

SB874SupportLetter.SquashWise.pdf

Uploaded by: Abby Markoe

Position: FAV



2801 Sisson Street, Suite 100 443.682.7126 tel.
Baltimore, Maryland 21211 443.927.7489 fax
baltimoresquashwise.org

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Baltimore SquashWise would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

SquashWise is transforming the former Greyhound bus terminal, located at 601 N Howard Street in downtown Baltimore, into a youth and community center. Since acquiring the building in 2021, we have dealt with ongoing vandalism, particularly graffiti tagging. The removal of such graffiti has proven to be costly to a nonprofit of our size and sometimes difficult to remediate. Because the Greyhound building is on the National Register of Historic Places, this historic designation often limits the types of cleaning products and methods that can be used. Our awarded grant from the FY23 Community Safety Works program will support the installation of security features and improved lighting to the exterior of the building – deterring vandalism and other crime from happening in the future and thereby making our facility a safer space for our youth participants and community members.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Abby Markoe".

Abby Markoe
Executive Director

DHCD SB874 Letter of Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Alan Reyes

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Eager Park Neighborhood Association would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Specific crime and violence issues in our community include armed robberies, robbery of the local pharmacy, breaking and entering related to both homes and automobiles, vagrancy associated with homelessness, mail and package theft, discarded drug paraphernalia, aggressive behaviors related to drug abuse and other mental health disorders, speeding and racing automobiles, and discharging of firearms. In the future, CSW grants will be used to assist in additional surveillance, support of community watch groups, the lighting and securing of green or under-utilized less visible spaces, assistance in alleviation of homelessness. The installation of clustered scatter mailboxes, and traffic calming infrastructure to include speed bumps.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alan Reyes

President

Eager Park Neighborhood Association

1014 Ruland Avenue Baltimore MD 21205

443.650.8444 Office

DHCD Letter of Support_2023_signed.pdf

Uploaded by: Ashley McMullen

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

March 1, 2023

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Community Free Clinic, Inc. would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses, and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

As a past recipient of this grant we have been able to make our building and grounds safer for our staff and patients. We are located in a repressed area that has been dealing with homelessness and drug abuse. With this grant we were able to add more lighting, cameras, better walkways and clean up areas behind the building that attracted large numbers of homeless individuals and illicit activity. Staff no longer feel unsafe when leaving after dark or coming in before daylight.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicole Houser
Executive Director

249 Mill Street | Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 301-733-9234 | Fax: 301-733-9205
www.mycommunityfreeclinic.org

SupportLetter.pdf

Uploaded by: Avrohom Wolowik

Position: FAV



Monday, March 6 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Cheder Chabad would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Unfortunately, crime is a big concern for residents in Northwest Baltimore. Most troubling, is the amount of crime perpetrated by teenagers and young adults. There are very few athletic venues and programs in our immediate area to serve the underprivileged. As a result, local youths and young adults lack opportunities to be involved in healthy and meaningful after-hours and summer activities. This can lead them to turning to unhealthy and self-destructive lifestyles and behaviors, often leading to a path of crime.

Cheder Chabad is an established not for profit 501C3 childcare center, school, and community organization. Over 50% of our students are eligible for the Free and Reduced School Meal Program, coming from homes with challenging financial means.

Cheder Chabad is requesting funding for the proposed gymnastic facilities to provide healthful physical activities and swimming for close to 400 Baltimore children attending Cheder Chabad school and the broader local community. Regularly scheduled programs of physical exercise and swimming in the proposed gym and pool, (planned and supervised by qualified professional athletic staff) will contribute to the health and well-being of the children and boost their self-esteem. The facilities will also have an after-hours program, during evenings, weekends, and summers serving young neighborhood members, providing them opportunities to engage in healthful activities, in a supervised setting. This can directly affect the life choices these young adults will make and result in lower crime rate and a safer community.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Avrohom Wolowik
Chief Operating Officer

SB 0847 LOS Brewers Hill Mar'23.pdf

Uploaded by: Brant Fisher

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Southeastern Community Relations Council would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Brewers Hill Community experiences a wide array of crime stemming from violent to quality-of-life crimes for years. In efforts to mitigate crime in the Southeast communities work hard with local law enforcement and city agencies to find resolutions and put in safety measures to deter these types of crimes. Future funding of this bill will allow for communities to provide solutions to adding more resources within the neighborhoods to ensure safety of Southeastern residents and businesses. This would not only be a proactive measure but also allow for real time action to help find resolution and strengthen partnership with local law enforcement and local city agencies on working collaboratively on community safety measures. Residents of the Brewers Hill Community want to ensure safety is a priority in Baltimore city and the residents want to help create and build solutions to make neighborhoods safe again.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brant Fisher', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brant Fisher

Brewers Hill Neighbors, President

SB874 SE CRC Letter of Support Mar'23.pdf

Uploaded by: Brant Fisher

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone

Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Southeastern Community Relations Council would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Southeastern Community experiences a wide array of crime stemming from violent to quality-of-life crimes for years. In efforts to mitigate crime in the Southeast communities work hard with local law enforcement and city agencies to find resolutions and put in safety measures to deter these types of crimes. Future funding of this bill will allow for communities to provide solutions to adding more resources within the neighborhoods to ensure safety of Southeastern residents and businesses. This would not only be a proactive measure but also allow for real time action to help find a resolution and strengthen partnership with local law enforcement and local city agencies on working collaboratively on community safety concerns. Residents in the Southeast want to help to make their neighborhoods feel safe for all community members as well as their businesses and those that visit the Southeastern District. This will allow for residents be a true partner to help bring viable solutions to help curb violence and quality of life crimes.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brant Fisher', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brant Fisher

Southeast Community Relations Council, President

Southeastern District

SB874SupportLetter 2023.pdf

Uploaded by: Bridges Timothy

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Fayette Street Outreach Org, Inc. would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Fayette Street Outreach will use these funds to transform 6 to 8 vacant open green spaces it will allow for new fences flowers BBQ grills tables a new stage community sign tables for out door event such as flea markets health screening stop the violence rally's live entertainment mediation work shops a gathering place for community for education and information also keeping our community clean and safe great space to organize and build a better relation ship with law enforcement local government and our residents.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Timothy Bridges

Vice- President FSOO

CommunitySafetyWorks_letterofsupport_3.1.23.pdf

Uploaded by: Bryan Alston

Position: FAV

Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Support Letter for SB-0874

Mr. Chair and Memembers of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Bon Secours Community Works (BSCW), a place-based non-profit organization serving West Baltimore, to pledge our support for SB-0874 which seeks to establish the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program in the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Bon Secours Community Works (BSCW) works to enrich West Baltimore communities with programs, services, and affordable housing that contribute to the long-term economic and social viability of neighborhoods. The establishment of the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program as a special non-lapsing fund would help fund on an ongoing basis important community services and physical improvements that would benefit the residents of West Baltimore. A non-lapsing fund would support physical improvements to the underinvested areas of West Baltimore, helping to attract local business, improve resident safety, increase homeownership, and generally drive the revitalization of underserved communities. A fund would also support open space development, like park spaces, that provide respite, easy access to nature, and a lower temperature during the hot summer months. Lastly, the establishment of the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program would help service providers engage directly with residents in need of services that would reduce violence, crime, and recidivism.

BSCW would be a willing and eager partner interested in implementing services and physical improvements to the benefit of residents of West Baltimore. As an organization that has worked alongside and on behalf of the community for three decades, the priorities of the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program are directly aligned with the priorities that residents of West Baltimore express day in and day out. We need to establish ongoing, consistent funding sources, to see the change that our community members wish and deserve.

Thank you for sponsoring this important bill and I am pleased to offer this letter of support. If you have any questions, I can be reached by e-mail at George_kleb@bshsi.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George Kleb".

George Kleb
Executive Director

Bon Secours Community Works
George_kleb@bshsi.org

Maryland Science Center_SB874SupportLetter.3.1.23.

Uploaded by: Caitlin Ward

Position: FAV



601 Light Street · Baltimore, Maryland 21230-3812
410.685.2370 Fax 410.545.5974 www.marylandsciencecenter.org

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Maryland Science Center would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Previous funding awarded to the Maryland Science Center through the Community Safety Works program allowed us to purchase and install much needed security cameras for the outdoor perimeter of our building. Unfortunately, due to the Science Center's location in Baltimore's Inner Harbor, the need to deter crime is a pressing issue and these cameras benefit Science Center guests, staff, and the local community, who often pass MSC on their way to the Harbor promenade. In the future, MSC would be grateful for the opportunity to apply for additional funding from this program so we may continue our efforts to increase safety and security for both our institution and the local community.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark J. Potter".

Mark J. Potter
President & CEO

2023.03.06 DHCD Letter of Support .executed .pdf

Uploaded by: Caroline McManus

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

American Communities Trust, Inc (ACT) strongly supports Senate Bill 874. This bill would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

ACT is a 501c3 public charity, whose mission is to create inclusive economic development strategies that bring growth and prosperity to low-income residents. ACT's philosophy is that economic development for low income residents must empower without displacement or dispossession. ACT's initiatives include serving as master developer for the Baltimore Pumphouse, an adaptive reuse strategy designed to bring jobs and investment to the working-class north-of-the-tracks neighborhoods of Baltimore, Maryland.

ACT is also working to convert the last mile along the rail line entering Baltimore City into a beautiful linear park and pedestrian walkway, called Last Mile Park. The goal is to unite the neighborhoods north and south of the tracks, creating a safe place to live and work.

There is a critical need for Senate Bill 874 in East Baltimore.

There is a critical need to deter crime and promote community safety in Broadway East and surrounding communities. According to the Baltimore Police Crime Map, there have been a total of 252 crimes within the past year. Given the size of its footprint, .440 square miles, this represents a high concentration of crime. Among all crimes, the most prevalent is aggravated assault, with 64. This is followed by larceny 40, burglary 31, auto larceny 30, auto theft 26, street robbery 20, shootings 19, homicide 7, carjacking 7, residential robbery 5, arson 2 and commercial robbery 2. Since 2016, there have been a total of 189 homicides in zip code 21213; 42% were in Broadway East.

Senate Bill 874 would support ACT's ongoing work to build a safer community.

ACT works to promote positive resident and officer engagement in north-of- the-tracks neighborhoods by supporting officer wellness and building on community initiatives that

support strong relationships and mutual trust between public safety officers and the communities they serve. Research demonstrates that the wellness and safety of officers is critical to public safety and effective crime prevention (Source: 21st Century Policing, 2015). Equally critical are strong relationships and mutual trust between law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve. Supported officers are less stressed officers; less stress increases wellness, which in turn, increases competency and community relations.

Because public safety officers rely on the cooperation of community members to provide information about crime in their neighborhoods, residents are a critical partner in working with the police to devise solutions to crime and disorder. (Source: Importance of Police-Community Relationships, 2016). ACT focuses its public safety efforts on helping to build that community trust.

Senate Bill 874 is an invaluable, strategic tool for helping to support the delicate work building trust with local law enforcement and making communities safer. By supporting the permanency of this program, the General Assembly would also help build expertise among DHCD personnel and partnering agencies about what works to make communities safer and how public safety approaches can be effectively layered with community revitalization techniques.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
China Boak Terrell
China Terrell
CEO

SB874 Support Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Cesar Cucufate

Position: FAV

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The City of Laurel would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

This program has served in the City of Laurel to support and emphasize safe shopping and community partnership fostering within our commercial corridors. These funds help deter crime and assist in the creation of a safe, livable, attractive commercial region. Within the city, we've used these funds in order to amplify and improve lighting, improve pedestrian and automobile traffic safety and walkability, improve the scenery of our public spaces, and bring the local community and the government together in public events for the people. This program is crucial to the development of safe, revitalized economic regions within Maryland, and it can serve to help other communities with the same kind of development.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cesar Cucufate
Economic Development Coordinator, City of Laurel

SB874SupportLetterMountAviat.pdf

Uploaded by: Charlene Nichols

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Mount Aviat Academy would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses, and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

As a beneficiary of the Community Safety Works program, Mount Aviat has been able to add numerous auto and pedestrian improvements to the dangerous roadway on which our school is situated. With over 240 students ranging in age from 3 to 14, as well as their families, entering and leaving the school grounds each day, auto and pedestrian safety was a real issue. In addition, Mount Aviat hosts several large-scale community events each year bringing even more visitors to the area. Our school and the surrounding area are now noticeably more secure and welcoming.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sister John Elizabeth Callaghan, OSFS
Principal

Letter Supporting Community Safety Grants.pdf

Uploaded by: Charlie Hoppa

Position: FAV



Reisterstown Improvement Association, Inc.

Officers

President

Charlie Hoppa

Vice President

Herb Weiss

Treasurer

Scott Sanzone

Secretary

Kathy Gambrell

Board Members

Mark Stewart

Pat McCusker

Wendy Berlinrood

Emory Young

Jessica Barron

Brendan Schreiber

Mary Molinaro

Dan Carey

Main Street

Manager

Crystal Micriotti

March 3, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone

Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Reisterstown Improvement Association, Inc. (RIA) would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

RIA is using our current grant to support the continued safety of our local businesses by installing cameras and lighting through mini-grants. This will help law enforcement along with property and business owners to feel safe both within and outside of their property. RIA partners with our local police precinct to make our Main Street inviting and safe to the community and visitors.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue 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>



SB874SupportLetter.2.28.23 - GeN'xt Ministries Inc

Uploaded by: Chelrisa Swanston

Position: FAV

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

GeN'xt Ministries, Inc. DBA GeN'xt A.C.T.S. would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

GeN'xt! Ministries, Inc., is a grassroots organization that has been involved in a beautification project in the Eastern District of Baltimore City, specifically at the 2314 E Lafayette and N.Montford Corner. The project was introduced by the former Commander of the Eastern District, Major Lansey, to reinforce community policing, develop trust and increase engagement between community members and the police department. The beautification of this corner will also help to deter crime and bring a sense of pride to the individuals living in that underserved area. The Eastern District saw 45 homicides in 2020 and 47 in 2021. The non-fatal shootings were 115 in 2020 and 117 in 2021. While the robberies, burglaries and assaults are trending down significantly, the goal is to do what we can to ensure that all the numbers trend down in all the areas of crime. We want to do our part to assist the police in their efforts to keep the communities safe. The beautification project plan is create a city commemorative garden with both hardscape, including littler letters, and native plant life. We will also engage a local artist to paint a mural on the 2314 E. Lafayette property. In 2022 GeN'xt applied was awarded funding for this project through the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program which is airmarked for this project. It's the only funding that has been received for this project to date.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chelrisa Swanston

Chelrisa Swanston

President & CEO, GeN'xt Ministries, Inc.



GeN'xt

The Next Generation Ministry

SB874_EBDI Support Letter_3-3-2023.pdf

Uploaded by: Cheryl Washington

Position: FAV



March 3, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

East Baltimore Development, Inc. (EBDI) would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works (CWS) as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

Established as a budget initiative within the Department, CSW has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety. In fact, EBDI is proud and excited to share that at the end of 2022, our organization was awarded CSW funding for critical public safety issues in our community!

This grant will be used to benefit the residents and business owners in the Eager Park neighborhood, which is an 88-acre community located in historic East Baltimore and just north of the Johns Hopkins Medical campus. Since inception, EBDI has made tremendous strides to transform this once 70% vacant area into a safe, vibrant, mixed-use community. Since 2012, Frontline Management Services, a local minority-owned business located within our project area, has provided clean, green and safe services to the neighborhood and has worked closely with residents, community groups, businesses, Johns Hopkins and other stakeholders to do so. Frontline's efforts to reduce crime during this time is noticeable.

However, with new residential housing and commercial properties to be built, we need to prepare for the development's growth and expansion of Frontline's services and increase community involvement in public safety efforts as more residents and business owners are added. Therefore, this grant will enable our community to bolster its security efforts by adding new two-way radios for Frontline's security associates, implementing a mass notification system, and starting a community-based security watch program and other community-led initiatives. These features are critical to enhancing community safety efforts in Eager Park.

We anticipate that this funding will act as a catalyst for future funding and related opportunities we intend to seek to support critical public safety efforts in our project area. We are eager to see how other communities can use CSW funding as a resource moving forward.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Washington
President & CEO

CDN SB 874 FAVORABLE.pdf

Uploaded by: Claudia Wilson Randall

Position: FAV



Testimony SB 874
Budget & Taxation Committee
March 7, 2023
Position: FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Budget & Taxation 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.

SB 874 – Makes the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program Fund a non-lapsing fund to provide financial assistance in the form of grants under the provisions of the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program for certain eligible projects.

These grants provide the type of interdisciplinary intervention Maryland communities need to address crime, health, economic development and education in disinvested communities in the state. Evidence-based interventions that provide restorative life choices for at-risk individuals and activities that discourage illegal activities from communities and interrupt the cycle of violence have been funded by grants. These activities reinforce community ownership by cleaning and beautifying streets, sidewalks, signage, and parks; as well as organized patrols, and community policing initiatives developed in consultation with local law enforcement.

Our members throughout the state of Maryland have seen benefits from the investments of made by the Community Health and Safety Grant Program. Creating opportunities for healthy living makes a community stronger. Safe and healthy communities need investments to maintain supportive environments.

We ask your favorable report on SB 874 to continue this vital community investment.

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

SB874SupportLetter.2.28.23 (1).pdf

Uploaded by: Cynthia Gross

Position: FAV

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The C.A.R.E. Community Association, Inc. would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

[The C.A.R.E. Community has experienced an uptick in crime from 2021 to 2022. The increase is mostly driven by property crimes which tend to be low on the totem pole for Baltimore City, However, residents are and can be traumatized by all acts /types of crimes and a sense of stability/safety under minded. The funding we have received from Community Safety Works initiative will be used to help restore a sense of general safety in our community. As Baltimore City prioritizes, as it should, solving and reducing gun violence and murders, programs like this helps to establish a mechanism for victims of all crimes to feel supported and work to prevent lower level crimes from taking hold in neighborhoods

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Cynthia Gross,

[C.A.R.E. Community Association, Inc.]
[President}

Letter from Hamilton Lauraville Main Street in Sup

Uploaded by: Daniel Doty

Position: FAV



Hamilton-Lauraville Main Street, Inc.
a 501(c)(3) community organization and
a Baltimore Main Streets Initiative
3015 Hamilton Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21214
bmoremainstreet.com
410.319.7150

via MyMGA Tracking

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

March 6, 2023

re: Support for Senate Bill 874 (Community Health and
Safety Works Grant Program and Fund-Establishment)

Dear Chairperson Guzzone:

I write to express the support of the Hamilton-Lauraville Main Street organization (HLMS) for SB0874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

By way of background, HLMS is a not-for-profit program that has worked for over a decade to assist existing businesses, bring in new businesses, facilitate facade grants for business and commercial property owners, improve streetscaping, and support the communities and neighborhoods surrounding our Main Street, which includes approximately 1.5 miles of Harford Road (MD 147) in Northeast Baltimore City. Our mission is to help Main Street businesses and our community thrive by creating opportunities for local businesses and providing quality of life experiences that retain residents and attract new neighbors.

The budget initiative within DHCD that established Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to HLMS and other nonprofit organizations, as well as businesses and local governments, through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The two separate target areas within our community whose safety and crime issues are now being addressed by projects that are possible thanks to Community Safety Works grants illustrate the importance of this program to communities like the seven wonderful,



diverse, and eclectic middle neighborhoods within HLMS's catchment and the additional connected neighborhoods nearby; specifically:

- Community Safety Works funds are helping us complete a vibrant community gathering space with equipment that will encourage daily use by all members of our community of a formerly-vacant property on our Main Street in the 4500 block of Harford Road, thereby adding "eyes on the street" and other crime prevention measures to the area and allowing this property to act as a bridge between two established retail areas in the 4300-4400 and 4600-4800 blocks. Prior to HLMS's project, this block had not seen the development that the other two areas have seen due to a number of factors, but largely related to various safety factors that include loitering, large-scale vacant buildings, and activities that include drug dealing at a corner in the center of the block; as a result, this block has been discouraging foot traffic between the other areas, hampering further development in those areas while the 4500 block itself continued to suffer. After the project began, (1) two local business owners from another area of the City began development of a new business in a vacant property that they purchased almost across the street from the HLMS property, and (2) a major developer purchased several parcels on the block and is already in the process of designing and obtaining permits for a game-changing residential project that will provide a much-needed influx of students and young professionals from nearby Morgan State University and, with HLMS acting as a partner/co-developer, a commercial space that will have street-facing retail and other uses that we are currently planning with the assistance of a team of MSU graduate students in the City & Regional Planning Program.
- A separate Community Safety Works project has created a new Community & Public Safety Facilitator position within our organization and empowered this position with funds to install lighting and cameras based on business owner and resident input in the Hamilton and Hamilton Hills portions of our Main Street, which have disproportionately suffered from the City/Nation-wide uptick in crime, particularly in the area's core at the intersection of Harford Road (5400-5500 blocks) and Hamilton Ave (2900-3000 blocks), exacerbating the challenges at this entire end of our Main Street and hampering our efforts to assist the business community in their growth and recovery from the pandemic; for example, in the 2 quarters preceding HLMS's application under the Community Safety Works initiative alone (4/1-9/30), crimes in this community center included a quadruple shooting that lead to at least one death, a daytime armed robbery, a carjacking, and multiple burglaries, larcenies, and auto thefts. Importantly, this position and the solutions to be created by it will be grounded in community input, including input at a meeting scheduled next week in which business owners and residents will assist HLMS in creating the position description and hiring process plans.



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
March 6, 2023
Page 3

HLMS continues to work with residents, business and property owners, and community partners to identify additional areas of concern and potential solutions that can equitably address these concerns in a way that helps our community as a whole, and we are prepared to begin more specific planning on additional projects as soon as we know that the program can continue; indeed, I recently met with one potential nonprofit partner and, because of our discussion about a possible community safety and intervention project and HLMS's progress under the existing Community Safety Works initiatives, began reaching out to DHCD to ask if they could give me an indication of when we might anticipate additional rounds of applications for this and other grants.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

X

Daniel P. Doty
HLMS Exec. Dir.

Daniel P. Doty,
Executive Director
daniel@hamiltonlauravillemainstreet.org

cc (via email): Sean Stinnett, Director, Baltimore Main Streets
Hon. Mary Washington, District 43
Hon. Cory McCray, District 45

SB874SupportLetter_ReBUILD.pdf

Uploaded by: Daniel Kravetz

Position: FAV

March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

ReBUILD Metro would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

ReBUILD Metro has created and rebuilt over 430 housing units in East Baltimore—including the rehabilitation of over 240 abandoned homes—and has reduced vacancy in our targeted reinvestment area by 90%, leading to a 30% increase in population and a 50% reduction in homicides in these formerly distressed high-poverty areas. Over 80 of our rebuilt homes are in a one-block area of Broadway East just north of Johns Hopkins Hospital. This area has been reborn as a growing community of opportunity, *but its newfound stability and growth hinges on whether its new homeowners and renters—and its legacy residents—feel safe.* Thanks to Community Safety Works, we are adding street lighting to this area to increase community connectivity and further deter any threats of criminal activity that could cause residents to want to leave the community again.

The Community Safety Works program has also provided critical funding to our partners at Rebuild Johnston Square Neighborhood Organization (RJSNO) for security and public safety investments in Johnston Square. Since 2015, we have been working closely with RJSNO to transform Johnston Square from distress and disinvestment into a model community in Baltimore where new and revitalized homes are surrounded by a network of parks, gardens, urban farms, streetscapes, public art, and other quality of life enhancements. *Again, these investments will only be successful if residents of Johnston Square feel safe in their community.*

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jenny Guillaume
Director of Planning and Community Engagement
ReBUILD Metro

SB874SupportLetter - BMS.pdf

Uploaded by: Daniel Sherwood

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Brunswick Main Street would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Through this program, we increased the safety of one of our community's parking lots by installing lights and a crosswalk. This program could help fund our efforts to improve the lighting in other parts of the city, provide needed sidewalks for areas hazardous to pedestrians, or create a safer railroad crossing. Non-profits and communities like ours benefit from these initiatives providing needed funding to make our community a safer place to live and work.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Daniel Sherwood
Chair of the Board of Directors
Brunswick Main Street

DHCDLetter of Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Dave Williams

Position: FAV



**THE
ALLEGANY
COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

**218 WASHINGTON STREET
CUMBERLAND, MD**

ESTABLISHED 1937

**A MARYLAND 501C3
NON PROFIT
CORPORATION**

301-777-8678

info@alleganycountyhistory.org

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Allegany County Historical Society would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Our organization is responsible for stewardship of three older historic structures in and around Cumberland, and that grant we have received from this program has been critical to a plan that updated our security and fire alarm technology to modern digital communications standards.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

R. David Williams
President

SB874_Allegany College of Maryland_FAV_Jones.pdf

Uploaded by: David Jones

Position: FAV



ALLEGANY COLLEGE
of MARYLAND
FOUNDATION, INC.

March 3, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

On behalf of the Allegany College of Maryland Foundation, I would like to express our favorable and strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Funding was received to install controlled entry door systems that provide needed security to the inhabitants of the Foundation/Advancement building. This system will monitor employees who come in and out of the building, and also track suspicious activity such as non-employees attempting to enter the building. This system may be utilized to deter crime, but also to provide a more safe and secure space for those within the building. With the increase in school shooting activity, as well as with the valuable and confidential data that is stored in the ACM Foundation/Advancement building, a controlled entry system provides the perfect combination to deter crime and to protect the valuable assets within the building itself. This project also supported the reconfiguration/renovation of the entry doors to ensure safety and ADA accessibility.

With continued funding, we would be eligible to apply for additional funds to ensure the continued safety of our campus and surrounding community and would be grateful for this additional investment.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at djones@allegany.edu or 301-784-5200. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David R. Jones
Vice President of Advancement and Community
Relations and Executive Director of the ACM
Foundation

SB 874 Support Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: David Kapenstein

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

STAFF

Rabbi Eli Itzkowitz
Menahel

Mrs. Shoshi Agular
General Studies Coordinator

Mrs. Rivkah Orlievsky
Administrator

Rabbi Dovid Kapenstein
Director of Development

VAAD HACHINUCH

Rabbi Pinchos Gross

Rabbi Moshe Heinemann

Rabbi Yaakov Hopfer

Rabbi Tzvi Teichman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dovid Hoffman

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Menachem Pinck

Yitzie Pretter

Eric Reitberger

Jason Reitberger

Moshe Meir Rubin

Nechemia Weinreb

February 28, 2023

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Yeshivas Toras Simcha] would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Last year, this funding enabled us to install an egress window. The egress window to a basement classroom provided a much need second path of egress for our students in the event that the stairwell was inaccessible due to a fire. The safety of our students is of great importance to us and we are grateful that these funds helped ensure that safety.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rabbi David Kapenstein
Director of Development

SB874 support letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Dawn Hein

Position: FAV

EVERGREEN
HERITAGE CENTER



15603 Trimble Road NW
Mount Savage, MD 21545
301-687-0664
foundation@evergreenheritagecenter.org

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Evergreen Heritage Center would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Evergreen Heritage Center uses our 130-acre historic farm and surrounding forest as an outdoor classroom, offering opportunities for hands-on learning about the world around us. Our mission is to empower children through education, environmental conservation and historic preservation. Being a small non-profit, we can attest to the need and impact of these funds. Evergreen has an annual operating budget of less than \$300,000 and a small staff consisting of contractual employees. We have used funds from this program to add surveillance cameras and other preventative measures to ensure the safety of all visitors to our property.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dawn Hein

Dawn Hein

Executive Director

Evergreen Heritage Center

SB874 Ltr.pdf

Uploaded by: Deborah Daniel

Position: FAV

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

New Waverly United Methodist Church would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses, and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

[The Waverly area bordering along Greenmount Ave and Old York Road continues to experience issues with drug activity, gangs and assaults. Our youth do not have enough places available for activities and fellowship. The CSW grant will enable us to continue to upgrade the building to enable use of the fellowship hall, kitchen, meeting room areas and class rooms to provide safe space for programs for all residents in the community. This first grant has enabled us to provide space for a six-week summer camp for kids. We would like to continue renovations to our kitchen and fellowship hall in order to expand the soup kitchen and provide food pantry service. We also want to provide health fairs which enable residents to receive free diabetes and blood pressure screenings, vaccinations, mental health resources, CPR and Narcan training.]

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Deborah Daniel
Church Administrator

scan_dgrzynski_2023-03-06-11-21-36.pdf

Uploaded by: Donald Grzynski

Position: FAV



ARCHBISHOP CURLEY

H I G H S C H O O L

Office of the
President

March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

On behalf of Archbishop Curley High School I would like to express strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments that impact community safety.

Archbishop Curley High School has been in the Belair-Edison community of East Baltimore since it opened in 1961. Needless to say, much has changed in Baltimore City over those decades, and remaining a vital institution, serving the local as well as the greater metropolitan community, has had its challenges. We commend our local leaders for all they are doing to keep East Baltimore as secure as possible, but we have also had to make considerable investments to assure our current school community, as well as prospective students and their families, that they will be safe while attending Curley. Last year we received a \$23,000 grant through this program to further our door replacement program at the school. With new exterior and interior doors, the school has a level of security which could be considered lacking without these upgrades. While the whole project costs hundreds of thousands of dollars, this grant was one that helped us complete the project. With new doors the community feels safer, and they are safer.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Fr. Donald Grzyski, OFM Conv.
President

SB0845 - EMorrison - Favorable.pdf

Uploaded by: Dr. Elizabeth Morrison

Position: FAV

Testimony of Elizabeth Morrison, M.D.
Support for SB 845 and HB 933
The End-of-Life Option Act
(The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act)

I am Elizabeth Morrison, a psychiatrist for 40 years, first in the U.S. Army and then in private practice in Maryland. I have been active in local and national medical organizations, including leadership positions with the Washington Psychiatric Society — which includes Montgomery and Prince George’s counties - - and with the American Psychiatric Association (APA). I speak for myself and I support the End-of-Life Option Act.

I have 3 points:

- 1. From a psychiatric perspective, aid-in-dying patients and suicidal patients should be viewed as fundamentally different.**

Suicide in the context of some mental illnesses occurs because of intolerable suffering, distorted and irrational thinking, and impaired judgment. In contrast, individuals eligible for aid-in-dying have terminal, treatment-refractive illnesses. These are people who, if not for their terminal illnesses, want to live.

- 2. Most patients with psychiatric conditions do maintain capacity and can continue to make medical and other end-of-life decisions.**

Patients nearing death may be sad and grieving, but still have capacity. They should be allowed to participate in medical aid in dying. Those who have significant depressive or other concerning symptoms should be referred for evaluation by a mental health professional.

- 3. The American Medical Association (AMA) has modified its position to accommodate aid-in-dying:**

In 2019 the AMA remained opposed to medical aid in-dying but simultaneously concluded that physicians who participate in it are not violating The Code of Medical Ethics, and that morally admirable physicians can hold divergent views on this issue. Here is the [exact language that appears in the Code](#).

Thus, any attempt to say that the AMA opposes medical aid-in-dying is telling only half the story.

Maryland General Assembly SB 874.pdf

Uploaded by: Elizabeth whitmer

Position: FAV

Maryland General Assembly
Legislative Services Building
90 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401
March 6, 2023
Re: SB 874

Good afternoon,

On behalf of the Federal Hill Neighborhood Association, I am writing this testimony in favor of SB 874 codifying the existing Community Safety Works Grant Program within the Department of Housing and Community Development. The purpose of the program is to provide financial assistance in the form of grants for eligible projects that improve the quality of life within and economic potential of Maryland communities by making targeted investments in crime prevention strategies.

Public safety is a significant and ever-increasing challenge in Baltimore City. Residents are afraid to walk the streets of the neighborhoods where they live. Local businesses are leaving the city because it is hard to survive in an area where people don't feel safe.

Federal Hill Neighborhood Association is very appreciative of the DHCD Community Safety Works Grant Program. We see it as progress in the right direction. In FY22 and FY23, we received funding under these grants for installation of cameras, license plate readers, lighting, vehicle/pedestrian control devices and placemaking. We recently started work on the projects and feel confident that they will result in increased safety and quality of life for residents, local businesses, and visitors to our community.

We respectfully ask our legislators and lawmakers to pass SB 874. There is so much more we can do in the name of public safety!

Sincerely,

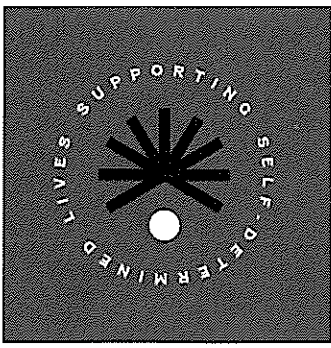
elizabeth whitmer

Elizabeth Whitmer
President
Federal Hill Neighborhood Association

SB874 Testimony - JFGH dba Makom.pdf

Uploaded by: Francine Triola

Position: FAV



MAKOM

March 3, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Makom would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations like Makom through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Ervin
Chief Executive Officer

Testamony-Community Health and Safety Works Grant

Uploaded by: Jennifer Falcone

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Bel Air Downtown Alliance would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses, and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Downtown Bel Air has greatly benefited from funding provided by the Community Safety Works grant program. Pedestrian safety is a concern in the Town of Bel Air. Within the last five years two pedestrians were killed in Downtown Bel Air. Bel Air's signature events attract thousands of individuals throughout the region. The increase in population and traffic causes a rise in criminal and negligible incidents affecting the lives of our community members. In 2020, the Town of Bel Air had a total of 159 violent crime and property crime incidents. In the same vein of public safety, Bel Air's six-story parking garage (privately co-owned by TOBA and Harford County) is utilized by residents and visitors who attend Bel Air's events but the lack of security cameras on the five lower levels of the garage was concerning because there has been an increasing rate of criminal and suspicious activity in the garage. In 2021 there was a total of 121 suspicious behavior incidents, five vandalism incidents, two incidents involving controlled substances, and 11 check the welfare incidents. Due to the rise in crime, many members of the community did not feel safe utilizing the parking garage.

The Bel Air Downtown Alliance is a non-profit community development organization whose mission is to mobilize stakeholders to invest in Bel Air's neighborhoods, economy, and quality of life.

The Bel Air Downtown Alliance received funding to purchase 100 8 ½ feet steel barricades. The barricades have been utilized to better control the flow of traffic and block vehicle access to restricted areas during Bel Air's outdoor festivities. Pedestrians are now able to enjoy outdoor activities in Downtown Bel Air knowing that they are in a safe environment protected from vehicular traffic. We also received funding for the purchase and installation of twelve surveillance cameras through the Community Safety Works grant program. The security cameras are now being monitored 24 hours a day by the Bel Air Police Department. The installation of the surveillance cameras in the parking garage have improved community safety. Residents and visitors who utilize the parking garage have reported feeling safer knowing criminal activity in the garage has declined and that the surveillance cameras are being monitored.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

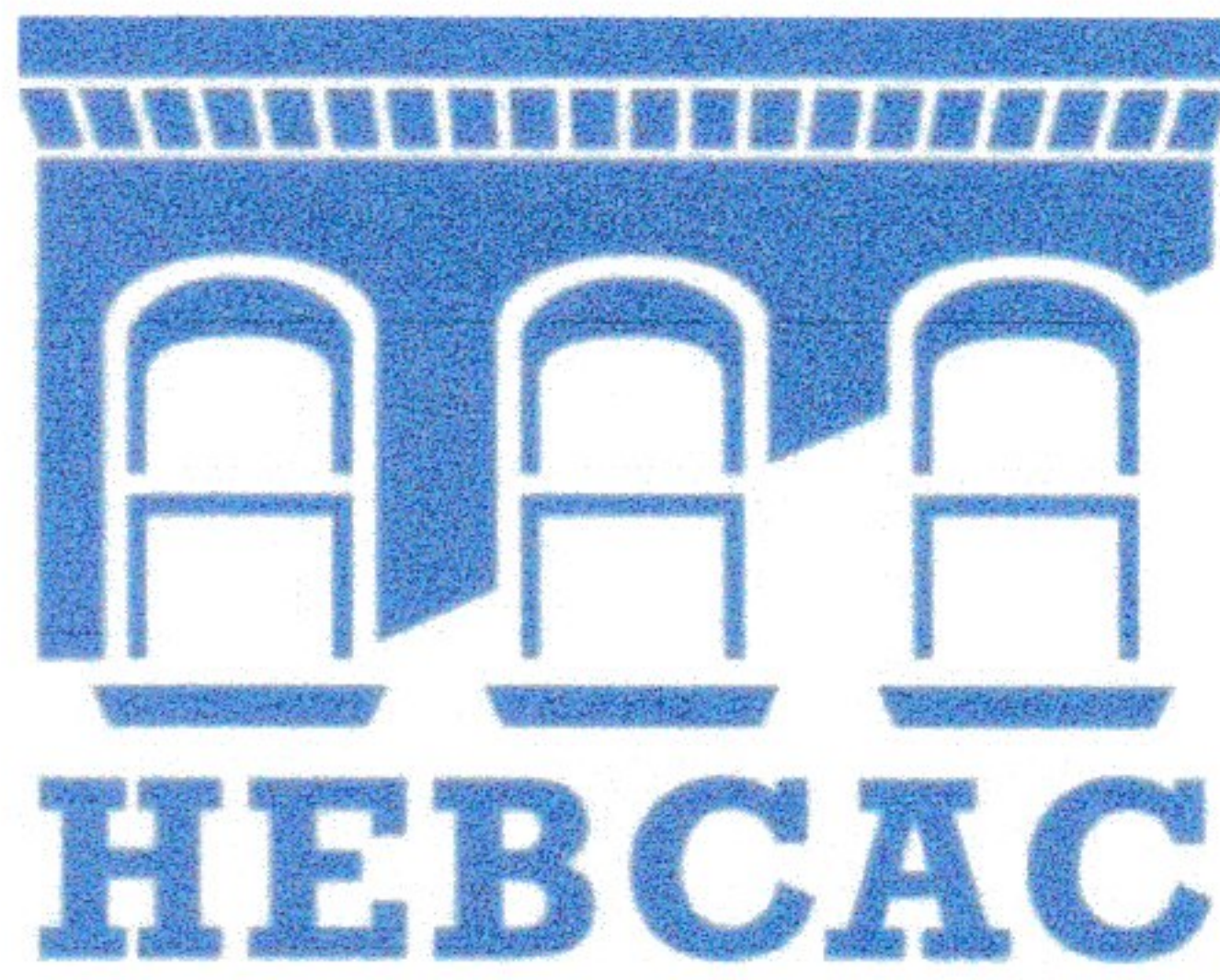
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Falcone". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Jennifer Falcone
Executive Director

Senate Bill SB874 testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Jenny Hope

Position: FAV



Historic East Baltimore
Community Action Coalition, Inc.

March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: *Letter of Support for Senate Bill 874*

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Historic East Baltimore Community Action Coalition, Inc. (HEBCAC) would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

As a non-profit that works to improve the value and livability of neighborhoods in the East Baltimore area, we rely on funding from programs such as Community Safety Works to carry out our mission. In recent years, funding from the Community Safety Works program has allowed us to install cameras inside and outside of our 1212 N Wolfe St building, which houses seven programs and two mental health therapists' offices. We were also able to remove a fence to create better site lines and more parking spaces. We improved the pathway to the entrance of the courtyard and AGS, a behavior health provider in our building. In summary, funding from the Community Safety Works program has been critical to improving safety for our participants and staff, allowing us to continue our mission to improve the quality of life for residents in East Baltimore.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jenny Hope".

Jenny Hope
Executive Director

1212 N. Wolfe Street
Baltimore, MD 21213
www.hebcac.org

Testify JWT SB 874.pdf

Uploaded by: John Thompson

Position: FAV



Honorable Members of the Maryland Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

I am writing to express my unwavering support and testify for Senate Bill 0874, which aims to establish the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program in the Department of Housing and Community Development. As the director of Deep Roots family homeless shelter in Earleville, Maryland, I have seen firsthand the positive impact of the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program. Your dedication to providing financial assistance in the form of grants to eligible nonprofits and community organizations is a testament to your unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of our most vulnerable community members.

Our shelter has received tremendous benefits from a past grant where we were able to install cameras and lighting around our 20-acre property. Prior to these security measures, our staff, volunteers, and homeless families and children were in constant danger of becoming victims of crime. Many of our families come to the shelter from abusive relationships, and we have received numerous threats in the past. Without proper lighting and surveillance, we were a prime target for perpetrators of crime. But thanks to the grant, we were able to create a safe and secure environment for everyone at the shelter.

The Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program has been a game-changer for our organization and others like us. The funding has allowed us to make significant improvements to our facilities, ensuring the safety and well-being of those we serve. It is heartening to know that our elected officials recognize the vital importance of such programs, which make a profound and lasting impact on the lives of those who need it the most.

Therefore, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 0874 and pass it into law. With this program, we can create safer communities for our most vulnerable members and provide a lifeline to those in need. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of our fellow Marylanders.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to creating a safer and more just world for all.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Thompson', written over a light blue horizontal line.

John Thompson
Executive Director
Deep Roots

Senate Bill 874 - Community Safety Works.pdf

Uploaded by: Julie McCabe

Position: FAV

Homes
for America

non-profit housing
development

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Homes for America, Inc. would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Homes for America has seen a significant increase in crime and reduction in safety across our Maryland portfolio. Many of our communities who have never experienced safety issues are now victims of widespread community crime and violence, including our senior communities. These funds are integral to helping to combat the violence and crime that plague our communities and our neighbors by providing needed security services, security equipment and various strategies to curb and reduce violence.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie McCabe
Vice President of Service Enhanced Housing

Homes for America, Inc.
318 Sixth Street
Annapolis, MD 21403

Phone: 410-269-1222
Fax: 410-269-1479

Website: www.homesforamerica.org
Email: info@homesforamerica.org

Letter of Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Julie O'Neal

Position: FAV



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

YMCA of Cumberland, MD would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The funding we received from the Community Safety Grant in 2022 was appreciated far more than any words will convene. We were able to address 14 safety concerns at our location that serves over 20,000 patrons annually. Some highlights of upgrades include:

- a locked door security system with camera monitoring access for our child care center,
- sight-line enhancements at a cross-walk area, and
- removal of large trees and thick brush to install clean ground cover on over 3,000 square feet around the playground, pavilion, and community member access areas.

Future funding would make additional upgrades to enhance camera security to meet specifics of HR 5515. Our other location is situated in an area prone to crime where we are able to assist the City of Cumberland Police Department, however sometimes our footage is not adequate to capture everything that is needed. Funding from Community Safety Works would also allow for additional lighting in areas that are dark helping to prevent future crime and allowing for quality images to be captured via security cameras. All Maryland communities should have adequate safety and security measures in place to be safe in the place we call home.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julie O'Neal

CEO, YMCA of Cumberland Maryland

SB874SupportLetter.pdf

Uploaded by: Kara Norman

Position: FAV



March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

On behalf of Downtown Frederick Partnership, I would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Partnership has utilized Community Safety Works funding to support two initiatives that currently are underway and a third initiative that will be implemented later this year. These projects include the Downtown Frederick Ambassador Program, a security camera grant program and a new effort to purchase speed boxes.

The Downtown Frederick Ambassador Program was launched in response to a local initiative that worked for several months to discuss the community's concerns related to changes in the transient population, the use of drugs and other inappropriate activity in Carroll Creek Park and the desire for improved cleanliness throughout downtown. The findings of this work were instrumental in undertaking the Ambassador Program. Launched in late November 2021, the Ambassador Program improves cleanliness, provides a stronger safety presence and ensures a robust welcome to visitors. In the first full year of implementation, the following statistics give a sense of the program's significant impact in Downtown Frederick: 9,396 block faces cleaned, 655 biohazards removed, 1009 stickers/posters removed, 902 business contacts and 1,168 people utilized hospitality services.

While the statistics are impressive, some of the stories behind the numbers show the full impact of this program:

- the older woman downtown who couldn't make it back to her friend's car and the ambassador who found her a chair and water and waited with her till her friend could pick her up
- the young woman who found that her car battery was dead early one morning and was assisted to get back on the road
- the middle aged man who had too much to drink and was persuaded to have his daughter drive him home

The Partnership and the community are convinced of the power of the Ambassador Program. That said, it is expensive to implement at a cost of nearly \$350,000 per year. Staffing costs are the most significant expense. The starting wage currently is \$16 per hour. The Community Safety Works Grant has been a key part of the Partnership's efforts to fully fund this important program.

19 E Church St
Frederick, Maryland 21701
p: 301.698.8118
f: 301.698.4881
www.downtownfrederick.org

The Partnership also has utilized this funding to support the implementation of security cameras on the first floor of commercial buildings in Downtown Frederick. Thirty two downtown businesses received grants of up to \$500, resulting in a total of 142 new security cameras. Each business is required to have at least one camera facing the street. Businesses who receive a grant give permission for their cameras to be registered with the City of Frederick Police Department for at least two years (until January 31, 2025). Businesses also are agreeing that, if asked, they will share their footage with the City of Frederick Police Department. Registering cameras helps businesses and law enforcement address crime-related issues collaboratively. Already, the cameras have helped to return a stolen laptop and assist with identifying suspects in a robbery.

Finally, the Partnership has worked closely with the City Police Department to respond to community concerns and the Partnership will be utilizing new Community Safety Works funding to purchase speed boxes. The Police Department will utilize these boxes to monitor problem spots within Downtown Frederick. The data will be helpful in learning how and when to effectively deploy resources to best resolve community concerns.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kara Norman, AICP
Executive Director

SB874SupportLetter.2.28.23.pdf

Uploaded by: Kari Snyder

Position: FAV



SOUTHEAST

community development corporation

3323 Eastern Avenue, Suite 200

Baltimore, MD 21224

410-342-3234 | 410-342-1719 fax

www.southeastcdc.org

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Southeast Community Development Corporation (Southeast CDC) would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Improving safety is critical to our goal of increasing homeownership, retaining and attracting small businesses and encouraging residents and visitors to shop our commercial districts to promote a vibrant local economy. Community Safety Works has supported Southeast CDC's efforts to improve safety by funding a range of interventions that meet the unique needs of neighborhoods. Southeast CDC has received two awards—one for cameras in the Highlandtown Main Street district and a second for cleaning streets and alleys and removing blight in the Ellwood Park neighborhood. In the future, we hope to apply for placemaking improvements around the Lombard Street commercial district and traffic calming and pedestrian improvements around our Community Schools.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

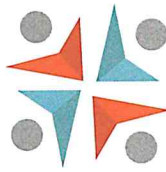
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kari Snyder". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kari Snyder
Executive Director

Letter of support to state senate for Senate Bill

Uploaded by: Kathleen OConnell

Position: FAV



**WASHINGTON COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY**

Where People & Possibilities Meet

March 1, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Washington County Free Library would like to express its strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Library received \$23,500 to help fund replacement cameras in our downtown Hagerstown branch library. The original cameras were installed in 2013 and were in great need of an upgrade. The cameras assist our security staff and local law enforcement in keeping library users and staff safe while at the Fletcher Library and the surrounding area. Public perception of downtown Hagerstown is that it is unsafe. The cameras allow us to track problematic behavior and provide consequences for those not adhering to the library's behavior code. The new cameras are on order and will be installed within the next two months. We are very grateful for this program and encourage its continuation.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathleen O'Connell
Director of Public Services

CVIPP testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Kyla Liggett-Creel

Position: FAV



STRENGTHENING SOCIETY

Kyla Liggett-Creel, PhD, LCSW-C
Associate Professor and Director

The Collaborative
525 West Redwood
Baltimore, MD 21201
301-466-3501

Kliggett-creel@ssw.umaryland.edu

www.ssw.umaryland.edu/collaborative

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The University of Maryland, Baltimore would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

In the past 365 days, the Upton community has experienced 145 violent crimes. That means that families living in Upton are threatened with violent crimes every other day of the week. Just three weeks ago there were five people who were shot and/or killed in one day. We desperately need violence prevention and intervention.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore has developed a Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (CVIPP) which places credible messengers (previously incarcerated or those with lived experience of violent crime) on the streets every day to message around violence prevention, mediate conflicts, and provide case management. The CVIPP team is made up of social workers and credible messengers. Through this partnership we are able to decrease violent

crime and increase employment, enrollment in drug treatment, and access to mental health services.

The University received funding from the Department of Housing and Community Development this past January to implement the CVIPP model. Due to this funding, in the past three weeks we have been able to share violence prevention messages 1097 times and mediated 150 conflicts. Highly respected credible messengers who used to lead gangs in Baltimore have mediated high risk conflicts five times since the program began three weeks ago. Those mediations saved lives. Prior to the CVIPP, Upton was experiencing approximately 2.8 violent crimes per week. Since this program began, there has been an average of 1.7 violent crimes per week. There have been no murders in the Upton Community since the CVIPP program started.

We are already seeing great success, but we know this is not an issue that will be resolved quickly. Violence crime has been an issue for decades in this community and it will take years for us to stop the violence. If this bill is passed, funding will allow this type of work to continue. To be most effective in violence prevention we need multi-year funding which will allow for deeper relationships with those who are at risk of engaging in violent crime, increased number of violence interventionists on the street, and increased number of case managers to address the needs of the community. In the end, this funding will save lives.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kyla Liggett-Creel, PhD, LCSW-C
Associate Professor

SVDP Written Testimony Letter for SB0874.pdf

Uploaded by: Laurie Holmes

Position: FAV



March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

We recently received Community Safety Works Facility Improvement Grant to fund the purchase and installation of security cameras at one of our Head Start sites near Patterson Park in Baltimore City. In the Patterson Park neighborhood, both overall violent crime and property crime increased so far in 2022 as compared to 2021, with violent crimes up 11% and property crimes up 19%. With the security cameras, we can deter crime and provide children with a safe environment where they can feel comfortable and deeply engage in the educational services being provided. It will also benefit the families served by promoting safety for all who live in the community. We have additional Head Start sites in Baltimore City, as well as other program sites in Baltimore City and County, that are in high crime areas and would greatly benefit from funding from the Community Safety Works program if it were established.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Schiavone".

John Schiavone
President and CEO
St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore

Habitat_Community_Health_and_Safety_Works_testimon

Uploaded by: Leila Kohler-Frueh

Position: FAV

Testimony
SB874 – Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund – Establishment
BUDGET & TAXATION COMMITTEE
March 7, 2023
Position: FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake brings people together to build homes, communities and hope. Our vision is a world in which everyone has a decent place to live. We have carried out this mission by actively building new homes and rehabilitating vacant housing stock for 40 years.

With the founding of Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity in 1982, the Habitat mission was introduced to Baltimore with staff and volunteers working to rehabilitate the iconic row homes in Baltimore City and County neighborhoods. In 1986, the Arundel Habitat for Humanity affiliate was established.

On July 1, 2009, the Arundel and Chesapeake affiliates merged to form Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake—a leading provider of affordable housing in the Anne Arundel County and Greater Baltimore region. In 2011, our reach expanded once again when we merged with Habitat for Humanity of Howard County. In 2014, Habitat Chesapeake joined forces with Sandtown Habitat for Humanity, building one united affiliate to better serve Central Maryland.

These mergers have allowed what is now Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake to serve even more communities and family partners in Maryland. By combining efforts, Habitat Chesapeake now has the capacity to renovate vacant and dilapidated inner city housing while also focusing on more rural single-family dwellings.

Today, we serve more families in Central Maryland than ever before. We have settled more than 789 families into energy-efficient, affordable homes with zero-interest mortgages.

Our homebuilding in communities is a part of helping bring one of the most crucial elements of physical development in a community: bringing in new homeownership into a community immediately adds to community strength and economic development. There are often other plans, goals, and needs that communities identify which would build greater strength and safety within their physical environment. These are plans that we support, but for which communities can often encounter obstacles in attempting to access.

Lighting plans in Baltimore City's Pigtown, on Ward Street, come to mind. Several years ago, there was a community-led effort to review public safety through design criteria in that neighborhood. The number one intervention they arrived at was that additional and adequate lighting would improve public safety, but also the look and feel of the neighborhood. It would lead to greater feelings of safety by the residents.

Greening plans for lots that formerly housed dangerously decrepit vacant houses in Woodbourne-McCabe is another example. For years, community leadership has identified greening efforts on lots that came into use after strategic demolition paved the path for that. As Habitat, we have aided in lot greening in that neighborhood, knowing how critical it is to the safety, and well-being of the neighborhood. However, our resources for engaging in projects other than homebuilding are limited.

The Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund could be an excellent resource for a community such as Woodbourne-McCabe, where residents are highly mobilized to see new and better investment in their neighborhood, and to help preserve the same.

SB 874 The Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund would provide a critical resource for communities seeking to address and improve the areas of need, and dreams they have for greater revitalization. In our own work, we have been the grateful recipient of funding toward security system upgrades for one of our ReStores. The support from this fund goes an incredibly long way for a non-profit like ours to strengthen our security systems.

We urge your support for this important new grant program and fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Leila Kohler-Frueh
Director of Community Engagement

Emmitsburg Support Letter_Safety Works Grant.pdf

Uploaded by: Madeline Shaw

Position: FAV

Town of Emmitsburg

300 A South Seton Avenue • Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Office: 301-600-6300 • Fax: 301-600-6313

www.emmitsburgmd.gov

March 1, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Town of Emmitsburg would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Speeding and vandalism have been, and continue to be, a main concern for the Town of Emmitsburg, its businesses and residents. The 2015 Comprehensive Plan for Emmitsburg, which addresses future needs and sets Town goals for 10-years, lists speeding as a main concern in Emmitsburg. Because of its location on the Pennsylvania, Maryland, and D.C. commuting corridors, Emmitsburg has seen an increase in commuter traffic. Since Main Street is the sole east-west through street, it tends to be congested at peak traffic hours increasing tendency for motorists to utilize other streets to circumvent the gridlock. SHA traffic number's reports approximately 7,375 vehicles traveling the road per day. A total of 501 traffic stops occurred in 2021 and 1,111 in 2022 to try and combat the issue. As recent as the September 12, 2022 town meeting several individuals spoke during public comment urging the Town to pursue options to slow traffic and increase safety. In addition, Emmitsburg has had six instances of spray paint vandalism the past two years. The Town was able to apply for and obtain Community Safety Work grant funds in 2023 to purchase two speed trailers and two surveillance cameras to deter speeding and vandalism. If it was not for this grant, the Town would not have been able to afford these safety efforts. If funding is available in the future, Emmitsburg would be able to continue to deter speeding and vandalism through additional security cameras, signage, lighting, litter removal equipment and beautification. Our community is thankful for this funding.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Donald N. Briggs
Mayor

Mayor Donald N. Briggs

Town Manager Cathy Willets

Town Clerk Sabrina King

Board of Commissioners Timothy O'Donnell, President • Joseph Ritz, III, Vice President • Clifford Sweeney • Frank Davis • Amy Boehman-Pollitt

Support Letter to Congress-Community Safety Works.

Uploaded by: Madiha Patel

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Islamic Society of Baltimore (ISB) would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impacts community safety.

Our organization is situated in the residential neighborhood of Windsor Mills and Catonsville with a weekly foot traffic of 4000+ people. Given our faith-based mission and the social services that we provide simultaneously has put the organization at risk for a range of criminal activities—break ins, verbal threats, suspicious visitors etc. As ISB continues to physically improve the environmental quality by planting new trees, many areas of the campus have hiding spots that cannot be viewed by the CCTV's. Last year, we were able to install street lighting in those areas to improve the visibility of the growing campus with the funding support from The Community Safety Works Grant.

This funding is crucial to improving the physical safety of the organizations that are gathering places of the local community. This is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program that helped ISB in improving our safety and has the potential to enhance safety of so many other organizations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Madiha Patel
Head of Grants

CHM Support Letter_Community Safety Works.pdf

Uploaded by: Mark Washington

Position: FAV

Coldstream Homestead Montebello Community Corporation

Transforming Environments and Minds "T.E.A.M."

March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Coldstream Homestead Montebello Community Corporation would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

CHMCC was recently awarded funding through Community Safety Works that we will use to install doorbell cameras in high-crime areas of the Coldstream Homestead Montebello community. We're partnering with the Baltimore City Police Department to place the cameras and work with homeowners to ensure that information collected by the cameras is shared with the police. Our community is excited about the new initiative and its potential to fight crime on blocks where there are few or no security cameras currently capturing incidents. Community Safety Works is a unique program that is allowing communities like Coldstream Homestead Montebello to envision safety improvements that will work best for our residents and help us fight crime. It is so important that the state continue to help communities and nonprofit organizations create safer communities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 410-235-6715 or chmc.corp@gmail.com

Sincerely,



Mark Washington
Executive Director

CHMCC
3220-A The Alameda
Baltimore, MD 21218
Phone: 410.235.6715 Fax: 410.235.1745
Chmc.corp@gmail.com www.liveinchm.org

2023 SB874-Community Health and Safety Works Grant

Uploaded by: Martha Nathanson

Position: FAV



CARE BRAVELY

SB874 - Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund – Establishment

Position: **SUPPORT**

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee – March 7, 2023

Testimony of Martha D. Nathanson, Esq., Vice President, Government Relations and Community Development, LifeBridge Health

I write in strong SUPPORT of SB874. LifeBridge Health is a regional health system comprising Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, an independent academic medical center; Levindale Geriatric Center and Hospital in Baltimore; Northwest Hospital, a community hospital in Baltimore County; Carroll Hospital, a sole community hospital in Carroll County, and; Grace Medical Center in Baltimore (formerly Bon Secours Hospital).

During LifeBridge Health's hospitals' Community Health Needs Assessments, participants consistently targeted community violence and safety as key concerns. In response, we developed our Center for Hope, addressing all types of violence intervention and prevention - child abuse, elder abuse, human trafficking, domestic violence and community violence. Ensuring sustainable funding for these and other programs supporting community health and safety is critical.

One key component of our community violence strategy is our legacy Safe Streets program and our recent tripling of the number of sites under our operation upon request from the City of Baltimore. We are fortunate to obtain support from the Department of Housing and Community Development's current Community Safety Works program supporting capacity building in the areas of community engagement and infrastructure to ensure that all of our Safe Streets programs across the City succeed in their new format, and sustainable funding will facilitate continued investment in safety-oriented programs and projects.

A crucial component of the program is to mobilize the community to build and energize a base of support for Safe Streets that shifts the norm from violence as a response and recognizes it as the public health crisis it is. This involves building neighborhood-based coalitions of residents, local businesses, service organizations, and members of the faith-based community. Grant funds will support a new Community Liaison position to develop and implement a community-wide violence reduction plan and introduce a local community council.

Grant funds will also enhance use of data to drive outcomes and determine future operations. With the addition of a new data coordinator position, all Safe Streets outcomes reported in a city-wide database will be accessible to us for analysis, program evaluation and planning. Grant funds will also support operations, professional development and program supplies.

For all of the foregoing reasons, I urge a **FAVORABLE** report for SB874.

Contact: Martha D. Nathanson, Esq.
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Development
mnathans@lifebridgehealth.org Mobile: 443-286-4812

VFC Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Martin Schwartz

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Vehicles for Change would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Vehicles for Change has been training and placing individuals, most of whom have recently been released from incarceration as auto technicians. We now have 3 locations across Maryland and boasts a 90% completion, 95% placement and less than a 5% recidivism rate. Our graduates are starting at salaries exceeding \$37,000. VFC has benefitted from the support of DHCD grants over the past 5 years and could not have sustained the impact we have had on our interns without this support. In 2023, VFC will train and place an additional 120 individuals. This program saves the State of Maryland millions in the cost of incarceration, reduces crime, increase the number of individuals in the workforce and reunites families, ultimately reducing generational poverty. Our State needs more programs like VFC and our programs need the support of DHCD to continue our success.

Consequently, we request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Schwartz", is written over a horizontal line.

Martin Schwartz, President

SB0874_BrianMcLaughlin_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Melissa Bondi

Position: FAV



March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Senate Bill 874 – Favorable

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding SB874.

Enterprise Community Development builds, preserves, owns and operates affordable housing communities in the Mid-Atlantic region that create a sense of pride, power and belonging, and connect our residents to vital support systems.

We write in support of Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. This program has provided valuable assistance to our organization as well as other nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impacts community safety, and the timing couldn't be better as we struggle to meet rising neighborhood challenges and louder resident requests.

Enterprise Community Development received two grants in 2022 from the Community Safety Works program for safety upgrades to two of our communities: \$25,000 to Park Heights Place and \$15,000 to Admiral Oaks. These grants have been important to our work to implement crucial safety upgrades and community resources at these properties.

At Park Heights Place in Baltimore, we are replacing lighting, repairing/replacing fencing and trimming trees on the property to improve security and help protect local residents. We are also improving lighting at the front and back of the property to increase visibility and deter crime. We are adding a fence this week that will help ensure that non-residents do not loiter on our property and helps reduce safety incidents in the parking lot and around the property. Tree trimming is helping to improve the visibility around the property and helps provide a clear line of sight for exterior security cameras to reduce trespassing, vandalism and other safety incidents in the parking lot and around the property.

At Admiral Oaks (Annapolis), we are refreshing the community's two playgrounds to improve the overall durability of the playground's ground cover and plan to incorporate additional projects that will improve bench seating and improve the playground's overall curb appeal. These improvements will provide central outdoor locations where residents can gather in pride and comfort.

Enterprise Community Development

875 Hollins Street, Suite 202, Baltimore, MD 21201 | 410.332.7400 | enterprisecommunitydevelopment.org

Enterprise Community Development is an Enterprise Community Partners affiliate



The State of Maryland's Community Safety Works program is providing crucial resources to ensure safer and better communities across our state. We request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Please feel free to contact us at 410.332.7400 for any questions or follow up. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian McLaughlin
President
Enterprise Community Development

Community Safety Works Support - City of Westminster

Uploaded by: Melissa Thorn

Position: FAV



March 3, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The City of Westminster would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

The City of Westminster is currently using funding from Community Safety Works to enhance the overall safety of Downtown Westminster using a holistic approach and employing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. The City just recently purchased and installed four security cameras on West Main Street and Pennsylvania Avenue which are close to going live. These will expand our current program to include areas that see a great deal of pedestrian traffic activity during busier weekend late-nights around the commercial district. Westminster is fortunate to have McDaniel College within walking distance to Downtown Westminster. This grant is making it possible for the city to make necessary crosswalk improvements to the rumble strips, lighting, thermoplastic materials, etc. that will directly impact this community and encourage the safe access for students and visitors to our commercial district. Students have been hesitant to walk downtown, especially along Pennsylvania Ave. an area with a higher-than-average rates of crime activity within the city. Part of these improvements allow the city to add a McDaniel emblem on the crosswalks which will be a visible reminder to the public of the support we have for the school in our community. Westminster has a lot of the necessary Carroll County human services located within our district, which has given rise to the amount of homeless population about the city. The Community Safety Works grant is allowing us to give options to the homeless population by way of hotel night staying when necessary. We value safety, partnerships and bettering our downtown district in a wholistic way. The Community Safety Works grant funding awarded this year will be applied to continuing our improvements to the many crosswalks located in Downtown Westminster, to continuing to install safety cameras along Pennsylvania Avenue.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa D. Thorn".

Melissa D. Thorn
Economic Development Coordinator
mthorn@westminstermd.gov

GBA CSW testimony 2.2023.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Chaiken

Position: FAV

3430 2nd Street, Suite 300
Baltimore, MD 21225
410-929-2270
www.greaterbaybrookalliance.org



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Greater Baybrook Alliance would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

GBA's mission is to act as a catalyst and conduit for equitable development and reinvestment in the Brooklyn, Brooklyn Park, and Curtis Bay neighborhoods and empower our residents to strengthen the Baybrook community.

The Brooklyn and Curtis Bay neighborhoods suffer from the highest levels of per capita firearm violence in Baltimore City. Our initial Community Safety Works awards were used to pilot an innovative Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) program that is aimed at reducing opportunities for open-air drug dealing and its associated firearm violence in our violence reduction priority areas. Future funding would allow us to expand our impact to additional blocks, stabilizing the community and providing space for neighborhood revitalization activities to take hold.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Meredith Chaiken
Executive Director
Greater Baybrook Alliance

Senate Bill 874 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

March 03, 2023

Re: OMOL Mentoring's Letter in Favor of Senate Bill 874

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget, and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

ONE More... ONE Less Mentoring (OMOL Mentoring) EIN: 27-2613157, would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses, and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

As a nonprofit organization located in Baltimore City, OMOL Mentoring allows minority beginners to learn the basics of fishing, appreciate outdoor spaces, environmental mental wellness, and discover new counties traveling to get marine excursions. This program also gives participants a major outreach change in understanding through education the life cycle of invasive fish that are harmful to the ecosystem, how to reduce their population, catch, clean, and consume for food. Our population is predominantly from underserved, blighted communities, and we hope by participating they are allowed to mental health benefits.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Minister B. Bondley

Minister Brian Borely

Executive Wellness Director

<https://linktr.ee/OMOLMentoring>

Senate Bill 874 Community Safety Works.pdf

Uploaded by: Ms. JohnDre Jennings

Position: FAV



Druid Heights Community Development Corporation

DRUID HEIGHTS

Community Development Corporation

2140 McCulloh Street Baltimore, Maryland 21217

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Druid Heights Community Development Corporation (Druid Heights CDC) would like to express our strong support for **Senate Bill 874**, which would establish Community Safety Works (CSW) as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

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 CSW funding Druid Heights CDC will be able to continue our Clean and Green Initiative which will assist with lighting, security and cleaning of the physical environment of the key corridors in the community as evidence of the economical and social destruction. The community has experienced many inequities within the neighborhoods that have dominant low to moderate income residents. This funding is critical to assist with the elimination of blight and reduce the crime in the community. In addition, the funding will assist with creating sustainable green space projects that allow for residents to live in a clean neighborhood; where they can sit and enjoy beauty around them.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted:

JohnDre Jennings

JohnDre Jennings

Executive Director

Bill SB874 Signed Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Nancy Hafford

Position: FAV

**2022-2023
Board of Directors**

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Deborah Phelps,
Education Foundation of BCPS

Kaitlin Radebaugh,
Radebaugh Florist & Greenhouses

Paul Schwab,
Azrael, Franz, Schwab, Lipowitz, &
Solter LLC

Joe Shagena,
Destiny Mortgage Group

Melony Wagner,
Charles Village Pub & Patio/Catering

Colin Exelby,
Celestial Wealth Management

Steve Norris,
Financial Fitness

TOWSON
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

March 1, 2023

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Towson Chamber of Commerce would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

I am sad to say, that Towson have had an uptick in violent crime in February 2023. Four egregious incidents occurred in a three week period. That is unheard of in our community.

The good news is, due to a state safety grant we received, we were able to install surveillance cameras in over fifty properties in 2022. Over 65% of our businesses already had cameras. Two of the individuals that committed the egregious crimes have already been caught. The cameras were instrumental in helping to solving those crimes. Those individuals remain in jail. We are confident that our police and detectives will close the other two cases other shortly.

Our community works very closely with our local officials, our police department and the states attorney's office to keep Towson a great place for people to live, work, go to school and visit. Safety programs are instrumental in helping us to achieve that goal.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Nancy Hafford
Executive Director

*Mission Statement: The Towson Chamber of Commerce, Inc.
Promotes the Business Environment in Towson*

ICM-SB874-Support-Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Nazeer Ahmad

Position: FAV

ISLAMIC CENTER OF MARYLAND

19411 WOODFIELD ROAD
GAITHERSBURG MD 20879

TEL: 301 840 9440
FAX: 240 715 1018
WWW.ICOMD.ORG

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Islamic Center of Maryland (ICM) would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Founded in 1992, in addition to providing religious services for Muslims, ICM educates Muslims and people of all faiths on Islamic values, beliefs, practices and the role of Muslims as torch bearers of peace and harmony in their respective communities. Situated on 10-acre land in Montgomery County, MD, ICM is the largest Islamic center in the upper Montgomery County. It has a mosque, playgrounds, early-childhood care, social services office, Sunday school, and a full time school (recently opened), among other services offered. Recently, ICM finished and opened a two story 45000 sq-ft youth and community center building. This huge structure, a combination of contemporary and classical Islamic architecture, are visible landmarks on Route 124. The center is open 7 days a week with an average daily attendance of over 300. On Fridays, over 700 people attend the afternoon prayer services. On Sundays, ICM operates an all-day KG-12 grades level Sunday school which has an enrollment of around 400 students and about 200 teachers and volunteers. During the Islamic month of Ramadan over 1000 people attend evening services. ICM also serves daily evening meals during Ramadan, which is open to people of all faiths.

ICM has been a target of vandalism, hateful notes, break-ins, threatening phone calls, and 'drive-by-shouting', particularly in light of international or domestic events.

ISLAMIC CENTER OF MARYLAND

19411 WOODFIELD ROAD
GAITHERSBURG MD 20879

TEL: 301 840 9440

FAX: 240 715 1018

WWW.ICOMD.ORG

On 3/22/19, in a bizarre hit and run case, an elderly person was badly injured inside the ICM parking lot (<https://patch.com/virginia/manassas/md-mosque-assaults-preceded-fatal-hit-run-manassas-police>). The same vehicle was involved in another incident at a Germantown mosque and a fatal incident in VA, killing a woman.

On 3/7/19, an individual broke into ICM facility and tried unsuccessfully to cut into the metal safes in the lobby to steal the cash donations (MCPD Case #190011200).

On 2/5/17, ICM's main office door was vandalized and broken into (MCPD case # 17-006298). Cash collected that is kept inside the office before being deposited was stolen.

On 5/3/11, a threatening note was dropped at the front entrance that praised the US operation that killed Osama bin Laden and warned that more is coming.

On 11/1/08, several structures at ICM were defaced by over 30 paintballs. (MCPD case # 08064997).

On 5/22/08, ICM office was broken into and surveillance system computer was destroyed. Two security cameras were also tampered.

We at ICM strongly believe that Bill 874 would establish a consistent and ongoing program for places of worship that can be targets of hate and vandalism to have access to funds to establish both preventive and intervention measure to safeguard against such threats. These would include security surveillance, physical prevention measures, incident response training, onsite security, perimeter barriers, etc. We have benefited in the past with such funding by implementing the required safety and security means, and it has raised confidence among the attendees and visitors, particularly parents and children who are regular attendees of ICM.

Again, we request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nazeer Ahmed.

Trustee in Charge Facilities & Security
Islamic Center of Maryland (ICM)

SB874SupportLetter.2.28.23.pdf

Uploaded by: Nicole McCullough

Position: FAV

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Town of Oakland, Maryland would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

I can firsthand speak to the positive effect of this initiative. Many consider Oakland to be a great small town to live, work, and raise children; the unfortunate reality is it is an area battling the opioid epidemic. While our area attempts to form a positive response to this epidemic, there is a close relationship between drug abuse and subsequent crime. The need to deter these crimes to protect residents, businesses, and visitors to our area is imperative and the added surveillance that we benefitted from by receiving this grant, was integral in the assistance of deterring crime as well as providing an additional sense of security to our residents, businesses, and visitors. We are very appreciative of the grant received; however, there is still more that we can do to combat our community's crime issues.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicole McCullough
Oakland Business Coordinator and Mainstreet Manager.

Signed.PDF

Uploaded by: Nina Fleegle

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Main Street Historic Chestertown would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

We have been the recipient of two Community Safety Works grants, both of which have helped to dramatically improve the safety and security in our downtown district. The first grant allowed us to install dozens of security and traffic cameras, and upgraded corresponding equipment at our town Police Station. Being a small community, these cameras are integral in expanding our police force's capacity and "eyes on the street". The second grant we received will be used to improve undeveloped, vacant lots that are currently prime real estate for vagrant activity. The development of these parks and other streetscape will significantly improve the aesthetics, sustainability, and storm water management of downtown and reduce criminal activity.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'N. Fleegle'.

Nina Fleegle
Executive Director

WBC testimony SB-874 03.2023.pdf

Uploaded by: Patrice Wallace

Position: FAV



CORRESPONDENCE

March 6, 2023

REF: In support of SB 874

Good day

There are 1400 federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) in the U.S. that serve more than 27 million Americans. FQHCs have proven to be a vital asset for the delivery of health and wellness services to the medically underserved of our nation and the communities of Maryland. Established in 1972 in Northwest Baltimore City, Park West Health System (PWHS) was among the first FQHC models established for what is now conduits to ensure equal access to quality health care services regardless of an individual's or family's ability to pay or insurance status.

PWHS provides comprehensive primary health, dental, mental, and behavioral health services. Its location at 3319 Belvedere Avenue is the anchor of its 3 locations in the provision of services but is house in a building that was constructed in 1950 but was not constructed as a health center. The building is not up to today's building codes and standards and has inhibited the organization's ability to serve the constituents in the PWHS service area more comprehensively.

PWHS is working to rectify this with a 15,245 sf addition and the 10,710 sf renovation of the 2nd and 3rd floors of Park West Belvedere. Scheduled to break ground in the summer 2023, the Park West Health System Capital Expansion Project would not have gotten off the ground if it wasn't for the programs like BRNI and the Capital Grant program which enabled the funding and support to procure professional services such as legal, architectural, and structural to ensure the building's transformation.

We support SB 874 and appreciate that this funding has made it to its intended.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrice Wallace", is written over a large, stylized circular graphic that is part of the WallaceBlack Communications logo.

Patrice Wallace
Project Manager and Grant Writer
For Park West Health System Capital Expansion Project

A large, faded version of the WallaceBlack Communications logo is positioned in the bottom right corner of the page. It consists of the same circular icon and text as the logo in the top left, but is much lighter in color.

WBCOMM HAGERSTOWN
10933 Sasha Boulevard
Hagerstown, MD 21742
240.291.0836
www.wallaceblack.net

Letter of Support for Senate Bill 874.pdf

Uploaded by: Patricia Cole

Position: FAV



THE HAVRE DE GRACE COLORED SCHOOL
MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER, INC.



March 6, 2023

Officers:

Patricia Cole
President

Carol Bruce
Vice President

Brittany Powell
Secretary

June Conley
Treasurer

Board Members:

Iris Barnes

Turshandah Cole

Sheryl Coleman

Emil Cromwell

Janice Grant

Bobby Parker

Lenora Robinson

Thurl Snell

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Havre de Grace Colored School Museum and Cultural Center would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The security support provided by the Department, Community Safety Works was instrumental in assisting our organization provide security measures needed to protect our 111-year-old historic schoolhouse. Security of important landmarks, such as ours, are critical to ensuring these historic places will be around for future generations. Equally as important is the protection of those who work and visit these landmarks. Therefore, we strongly endorse this important piece of legislation.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patricia D. Cole

Patricia D. Cole
President
Havre de Grace Colored School
Museum and Cultural Center, Inc.
(703) 398-6133 (personal)
(443) 939-0366



Wells Inc Support Letter DHCD.pdf

Uploaded by: PM Smith

Position: FAV

Wells, Inc.

March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Wells, Inc. would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Wells is a non-profit community based organization located in the heart of East Baltimore. We strive to bring 'neighborhoods' and not 'hoods' back to our communities. Grants that we have received in the past have helped our communities become brighter (additional lights), greener (additional planters, gardens and parks) and safer (residents working together to completed community projects).

We have definitely benefited from the programs and grants that the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development offer. This is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



P.M. Smith, President

LOS- MCM SB 874.pdf

Uploaded by: Rahwa Andemichael

Position: FAV

March 4, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Montgomery Community Media (MCM) would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses, and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Unfortunately, Montgomery County has seen a growing increase in incidents of crime and safety issues in recent years. According to an October 2022 Montgomery County Public Safety Committee Report, violent crime increased 13.4% in 2022 and all forms of robbery, including carjacking increased significantly from 2021. Firearm-related crimes increased by 20% and drug-related arrests have increased by 56% since 2021. These alarming trends have only continued, if not worsened since that report.

Given these worrisome trends, the Community Health and Safety Works grant program is even more critical than ever to combat the public safety issues in our county. I commend DHCD for creating innovative approaches to addressing the public safety issues we are all experiencing. The grant provides an opportunity to empower community organizations and businesses to play a part in the prevention of crime.

Through the grant we received, MCM will be able to install a new security camera system in our Rockville headquarters. This is a critical upgrade to our security infrastructure, and we are very appreciative to DHCD for providing the funds for us to make these necessary upgrades. The presence of security cameras in and around our building is a significant crime deterrent, and if MCM were to ever have crime or safety issue any video footage would be available for us to share with the authorities. These type of safety initiatives not only prevent crime but also help authorities apprehend suspects more efficiently.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jasmine White

Jasmine White
Chief Executive Officer

CSW Support Letter 3-1-23.pdf

Uploaded by: Rayner Wharton

Position: FAV



THE NATIONAL
GREAT BLACKS
IN WAX MUSEUM Inc

Honorable Guy Guzzone

Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

3 West, Miller Senate Office Building

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum, Inc. would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Oliver Community is described both as a “neighborhood that has seen better days and as one that is getting a second chance.” With a total crime estimate of 9,297 crimes per 100K people, this area has a violent crime rate of almost seven-times the national average and a property crime rate of almost three-times the national average.

The Community Safety Works grant funds awarded the Museum has allowed it to implement the following Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies aimed at creating a positive neighborhood culture that would reduce the social motives for crime:

Control Access: 8-foot fencing around the front exterior of 5 vacant houses

Encourage Natural LED architectural façade and fence lighting equipped with electronic sensors to

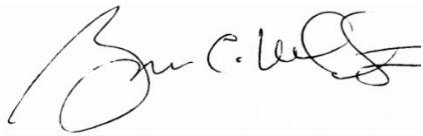
Surveillance: prevent crime and accentuate architectural details

Maintain Image: Decorative screening attached to fencing and vacant houses.

Future funding by the Community Safety Works could assist us in preventing crime through the following: 1) installation of a 24" deep canopy system with lighting and signage to attract visitors to main entry point; 2) Touchless Security Turnstiles; and 3) installation of two sets of accessible anodized Aluminum Doors to create secure vestibules.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rayner C. Wharton, Sr. Director of Design and Exhibits

rcwharton@gmail.com

Museum: 1601-03 E. North Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21213
Phone: 410-563-3404 • Fax: 410-675-5040 Fax: 410-563-7806 • Website: www.greatblacksinwax.org
The National Great Blacks In Wax Museum was founded in 1983 by Drs. Elmer P. and Joanne M. Martin



SB0874_CC_Vaughan_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Regan Vaughan

Position: FAV



SB 874
Community Health and Safety Works
Grant Program and Fund - Establishment
Budget & Taxation Committee
March 7, 2023

Support

Catholic Charities of Baltimore supports SB 874 which would establish the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program in the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Inspired by the Gospel to love, serve and teach, Catholic Charities provides care and services to improve the lives of Marylanders in need. For 100 years, Catholic Charities has accompanied Marylanders as they age with dignity, obtain empowering careers, heal from trauma and addiction, achieve economic independence, prepare for educational success and feel welcome as immigrant neighbors. We recognize the need to deliver services in a safe environment.

Catholic Charities was recently a recipient of a Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program for the Cherry Hill Town Center (CHTC). Catholic Charities owns and operates a town center in the Cherry Hill neighborhood of Baltimore. CHTC is the commercial hub of the neighborhood containing a bank, Head Start classrooms, a library, community pharmacy, food vendors and other retail. Violent crime is persistent and pervasive in Cherry Hill, deeply harming residents and business in the neighborhood. According to the Baltimore Police Department, Cherry Hill has the highest percentage of police interactions among every single community in Baltimore City. A significant number of these traumatic events have taken place in or nearby CHTC, as unfortunately local gangs have chosen the shopping center as one of their main locations to conduct their illicit drug operations. The effect of this cyclic violence is felt by CHTC tenants and local residents. As the neighborhood's primary shopping area, residents and business owners should be able to run errands and go to work without jeopardizing their safety, which is not the current reality. We envision the CHTC as a neighborhood hub where residents can shop, eat, play, and connect with each other. But the cost of additional safety precautions was putting pressure on tenant rent so we applied to the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program.

The grant funding we were recently awarded will allow us to increase the number of hours we have security on site. Additionally, we are in the process of upgrading our surveillance capabilities linking our system with the Baltimore City Police. These are enhancements we had long eyed but did not have the funding to implement. These improvements will benefit the businesses and organizations in CHTC, as well as the entire neighborhood. The Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program should be codified within the Department so that others can benefit from this vital funding.

For the reasons listed above, Catholic Charities of Baltimore appreciates your consideration, and urges the committee to issue a favorable report for SB 874

Submitted By: Regan Vaughan, Director of Advocacy

MYPGA SUPPORT LETTER.pdf

Uploaded by: Renita Flood Bennett

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Fairmount Heights CDC would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Crime and illegal activities are the first considerations one would have upon decision to reside, visit or conduct business within a designated area. The town of Fairmount Heights has been underserved and underutilized even by its own community members due to the high level of abandoned and inadequate maintenance of its landscapes, streetscaped in addition to the incline of vacant and abandoned properties. The high rate of abandoned properties gives opportunities for invasion. Unfortunately, many of times it's our youth hanging in locations which they have knowledge is under the radar. Alleys are often neglected and sometimes have uneven pavement, discarded items, and dark places for potential crime. While alleys are invaluable for giving service access, additional uses such as retail, cafes, arts venues, and small industry will ensure that alleys are cared for and looked after for a more beautiful and safer

FAIRMOUNT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

community. The lack of basic maintenance and landscape care in the community is an eye soar for the community and the businesses within the town.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Renita Flood-Bennett

Renita Flood-Bennett

Director

SB874 FOJM 20230306.pdf

Uploaded by: Richard Albright

Position: FAV

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401



March 6, 2023

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Friends of Jerusalem Mill would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

As a non-profit, charitable organization, our mission is to preserve one of Maryland's hidden treasures, the 18th-19th century Jerusalem Mill Village. Among other structures, this village is home to a 1772 grist mill and one of only three remaining working covered bridges in our state. This mostly-preserved village has attracted visitors from every state and from 49 other countries. Unfortunately, it also attracts "legend trippers" and vandals intent on conducting paranormal activities, placing graffiti, and attempting to remove artifacts of historical significance. We also have some physical features that have deteriorated to the point of becoming a safety hazard to curious and adventurous visitors. As an all-volunteer organization that depends primarily on donations, memberships, sponsorships and grants, programs like those offered by the DHCD are essential to ensuring the safety of our volunteers and visitors and the security of our antique collection and our living history programs.

We request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard Albright
Vice President and Curator
Friends of Jerusalem Mill

Support Letter for Community Safety SB0874.pdf

Uploaded by: Ronald Hinson

Position: FAV



City of Cambridge

410 Academy Street, Cambridge, MD – P.O. Box 255
Phone: 410-228-4020 Fax: 410-228-4554
E-Mail info@choosecambridge.com

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The City of Cambridge would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Over the last few years, the City of Cambridge has experienced an increase in gang activity and violent crime. Some of the most significant increases have come in the form of gun violence and homicides. This year we were approved for funding through this program and have several initiatives planned to help improve community safety. The city will clean up and provide lighting to an overgrown community footpath. This will help increase visibility and make people safer as they use the path. We will also improve the lighting in the downtown business district so that people who come to visit our community may feel safer. The city will also be adding to our security camera system. This system has already been instrumental in solving numerous violent crimes. The hope is that expanding it will make it even more useful in improving community

safety. We also plan to address a pedestrian safety issue in one of our more congested traffic areas.

These are only a few issues that we as a community need to address. Continued support from programs like this makes these initiatives possible and allows smaller communities to improve the safety and wellbeing of their citizens.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen Rideout", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephen Rideout
Mayor

HOPE Academy Support Letter DHCD.pdf

Uploaded by: Rosella Braxton

Position: FAV



The H.O.P.E. Academy

Huber Child Development Center

March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The H.O.P.E. Academy and the Huber Child Development Center would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The H.O.P.E Academy is located in Baltimore City. The rate of crime in the 21213 zip code is 66.29 per 1,000 residents during a standard year. Therefore, your chance of being a victim of crime in 21213 may be as high as 1 in 11 in the community in which The H.O.P.E Academy is located. 2 years ago, the front of HOPE Academy was ran into by a person who had stolen a car and was on the run. Fortunately, no one was hurt. All too frequently, as we have seen on the news, school are the target of many violent acts. At The H.O.P.E Academy, we would like to do all that we can to make sure that we do not fall victim to any malicious intents. Also, as a positive staple in our community, we occasionally allow other community organizations to use our facilities and we would like them to be safe as well.

This is why we are grateful to have received funding in the past to increase our community and security needs such as cameras, bollards, basketball goals and signage.

This is why we would like to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rosella S. Braxton, Finance Director

Senate Hearing.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Sarah Jacobs

Position: FAV



Chizuk Amuno

CONGREGATION & SCHOOLS



March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Chizuk Amuno Congregation & Schools would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

As a prominent institution of faith and a center of Jewish learning and life in the greater Baltimore community, Chizuk Amuno Congregation & Schools is known as a location where thousands of children, students, and adults gather for regularly scheduled religious services, schools, communal events, observances, memorials, and programs. With our large community and with a location directly off of Baltimore Beltway, 695, we provide a target of easy access for perpetrators of hate crimes. Year over year, we have seen an increase of antisemitic incidents throughout the Jewish Community locally here in Baltimore. We are three months into 2023 and our community has already been witness to antisemitic vandalism at John Hopkins University's Hillel Dorm, antisemitic flyers being distributed in nearby communities, and heightened awareness of the National Day of Hate.

The Community Safety Works Grants and future funding would help assist us in being able to continue to stay vigilant to potential violence and/or crimes in our community. Funding would be used multifaceted: to put in place more secure entrances and exits in our aging building, continue to upgrade and enhance our surveillance systems & cameras, and help offset our annual cost of armed security guards on premise.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah E. Jacobs, M.P.A
Director of Strategic Operations & Community Fundraising
Chizuk Amuno Congregation & Schools

SB874 Community Health Safety Grant Program.pdf

Uploaded by: Sarah Miicke

Position: FAV

OFFICERS

ELIZABETH GREEN
President
ROBIN WEIMAN
1st Vice President
AMALIA HONICK
BENJAMIN ROSENBERG
RABBI STEVEN SCHWARTZ
RABBI JONATHAN SEIDEMANN
MELANIE SHAPIRO
RABBI ANDREW BUSCH
Past President
HOWARD LIBIT
Executive Director

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

**Senate Bill 874 - Community Health and Safety Works Grant
Program and Fund - Establishment**

Budget and Taxation Committee

March 7, 2023

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Adat Chaim Congregation
American Jewish Committee
Americans for Peace Now
Baltimore Chapter
American Israel Public Affairs Committee
American Red Magen David for Israel
American Zionist Movement
Amit Women
Association of Reform Zionists of America
Baltimore Board of Rabbis
Baltimore Hebrew Congregation
Baltimore Jewish Green and Just Alliance
Baltimore Men's ORT
Baltimore Zionist District
Beth Am Congregation
Beth El Congregation
Beth Israel Congregation
Beth Shalom Congregation of
Howard County
Beth Tfiloh Congregation
B'nai B'rith, Chesapeake Bay Region
B'nai Israel Congregation
B'nai Jacob Shaarei Zion Congregation
Bolton Street Synagogue
Chevra Ahavas Chesed, Inc.
Chevrei Tzedek Congregation
Chizuk Amuno Congregation
Congregation Beit Tikvah
Congregation Tiferes Yisroel
Federation of Jewish Women's
Organizations of Maryland
Hadassah
Har Sinai - Oheb Shalom Congregation
J Street
Jewish Federation of Howard County
Jewish Labor Committee
Jewish War Veterans
Jewish War Veterans, Ladies Auxiliary
Jewish Women International
Jews For Judaism
Moses Montefiore Anshe Emunah
Hebrew Congregation
National Council of Jewish Women
Ner Tamid Congregation
Rabbinical Council of America
Religious Zionists of America
Shaarei Tfiloh Congregation
Shomrei Emunah Congregation
Suburban Orthodox Congregation
Temple Beth Shalom
Temple Isaiah
Zionist Organization of America
Baltimore District

Background: Senate Bill 874 (SB874) would codify the Community Health and Safety Grant Program and establish a related fund in the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). This fund would provide grants to eligible projects to make safety improvements. Funding in the budget would be set at \$10 million annually.

Written Comments: The Baltimore Jewish Council represents The Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore and all its agencies. Unfortunately, our community is no stranger to increased targeted violence. Last year the Associated received a Maryland DHCD Community Safety Works - Facility Improvements grant of \$14,980 to purchase and install new security cameras at the Park Heights JCC building. The JCC in Owings mills also received a grant of \$10,000 to purchase and install new security cameras. SB874 would codify and fund this program so that other institutions can make the costly safety improvements to their buildings to make Maryland safer for all.

For these reasons we ask for a favorable report on SB874.

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.

SB0874 Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Sharon Jacobs

Position: FAV



1118 Oak Tree Drive | Havre de Grace, MD 21078
“Preparing You Today for Tomorrow’s Careers”
www.nstepforward.com

March 6, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

New-Service Training Employment Program (N-STEP), Inc., is in favor of SB 874 to establish recurring funding for the Community Health and Safety Works grant program at the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

The initiatives supported by this department are vital to the character development, education, and employment needs of young adults in our state. Thank you for your consideration of our request. Please visit our website at www.nstepforward.com for detailed information on programs offered.

Sincerely,

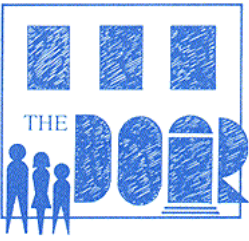
Sharon B. Jacobs

Sharon B. Jacobs
Executive Director
N-STEP

The Door Support Letter DHCD.pdf

Uploaded by: Tehma Smith Wilson

Position: FAV



March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Baltimore Urban Leadership Foundation aka The Door would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Baltimore Urban Leadership Foundation aka The Door is located in East Baltimore and have served the Oldtown/Middle East, Madison/East End, and Patterson Park North & East neighborhoods with community-based programming for over 35 years. The Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance data shows that the rate of challenging circumstances in our surrounding community is much higher than for Baltimore City overall. One of the neighborhoods that we service has the 3rd highest unemployment rate of the 57 neighborhoods tracked in Baltimore. The rate of children living below the poverty line in 3 of the neighborhoods that make up our demographics is a jarring 55%, 56% and 40%, respectively, compared to 32% for Baltimore City as a whole. Within our neighborhoods, the violent crime rate per 1000 residents is 37.3% and the Part 1 crime rate (this includes assault, burglary, rape, homicide, larceny, and auto theft) is 113.7% according to statistics gathered.

As a recipient of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development grant in the past, The Door has been able to upgrade its security system and install interior and exterior camera to make our facilities safer and monitor the activities of our community residents while they are on our premises. These upgrades are very instrumental to the success of our programming as we expand our outreach to more youth, families, senior citizens and other non-profit organizations in our community.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tehma H. Smith Wilson, CEO

SB874SupportLetter.2.28.23 (1).docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Theresa Cullen

Position: FAV



Environmental Education on the Potomac

March 1, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone,

The Alice Ferguson Foundation would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

As an environmental day and overnight outdoor education facility for Maryland students, security is a priority for us. The funding from the Community Safety Works grant allowed us to install 6 security cameras and improve perimeter fencing to secure our property.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Theresa Cullen
Executive Director
The Alice Ferguson Foundation

sb0874F.pdf

Uploaded by: Timothy Bridges

Position: FAV

SENATE BILL 874

C9

3lr1516

By: **Senator M. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program
4 in the Department of Housing and Community Development; establishing the
5 Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program Fund as a special, nonlapsing
6 fund to provide financial assistance in the form of grants under the provisions of the
7 Program for certain eligible projects; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be
8 credited to the Fund; and generally relating to the Community Health and Safety
9 Works Grant Program and Fund.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Housing and Community Development
12 Section 6–1101 through 6–1107 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 11.
13 Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program”
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

17 Article – State Finance and Procurement
18 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

22 Article – State Finance and Procurement
23 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii) 170. and 171.
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

26 BY adding to

27 Article – State Finance and Procurement

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)172.
2 Annotated Code of Maryland
3 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

4 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
5 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

6 **Article – Housing and Community Development**

7 **SUBTITLE 11. COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY WORKS GRANT PROGRAM.**

8 **6–1101.**

9 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
10 INDICATED.

11 (B) “ELIGIBLE PROJECT” MEANS:

12 (1) A FACILITY AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AS
13 DEFINED IN § 6–1104 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

14 (2) A BUSINESS DISTRICT AND NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY PROJECT
15 AS DEFINED IN § 6–1105 OF THIS SUBTITLE; OR

16 (3) A COMMUNITY–CENTERED CRIME AND VIOLENCE INTERVENTION
17 AND PREVENTION PROJECT AS DEFINED IN § 6–1106 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

18 (C) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY WORKS
19 GRANT PROGRAM.

20 **6–1102.**

21 (A) THERE IS A COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY WORKS GRANT
22 PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

23 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL
24 ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF GRANTS FOR ELIGIBLE PROJECTS THAT IMPROVE THE
25 QUALITY OF LIFE WITHIN AND ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF MARYLAND COMMUNITIES
26 BY MAKING TARGETED INVESTMENTS IN CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGIES TO
27 ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH, OR SAFETY CONCERNS IN COMMERCIAL,
28 PUBLIC, OR RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

29 **6–1103.**

THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM; AND

(2) ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAM.

6-1104.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "ELIGIBLE APPLICANT" MEANS A TAX-EXEMPT NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.

(3) (I) "FACILITY AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT" MEANS A PHYSICAL PROJECT OR A COMMUNITY SERVICE THAT:

1. MAKES A FACILITY OR A COMMUNITY-MANAGED OPEN SPACE SAFER FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS;

2. ENCOURAGES THE LAWFUL USE OF A FACILITY OR A COMMUNITY-MANAGED OPEN SPACE BY INDIVIDUALS; OR

3. SUPPORTS COMMUNITY-LED EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE APPEARANCE OF A FACILITY OR A COMMUNITY-MANAGED OPEN SPACE.

(II) "FACILITY AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT" INCLUDES:

1. THE PURCHASE OR INSTALLATION OF:

A. EQUIPMENT THAT INCREASES THE VISIBILITY OF VULNERABLE SPACES, INCLUDING SURVEILLANCE TOOLS OR ADEQUATE LIGHTING FOR EXTERIOR DOORS, COMMON AREAS, OR HALLWAYS;

B. VEHICLE OR PEDESTRIAN CONTROL DEVICES; OR

C. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FEATURES, INCLUDING SIGNS, GARDENS, PAVING TREATMENTS, PLANTINGS, OR OTHER UPGRADES TO PUBLIC SPACES;

2. EFFORTS TO:

1 **A. IMPROVE SIGHT LINES WITHIN, INCREASE VISITATION**
2 **TO, OR CLEAN PUBLIC SPACES; OR**

3 **B. INTEGRATE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN**
4 **FEATURES INTO A FACILITY OR A COMMUNITY-MANAGED OPEN SPACE IN A MANNER**
5 **THAT GUIDES VISITORS TO DESIRED LOCATIONS AND AWAY FROM PRIVATE AREAS;**

6 **3. TIMELY REMOVAL OF GRAFFITI TO PRESENT A**
7 **VIBRANT, MAINTAINED SPACE;**

8 **4. CONTRACTED CLEANING SERVICES TO MAINTAIN OR**
9 **CLEAN IMPROVED OPEN SPACES; AND**

10 **5. OTHER EFFORTS CONSISTENT WITH SUBPARAGRAPH**
11 **(I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.**

12 **(B) AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT UNDER THE**
13 **PROGRAM FOR A FACILITY AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.**

14 **(C) IF AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT SUBMITS AN APPLICATION FOR A GRANT**
15 **UNDER THE PROGRAM FOR A FACILITY AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**
16 **TO PURCHASE OR INSTALL A NETWORK OF CAMERAS OR LICENSE READERS, THE**
17 **ELIGIBLE APPLICANT SHALL INCLUDE WITH THE APPLICATION:**

18 **(1) A MONITORING PLAN; AND**

19 **(2) EVIDENCE OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH LAW**
20 **ENFORCEMENT, THE GOVERNMENTAL UNIT RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAFFIC**
21 **ENFORCEMENT FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT**
22 **PUBLIC AGENCIES.**

23 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT WHO SUBMITS**
24 **A COMPLETE APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PROGRAM FOR**
25 **A FACILITY AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT A GRANT THAT:**

26 **(1) IS AT LEAST \$25,000; AND**

27 **(2) DOES NOT EXCEED \$50,000.**

28 **6-1105.**

29 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
30 **INDICATED.**

1 **(2) (I) “BUSINESS DISTRICT AND NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY**
2 **PROJECT” MEANS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR ENHANCING THE CAPACITY OF**
3 **PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMFORT SYSTEMS ALONG COMMERCIAL CORRIDORS AND**
4 **ADJACENT AREAS.**

5 **(II) “BUSINESS DISTRICT AND NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY**
6 **PROJECT” INCLUDES:**

7 **1. THE PURCHASE OR INSTALLATION OF:**

8 **A. EQUIPMENT THAT INCREASES THE VISIBILITY OF**
9 **VULNERABLE SPACES, INCLUDING SURVEILLANCE TOOLS, ADEQUATE LIGHTING**
10 **FOR EXTERIOR DOORS, COMMON AREAS, OR HALLWAYS, OR PEDESTRIAN–SCALE**
11 **STREET LIGHTING IN HIGH–PEDESTRIAN–TRAFFIC AREAS;**

12 **B. VEHICLE OR PEDESTRIAN CONTROL DEVICES;**

13 **C. EQUIPMENT TO LOCK OR CONCEAL DUMPSTERS FROM**
14 **PUBLIC ACCESS; OR**

15 **D. SIGNS, GARDENS, LITTER REMOVAL EQUIPMENT,**
16 **PLANTINGS, OR OTHER UPGRADES TO PUBLIC SPACES;**

17 **2. EFFORTS TO:**

18 **A. IMPROVE SIGHT LINES WITHIN, INCREASE VISITATION**
19 **TO, OR CLEAN ELIGIBLE SPACES; OR**

20 **B. INCREASE CITIZEN AND MERCHANT STEWARDSHIP**
21 **THROUGH ORGANIZING, EDUCATION, AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES THAT SEEK TO**
22 **ENGAGE RESIDENTS AND OTHER COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO ACTIVELY**
23 **PARTICIPATE IN THE UPKEEP AND IMPROVEMENT OF RESIDENTIAL AREAS AND**
24 **PUBLIC SPACES;**

25 **3. CONTRACTED CLEANING OR LANDSCAPING SERVICES**
26 **TO MAINTAIN OR CLEAN IMPROVED OPEN SPACES;**

27 **4. CONTRACTED SECURITY SERVICES OR SIMILAR**
28 **COMMUNITY–BASED PROGRAMS; AND**

29 **5. OTHER EFFORTS CONSISTENT WITH SUBPARAGRAPH**
30 **(I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.**

1 **(3) “ELIGIBLE APPLICANT” MEANS:**

2 **(I) A TAX-EXEMPT NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION;**

3 **(II) A GOVERNMENTAL UNIT FOR A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION; OR**

4 **(III) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

5 **(B) AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT UNDER THE**
6 **PROGRAM FOR A BUSINESS DISTRICT AND NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY PROJECT.**

7 **(C) IF AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT SUBMITS AN APPLICATION FOR A GRANT**
8 **UNDER THE PROGRAM FOR A BUSINESS DISTRICT AND NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY**
9 **PROJECT TO PURCHASE OR INSTALL A NETWORK OF CAMERAS OR LICENSE**
10 **READERS, THE ELIGIBLE APPLICANT SHALL INCLUDE WITH THE APPLICATION:**

11 **(1) A MONITORING PLAN; AND**

12 **(2) EVIDENCE OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH LAW**
13 **ENFORCEMENT, THE GOVERNMENTAL UNIT RESPONSIBLE FOR TRAFFIC**
14 **ENFORCEMENT FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT**
15 **PUBLIC AGENCIES.**

16 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT WHO SUBMITS**
17 **A COMPLETE APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PROGRAM FOR**
18 **A BUSINESS DISTRICT AND NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY PROJECT A GRANT THAT:**

19 **(1) IS AT LEAST \$75,000; AND**

20 **(2) DOES NOT EXCEED \$150,000.**

21 **6-1106.**

22 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
23 **INDICATED.**

24 **(2) “COMMUNITY-CENTERED CRIME AND VIOLENCE INTERVENTION**
25 **AND PREVENTION PROJECT” MEANS A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY THAT**
26 **INTEGRATES PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATED ACTIVITIES THAT:**

1 **(I) DIRECTLY ENGAGE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE AT RISK OF**
2 **BECOMING INVOLVED WITH OR AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE AND CRIME USING**
3 **EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS; AND**

4 **(II) REDUCE CRIME AND DISORDER BY CAREFULLY EXAMINING**
5 **THE CHARACTERISTICS OF PROBLEMS IN NEIGHBORHOODS AND APPLYING**
6 **APPROPRIATE PROBLEM-SOLVING REMEDIES.**

7 **(3) "ELIGIBLE APPLICANT" MEANS A TAX-EXEMPT, NONPROFIT**
8 **ORGANIZATION.**

9 **(B) AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT MAY APPLY FOR A GRANT UNDER THE**
10 **PROGRAM FOR A COMMUNITY-CENTERED CRIME AND VIOLENCE INTERVENTION**
11 **AND PREVENTION PROJECT.**

12 **(C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD AN ELIGIBLE APPLICANT WHO SUBMITS**
13 **A COMPLETE APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE PROGRAM FOR**
14 **A COMMUNITY-CENTERED CRIME AND VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION**
15 **PROJECT A GRANT THAT DOES NOT EXCEED \$250,000.**

16 **6-1107.**

17 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND**
18 **SAFETY WORKS GRANT PROGRAM FUND.**

19 **(B) THERE IS A COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY WORKS GRANT**
20 **PROGRAM FUND.**

21 **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN**
22 **THE FORM OF GRANTS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PROGRAM FOR ELIGIBLE**
23 **PROJECTS.**

24 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.**

25 **(E) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT**
26 **SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.**

27 **(2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY,**
28 **AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.**

29 **(F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**

30 **(1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;**

1 **(2) EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE FUND;**

2 **(3) INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND; AND**

3 **(4) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR**
4 **THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.**

5 **(G) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
6 **IN THE FORM OF GRANTS UNDER THE PROGRAM.**

7 **(H) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND**
8 **IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

9 **(2) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO**
10 **THE FUND.**

11 **(I) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE**
12 **WITH THE STATE BUDGET.**

13 **(J) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE**
14 **GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF**
15 **\$10,000,000 TO THE FUND.**

16 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

17 6–226.

18 (a) (2) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless
19 inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the
20 terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the
21 State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to
22 receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General
23 Fund of the State.

24 (ii) The provisions of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph do not apply
25 to the following funds:

26 170. the Cannabis Public Health Fund; [and]

27 171. the Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund; AND

28 **172. THE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY WORKS**
29 **GRANT PROGRAM FUND.**

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2023.

SB0874 Support YMCA of Frederick.pdf

Uploaded by: Tom Clingman

Position: FAV



Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The YMCA of Frederick County would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

We were recipients of Community Works funding in 2022 that we used to replace and upgrade our security system. This new system allows for more controlled building access and security for our staff, Head Start and Childcare parents. It also provides a better paging/alert system for emergencies. With a large facility in an urban location, it is very important for us to control building access in order to keep our children under Y care and our members safe. We hope future funding will be available for us to apply for, as we need to upgrade and replace our camera systems at our facilities. The FCC has deemed our HIKVISION cameras a security threat due to where they are made and their vulnerability to outside breaches. New cameras will allow easier access for police to view/access for issues. Will allow staff easier remote access to view in real time as a result. Newer cameras have more AI features to track suspicious persons in building, allowing for a quicker response. These cameras will help us keep the children, members and staff in our building safer.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thankyou for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Clingman
Vice President of Social Responsibility
YMCA of Frederick

YMCA OF FREDERICK COUNTY
1000 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701
P 301-663-5131 F 301-663-5363 www.frederickymca.org
Our Mission: "To put Judeo-Christian principles into practice
through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all."

Thurmont.pdf

Uploaded by: Vickie Grinder

Position: FAV



THE COMMISSIONERS OF THURMONT

615 East Main Street
P.O. Box 17
Thurmont, Maryland 21788
301-271-7313
240-626-9980
Fax: 301-271-2155

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Town of Thurmont would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Town of Thurmont employs their own police department that currently has nine police officers on staff with four openings at this time. Thurmont is a town of 7,000 and our police department has many needs, and unfortunately without raising taxes on residents, grants are the only option for the much-needed equipment to do their job effectively. Small towns have challenges hiring police recruits as the salary is less than the state or county police departments. Thurmont, fortunately, was awarded The Safety Works Grant in 2022 which made it possible to purchase much needed cameras in vandalism areas such as the park which will aid in deterrence and arrests with the current staff able to see the perpetrators without necessarily being at the scene. Yes, hard to imagine, but small towns have crimes and vandalism too, and these cameras will fill a much-needed void with the police staff not able to operate at full capacity due to the shortage of officers. Thurmont has also used this grant for much needed LED

crosswalk signs for safety for those walking on Thurmont's intown trails. This grant also enabled Thurmont to purchase speed signs to aid in traffic slowing down within the business district. Future funding would assist the Town of Thurmont to purchase more camera equipment, and lighting for high concentrated vandalism areas.

In addition, the State of Maryland has mandated that every police department in the State of Maryland have every officer wear a body camera by 2025. This type of expense without grant resources would result in cuts to other town services budgets, or cuts to the police budget for much needed items in order to be in compliance with the 2025 regulation. The Safety Works Grant was/is a lifeline to Thurmont and to any small town who employs their own police department.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Vickie Grinder

Town of Thurmont Economic Development Manager

SB 874 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: W. Stephen Young

Position: FAV



Cresaptown United Methodist Church

14805 McMullen Highway
P.O. Box 5206
Cresaptown, MD 21505-5206
Phone 301-729-0052

Patrick Hurder Burhman, Pastor

March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Cresaptown United Methodist Church would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Through the program we were able to add exterior security cameras and improve a pedestrian crosswalk at our church. We would not have been able to consider these security and safety improvements without this grant assistance. Hopefully, if this program is continued, it can benefit other organizations like ours.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

W. Stephen Young
Finance Chair

CSW GRANT FUNDING SUPPORT LTR.pdf

Uploaded by: William Hardin

Position: FAV



Town of Delmar

100 SOUTH PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
DELMAR, DELAWARE-MARYLAND 21875
(302) 846-2664 (410) 896-2777
FAX (410) 896-9055
E-Mail: delmartownhall@verizon.net

Jeffrey Fleetwood
Town Manager

February 28, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

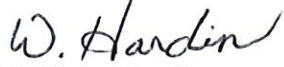
Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Town of Delmar would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Town of Delmar is very appreciative to have been chosen as a recipients of 2023 CSW Grant funding. Funding that will assist the Town in its purchase of security camera system for install at one of our municipal parks. Delmar deems its parks and recreational facilities to not only be activity centers, but facilities that serve as neighborhood focal points which provide safe, vibrant and attractive places for community gatherings, business sponsored youth activities and school outings. While Delmar has a low crime rate overall, there has been a recent uptick in reported concession stand break-in's, restroom vandalism and youth violence at the park. Installation of the security cameras at strategic locations throughout the park along with increased patrol presence will assist the Delmar Police to provide a more secure and safe environment. A safe community serves to support and promote future growth and expansion of the Town.

This project would not be possible without the assistance provided by the CWS Grant award. Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of William Hardin in cursive script.

William Hardin
Community Development Coordinator

file

Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Yaakov Baron

Position: FAV

Thank God
Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Lubavitch of Howard County DBA Chabad Ellicott City would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

As a Synagogue and meeting space for the Jewish community, we are highly vulnerable and unfortunate targets of hate and violence. We would use the funds to strengthen our street visibility and access control and enhance our outdoor space to accommodate handicapped individuals. As well as to enhance our friendship garden.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Yanky Baron
Rabbi

Support for SB0874.pdf

Uploaded by: zvi Guttman

Position: FAV

**AGUDATH ISRAEL OF GREENSPRING
ADATH YESHURUN – MOGEN ABRAHAM**

6107 Greenspring Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21209

Rabbi Mordechai Shuchatowitz, Morah D'Asra

Zvi Guttman, President

To: Members of the Budget and Finance Committee

From: Agudath Israel of Greenspring, Inc.
Zvi Guttman, President

Subject: Senate Bill 874 - Community Health and Safety Works
Grant Program and Fund

Date: March 6, 2023

position: Support

The Agudath Israel of Greenspring ("AIG") supports Senate Bill 874 providing for the establishment of a Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund ("SB 874").

AIG is a synagogue of approximately 100 members located in the Cheswolde area of Baltimore City. AIG fronts on Greenspring Ave., which is the main thoroughfare into Cheswolde and connects this area of the City to Interstate 83 to the South and Interstate 695 to the North. A significant amount of traffic passes the synagogue every day. Other synagogues and houses of worship occupy main and neighborhood access roads throughout the City and the State.

The Benefits of HB 874

SB 874 will provide funding to improve the looks of these properties thereby enhancing the areas and providing a more aesthetically pleasing experience for the members of these communities and those passing through them.

SB 874 also provides funding for the placement of cameras, lighting, and

other equipment to assist in better securing these areas. Once again, as these facilities are located on main road and neighborhood access routes they are uniquely situated to host these security enhancements to better protect the affected neighborhoods and assist law enforcement in the event of criminal or unlawful activity.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the AIG support SB 874 and respectfully urges an favorable committee report. For further information and for any questions, please contact Zvi Guttman, at President@AIGreenspring.com.

SB0874 - Letter of Information.pdf

Uploaded by: Helene Grady

Position: INFO



Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET
AND MANAGEMENT

WES MOORE
Governor

HELENE GRADY
Secretary

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor

MARC L. NICOLE
Deputy Secretary

SENATE BILL 874 Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program and Fund - Establishment

STATEMENT OF INFORMATION

DATE: March 7, 2023

COMMITTEE: Senate Budget and Taxation

SUMMARY OF BILL: SB 874 establishes the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program which would provide funding for projects that improve the quality of life or increase the economic potential of the communities through crime prevention strategies. The Department of Housing and Community Development would administer the program. The bill also creates a fund, the Community Health and Safety Works Grant Program Fund, to support the cost of the program. Additionally, the bill establishes a \$10 million mandate annually to the fund and allows the fund to retain all interest earned rather than reverting to the General Fund.

EXPLANATION: SB 874 establishes a new program to be administered by the DHCD. This program is supported by an accompanying special fund. That fund would have a mandated annual appropriation of \$10 million in perpetuity and be permitted to retain any interest earned on the funding. This would annually reduce General Funds available for other purposes and eliminate revenue to the General Fund from the interest earned.

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) is charged with submitting a balanced budget to the General Assembly annually and strives to create a structurally balanced budget, in which the growth in spending is less than the growth in revenues. In light of current economic uncertainty and the potential for a downturn, the Department urges caution in passing legislation significantly expanding State required expenditures without offsetting revenues. General fund mandates can have the effect of crowding out the State’s ability to fund staffing, salary adjustments, and in general invest strategically and holistically in State government’s human capital and the infrastructure required to carry out State government’s mission. State government must be intentional, disciplined, and strategic with its allocation of State funding to ensure maximum impact toward priority outcomes.

General Fund Structural Budget Outlook, Fiscal 2024 – 2028 (\$ millions)

	Est. 2024	Est. 20235	Est. 2026	Est. 2027	Est. 2028
Structural Balance	\$337	\$232	\$263	\$529	\$1,113
Adjusted for Blueprint				-\$963	-\$1,207

Department of Legislative Services, January 2023 Fiscal Briefing

For additional information, contact Marc Nicole at (410) 260-7288 or marc.nicole@maryland.gov

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