



**DRUID HEIGHTS**  
Community Development Corporation

# **Druid Heights Community Development Corporation**

2140 McCulloh Street Baltimore, Maryland 21217

HB 838 – Housing – Community Development Fund Program Act - Funding

BUDGET & TAXATION COMMITTEE

March 14, 2023

Position: FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Barnes and Members of the House Appropriations Committee:

Druid Heights CDC urges this committee to vote a favorable report for HB 838 – Housing – Community Development Fund Program Act - Funding

HB 838 creates a permanent funding source for the Community Development Fund which was created in 2018. The funding is critical operating dollars for community-based organizations to use for affordable housing, neighborhood and commercial revitalization, housing and financial counseling, small business development, community services, and more.

We are seeking \$5 million from the Unclaimed Property Fund after usual disbursements have been made.

Druid Heights CDC is a community-based, 501 (c)(3) non-profit community development corporation. DHCDC is located in zip code 21217 in Baltimore City, within Census Tract 1403 a designated Urban Renewal Area. Our mission is to cause, encourage and promote community self-empowerment, through the development of economic, educational, employment, and affordable housing opportunities.

Druid Heights CDC serves residents and community members by providing affordable housing, outreach efforts and supportive services. With the increased prices for capital expenses to build homes, it is imperative that community based developers receive sustainable funding to continue creating affordable housing opportunities.

Please vote for a favorable report for HB 838.

Respectfully Submitted:

*JohnDre Jennings*

JohnDre Jennings

Executive Director