

# FY2020 IMPACT REPORT



**STRONG  
CITY  
BALTIMORE**

**Strong Hearts. Strong Purpose. Strong City!**

Strong Hearts. Strong Purpose. Strong City!



**CELEBRATING 51 YEARS OF BUILDING AND  
STRENGTHENING NEIGHBORHOODS AND PEOPLE.**





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Dear Friends and Supporters,

For more than 50 years, Strong City Baltimore has worked to build and strengthen neighborhoods and people. One of the things I enjoy most about this work is joining forces with change agents who are committed to serving our communities and the city we love.

Our 51st year has been one of many great accomplishment, change and challenge for our city, for the nation and for Strong City Baltimore. In January, we moved from our long-time offices in Charles Village to the A. Hoen Lithograph Building in East Baltimore, providing a state-of-the-art facility for our staff, programs, and community. The Adult Learning Center now occupies the entire south end of the Hoen Building, providing adult learners with bright study spaces, private tutoring rooms, and fast internet connections. Our move placed us one block away from The Club at Collington Square, our out-of-school-time youth program for K-8th grade students.

Just as we settled into the new building, COVID-19 gripped Baltimore and the U.S., exacerbating the systemic racism that has existed here for decades. Our health systems have been tested, our daily lives upended, and poverty and health disparities have deepened. Despite these challenges, many of our fellow change agents at Strong City and across Baltimore answered the call for community leadership by innovating to meet the changing needs of our neighborhoods through organizing, advocating, and tapping into new resources.

At Strong City Baltimore, we changed how we did things. Due to the pandemic, all of our programming and operations adapted to safely serve their communities. Through the hard work of our staff, youth from Charles Village, Waverly, Better Waverly, and the Greenmount Corridor have enjoyed virtual STEM activities, in-person summer camp, and on-site distance learning; adult learners have continued their coursework with take-home assignments and regular phone calls with teachers. At The Club at Collington Square our team stayed connected with wellness check-ins and a month of in-person academic support, a week of summer camp, and access to internet or computers to complete distance learning on-site. Some of our fiscally sponsored projects went dormant, while others ramped up their work with our fiscal sponsorship team and successfully adapted to meet their evolving needs.

Rapid expansion of our fiscal sponsorship work challenged internal processes and presented new opportunities to reimagine and reengineer systems to be more effective and efficient.

With strong hearts and an unyielding commitment to our mission and values, we continue to face today's challenges, invest in our future and collaborate with new partners ranging from the Baltimore NAACP, Baltimore City Census Complete Count Committee, and East Baltimore's Last Mile Park.

We invite you to read of about our recent work, support current initiatives and learn of our plans for the future. Working together, we can build and strengthen neighborhoods and people.



*Reginald Davis, Interim CEO*



*Anwar Young, Board Chair*

Strong Hearts. Strong Purpose. Strong City!

*Reggie*

Reginald Davis  
Interim Chief Executive Officer

*Anwar*

Anwar Young, Esq.  
Board Chair



# Board of Directors

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Anwar Young  
*Board Chair*

Staci Summers  
*Vice Chair*

Joseph Carpenter  
*Treasurer*

Steve Spencer  
*Secretary*

Georgia Smith  
*Chair Emeritus*

## DIRECTORS

Alyssa Domzal

Raguel Broy

Chris Barnes

Janyelle Thomas

Kate Grubb Clarke

Kim Trueheart

Michael Preston

Norman Sensinger

Candace Griffin

*Special thanks to Georgia Smith  
for her years of leadership,  
service, and support.*

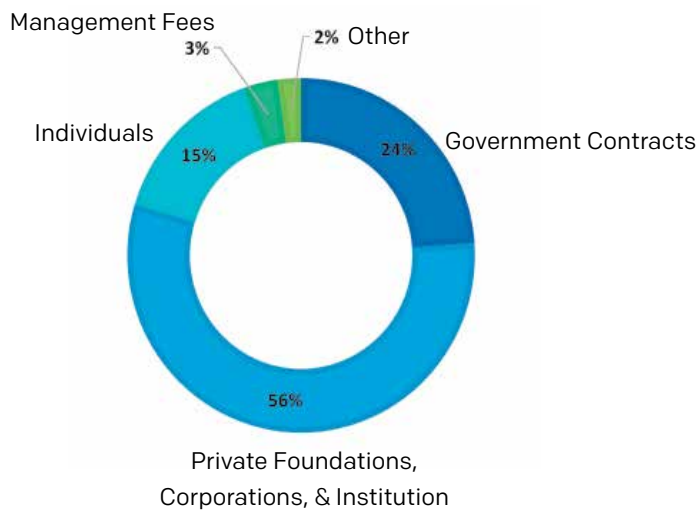
*- The Board and Staff of  
Strong City Baltimore*



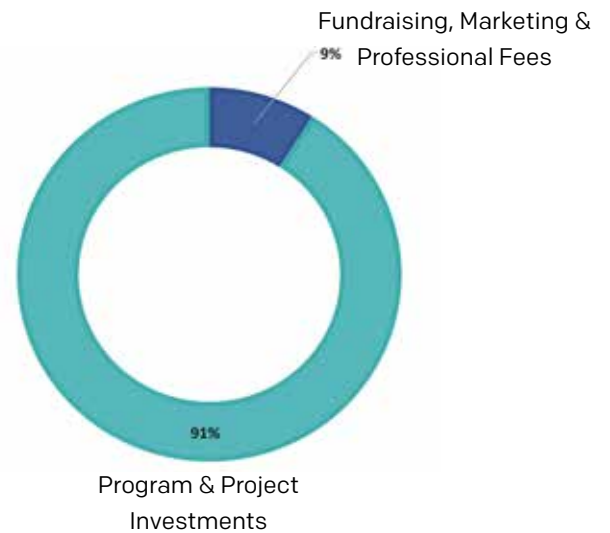
# Financials

## July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

### REVENUE



### EXPENSES



<b>UNAUDITED FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT*</b>		<b>Current Period Actual</b>
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$1,720,395.99
<b>REVENUES</b>		
	Govt - Public	\$3,588,581.07
	Foundations/Corporations/Inst. - Private	\$8,399,672.92
	Individuals	\$2,261,895.87
	Fees	\$468,408.20
	Other	\$326,836.85
	<b>Total REVENUES</b>	<b>\$15,045,394.91</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
	Personnel Expenses	\$10,954,693.36
	Program & Project Expenses	\$3,440,911.24
	Management, Fundraising, Marketing & Professional Fees	\$609,378.85
	<b>Total EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$15,004,983.45</b>
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$1,757,759.06

\*Audit was not complete at time of printing.



# Programs

## ADULT LEARNING CENTER

Provides high-quality, learner-centered instruction to help Baltimore City's adult residents increase their academic skills, employability, and overall quality of life.

## THE CLUB AT COLLINGTON SQUARE

An after-school and summer program serving approximately 149 children, K-8th grade, in the Clifton-Berea neighborhood of East Baltimore through academic and enrichment curriculum and wraparound services.

## THE 29TH STREET COMMUNITY CENTER

Offers over 100 unique and diverse programs, dozens of community-strengthening events, and essential public services to thousands of community residents of all ages and socio-economic backgrounds.

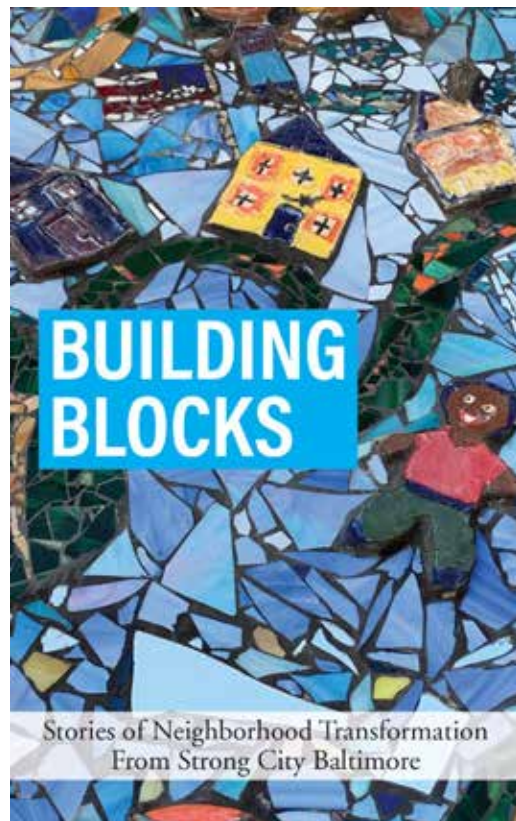
## FISCAL SPONSORSHIP

Sustainable and cost-effective methods of advancing social good initiatives through shared services.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAMS

Organizing activities that strengthen communities and schools so that all residents are engaged in improving neighborhood quality of life.

Learn more about our work. Read our book, *Building Blocks: Stories of Neighborhood Transformation*.



# Adult Learning Center

This year was full of opportunities for the Adult Learning Center (ALC)! We hired a new Executive Director, Jesse Schneiderman; moved across the city; and transitioned our entire program online. Despite all these changes, we successfully provided over 500 learners with classes in GED prep, foundations math and reading, and English language acquisition. This was accomplished through 73 classes at on-site and off-site locations. In FY21, we plan to bring classes to the Y of Central Maryland and Hampstead Hill Academy.

We recently formed several new partnerships that will help learners develop workforce and computer skills. We collaborated with ByteBack to offer computer literacy classes to our students and community members. Partnerships with Maryland New Directions and Humanim enabled us to refer learners to these organizations' workforce initiatives and continue our work with the Mayor's Office of Employment Development. We also began a promotion and recruitment strategy with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs and Powell Recovery Center.

Despite having to transition our silent auction online due to the pandemic, this event was a success, raising over \$1,300. During our Virtual Achievement Night, ALC staff, teachers, learners, their families, and our former director, Delegate Regina Boyce, came together to celebrate our learners' successes where participant Monessa Keemer shared, "Teachers are patient and hours are convenient because I work a full-time job...[ALC] is the right fit for me because I now have my GED."





# Adult Learning Center

Thanks to the dedication of ALC staff and teachers, we were able to quickly change to an online and distance learning format in the middle of a semester to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. This hard work created a fully online curriculum, a system to loan out over 40 laptops, and continuity in admissions and testing for new learners!

## Achievements At A Glance

- **Provided 120 foundations-level learners over 12,000 hours of instruction**
- **Offered 25 different GED-level classes**
- **Served 100 high-level English language acquisition learners and 20 beginner English language learners over 15,000 hours of instruction**



# The Club at Collington Square

The Club's has provided a highly structured program between the hours of 3:15–6:30 p.m. with academic enrichment, and homework help.



Staff has been intentionally recruited from the community resulting in almost 100 percent of our team living in or coming from East Baltimore. The Club empowers the scholars as holistic individuals through:

- Academic Days are offered twice a week with lessons in STEM, language arts, and literacy.
- Resource Days provided three times a week in a variety of activities, such as Mr. Munir Bahar's COR (Committed, Organized, Responsible) leadership program and martial arts.
- Increasing family engagement and community participation. Our parents/guardians are required to volunteer for four service hours at The Club each semester.
- Nutritious meals and snacks made on site by a trained chef and nutrition courses.
- Emphasizing student leadership with older scholars mentoring younger scholars and serving on an elected Student Council.
- Support services from outside the community including the Eastern District Police Department. Three officers visiting twice a week to help serve dinner, build relationships with the scholars, and teach community policing.



# The Club at Collington Square

## RESPONDING TO COVID-19: MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR SCHOLARS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN EAST BALTIMORE

To address this year's unique challenges, The Club at Collington Square (The Club) has grown from just after-school programming to become a community hub for vital information-sharing and resource provision during the pandemic. To date, seven scholars have lost loved ones to COVID-19; and, two scholars have lost a parent to violence.

Summertime at The Club was redesigned to keep everyone safe during the pandemic. While maintaining academic excellence through distance learning remained a priority, we also made time for fun! The highlight of the program was a trip to Woodberry Crossing for K–5th grade students. During that trip, our scholars went swimming and frog hunting, interacted with animals, and

played in a creek. Scholars also enjoyed learning and performing TikTok dances to get healthy exercise and improve their overall well-being.



### Achievements at A Glance

- **Community Support: Supported 1,020 families; 78 of which families are enrolled during the regular academic school year.**
- **Food Distribution: Served 916 hot, grab-and-go meals during the pandemic, including 100 bags of food, 100 fresh chickens for Easter dinners and 100 bags of toiletries.**
- **Educational Outreach: Provided over 100 educational packets for Collington Square Elementary/ Middle School Scholars.**
- **Distance Learning: Served as a WiFi and technology hub to 30 scholars by providing real-time assistance in accordance with the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) social distance requirements.**

# The 29th Street Community Center

All programming and volunteer opportunities at The 29th Street Community Center (29SCC) are designed to provide access to unique, enriching experiences that promote community connection.

Before the pandemic, the 29SCC served as the meeting site for the Harwood Community Association, offered 24 enrichment programs multiple times per week, and held 15 events for community members to attend. The 29SCC also partnered with the Baltimore Wisdom Project (a division of Wisdom Projects, Inc.) to provide a second year of structured after school programming for 60 youth that focused on Social Emotional Learning and a STEM curriculum provided by the Youth Investment Alliance. The After-School Program also provided employment opportunities to five young adults ages 18 to 25 who served as After-School Coordinators while gaining crucial job and leadership skills.

At the beginning of the pandemic, the 29SCC quickly shifted services to phone and text to continue to meet the needs of children, youth, and families in the community. Our staff conducted over 500 calls and text messages to check in on their well-being and provide support to our families. Over 160 weekly wellness check-ins and tutoring sessions were provided to families served through our After-School Program, which resulted in over 70 hours of one-on-one support for our youth.



# The 29th Street Community Center

Our staff livestreamed 13 family fun activities on our Facebook and Instagram pages reaching over 3,600 people with 1,350 views. We also partnered with the local Mutual Aid Group, which led to the opening of Joy's Free Store—a pop-up donation store that provides free food, hygiene items, personal protective equipment, baby products, and clothing.

Over the summer, the 29SCC hosted 11 city youth workers as part of the City's YouthWorks program. Participants enjoyed workshops on college readiness, workforce preparedness, and community development. They also went on three virtual college tours, worked with the Harwood Community Association to complete a community art project, and led a community event called Fun Day with the Youth, which gave youth in the community a safe and interactive day to celebrate the summer.



# Neighborhood Programs

In Spring 2020, Strong City published *Building Blocks: Stories of Neighborhood Transformation from Strong City Baltimore*. Years in the making, grew out of a desire to document the history of Strong City's decades-long work supporting community-driven change in Barclay, Harwood, Remington, and the York Road Partnership. In support of the publication, Strong City held an online book launch event, "Building Blocks Live," which drew an audience of 80 on Zoom and 300 Views on Facebook.

In addition, Strong City presented a panel, "Investment, Disinvestment, and Neighborhood Change in Baltimore," in November 2019 for the combined Baltimore Book Festival/Light City event. A distinguished panel discussed gentrification, development, demographics, and other issues related to neighborhood change to an audience of 100.

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of Neighborhood Institute 2020, Neighborhood Programs pivoted to put together a weeklong presentation of blogs and social media posts, culminating in a Civic Engagement Mini-Institute featuring six Strong City partners that was viewed by 670 people on Facebook.

Strong City participated in the Census 2020 Complete Count Committee, spearheaded by the Baltimore City Planning Department. To encourage participation,

we engaged in events, door-knocking, and social media posts educating Baltimoreans about the census.

## Code Enforcement

**Before transitioning to become a fiscally sponsored project in late FY20 Community Revitalization Manager Peter Duvall and his assistant Rachel Shane accomplished much:**

- **Created a Key Properties List identifying 25 properties or parcels needing code enforcement, transfer, and/or rehabilitation.**
- **Maintained a database with 110 additional priority properties needing rehabilitation.**
- **Identified 3 blocks of significant vacancy in Central Baltimore; nearly of which are now in receivership.**
- **Reported or will report over 400 unregistered properties to the City.**
- **Helped engineer an 18% reduction in vacancies on the York Road Corridor.**



# Neighborhood Programs

## GOVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Govans Elementary School is a charter school operated by the Baltimore Curriculum Project and a Community School supported by Strong City Community School Coordinator Sandi McFadden. Govans is part of the 21st Century School program and will be moving into a new building for the 2021-2022 school year.

Ms. McFadden has been assisting Principal Bernarda Kwaw and others in guiding the Govans community through a period of transition, starting with the move during summer 2019 from Govans' former space to temporary quarters in the Chinquapin Building on Woodbourne Avenue. Before the end of the 2019 school year and during the summer, over 3,000 mailers were sent, apprising the community of the school's impending transition.

Student enrollment in 2019-2020 was 383, with average daily attendance of 89 percent. Led by the Community School Coordinator, Govans added 17 new partners in FY2020 that provided a wide range of resources to children and families in five areas.

### **Community Engagement**

Former residents and their business provided 200 new tennis shoes and Church of the Redeemer congregation provided 100 new coats for students of all grades and school supplies.

### **Family Engagement**

Over 1,000 bags of food were provided to 40-plus families over 25 weeks during the school year from the Weekend Backpack program. And 30 parent-volunteers assisted in classrooms, cafeteria, weekend food distribution, office work, and special events.

### **Academic Enrichment**

The Community School Coordinator arranged over 70 one-on-one tutors, work study students, afterschool STEM volunteers, and classroom volunteers from local colleges.

### **Youth Development**

Govans 3rd-5th graders produced beautiful mosaic stepping stone tiles to be used in a Community Memorial Garden in Dewees Park. Fifteen boys participated in 12 sessions of Polo's to Ties Boys Mentoring Program. Loyola University of Maryland's Center for Community Service and Justice provided 50 full scholarships for students to attend Super Kids Camp.

### **Health, Physical and Mental**

Over 100 children were provided dental examinations through our partnership with the Oral Health Impact Project.



# Neighborhood Programs

## MARGARET BRENT ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL

Margaret Brent Elementary/Middle School is a Community School serving the neighborhoods of Remington, Charles Village, Harwood, and Barclay. Strong City has a long relationship with Margaret Brent going back to the formation of the Barclay Brent Education Corporation in the 1970s. Today, Strong City supports Margaret Brent with a full-time Community School Coordinator, Sabrina Gay.

In this role Sabrina has established or nurtured 43 partnerships, including strategic partners, vendors, donors, sponsors, and volunteering organizations. One of the strongest relationships has been with the Johns Hopkins University (JHU), which provides arts integration to 330 students through professional development, gallery exhibits, museum tours, art showcase events, and more; as well as exposure to college and career readiness programs for 50 students through the JHU Center for Social Concern, in partnership with Southwest Airlines. The school received \$10,000 in cash donations and \$309,700 in in-kind contributions from the above sources (including \$289,000 in after-school services from the Village Learning Place) during FY20.

The school also connected school families with community by:

- Providing food to 325 families, with 815 bags and a total of 9,000 pounds of food distributed
- Distributing 175 Chromebooks for remote learning

During the period of online-only learning that started in March 2020, 70 percent of Margaret Brent students engaged in the virtual learning space three or more times a week. For all of FY 2020, the school averaged 106 volunteer hours weekly.





# Neighborhood Programs

## GUILFORD ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL

Guilford Elementary/Middle School is a Community School serving the North Baltimore neighborhoods of Guilford, Pen Lucy, Richnor Springs, and Kernewood. Guilford is in the process of merging with Walter P. Carter Elementary/Middle School in a newly built 21st Century School Building. This situation presents both challenges and opportunities for the Guilford school community.

The current Guilford Community School Coordinator, Andrew McCormick, served as an AmeriCorps VISTA at the school before taking on this current role in November. In addition to overseeing Guilford's "Presence for Christmas" program, he was tasked with determining what each Guilford students' out-of-school-time (OST) program would like for the holiday (within reason). Andrew joined OST leaders and other school para-educators to distribute these gifts to the children before the holiday break.

Throughout the year, the Andrew also oversaw the HEART Market, a monthly distribution of produce and dry goods, from December 2019 through February 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic shut down all events at Guilford Elementary/Middle School in March, at which point Andrew shifted to fundraising for food access, and spent time with community partner GEDCO CARES in order to make sure that all families at Guilford had access to food.

As an AmeriCorps VISTA during Quarter 1 of FY20, Andrew secured \$7,036 in cash donations, \$7,831 in in-kind donations, and served 1,050 individuals.

During FY 2020, efforts by Andrew and the previous Community School Coordinator resulted in the following direct benefits to the school:

- Volunteer hours: 841 hours with a total value of \$23,114
- Cash donations totaling \$1,045
- In-kind donations totaling \$16,967



# Fiscal Sponsorship

## PROJECT HONOR ROLL

Strong City proudly recognizes these fiscally sponsored projects, which recently became independent nonprofits with a 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS:

**Baltimore Corps**

**Baltimore Votes**

**Harwood Community Association**

**Improving Education**

**Our Joyful Noise - Baltimore**



*Harwood Community Association*



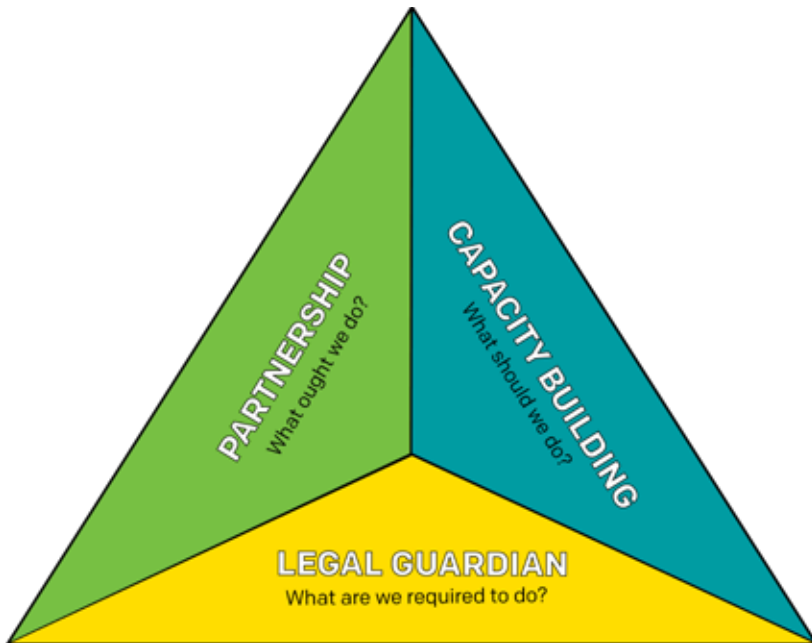
*Baltimore Votes*



*Baltimore Corps*



# Fiscal Sponsorship



## OUR OPERATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

We see the three principles--partnership, capacity building, and legal guardianship--as the core roles of a fiscal sponsor. Ideally, they are in balance and we are empowering initiatives with the resources and knowledge they need to be successful. We are committed to walking the line between fiscal policy and flexible community responsiveness.

## IMPACT OF OUR FISCAL SPONSORSHIP SERVICES

**102**

Projects sponsored

**\$13 million**

Assets managed

**75**

People employed

**12**

Years Strong City has provided fiscal sponsorship

**\$5.1 million**

Government grants and contracts managed

**5,200**

Hours of technical assistance provided

**\$1.5 million**

Estimated savings for the nonprofit sector in operational costs

# Fiscal Sponsorship

We are in the process of developing and implementing new systems, onboarding new staff and carving a path forward that not only meets but exceeds national standards and best practices for fiscal sponsorship.

Our efforts to-date include:

- Increased internal capacity, expertise, and training. We recently onboarded an Accounting Manager with more than two decades of industry experience and a Grants Coordinator with the expertise and experience to coordinate with projects and funders to ensure proper reporting and management of grant funds.
- A detailed financial audit is underway and we are working with expert consultants to inform and guide the implementation of best practices, specifically in grant management, accounting and finance systems generally.
- Working with internal and external communication experts to significantly increase regular engagement between our staff, leadership, projects and funders to ensure that our path to repairing existing issues is fully transparent, informed by our stakeholders, and reported on regularly so all parties are up-to-date on exactly how our efforts are improving accountability and results.
- Reviving the Project Services Council, which includes fiscally sponsored project leaders as a vehicle to providing clients with oversight of and direct engagement with internal finance and reporting systems.

- Continued exploration and deployment of new processes, technologies and platforms for payroll processing, accounting, reporting and financial management. This is just a beginning of what will be an ongoing, collaborative, and well-communicated approach to right-sizing the organization, exceeding client expectations and addressing community needs.

## Pandemic Response

**Strong City's fiscal sponsorship program has pivoted support for our fiscally sponsored projects to focus on assisting them through programming and funding interruptions. While some projects are currently paused in their work, many have evolved to focus on COVID-19 response efforts.**

- **31% of the projects in our portfolio have slowed down or paused their work until pandemic restrictions are lifted**
- **35% are stable in their fundraising and continuing their work**
- **25% have increased their activities to focus on addressing the COVID-19 impact on the populations they serve**
- **Most projects are stepping up their work to address education, food access, advocacy, mental health and housing security needs**



# FISCALLY SPONSORED PROJECTS

(Partial List)

Project or Client	Mission
Arts + Parks	Arts + Parks is committed to using public street art projects and intentional landscaping to bring back meaning, pride, and beauty to forgotten spaces and struggling communities.
AZIZA/PE&CE	Committed to unordinary programming for extraordinary results in the arenas of developing youth socially, culturally, emotionally, and to improve life and critical thinking skills.
Baltimore Good Neighbors Coalition	Advocating for alcohol policies in Baltimore City and statewide with local implications that will protect the public's health, safety and quality of life.
Baltimore Beach Charity Challenge	The Baltimore Beach Charity Challenge is an annual beach volleyball tournament sponsored by Baltimore Beach that challenges teams to raise funds for the sponsoring charity that is important to them.
Baltimore Chesapeake Rugby Foundation	To further the participation in, support of, and foster a love for the game of rugby in the Baltimore metro area.
Baltimore Power Group	A gathering place for women in the real estate profession to exchange ideas and network, while raising funds to support initiatives throughout the state of Maryland.
Baltimore Rhythm Festival	Each year, the Baltimore Rhythm Festival brings together world renowned artists and local talent in a celebration of music, voice, and dance.
Baltimore Trash Talk	Works to eliminate trash in the streets of Baltimore through facilitating conversations regarding litter, while also teaming with initiatives and organizations to fight trash, raise awareness of pollution, and sponsor events.
Baltimore Video Collective	Providing access to a wide variety of films for the Charles Village community.
Beverly Hills Improvement Association	Preserves and improves the quality of life for residents and community members of the Beverly Hills neighborhood.
Black Fathers Foundation	The Black Fathers Foundation's mission is to give black men raising or fighting to raise children an opportunity to be heard in their own voices, in order to shatter the stereotypes around who they are as fathers.
BMOG Community Fund	Supports the efforts of residents and organizations to improve the Barclay, Old Goucher, and Midway neighborhoods.
BMORE Abroad	Works within Baltimore and the state of Maryland to increase access to study abroad for local students and engage professionals, students, & alumni towards the holistic advancement of the field of education abroad.
BMORE4Kidz	Bmore4Kidz is a community of members who are dedicated to providing the children and youth of East Baltimore a safe place to make and create their ideas into tangible ventures.
BOMA Leap Fund	Raises funds in support of schools and literacy initiatives, including facility work.
Bulldog Basketball School	Advance the lives of boys and girls from the Barclay School community using basketball and academics.
By Peaceful Means	Interrupt physical and structural violence by empowering youth through peace education, advocacy, and employment.
Community Advocates 4 You	A network of parents, professionals, and community advocates working together to provide person-centered support to persons with disabilities. We provide special education training, support brokerage, and transitional youth planning services.

Project or Client	Mission
Community Development Services	Our mission is to work with communities and the city Department of Housing and Community Development to reduce vacancy and blight on a house-by-house basis. We keep a database of blighted buildings, research the situations, and work on solutions until the problems are resolved, which often takes several years.
ConnectED	Fostering connection and life-learning for students and their senior citizen friends through ongoing multi-generational programming.
DewMore Baltimore	Foster civic engagement with historically marginalized people through innovative, arts-focused programming, and community organizing.
East Baltimore Truth and Reconciliation	Supporting residents and communities who were displaced or impacted by the EBDI/Hopkins Urban Renewal Project in promoting positive community programming and neighborhood connections.
Edmonson Village Farmers Market	A community venture dedicated to feeding and nourishing Southwest Baltimore neighborhoods.
Ensemble 4-33	Presents excellent, innovative performances of experimental and avant-garde music from mid-century to present.
Friends of Arlington Judy Center	Supporting the work of the Arlington Elementary Judy Center.
Friends of Arundel Judy Center	Supporting the work of the Arundel Elementary Judy Center.
Friends of Eutaw-Marshburn	Enhances the lives of students by facilitating academic excellence, fostering social competence, and cultivating cultural awareness.
Friends of Eutaw-Marshburn Judy Center	Supporting the work of the Eutaw-Marshburn Judy Center.
Friends of Harford Heights Judy Center	Supporting the work of the Harford Heights Elementary Judy Center.
Friends of the Curtis Bay Judy Center	Supporting the work of the Curtis Bay Judy Center.
Liberty Village Project	Embracing the development of the whole child by building capacity of our families and engaging the community to wrap-around each child in a deep and meaningful manner.
GiveFit	Provides access to group fitness for those who can't afford gym or studio memberships.
Harwood Community Association	Supports the efforts of residents and local businesses and organizations to improve the Harwood neighborhood.
Higher Ground Harm Reduction	Addressing the specific knowledge gap and increasing the ability of harm reductionists, syringe service programs, community-based naloxone distribution programs, drug users' unions to prepare for, respond to, and recover after disasters.
Homebound's Loads of Love	Provides accessible laundromat services for those who are homeless in West Baltimore.
Ignite Baltimore	Hosts ticketed networking events, the proceeds from which produce a pool of funds to be used as awards to support new, innovative, feasible ideas to make Baltimore a better place.
Intellectual Warehouse Productions	Intellectual Warehouse Productions is a Baltimore-based not-for-profit enterprise that develops and produces a variety of new arts and culture projects and initiatives designed to engage citizens of all ages in meaningful conversations, using the arts and humanities as a platform to explore our world together.



Project or Client	Mission
In the Stacks	In the Stacks brings engaging, collaborative, and accessible performing arts programs to historic and unique venues in Baltimore City.
Jump for Joy	Blends the fun and excitement of jump rope with the power of community caring to nurture fitness, goal setting, positivity, and connectedness in Baltimore City youth.
Kindred Community Healing	The aim of Kindred Community Healing is to address the mental and emotional well-being of activists and change-makers of color through the facilitation of community based healing spaces that teach Mind-Body Medicine skills.
Lakeland Community Association Partnership	Promoting the education of residents and partnership of schools, businesses and churches in the area of crime prevention and quality of life and to assist in the safeguarding of the community, its residents and their properties through voluntary activities including public information problem solving and addressing community problems and concerns.
LeadersLink	Harnesses and shares elected officials' disaster lessons learned to help other communities better prevent, prepare for and recover from similar crises.
Maryland Health and Wellness	Empower seniors, veterans, and adults with special needs within the Baltimore Metropolitan area by providing alternative therapies that engage and assist these individuals to achieve greater independence by overcoming physical and emotional limitations.
Maryland Justice Project	A city and statewide, nonpartisan organization dedicated to uplifting, educating, and advocating for the most marginalized systems-involved women and girls.
Maryland Trans Resilience Conference	The Maryland Trans Resilience Conference aims to build solidarity among transgender communities in Maryland and to offer opportunities for connections and capacity-building for trans people.
Medfield Community Association	A volunteer group that empowers the Medfield Heights community to improve our quality of life through communication, engagement, participation, and advocacy.
Medfield Heights Elementary School PTO	Supports the school community of students, families, and teachers by fundraising to provide classroom technology equipment and enrichment programming.
Mile 22 Civic Labs/ Baltimore Votes	Baltimore Votes is a values-based coalition working to engage every Baltimore institution in the process of improving voter participation. It is run as a program of Mile 22 Civic Labs.
MOMCares	Serving low-income, single women of color, with a NICU experience in Baltimore City.
Moravia Judy Center	Provide services to children and families to prepare them to be fully ready for school.
Moving History	Moving History heals injured identities, creates healthy culture, and fosters strong community by introducing students citywide to curriculum which centers African American contributions through dance.
Nation of Makers	Dedicated to helping makers by supporting maker organizations; through advocacy, the sharing of resources, and the building of community within the maker movement and beyond.
Northern District Community Council	A community partnership fundraising effort to support physical and programmatic improvements offered through the Northern District Police Department.
Reflection of Kings	Supporting the healthy development of African-American boys by using media to help them explore their identities, connect with positive role models, and build awareness on issues impacting Black males.
Sisters Saving the City	Empowering urban youth to become positive and productive members of their community and to realize and step into their greatness.
Small Developers Collective	Works to engage and support small, independent developers in the Baltimore area by providing a coordinated voice so the impact of their efforts can be quantified and represented within the larger community development framework.

Project or Client	Mission
Step Up Maryland	Step Up MD inspires ordinary people to get engaged in the public debate about government, policy and our political process.
Take the Lead Baltimore (The Charin Foundation)	Take the Lead Baltimore intends to provide Pre-K through 12th grade Baltimore City Public School students with academic and community leadership development programs through project-based learning.
The Baldwin Prize	Using the craft of writing to put people in touch with their humanity—and each other.
The Be.org	Encouraging and nurturing youth to live above their socially-imposed limitations; to develop their character, talents, and leadership skills, allowing them to go beyond a dream and achieve remarkable excellence.
The Chinatown Collective	Amplifying the voices and experiences of Baltimore-based Asian American Pacific Islander artists, entrepreneurs, and creatives.
The Sebass Foundation	Promoting safety, helping reduce racial and economic inequities, and fostering a positive sense of community throughout the city of Baltimore. In memory of Sebastian Tucker Richard Dvorak.
Upendo Movement	Seeks to support families holistically by assessing, addressing and eliminating barriers that lead to successful family development and transition to adulthood for youth.
Urbanscapes	To restore and uplift the environment in neighborhoods that have been distressed by derelict and blighted conditions.
Village Parents	Support partner fundraising efforts and school-supportive activities at the Barclay School and Margret Brent Elementary/Middle School.
Walk of Faith	Supporting the execution of an annual event in the memory of Zakary DeGross, and donating the proceeds to support the JHU Hospital Pediatric Oncology Unit.
WeGo Foundation	Creates opportunities for enrichment, enjoyment, and communication to our clients, through the implementation of telepresence technology and programming in order to promote innovation for new and profound avenues of human connection.
Wilson Park Northern	Working to improve the quality of life in Wilson Park.
Winston-Govans Improvement Association	Building cohesion among residents; makes the neighborhood safe and environmentally-friendly; and provides opportunities for youth to protect investment in community.
Women With CLASS	Develop and instill self-worth, self-respect, and self-empowerment while improving the self-image among young women through active participation workshops.
Womxn of Color Weekend	Womxn of Color Weekend is a four-day Pride designed to elevate, strengthen, educate and celebrate LGBTQIA womxn of color, non-binary and gender-fluid people of color and allies.
York Road Partnership	Promoting the vitality of the York Road community as a desirable urban environment in which to live, shop, work, and worship.
Young Kings Leadership Academy	Serving Black male middle school students and illuminates their full potential by providing unique learning opportunities beyond the classroom.





# Goals for FY21 & Beyond

Be a strong voice advocating for system and policy changes to make Baltimore better.

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Hold Neighborhood Institute in Spring 2021.

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Refocus on our core mission of supporting neighborhood-led initiatives

---

Continue to serve as a launch pad for grassroots organizations so we can strengthen Baltimore from the bottom up.

---

Live our values:

- Love the community
  - Empower others and ourselves
  - Know what work is ours
  - Leave space for change
  - Serve in ways that are wanted
  - Be on the same team
  - Change takes time
- 

Invest in our internal capacity by upgrading our systems, developing our human capital, and building Strong City's long-term sustainability.

---

Continue our commitment to becoming an anti-racist organization from the inside-out.



# Donors & Supporters

## Organizations

2731 Greenmount Avenue LLC  
Amazon Smile Foundation  
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Baltimore City Public School System  
Baltimore Community Foundation  
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Barrus Real Estate Group  
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Jane Tolen  
Jared Ellis  
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*Interim CEO*

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*Director of Fiscal Sponsorship*

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*Portfolio Manager*

Faith Redmond  
*Portfolio Manager*

Natasha Rolle  
*Portfolio Manager*

Greta Banks  
*Portfolio Manager*

## Adult Learning Center

Jesse Schneiderman  
*Executive Director,  
Adult Learning Center*

Sherry DeFrancisci  
*Assistant Director*

Georgina C. Blackwell  
*Intake and Assessment Specialist*

Karolina Belen  
*ELA Instructional Specialist*

Ife Blount  
*Management Information  
Systems Specialist*

Thomas Frey  
*Tutoring Instructional Specialist  
and Volunteer Coordinator*

## The 29th Street Community Center

Minju Zukowski  
*Program Manager*

Gechell Burnside  
*Assistant Program  
Manager*

Melissa Huch  
*Communications and Operations  
Coordinator*

## Neighborhood Programs

Mike Cross-Barnet  
*Manager of Neighborhood  
Programs*

Sabrina Gay  
*Margaret Brent Community  
School Coordinator*

Sandi McFadden  
*Govans Community  
School Coordinator*

Andrew McCormick  
*Guilford Community  
School Coordinator*

## The Club at Collington Square

Vanessa Williams  
*Program Director*

Vince Cole  
*Chef*

## Development

Isazetta Spikes  
*Director of Development*

Samantha Solomon  
*Communications Manager*

Dannielle Sturgeon  
*Advancement Services Specialist*

Jasmine Campbell  
*Grants Coordinator*

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Brenda Huot  
*Accounting Manager*

Sassche' Corbin  
*Accounts Payable and  
Contracts Admin*

Dana Hayes  
*Senior Accountant*

Kahlilah Elie  
*Database Administrator*

James Pollard III  
*Staff Accountant*

## Information Technology

Markus Saelzer  
*IT Administrator*

## Human Resources

Danielle Conway  
*Talent Development Manager*





# Get Involved!

## **VOLUNTEER!**

We are always looking for dedicated volunteers to support Strong City Baltimore's programs and events.

Contact Us:  
[info@strongcitybaltimore.org](mailto:info@strongcitybaltimore.org)  
410-261-3500

## **SUPPORT**

We couldn't do this work without support from our community.

To discuss giving opportunities, contact Isazetta Spikes at:  
[info@strongcitybaltimore.org](mailto:info@strongcitybaltimore.org)  
410-261-3513




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