

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