery
County

Conflict Resolution Center of
Montgomery County

Nathaniel T Grube Esq.

Nikkia Malone

Sandy Wright

Sharon Kehnemui

Tess Kerkhof

Court Watch Montgomery

Crossroads Community Food Network

Cura Personalis Project Inc.

DC South Asian Arts Council Inc

Delivering Opportunities thru Vocational
Education Services Corp

Docs In Progerss

EL PILAR FOUNDATION

ElevateHER

Empowering the Ages

Every Girl Can Learning Institute

For 3 Sisters, Inc.

Friends of the Library, Montgomery
County, MD, Inc.

Friends of White Oak Inc

Girls on the Run of Montgomery
County, MD

Greater Washington Urban League

HarvestShare, Inc.

Hero Dogs, Inc.
HHELP>Helping Hands Empowering &
Lifting People
Hope and Help East Africa
Housing Unlimited
Independence Now
India Development and Relief Fund
(IDRF)
Interfaith Works
Jesus for All Evangelistic Ministry
JIREH Supportive Housing Inc
Just Neighbors Ministry
Kids in Showbiz / Rise Media Business &
Technical Training School Inc.
KoBE Government Contracting Alliance
(KoBE)
Liver Health Initiative
Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic
Manna Food Center
Manna Food Center, Inc
Meals on Wheels of Takoma Park/Silver
Spring
Michael & Mauritia Patcha Foundation
Mid-County United Ministries
Montgomery County Black Collective
Montgomery County Renters Alliance,
Inc.
National Dance Education Organization
(NDEO)
Nature Forward
Nonprofit Montgomery
Nueva Vida, Inc.
Ohr Kodesh Congregation
Our House, Inc.
Owen Community Healthcare Center,
Inc.
Parent Encouragement Program
Parents Against Depression
Partners in Fundraising
Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation,
Ltd.
Rainbow Community Development
Center
Rebuilding Together Montgomery
County
Rise N Shine Foundation, Inc
Riverworks Art Center
Rock Creek Foundation
Rockville Baseball Association
Rory J. Weichbrod Unfinished Business

Round House Theatre
Sarcoma Foundation of America
SciTech2U
SGAP Leaders
So What Else, Inc.
Story Tapestries, Inc.
Student Global Ambassador Program
(SGAP Leaders)
Sustainable Earth Eating
Telecommunications for the Deaf (TDI)
The CareerCatchers, Inc.

The Civic Circle
Urban Ecosystem Restorations
Vietnamese American Services
Vikara Village
We Refuse Abuse - Voices Against
Domestic Violence for a peaceful
coexistence to a better World!
Women with Initiatives Inc
Word Organization for Rights and
Development
Yellow Ribbon Fund, Inc.
Youth Sports Collaborative Network

Prince George's County

Individuals

Adrea Benedetti
Chris Farley
Dr. Cheryl West
Erica Lancaster
Helena Santos-Collins
Lynda M. Dorman
Mrs. LaTanya Michelle Robinson

Omar Nicholson
Richard Escalante
Robert J Rand Jr
Rollison Edewor
Tammy MI Money
Titilayo Helen Samuel

Organizations

100 Black Men of Prince George's
County, Inc.
1441, Incorporated

A Hand Up Not A Hand Out Corp
Accokeek Foundation at Piscataway
Park

Alice Ferguson Foundation
Alpha & Omega Community Service Corporation
Anew Inspired Change Organization
Art Works Now
Asociacion Guatemaltecos Sin Fronteras Inc
BCAUSEICAN INC
Blessed to Help, Inc.
Bound for Better, advocates for Domestic Violence
CADREYELD
Camp Springs ELKS Lodge #2332
Casa de Restauracion Hispano Cristiana
Central Ohio Home Care Agency
CENTRO DE APOYO FAMILIAR
Chiquita Jackson Enterprise
College Park Affordable Housing Coalition
Community Ministry of Prince George's County
CONCERN
Defensores De La Cuenca
Edewor Foundation & Initiative Inc
Educarte Incorporated
Fairmount Heights Community Development Corp, Inc
Fairmount Heights Community Development Corporation
Fidos For Freedom, Inc.
First Generation College Bound
Friends of Lower Beaverdam Creek
Functional Training Zone
Girl Speak Inc.
Girls Like Us Evolving, Inc.
Grace Social Sector Consulting
Heritage Care, Inc
Housing Options & Planning Enterprises, Inc.
Huntington City Community Development Corporation (HCCDC)
Hyattsville Aging in Place
Idea International Diabetes Education Association
Iglesia Pentecostes Manantiales de Agua Viva
I'm Bruised But Not Broken, Inc.
ImpactHumanity Inc.
In Reach, Inc.
It Takes A Village Collaborative

JA Retro inc
Joe's Movement Emporium
Keen Neighborhood Outreach
Community Kingdom (KNOCK)
Lake Arbor Foundation, Inc.
Laurel Advocacy & Referral Services, Inc.
Li-A-Ping Financial Inc
Maryland Indian Tourism Association
Mission of Love Charities
Multi Purpose Community Services
NAMI Prince George's County, MD, Inc.
New Day Maryland, Inc
Nick's Place, Inc.
Nonprofit Prince George's County
On the M.O.V.E. Academy, Inc.
Passion & Compassion Inc
Peace on Patuxent
PeachTree Foundation, Inc.
Petronille Healthy Society
Prince George's Arts & Humanities
Council
Prince George's Child Resource Center,
Inc.
Prince George's County Muslim Council
Foundation
Promise Landing Farm, Inc
Promisedland, Inc.
Push4Greatness, Inc.
Reality Check Mentoring, Inc.
Resilient Youth Mentoring, Inc
Sekhem Health Healing Inc.
SheRises Inc.
Sidney Mudd Elks Lodge #748
SLK Health Services Corporation
Solutions in Hometown Connections
Strategic Music Partnership
The Arc Prince George's County
The Baobab Tree Foundation
The Clarion Call, Inc.
The Community Salon
The Ivy Community Charities of Pr.
Georg. Co.
The Rock for Life Foundation, Inc.
The SPACE Free Art For All, Inc
United Communities Against Poverty
Vessels for Humanity
Veteran Women Chamber of Commerce
Victory of Hope outreach Ministry, inc.
VineCorps

Wait Up! Corporation

Washington Montessori Institute

Women's Equity Center and Action
Network (WE CAN)

Young Entrepreneurs Society Inc

YWAM DC: Prince George's County

Queen Anne's County

Organizations

Building Another Youth

Chesapeake Charities

Compass Regional Hospice

Crossroads Community and CRMHS

Kennard Alumni Association Inc

Queen Anne's at Home

Rebuilding Together Quenn Anne's
County

Talisman Therapeutic Riding Inc

Somerset County

Individuals

Heidi Thompson

Organizations

It Takes a Village to Help Our Children, Inc.

St. Mary's County

Individuals

Conner Wolfe

Nohely Rios

Organizations

Chamber Orchestra of Southern
Maryland, Inc Concert (AKA COSMIC
Symphony)

Leadership Southern Maryland

St Mary's County Library Foundation

Chesapeake Rescue Alliance

The Friends of St. Clement's Island &
Piney Point Museums

Community Mediation Center St. Mary's
County

Talbot County

Organizations

Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum
Critchlow Adkins Children's Centers
Mid Shore Community Mediation
Center

Mid-Shore Pro Bono
Phillips Wharf Environmental Center
Talbot Hospice
Talbot Interfaith Shelter

Washington County

Individuals

Erin Sultan
Natalie Evans

Tiffanea Yarnell

Organizations

America's Hauling for Hope, Inc.
BEACON House, Inc.
Discovery Station
Fierce Allstars

FIERCE CHEER SPONSORS,INC
National Road Heritage Foundation
Oasis Community Support Services, Inc.
Spanish 4 ALL & Pueblo Hispano Inc.

Wicomico County

Individuals

Claire Otterbein

Ms. Christina Williams

Organizations

Bountiful New Beginnings Inc.
Chesapeake Housing Mission
Community Foundation of the Eastern
Shore, Inc.
Deaf Independent Living Association

FORGE YOUTH AND FAMILY ACADEMY
INC
Help and Outreach Point of Entry, Inc
Help Me "2" Help You, LLC
LifeMark Inc.
MAC INC

Open Arms Network Maryland
Rebirth Inc
Salisbury Neighborhood Housing
Services
SISTERS EMPOWERING SISTERS
ASSOCIATION INC

The Haitian Development Center of
Delmarva Inc
United Way of the Lower Eastern Shore
Village of Hope

Worcester County

Individuals

Kelly H Brinkley

Organizations

Building Mosaic Solutions, Inc.
Furnace Town Foundation Inc.
Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce

Worcester County Arts Council
Worcester County GOLD, Inc.

Outside of Maryland

Individuals

Mr Lawrence Guyot

Nyah Vanterpool

Organizations

Can I Live, Inc

Seabury Resources for Aging

HB 1226 Iliff Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Heather Iliff

Position: FAV

This is the moment to care



1500 Union Avenue | Suite 2500 | Baltimore, MD 21211
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marylandnonprofits.org

Maryland Nonprofits Testimony

SUPPORT for House Bill 1226

Nonprofit Sustainability Fund

House Appropriations Committee

March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard today in support of House bill 1226 to create the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund. My name is Heather Iloff and I am president and CEO of Maryland Nonprofits, representing our 1,700 member organizations and the more than 700 people and organizations that signed on to support this bill.

In 2015, in the aftermath of the uprising in Baltimore following Freddie Gray's death, community-based organizations around the City began picking up the pieces and working to knit the community together. However, there was a problem – many small, community based organizations had faced the same disinvestment in their communities that contributed to the uprising in the first place. We saw even more stark difficulties for small nonprofits across the state during the COVID-19 pandemic. Small and midsized nonprofits are the fabric of communities through thick and thin, and this bill acknowledges that the very existence of these organizations in communities is critical. Larger organizations have advantages in leveraging individual donors and foundations, as well as in lobbying to receive significant government grants.

This pattern over decades has resulted in 90% of all nonprofit funding going to the top 2% of nonprofit organizations that are also disproportionately white-led.

As the legislature moves into more authority over the budget, this pattern could continue and deepen as larger organizations have more resources to access state legislative processes, or it could become more equitable. By having the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund in place, nonprofits will have an avenue for unrestricted operating funding that is not normally available through the state budget process, and not very accessible to small organizations due to burdensome requirements and delays in payments typical in many government funding streams.

In a sector with \$66 billion in economic impact in the State and 12.9% of all private sector jobs, a fund of \$100m is at a scale that can make a difference. The economic impact of this bill will be to create more jobs in small organizations in communities, deliver community-led and community-accountable solutions to local problems, and leverage the ability of these organizations to raise money from federal and philanthropic sources, thus bringing more resources into communities that need it most.

Contact information:

Heather Iliff, President and CEO

hiliff@mdnonprofit.org

443-438-2348

MarylandNonprofits.org

IL Written Testimony 2023 - HB 1226 draft.pdf

Uploaded by: Hindley Williams

Position: FAV



HB 1226: Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund - Establishment

Testimony of Maryland Centers for Independent Living

House: Appropriations, March 9, 2023

The seven Centers for Independent Living (CIL) in Maryland were established by federal law and work to ensure the civil rights and quality services of people with disabilities in Maryland. CILs are nonprofit disability resource and advocacy organizations located throughout Maryland operated by and for people with disabilities. CIL staff and Boards are at least 51% people with disabilities. We are part of a nationwide network which provides Information and Referral, Advocacy, Peer Support, Independent Living Skills training and Transition Services.

HB 1226 would establish the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund in the Maryland Department of Commerce. The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund would provide general operating support to nonprofit organizations in the State that meet certain criteria.

Nonprofit organizations in the state of Maryland serve Marylanders in need, improve health outcomes, enhance education, enrich the environment, and support arts and culture that we all enjoy as residents of the Free State. There is bipartisan agreement that nonprofits are part of the communities they serve and preferable to government agencies in understanding and meeting the needs of those communities.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

It is estimated that the average grant would be \$46,000. An annual \$46,000 grant to each CIL would provide additional resources to defray the costs of assistive technology, expand peer mentoring, enhance the independent living skills of student entering postsecondary education or the workforce, and provide funds for home modifications.

Sustainable small and midsized nonprofit organizations in every county in Maryland foster community vitality and resiliency, while representing the needs and interests of Maryland's diverse communities. Nonprofit organizations, in partnership with the State of Maryland, can ensure communities in Maryland are able to receive high-quality programs and services from local, trusted nonprofit organizations.

The seven CILs foster vitality and resilience in the disability community. In partnership with the State of Maryland, CILs can ensure that individuals with disabilities in Maryland are able to receive high-quality programs and services and enhance partnerships with State, local and other nonprofit resources.

HB 1226 is common-sense legislation that would ensure the sustained results that nonprofit organizations uniquely provide to the citizens of Maryland. HB 1226 could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

The Maryland Independent Living Network respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact Information:

Sarah Basehart
Independence Now
240-898-2183
sbasehart@innow.org

Hindley Williams
The IMAGE Center
410-305-9199
hwilliams@imagemd.org

HB1226_SUMMIT_FAV .pdf

Uploaded by: Jenna O'Connell

Position: FAV



Serving bright students with dyslexia
and other learning differences

March 9, 2023

House Bill 1226

Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund - Establishment

Position: SUPPORT

The Summit School is a Type I full-day, Special Education and Related Services program for children with specific learning disabilities in grades one through eight. Our students are bright children whose dyslexia or other learning disabilities present challenges that have previously prevented them from finding success in other school placements. In an environment where the overall student/teacher ratio is 4:1, and instruction is implemented by highly trained teachers, our program is designed with the intention that our students can ultimately attend a mainstream high school and pursue their career and college goals.

HB1226 establishes the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund within the Department of Commerce to provide general operating support to nonprofit organizations in Maryland. It also establishes the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund Evaluation Committee to evaluate applications from eligible nonprofit organizations for grants from the Fund. Additionally, the bill sets criteria for eligibility for a certain grant from the Fund. The aim of the bill is to provide much-needed financial support to nonprofit organizations that provide essential programs and services to Maryland residents.

As a nonprofit full-day special education program, the Summit School is dedicated to providing specialized services and programs to students with learning differences. Our school, like many others, relies on donations and grants to support our mission and provide the necessary services to our students. Therefore, we fully support HB1226, which establishes the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund to provide general operating support to nonprofit organizations in Maryland. This support will be critical to the survival of nonprofit organizations, including the Summit School.

Additionally, the establishment of the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund Evaluation Committee will ensure that eligible nonprofit organizations receive grants based on objective and fair criteria. This will help ensure that the grants are used in a manner that will best benefit the individuals and communities that rely on these nonprofit organizations.

For the aforementioned reasons we politely request your favorable SUPPORT for HB1226.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joan A. Mele-McCarthy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'J' and 'M'.

Dr. Joan A. Mele-McCarthy, CCC-SLP
Executive Director

VoH HB 1226 2023.pdf

Uploaded by: Jennifer Tuerke

Position: FAV



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT
SUSTAINABILITY FUND**

House Appropriations Committee

March 9, 2023

Dear Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee,

Voices of Hope, Inc. supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually. Small and mid-sized nonprofits are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with. However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow. An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

Voices of Hope is a grassroots nonprofit that has had to struggle for funding and sustainability to provide lifesaving services to people who struggle with addiction and their families. With dedicated funding, Voices of Hope would be able to reach more people during this unprecedented overdose death and mental health crisis that Maryland is currently experiencing.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business. For these reasons, Voices of Hope, Inc. respectfully requests **a favorable report on HB 1226.**

Thank you,

Jennifer Tuerke
Executive Director

www.voicesofhopemaryland.org
443.993.7055 ~ Voicesofhope414@gmail.com
224 E. Main St. Elkton, MD 21921

NatPhil Testimony letter Support for HB1226[78].pd

Uploaded by: Jim Kelly

Position: FAV



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Jim Kelly, President/CEO, National Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorale of Montgomery County Inc.

House Appropriations Committee

March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. **The National Philharmonic** supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with.

However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

National Philharmonic has struggled to get audiences back into the concert hall since the start of the pandemic. Revenues are down, expenses and cost of doing business are increasing. While we are starting to see increases in earned revenue (ticket sales), we are seeing a decline in donations that are needed to sustain and continue bringing music to our communities. This bill would help in the aftermath of Covid-19 recovery. The arts sector was one of the hardest hit, and slowest to recover. The non-profit sector needs this support.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, **National Philharmonic** respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact information: **Jim Kelly, 202-321-7832, jim@nationalphilharmonic.org**

5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, MD 20852 | (301) 493-9283 | NationalPhilharmonic.org

The National Philharmonic is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, federal EIN 52-1361650. Please retain this letter as receipt of your contribution.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226.pdf

Uploaded by: JoAnn Hansen

Position: FAV

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT
SUSTAINABILITY FUND**

JoAnn Hansen, Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity Choptank

House Appropriations Committee

March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. Habitat for Humanity Choptank supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with.

However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

While specific government funding sources exist to help with the work that nonprofits do, these funding sources often look to nonprofits to provide a match for support, which often comes in the form of staffing. No one wants to pay for staffing. It is absolutely the hardest cost for non-profits to cover even though you cannot deliver a high-quality service without high quality staff. In addition, the difficulties in getting advances on government funds, while in some cases is available, is administratively challenging and cumbersome at best. And the timing in which government grants are reviewed, approved and nonprofits can count on them for support is simply not predictable.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, Habitat for Humanity Choptank respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact information: JoAnn Hansen, director@habitatchoptank.org, 410-476-3204,
www.habitatchoptank.org

Written Testimony - HB 1226 Non profit funding.pdf

Uploaded by: Katherine Davis

Position: FAV

HB 1226
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY FUND
HEARING BEFORE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
MARCH 9, 2023
POSITION: SUPPORT

The Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland (PBRC) supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

PBRC, an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is the statewide thought leader and clearinghouse for volunteer civil legal services in Maryland. PBRC provides training, mentorship, and pro bono service opportunities to members of the private bar and offers direct legal services through free legal clinics. **PBRC supports HB 1226 because it would enable small non-profits like ours to operate more efficiently, effectively and sustainably - leveraging services for those most vulnerable in our state.**

Small and mid-sized nonprofits are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with. However, these organizations struggle to maintain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow and sustain impactful programs in their communities.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. With these restricted funds, it is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business and to maintain the flexibility necessary to address multiple needs in our communities.

PBRC utilizes staff and volunteers to serve those in crisis across the state of Maryland. We have successfully built strong programs in the courts, communities and human services sites. However the constant stress and pressure of finding new funding sources detracts from our ability to remain a force of stability for those individuals and neighborhoods we serve. Staff who should be offering direct legal services and other skilled assistance find themselves supporting a daunting amount of administrative work, diluting and reducing their effectiveness as advocates and service providers.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For the above reasons,

PBRC urges a FAVORABLE report on HB 1226.

Please contact Sharon E. Goldsmith, sgoldsmith@probonomd.org, www.probonomd.org; 443-703-3048.

HPRP Testimony HB1226 Nonprofit Sustainability Fun

Uploaded by: Kirsten Downs

Position: FAV

SUPPORT

House Bill 1226 – Economic Development – Nonprofit Sustainability Fund – Establishment

Testimony of
Kirsten Gettys Downs, Executive Director
Homeless Persons Representation Project

Thursday, March 9, 2023
House Appropriations Committee

Good afternoon, Chair and Members of the Committee; the Homeless Persons Representation Project, Inc. (HPRP) supports establishing the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund in the Department of Commerce to provide continuing funding for much-needed services throughout Maryland.

HPRP is a nonprofit legal services organization providing free legal representation to people who are housing insecure on legal issues that will lead to an end to homelessness. HPRP advocates assist families and individuals in approximately 15 community-based legal clinics in shelters, soup kitchens, US Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, and other locations. We handle more than 1,000 cases yearly to help persons obtain stable housing and critical public benefits like food stamps, veterans' benefits, health care, and more. While many legal services organizations focus on providing brief advice to large numbers of clients, HPRP works alongside clients throughout their cases, which can last days, months, or even years.

Civil Legal Services Removes Economic and Social Barriers

Effective service delivery should include provisions that address past harms, disparate impact, and economic barriers. The advocacy and services offered by legal services organizations address past injustice and can move Maryland toward the economic and social equity so often championed by Maryland's policymakers. Yet organizations such as HPRP must have the resources to strengthen our organizational health to have maximum impact on the communities we serve. Additionally, we must have the financial stability to sustain our initiatives and programs. For example, the recent legal reforms, such as cannabis legalization and Access to Counsel in Evictions, pose new opportunities for civil legal service organizations to assist individuals and families in gaining greater economic and housing stability. But nonprofits require a lasting financial investment to carry out these initiatives effectively.

The Challenges of Uncertain Funding for Nonprofit Legal Services Organizations

The number of individuals that need assistance and qualify for legal services has grown substantially in the last several years. A recent study by the Legal Services Corporation found that most low-income households in the United States faced one or more civil legal issues in 2021. The report found that an estimated 74% of low-income families experienced at least one civil legal problem in the past year – with many households dealing with multiple problems. Legal issues concerning housing, employment, income maintenance, and family safety are just a few.¹ This increased need has heightened the need for well-resourced, well-trained, dedicated legal advocates. Yet, lack of resources and uncertain funding has been an ongoing barrier to assisting those seeking services.

Many service organizations lack the resources to recruit and retain service providers and legal advocates. Competitive compensation is critical to the sustained health of the legal organizations tasked with providing legal services. Qualified applicants seek positions that afford competitive compensation, professional development, and meaningful work. Persistent open positions are a detriment to morale, increase the work burden for remaining staff, disadvantage clients, and undercut our mission. Legal service organizations such as HPRP must have guaranteed resources to strengthen our organizational health. Without this investment, our impact on the communities we serve will be limited. This includes offering equitable compensation to our employees, bolstering operations with excellent administrative support, and securing financial stability for our programs and services.

The Financial Security of Nonprofits Organizations is an Imperative of Justice

Access to services is not charity but an essential investment in human rights and dignity. Moreover, investment in civil legal services stimulates significant economic benefits for communities, state and local governments, and individuals. For example, studies in several states illustrate that civil legal aid positively affects the housing market, increases workforce and wage potential, and removes barriers to economic stability. With secure funding from Nonprofit Sustainability Fund, the Homeless Persons Representation Project and its partners can continue to build on the success of our collaboration, ensuring coordinated coverage and a smooth process for those Marylanders in need of assistance.

HPRP strongly urges the Committee to issue a favorable report on HB1226. Please contact Kirsten Gettys Downs (kgettysdowns@hprplaw.org) with questions or for additional information.

HB 1226 Economic Action Maryland FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Marceline White

Position: FAV



Testimony to the House Appropriations Committee
HB 1226: Economic Development-Nonprofit Sustainability
Fund-Establishment
Position: Favorable

March 9, 2023

The Honorable Ben Barnes, Chair
Appropriations Committee
Room 121, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Cc: Members, House Appropriations Committee

Honorable Chair Barnes and Members of the Committee:

Economic Action Maryland (formerly the Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition) is a people-centered movement to expand economic rights, housing justice, and community reinvestment for working families, low-income communities, and communities of color. Economic Action Maryland provides direct assistance today while passing legislation and regulations to create systemic change in the future.

We are here in strong support of HB 1226.

Nonprofit organizations are the backbone of our communities. They often provide services and reach underserved communities, oftentimes serving individuals that it has been difficult for government agencies to reach. Other nonprofit organizations provide critical research and policy analysis to document problems, propose, and evaluate solutions and best practices.

However, many nonprofits struggle to obtain the funding they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow.

HB 1226 will establish a nonprofit sustainability fund that will provide general support funding to small and mid-sized nonprofits.

As a mid-sized nonprofit, we returned more than \$500,000 to older adults through tax credits, earned benefits screening, and financial coaching; provided advice to nearly 1400 tenants, and screened 400 clients who had fair housing complaints. We also researched and wrote two new policy reports on PPP lending and affordable auto insurance, and provided consumer education and awareness trainings for hundreds of people around the state.

2209 Maryland Ave · Baltimore, MD · 21218 · 410-220-0494

info@econaction.org · www.econaction.org · Tax

ID 52-2266235

Economic Action Maryland is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

However, with additional funding, we would be able to hire more tenant counselors, a testing coordinator for our fair housing work, a navigator to assist Marylanders with medical debt apply for assistance, and more staff to serve older adults throughout the state. This would enable us to expand our reach and meet our mission

We are one of many nonprofits that would benefit from the passage of HB 1226. The structure of HB 1226 means that it would provide a larger share of support to smaller nonprofits, particularly smaller nonprofits led by and serving Black and Latino communities, which is critical in terms of ensuring equity and sustainability.

For all these reasons, we support HB 1226 and urge a favorable report.

Best,

Marceline White
Executive Director

2209 Maryland Ave · Baltimore, MD · 21218 · 410-220-0494

info@econaction.org · www.econaction.org · Tax

ID 52-2266235

Economic Action Maryland is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226_AnnapolisGreen.pdf

Uploaded by: Mathilde Coyle

Position: FAV



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT
SUSTAINABILITY FUND

House Appropriations Committee

March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee,

Annapolis Green supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits play an outsized role by augmenting the services of local and state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community in Maryland. Nonprofits are knowledgeable about the issues that most affect specific communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups much more easily than government agencies can.

However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. Most grants, for example, provide funding for programs but not for the staffing necessary to implement those programs. It is difficult to cover the operational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

Annapolis Green has been a local non-profit powerhouse since its founding in 2006. We have created a foothold in the community for gaining knowledge and taking action for the environment. However, the organization's future is not secure and exists on a year-to-year basis relying heavily on the volunteerism of its founders and a strong base of supporters. House Bill 1226 would ensure the future of Annapolis Green, allow us to build on our achievements, and continue to provide unique services to the greater Annapolis area residential and business communities. Here are just two examples of what we have achieved and work hard to continue:

- For 12 years we have been the only local nonprofit advocating for and educating about the role of electric vehicles in reducing greenhouse gasses.
- Our Responsible Events and Festivals (REF) program has resulted in large-scale Greening of the many festivals and special events in our area, including the Rotary Crab feast and Military Bowl, by providing recycling and composting resources, but more importantly, raising awareness of how to reduce single-use plastics and how to responsibly manage the waste that threatens the beauty and ecology of the Chesapeake Bay.



Funding from HB 1226 would ensure that an organization like ours, with a long history of positive impact, would continue. This funding would help us go beyond just continuing and surviving, but rather help us grow. We would use the funding to build our capacity and evolve communications to attract the energy of our area's young people into our movement. The funding would allow us to secure office and conference space and serve as a collaboration center for large-scale public efforts that can move the dial toward community-wide mitigation of the effects of Climate Change.

Each of our unique program areas described above have costs we struggle to meet. Currently, we are a small team comprised of one full-time person, two part-time dedicated founders, and a working board of six individuals. Funding resulting from the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund would mean we Green every festival in our area, increase EV ownership and infrastructure, and raise public consciousness to change consumer behavior as it relates to single-use plastics.

In sum, this funding ensures we can continue to carry out the Annapolis Green mission to *connect, inform and inspire Annapolis area residents, organizations and businesses to care for the environment, live more responsibly and create a more beautiful and thriving community* for decades to come.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund would bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would enhance government's ability to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, Annapolis Green respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Tilly Coyle, Executive Director, Annapolis Green
(410) 212-6945, tilly.coyle@annapolisgreen.com

HB 1226 - WLCMD - FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Michelle Siri

Position: FAV

BILL NO:	House Bill 1226
TITLE:	Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund - Establishment
COMMITTEE:	Appropriations
HEARING DATE:	March 9, 2023
POSITION:	SUPPORT

The Women's Law Center of Maryland (WLC) is a non-profit legal services and advocacy organization dedicated to ensuring the physical safety, economic security, and bodily autonomy of women in Maryland. We strive towards that goal through direct legal representation of survivors of intimate partner violence; information and referral services through our Family Law and Employment Law Hotlines; and via advocacy both at the state level and through various local and legal initiatives. Our services are offered free of charge and with a focus on trauma-informed, client and victim-centered advocacy.

The WLC supports HB1226 as it will support the nonprofits that are part of the fabric of our communities, offering services that neither the private sector nor government can sufficiently provide. Specifically, this bill imposes a mandated appropriation in the annual State Budget Bill, establishing the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund in the Department of Commerce to provide general operating support to nonprofit organizations in the State. The grant fund would support an estimated 2,100 small and medium-sized organizations annually, with an emphasis on human services organizations, culturally specific organizations serving historically underserved and underrepresented communities, and small nonprofits located outside metro areas.

Sustainable small and mid-sized nonprofit organizations in every county in the state foster community vitality and resiliency, while representing the needs and interests of Maryland's diverse communities. HB 1226 will ensure communities in Maryland are able to receive high-quality programs and services from local, trusted nonprofit organizations.

For the aforementioned reasons, the WLC strongly urges a favorable report on HB 1226. For further information, please contact Michelle Siri at msiri@wlcmd.org.

The Women's Law Center of Maryland is a private, non-profit, legal services organization that serves as a leading voice for justice and fairness for women. It advocates for the rights of women through legal assistance to individuals and strategic initiatives to achieve systemic change, working to ensure physical safety, economic security, and bodily autonomy for women in Maryland.

Hb1226 support Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Minister Brian Bordley

Position: FAV



One More One Less Mentoring

P.O. Box 2625, Baltimore, MD 21215

www.omolmentoring.org

facebook.com/omolmentoring

Tax ID# 27-2613157

03/07/2023

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Minister Brian Bordley, Executive Wellness Director, ONE More...ONE Less Mentoring Inc.,

House Appropriations Committee March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. ONE More... ONE Less Mentoring Inc. supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Funding to fund at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits can help the state government by providing services, and opportunities, and enhancing the quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits can address the specific needs of their communities, and often can reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with. However, these organizations need help to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, address the many complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would boost the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to specific uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

Our challenge in John Hopkins Urban Health Report 2020 is, "What is striking from this data is that homicide is the leading cause of death for Baltimore residents ages 15-24 and the second leading cause of death for children ages 1-14. With appropriate unrestricted grant funding, we can offer programming that addresses youth from a holistic lens of structured programming, mental wellness, workforce development, marine environmental inclusion, technology, new concepts of agriculture, harnessing energy, and Ai intelligence. But it is time to place funds in grassroots organizations that are the "boots on the ground" to change societal issues, especially in our youth.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would aid the government to deliver services and addressing needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, ONE More...ONE Less Mentoring Inc. respectfully requests a favorable report on HB1226.

OMOL Mentoring acronyms stand for, "One More child to support and One Less child without their needs met from exposure to poverty and pandemic."

Min. B. Bordley

Min. B.Bordley, Executive

Wellness Director, <https://linktr.ee/OMOLMentoring>,

*To Schedule

<https://calendly.com/omolmentoringinc/45min> a meeting with me

* To Donate

<https://omolmentoring.networkforgood.com/projects/138505-operation-waterways-environmental-education-opwwee>

"Empower Someone today emotionally ...To be Greater!"

HB 1226 Support Bergsman APP 3-9-23.pdf

Uploaded by: Neil Bergsman

Position: FAV



TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF

HOUSE BILL 1226

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE

MARCH 9, 2023

MARYLAND NONPROFITS

Contact: Neil Bergsman, Senior Policy Analyst
nbergsman@mdnonprofit.org 667-335-0401

Maryland Nonprofits supports House Bill 1226 to launch a Nonprofit Sustainability Fund

Nonprofit organizations are very significant employers and engines of economic opportunity in Maryland.

Nonprofit organizations provide services and benefits to Maryland's communities, families, and individuals that are in the public interest. These services and benefits make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and establish businesses.

Nonprofit organizations are frequently able to provide these benefits and services with greater efficiency, effectiveness, and flexibility than could government agencies. Nonprofits can often provide services to communities that are difficult for government-operated programs to effectively reach and serve.

Small and mid-sized nonprofit organizations are more likely to be led by members of historically disadvantaged minorities and to serve communities and populations that have been disadvantaged historically. But, they require adequate general operating support to be able to continue providing these benefits and services in a sustainable manner.

So, it is in the state's interest to provide general operating support to small and mid-sized nonprofit organizations to promote their sustainability.

What: General Operating Grants Available to Nonprofits organizations with revenues from \$50,000 to \$10 million.

At its 2023 Legislative Preview event on January 9, Maryland Nonprofits launched an open letter directed to Governor-Elect Wes Moore, Speaker Adrienne Jones, and Senate President Bill Ferguson calling for the establishment of a \$100 million state-funded general operating nonprofit grant fund. Since then over 700 organizations and nonprofit leaders have signed on to the letter.

“With an unprecedented projected budget surplus in 2023,” the letter reads, “now is the time for Maryland to make good on its commitments to the nonprofits and the workers that have been asked to do ‘more with less’ for decades.” The grant fund would support an estimated 2,100 small and medium-sized organizations annually.

Numbers:

Total program \$100 million

Grants to approximately 2100 organizations annually

Average grant estimated at \$41,000.

Grants are 1.5% to 10% of revenues. Smaller organizations receive a larger percentage.

Details: The following organizations receive the highest priority: Human services, culturally specific organizations serving historically underserved and underrepresented communities, small nonprofits outside metro areas.

2% for Department of Commerce administration. 3% for intermediary organizations. There will be an Evaluation Committee to review applications and determine eligibility and priority category.

For these reasons, Maryland Nonprofits requests a favorable report on House Bill 1226,

HB1226_PYudelevit_Favorable.pdf

Uploaded by: Paula Yudelevit

Position: FAV



HB1226 Nonprofit Sustainability Fund
Paula Yudelevit, Executive Director, HART for Animals, Inc.
House Appropriations Committee, March 9, 2023
Favorable

ADOPT.
DONATE.
VOLUNTEER.

HART for Animals, Inc., located in rural Garrett County, supports HB1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund, and fund it at \$100 million annually. As a nonprofit with 40 employees, the Fair Wage Act of 2023 will amount to an increase of \$1.75 per employee, totaling \$9,000 in additional wages a month, or \$108,000 annually. Our net income in the entire year of 2022 was just \$8,000. Once enacted, this increase will result in fewer no/low-cost spay/neuters, higher prices for our underprivileged community, and layoffs of critical staff members. An unrestricted grant of 1.5% to 10% of our revenues would allow HART to continue to serve our low-income residents, which will ultimately be unduly burdened by the accelerated Fair Wage Act timeline.

Our mission to improve the condition of animals in Western Maryland through rescue and transport, accessible spay/neuter surgeries, building and operating a humane animal center, and sheltering and adopting homeless animals is funded by private donations, fundraising, and small grants. Our veterinary clinic performs no and low-cost spay/neuters and emergency care for pets in our low-income households. Since 2009, our clinic has performed 13,072 low and no-cost spay/neuters for pets in our underserved community.

Our current strategy is to gradually offset the costs of minimum wage increases based on the \$15/hour by 2025 legislation. Absorbing a \$9,000-a-month payroll increase (after the .75/hour increase in January) will not be sustainable without increasing our prices by 12%, affecting our low-income families. The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund will enable us to keep our staff employed who are critical to our mission and provide low-cost spay/neuter and emergency services at reasonable costs for pets in low-income households in rural Maryland.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of HART for Animals, we urge you to consider HB1226.

HART FOR ANIMALS
P.O. Box 623
McHenry, MD 21541-0623

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HB1226.pdf

Uploaded by: Sheila Helgerson

Position: FAV

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Sheila Helgerson, Executive Director, Cornerstone Community Housing, Inc.

House Appropriations Committee

March 7, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. Cornerstone Community Housing, Inc. supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with.

However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

Cornerstone Community Housing, Inc. provides supportive housing to men experiencing homelessness and substance use disorders or other disabilities through a transitional housing program and a Housing First permanent supportive housing program. Unrestricted funding, especially for our transitional housing program, is always a challenge. Some years ago, Baltimore City stopped funding most transitional housing including ours in favor of permanent housing. The demand for our services has not diminished, last year we housed 39 men (17 at a time) at Earl's Place and maintained a lengthy waiting list. The service fee income accounts for less than 10% this program's budget. This grant would help us maintain and improve the services that we offer to men we are working to rebuild their lives and become positive, productive citizens.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government to deliver services and address needs

in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, Cornerstone Community Housing, Inc. respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact information: Sheila Helgerson, sheila@cchbaltimore.org, 410-522-0225,
<https://www.cchbaltimore.org>

HB 1226_MDAEYC_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Stephanie Schaefer

Position: FAV



Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children

Testimony in Support of HB 1226
“Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund”
Submitted to the House Appropriations Committee
March 9, 2023

Position: Support

The Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children (MDAEYC) supports HB 1226, which would create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and fund it at \$100 million annually.

MDAEYC is a professional association of 2,500 early childhood educators, allied professionals, and families. We promote high-quality early learning for all children, birth through age 8, by connecting early childhood education practice, policy, and research. We advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with.

However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland’s small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit

business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

For our organization, the support of unrestricted funds would enable MDAEYC to grow our organization and expand our professional development services to serve more early childhood educators and child care providers. This in turn supports the role that State agencies play in ensuring that Maryland's young children and families can access and receive high-quality early education and child care.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, MDAEYC respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

If you have any questions, please contact: Stephanie Schaefer, PhD. Program Coordinator, at stephanie.schaefer@mdaeyc.org or 240-441-3280.

CHIMES hb1226 SUPPORT.pdf

Uploaded by: Stephen DaRe

Position: FAV

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT
SUSTAINABILITY FUND**

Stephen DaRe, President and CEO, Chimes Inc Baltimore MD

House Appropriations Committee

March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. **Chimes** supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with.

However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

Our funding doesn't permit us to pay a living wage to our front line direct service providers. We currently pay our providers \$17 per hour but need to move to \$19 or \$20 per hour. Since we are a large IDD provider the increase in compensation would increase our expense burden by \$1 million to \$2 million per year.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, **Chimes** respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact information: **Stephen DaRe** Stephen.dare@chimes.org 410-409-6630 cell and **Chimes.org**.

HB1226 Testimony MARFY FAV.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Therese Hessler

Position: FAV



March 9, 2023

**House Bill 1226
Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund - Establishment**

Position: SUPPORT

The Maryland Association of Resources for Families and Youth (MARFY) is an association of private child caring organizations providing foster care, group homes, and other services through more than 200 programs across Maryland. The members of MARFY represent providers who serve Maryland's most vulnerable children who are in out of home placements due to abuse, neglect or severe mental health, and medical needs. We operate group homes, treatment foster care programs and independent living programs, primarily serving the foster care population as well as a juvenile services population.

Nonprofit organizations like ours rely on a combination of public and private funding to provide high-quality services to those in need. However, nonprofit organizations often struggle to secure funding for general operating support, which is essential for maintaining the infrastructure and systems necessary to deliver quality services to our clients. HB1226 would establish a Nonprofit Sustainability Fund that would provide much-needed general operating support to nonprofit organizations like ours. This funding would help us maintain and strengthen our organizational infrastructure, allowing us to continue providing high-quality services to Marylanders in need.

The bill also discusses the establishment of the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund Evaluation Committee. This group would ensure that applications for grants from the fund are evaluated fairly and objectively. Another positive note from this legislation is that it specifies the criteria for eligibility for a certain grant from the Fund to help ensure resources are directed towards organizations that are most in need of support.

The resources non-profits like MARFY provide are critical for the well being of vulnerable populations in the State, therefore prioritizing grant funding and fairness for applicants is invaluable. It is for these aforementioned reasons, that we politely ask for a FAVORABLE report on House Bill 504. Thank you.

For more information call or email:

Therese M. Hessler
301-503-2576 | therese@ashlargr.com

HB1226_FAV_EVOLVE.pdf

Uploaded by: Therese Hessler

Position: FAV



House Bill 1226 - Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund - Establishment

House Appropriations Committee

March 9, 2023

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Evolve Life Centers program provides a wide range of clinically intensive treatment services, including, Partial Hospitalization, Intensive Outpatient, Outpatient, Mental Health, Medium Intensity Residential Treatment, Low Intensity Residential Treatment, Recovery Housing and DUI Education through our 12 plus locations throughout Pasadena and the surrounding area in Anne Arundel County, MD.

HB1226 establishes the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund within the Department of Commerce to provide general operating support to nonprofit organizations in Maryland. It also establishes the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund Evaluation Committee to evaluate applications from eligible nonprofit organizations for grants from the Fund. Additionally, the bill sets criteria for eligibility for a certain grant from the Fund. The aim of the bill is to provide much-needed financial support to nonprofit organizations that provide essential programs and services to Maryland residents.

Nonprofit organizations like ours provide essential services that are often underfunded and under-resourced. The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund will help address this issue by providing general operating support to organizations that offer vital programs and services to those in need. The Fund will enable us to improve our organizational infrastructure and invest in staff training, technology and the advancement of our wellness programs. This will allow us to better serve our clients and help them achieve long-term recovery and wellness.

We also appreciate that the bill includes specific criteria for eligibility for a certain grant from the Fund. This will ensure that the resources are directed towards organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to providing high-quality services and are most in need of support.

In summary, the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund would help ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of organizations like Evolve Life Centers, allowing us to continue providing critical clinical services to individuals experiencing substance abuse and mental health issues. We urge the legislature to support this bill and help ensure that nonprofit organizations can continue to provide essential programs and services to those in need.

For these reasons, Evolve Life Centers politely asks for a favorable report on HB1226.

For more information call or email:

Therese M. Hessler | 301-503-2576 | therese@ashlargr.com

Regan - TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226.pdf

Uploaded by: Timothy Regan

Position: FAV

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Timothy Regan, Executive Director, Paul's Place

House Appropriations Committee
March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. Paul's Place supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Nonprofits are able to help Maryland citizens and the state government by providing services, programs and enhancing the quality of life in every community of the state. They are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with.

Paul's Place is a nonprofit organization leading change and improving the quality of life within Pigtown and other Southwest Baltimore neighborhoods. We have been a steadfast source of support for residents of Southwest Baltimore for over 40 years – starting as a two-day-a-week soup kitchen and becoming a one-stop destination with a wide array of resources for hundreds of individuals every day. Paul's Place now offers more than 20 programs to help guests along a path to self-sufficiency. And we also operate a workforce development program to train people with employment barriers for a career in the hospitality industry at our Groundwork Kitchen restaurant.

We have been generously supported through the years by our private donors, by private foundations and by public agencies of Maryland and Baltimore. However, like all nonprofits, we struggle to obtain the revenue we need to fully meet our mission and to grow. The majority of our funding is restricted to specific programs and it is more difficult to raise unrestricted dollars which allow us to begin new initiatives and to effectively manage the administrative requirements of our operation. This is complicated by the fact that we run such a large number of programs that meet basic needs in our community.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Paul's Place and all of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund would help government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business. As my friend Robert Egger says, there are no profits without non-profits.

For these reasons, Paul's Place respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact information:

Timothy Regan,
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(202) 320-2323
www.paulsplaceoutreach.org

HB1226testimony 3.7.23.pdf

Uploaded by: Vanessa Bright

Position: FAV



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT
SUSTAINABILITY FUND

ESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1226 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - NONPROFIT
SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Vanessa F. Bright, Executive Director, Maryland Reentry Resource Center

House Appropriations Committee
March 9, 2023

Chair Barnes, Vice-chair Chang, and honorable members of the Appropriations Committee. Maryland Reentry supports House Bill 1226 to create a new Nonprofit Sustainability Fund and to fund it at \$100 million annually.

Small and mid-sized nonprofits are able to help the state government by providing services, opportunities, and enhancing quality of life in every community of the state. Nonprofits are able to address the specific needs of their communities, and often are able to reach individuals and groups that are hard for government agencies to connect with.

However, these organizations struggle to obtain the revenue they need to fully meet their missions, to address the many and complex administrative requirements of a nonprofit corporation, and to grow.

An unrestricted grant of 1.5 percent to 10 percent of revenues would provide a boost that would multiply the effectiveness of Maryland's small and mid-sized nonprofits. Almost all of the funding that is now available to nonprofits is restricted to certain uses and purposes. It is difficult to cover the organizational costs of running a nonprofit business, and it is difficult to obtain funds for organizations that flexibly address multiple needs in our communities.

Additionally, reimbursable funding creates cash flow hardships for small organizations and those like mine, founded by people of color. Additional funding would help us create a strategic plan that addresses operational and fundraising needs which would ultimately increase our sustainability as an organization.

The Nonprofit Sustainability Fund could bolster Maryland's Nonprofit sector, increasing employment and investment. It would help government to deliver services and address needs in every program area. It would help make Maryland a more attractive place to live, work, and start or expand a business.

For these reasons, Maryland Reentry Resource Center respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1226.

Contact information: Vanessa Bright, vanessa@mdrrc.org, 301-802-7712, www.mdrrc.org

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HB 1226_Nonprofit Sustainability Fund_LOI.pdf

Uploaded by: Jennifer LaHatte

Position: INFO



Wes Moore | Governor
Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor
Kevin A. Anderson | Secretary of Commerce
Signe Pringle | Deputy Secretary of Commerce

DATE: March 9, 2023
BILL NO: House Bill 1226
BILL TITLE: Economic Development - Nonprofit Sustainability Fund – Establishment
COMMITTEE: Appropriations
POSITION: Statement of Information

House Bill 1226 establishes the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund (Fund) with an annual appropriation of \$100,000,000 to be administered by the Department of Commerce (Commerce). The purpose of the Fund is to provide general operating support to nonprofit organizations. The bill also establishes the Nonprofit Sustainability Fund Evaluation Committee to evaluate nonprofit organizations that apply for a grant from the Fund and recommend which applications should be approved.

Commerce currently manages a small nonprofit micro bridge loan program that awards no interest loans for \$25,000 to nonprofits to assist them with operating costs while they wait for their government grant or contract. Since inception of the program in 2017, 19 loans have been approved for \$475,000. Additionally, Commerce's FY 2023 budget included \$5.0 million for a grant to Maryland Nonprofits to implement an accelerator program to assist nonprofits with building back-office support. The Department also contracts with Maryland Nonprofits to administer the Maryland Nonprofit Development Center.

Nonprofit organizations receive a variety of grants through programming in State agencies as well as federal and local funding. The grants offered through House Bill 1226 would differ in that they would be used for general operating support. As a result, there are no measurable impacts or economic development benefits that would result from these grants, placing them outside the mission and scope of Commerce.