

Chair and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 514. I come before you as a nonprofit executive and philanthropic leader with more than two decades of experience working across Maryland and nationally to strengthen the social sector. Most recently, I served as the leader of two major philanthropic organizations with a combined endowment exceeding \$750 million and annual grantmaking of more than \$200 million to nearly 20,000 charitable organizations and public partners. Throughout my career, I have worked with thousands of nonprofits—from small, community-based organizations to large regional institutions—helping them build capacity, improve governance, and deliver measurable impact in communities that rely on their services every day.

House Bill 514 represents an important and timely investment in the health, stability, and effectiveness of Maryland's nonprofit sector. Nonprofits are not simply service providers; they are employers, economic engines, and trusted community anchors that deliver essential supports in education, health, workforce development, housing, and community safety. Yet many organizations continue to operate under outdated or burdensome frameworks that limit their ability to respond to community needs with agility and innovation. By modernizing policies and strengthening the operating environment for nonprofits, this legislation will enable organizations to focus more of their time and resources on mission delivery, collaboration, and measurable outcomes for Maryland residents.

From my experience managing large grant portfolios and working directly with more than 8,000 community partners across the country, I have seen firsthand how thoughtful policy changes can unlock greater impact, transparency, and accountability across the sector. House Bill 514 will help ensure that nonprofits can operate with greater efficiency and stability while maintaining strong stewardship of public trust and resources. I respectfully urge the Committee to advance this bill to support the vital work of Maryland's nonprofit community and the residents who depend on it every day.