

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Scott Awards Fourth Round of Nonprofits \$16.2 million to Support Community Development, Youth Services, and Small Business Support

Mayor Brandon M. Scott announced the fourth round of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant awards from the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programs (MORP) to nonprofit organizations focused on community development, including affordable housing, youth services, small business support, and arts and culture.

The awards – totaling just under \$16.2 million to 13 different organizations – span the Scott Administration's priority pillars outlined in the Mayor's Action Plan, including building public safety, equitable neighborhood development, prioritizing our youth, and clean and healthy communities.

SELECTED NONPROFIT RECIPIENTS:

- **Ahavas Chaim Inc will receive \$500,000** to provide rent and housing security deposit support to residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding will also permit Ahavas Chaim to make facility improvements to their existing center which will allow for increased services designed to provide mental health, career, academic, and socioemotional support to at-risk teens and young adults in Baltimore.
- **Artspace will receive \$300,000** to redevelop the Ambassador Theater as a new community art and culture center in Northwest Baltimore.
- **American Communities Trust, Inc. will receive \$2,250,000** to support a multi-phased project to eliminate the blight of five vacant and abandoned buildings to establish a small business jobs center in the heart of a persistent poverty community that was once an epicenter of business and retail. The job center will help to expand minority and locally-owned small businesses, create local jobs, and increase access to healthy foods.
- **City Dibs will receive \$500,000** to provide fellowships to entrepreneurs and business incubation support to existing small businesses in Baltimore City, with particular attention on serving Black and other minority populations.
- **Druid Heights Community Development Corporation will receive \$300,000** to support the Green Infrastructure project, which will focus on stormwater management activities that reduce inland flood and pollution for the vacant lots that have been impacted by repeated dumping from residential and commercial contractors.
- **Everyman Theatre will receive \$1,000,000** to focus on restoring public performances and educational, arts and culture programming affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, with particular attention towards the equitable inclusion of groups that have been historically excluded or had limited engagement with Baltimore's arts, culture, and entertainment community.
- **HeartSmiles will receive \$250,000** to provide mentorship, career advancement opportunities, leadership opportunities, and mental and physical health support to Baltimore City youth.

- **KEYS Empowers will receive \$1,000,000** to help to transform the former Dr. Lillie M. Jackson Elementary School, in the Coppin Heights neighborhood, into facility that will serve residents and more specifically, target the socio-economically underdeveloped Coppin Heights neighborhood. The complex will provide access to broadband internet and computer labs, nightly dinners in a fully-equipped cafeteria, daily fitness programming in a gymnasium, job training in various industries including STEM, and mental health services.
- **Neighborhood Housing Services will receive \$2,800,000** to support investment in comprehensive, equitable neighborhood development and affordable homeownership within Greater Rosemont Mondawmin (GRM) communities. This initiative will include developing vacant/disinvested units, providing home repairs and modifications, transforming a limited number of vacant lots, and removing blight across the community.
- **Omega Baltimore Foundation, Inc. will receive \$260,000** to manage and operate the Easterwood Recreation Center in West Baltimore, in order to mitigate the historical lack of neighborhood recreational programming. The Easterwood Recreation Center will provide free hot meals and computer access to youth after school daily, Out of School Time (OST) STEM Programming for youth during the school year, summer camps, youth flag football leagues, and provide employment for neighborhood youth through YouthWorks.
- **Pennsylvania Avenue Black Arts and Entertainment District, Inc. will receive \$1,000,000** to provide job training assistance, workforce development, cash assistance, and small business assistance in the form of sponsorships and fellowships for artists and creative professionals within the Black Arts District footprint.
- **Project PLASE will receive \$3,500,000** to support the renovation of Beacon House Square (BHS) by covering hard costs related to construction of the affordable housing development.
- **Southeast Community Development Corporation will receive \$2,500,000** to support affordable housing through the acquisition and rehabilitation of properties and a home repairs program focused on low-income owner-occupants and tenants.

The first three rounds of funding through the Mayor's Office of Recovery Programs awarded 32 nonprofits with grants totaling just under \$27.3 million. The grant funding from the Recovery Office to nonprofits in this latest round brings the total number of nonprofits to 45 and the total amount of funding to just over \$43.4 million out of the City's \$641 million ARPA allocation.

Key Takeaways:

13

new nonprofits

\$16.2M

in multi-year grants ranging from \$250,000 - \$3.5 million per award

\$43.4M

total committed in ARPA funds from four rounds of non-profit awards

SUMMARY:

Mayor Scott allocates \$16.2 million in ARPA funding to 13 nonprofits to focus on community development, including affordable housing, youth services, small business support, and arts and culture.