



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

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Our Mission: "To put Judeo-Christian principles into practice
through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all."