



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

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