



WEST BALTIMORE  
RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION



# ANNUAL REPORT FY 2023

February 2024



WEST BALTIMORE  
RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION



Dear Friend of the West Baltimore Renaissance Foundation:

As we reflect on the past year, the excitement within the West Baltimore Renaissance Foundation (WBRF) staff is palpable, driven by the remarkable growth and achievements of our grantees in West Baltimore. Over the last few years, we have witnessed organizations evolving from being fiscally sponsored to establishing their own nonprofits, gaining traction with individual donors and other funders, and forging deeper connections within the community with stronger outcomes.

Throughout the year, the recurring theme of mental health needs resonated loudly within our communities. The isolation experienced during the pandemic, coupled with the continuing effects of trauma and violence, underscored the importance of ongoing support systems. Residents voiced concerns not only about personal well-being but also about the economic factors affecting their neighborhoods. Small businesses, jobs, transportation, and challenges related to crime and grime remained at the forefront of community discussions.

The hybrid work environments adopted during the pandemic presented unique challenges for the reestablishment of small retail and food businesses. Unfortunately, a local grocery store, a vital resource for the West Baltimore community, had to close its doors. On a positive note, a new MARC station is being planned, there are discussions about the future of the Highway to Nowhere, and a new gubernatorial administration reopened the door to transit strategies for West Baltimore.

The West Baltimore Renaissance Foundation (WBRF) was pleased to support many organizations that are at the forefront of these community challenges. Our staff continues to engage community leaders, move forward new strategies, and seeks to respond to the evolving needs of West Baltimore residents. Over the past year, the WBRF awarded an impressive 67 grants totaling \$5,348,896, comprising 11 Small Neighborhood Grants (SNGs) and 56 Program Related Grants (PRGs). As of November 2023, through three years of grantmaking, the WBRF has cumulatively awarded 184 grants to 96 organizations serving the West Baltimore community. The total grant awards, including early FY 2024 commitments, now stand at an impactful \$15.1 million.

This annual report encapsulates the challenges, successes, and ongoing commitment of WBRF to the West Baltimore community. We express our gratitude to our partners, stakeholders, and the community members who collaborate with us to make a positive impact. Together, we look forward to addressing future challenges and building a more resilient and vibrant West Baltimore in 2024 including the opening of the Factory.

Sincerely,

Kurt Sommer Executive Director  
West Baltimore Renaissance Foundation

## CONTENTS

About Us.....	3	2023 Funding Themes.....	10
Programming and Activity Highlights .....	4	The Factory.....	11
Mentoring.....	5	FY 2023 Grantees	
Workforce Development.....	6	Small Neighborhood Grants.....	13
Food Access.....	7	Program Related Grants.....	15
Population Health.....	8		



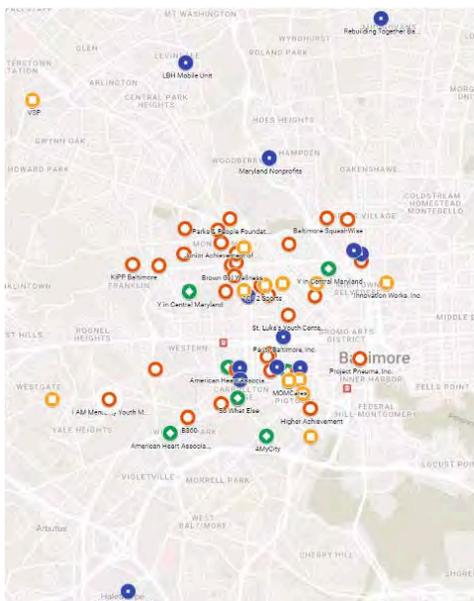
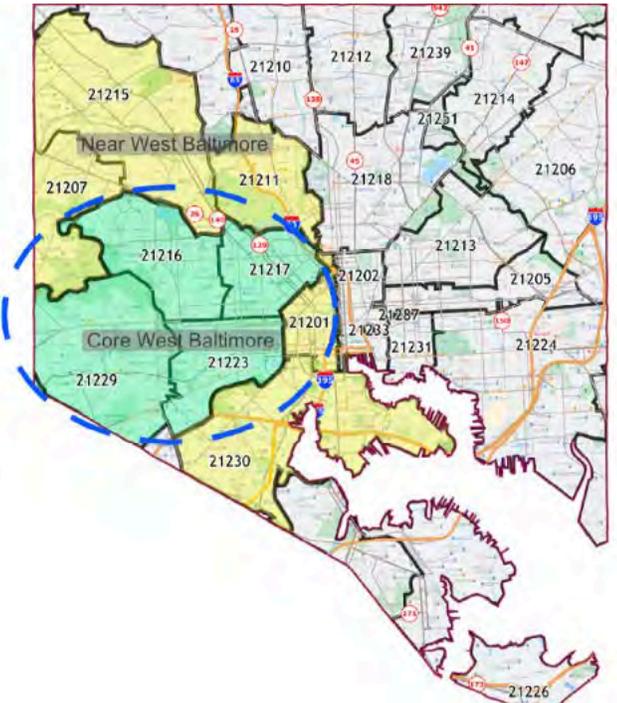
## West Baltimore Renaissance Foundation

West Baltimore Renaissance Foundation (“WBRF”) has completed its fourth year of operations and third year of providing grants to support programming in West Baltimore while supporting the construction of the Factory slated to open in 2024. WBRF was created as part of LifeBridge Health’s (“LBH”) November 2019 affiliation with what is now known as Grace Medical Center with programming supported by funds from the Health Services Cost Review Commission and other donations.

Through active grantmaking focused on programming and services for West Baltimore, this past year WBRF awarded an impressive 67 grants totaling \$5,348,896 across two grant types including 11 Small Neighborhood Grants (SNGs) and 56 Program Related Grants (PRGs). Grants are made within four portfolio areas including Food Access, Workforce Development, Youth Mentoring, and Population Health.

As of November 2023, through three years of grantmaking, the WBRF has cumulatively awarded 184 grants to 96 organizations serving the West Baltimore community. The total grant awards, including early FY 2024 commitments, now stand at an impactful \$15.1 million.

Investments are focused on core areas of West Baltimore between Mondawmin Mall, Carroll Park, Martin Luther King Blvd, and the city/county line. Organizations serving these communities have been the focus of outreach and engagement to connect investment to local programming and priorities.



### WBRF Grantees

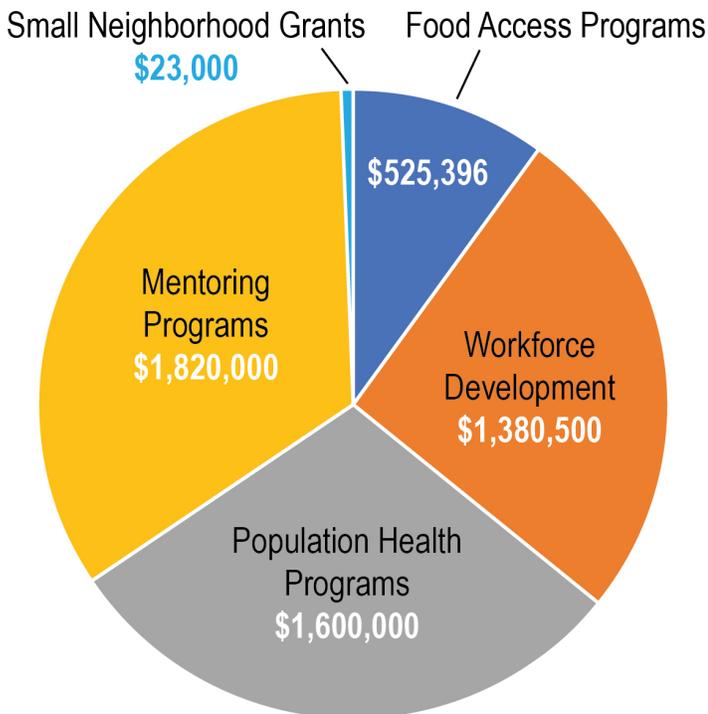
- Population Health
- Workforce Development
- Youth Mentoring
- Food Access



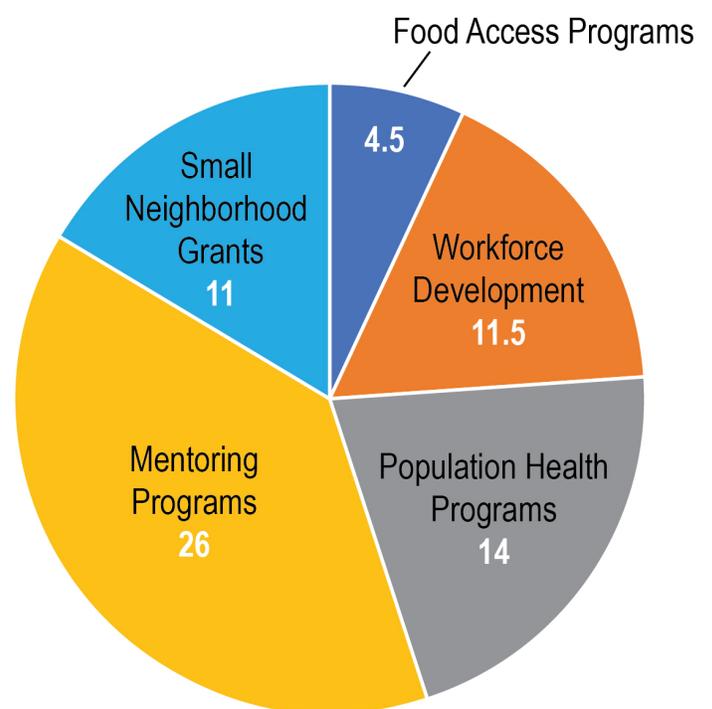
## CUMULATIVE PROGRAMMING AND ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS FY 2023 GRANTMAKING

- \$15.1 million invested to support West Baltimore programs and services
- 96 organizations serving West Baltimore accessing resources to bolster programming and expand operations
- 1.4 million meals including 1.2 million pounds of produce
- 7,220 youth participated in mentoring programming
- 588 job placements for youth and adults
- 6,205 residents benefited from housing, financial education, health, mental health, and other services
- 129 organizations receiving technical assistance and capacity building supports

### FY23 Value of All Awards by Portfolio



### FY23 Number of Awards by Portfolio – 67 Total



## MENTORING

Across the four portfolios, youth mentoring continues to be the largest and most active area of work. Grants this past year supported programming encompassing arts, sports, media, technology, dance, tutoring, education and collegiate pathways, culinary, and a variety of workforce development related strategies including exposure to careers, career training, and part-time jobs. Many of the organizations incorporated social emotional learning components and mental health strategies to support the youth recognizing their stress and challenges. Investment in mentoring and youth related programming totaled \$1,820,000 across 26 grants at an average of \$70,000 per award. Programming hosted by grantees varied considerably and supported youth after school, during school, on weekends, or just during the summer. In fact, in 2023, WBRF joined with a dozen other funders as part of the Summer Funding Collaborative to help award over \$5 million to 90 organizations selected from 178 applicants across the city. WBRF selected five West Baltimore serving nonprofits to support for summer programming through a total contribution of \$200,000.

- **Let’s Thrive** received a grant for \$75,000 to support their Youth In Action program, a youth leadership program that provides year-round mentoring. Youth participants meet a total of 160 days every year with programming offered four times weekly to host youth-led training online. They also care for a healing garden and several vacant lots in West Baltimore.

In the first six months of WBRF support, they recruited 150 youth from WBRF core zip codes for their Summer Enrichment Program with 105 completing the program. They were also chosen as a year-round Youthworks site. With a commitment to beautifying the neighborhood, Let’s Thrive completed 81 community clean-ups and maintained 25 Baltimore City vacant lots. To support crime reduction, they mediated over 100 conflicts that could have resulted in a violent crime. With their healing garden and outreach, they supported 250 families with healing and support after losing a loved one to gun violence.



CUMULATIVE IMPACT	
<b>Participants:</b>	<b>7,220</b>
<b>Specializations</b>	
Culinary/Nutrition:	386
Education/Tutoring:	2,923
SEL/Soc Ser/Therapy:	579
STEM:	393
Media:	222
Athletic:	1,407
Environmental:	314
Health/Wellness:	262
Career/Job Readiness:	119
Job Placement:	199
<i>Source: WBRF Grantee Reporting Data</i>	

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Providing individuals an opportunity towards a career and living wages is an important component of WBRF’s portfolio. Employment and the related benefits such as health insurance is a critical factor in the social determinants of health space.

Baltimore Neighborhood Indicator Alliance data shows that unemployment rates in several West Baltimore neighborhoods are more than double that of the 2021 Baltimore City rate of 7.5% and triple that of the Maryland rate of 5.3%.



This data does not reflect the many other community members that are not in the labor force. WBRF has continued to invest in sector-based job training programs that have strong ties with employers to ensure that the training leads to positive outcomes for participants.

Overall in FY 23, \$1.4 million was invested in workforce training strategies to 12 organizations. Career sectors supported by WBRF this past year include construction and building trades, information technology, biotechnology, healthcare, and culinary arts. In addition to sector-based training, WBRF has invested in programming to support entrepreneurship, case management services, temporary first jobs for those in addiction recovery and those in the reentry space.

- **Paul’s Place Groundwork Kitchen** received a grant to support their culinary program. Paul’s Place is operating a culinary training program, based on the Catalyst Kitchens model, which has a proven track-record of addressing poverty, joblessness, and economic development throughout the country and in the Baltimore region. The program provides free training to prepare up to 60 adults per year for culinary and food service careers. The participants can receive industry credentials such as the Servsafe Manager certification. They have a full-time Workforce Development Manager that cultivates relationships with employers to match new graduates with jobs, and their case management team supports graduates as they transition from job training into the workplace. In its first two years, Groundwork Kitchen culinary training program enrolled over 100 students. The culinary training program has an 84% job placement rate, with graduates earning an average of \$16.70 per hour in their initial job placements.

**CUMULATIVE IMPACT**

<b>Participants:</b>	<b>684</b>
Internships/Diversion:	107
Placed in Jobs:	389

Source: WBRF Grantee Reporting Data

**Career Sectors**

- Construction/Building Trades
- Information Technology
- Biotechnology
- Healthcare
- Culinary Arts
- Case Management & Job Readiness
- Transitional Employment

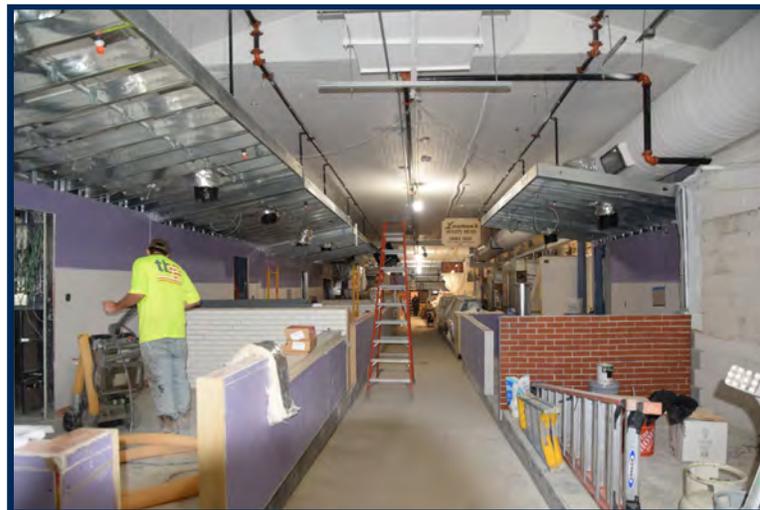
## FOOD ACCESS

The COVID-19 public health emergency exposed the fragility and inequities of Baltimore City’s food system. As a direct result of the pandemic, food insecurity rates increased from 18% to 21.7% in Baltimore City according to a report from Feeding America, with 33% of children being food insecure. As public subsidies to support food access have since expired and inflation has impacted costs of living including food, many of our grantees have noted that lines for free produce boxes and other food services have become longer. These needs were exacerbated by the closing of the only grocery store in Mt. Clare in late 2022.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT	
<b>Participants:</b>	<b>194,307</b>
Meals/Equivalent:	1.4M
Meal Deliveries:	58,101
Pounds of Produce:	1.3M
<i>Source: WBRF Grantee Reporting Data</i>	

In FY 2023, WBRF provided 5 new grants totaling \$525,000 in the food access space. Many of the grants, as well as a few others that are in the workforce and youth mentoring portfolios, are focused on connecting food with other strategies or supports to help individuals move towards self-sufficiency. Working to provide grocery and food access options in West Baltimore, WBRF grantees cover several strategies including food and meal delivery, growing fresh foods at local urban farms, and supporting the reinvestment of Hollins Market which will feature a grocery stall.

- **Hollins Market** a historic public market in Southwest Baltimore that has been continuously serving the surrounding community since 1836. Southwest Baltimore is a food desert and currently there is no grocery store in the area. Through support from the WBRF, Baltimore Public Markets is renovating the market to include a pop-up stall for local entrepreneurs to try out their business model as well as a grocery stall that will include fresh and packaged foods that will take SNAP benefits as well as produce, staples and other items that are central to a balanced diet. Realizing many people do not have the facilities to cook food, BPM’s stall will have prepared foods that are ready to eat. The redeveloped market is expected to open in 2024.



## Population Health

Population Health is the broadest in terms of types of activities that WBRF funds. Largely, it is described as the area that can help support strategies to assist the “whole” person. This past year, WBRF funded strategies that support homeownership readiness, financial literacy, legal services, reentry programming, furniture, childcare and more. Overall, WBRF awarded \$1.6 million in grant funds to 14 organizations in FY 2023.

Housing, including vacant housing, is front and center as a key issue in West Baltimore. Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance data highlights that almost 1/3 of the residential properties in several West Baltimore neighborhoods in 2021 were vacant and abandoned. The costs of vacant and abandoned property are well documented with implications on the socio-economic, health, and mental health of communities.

Over the past year, WBRF supported three housing related strategies including Rebuilding Together Baltimore for senior home repair near Grace Medical Center, Parity Baltimore for homeownership readiness and stabilization in conjunction with their housing redevelopment work in Harlem Park, and Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore.

### • Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS)

received a grant to support homeownership readiness strategies in West Baltimore by providing renter outreach, homeownership counseling, financial coaching, home repair, tax credit application assistance, and affordable housing development to support a total of 235 residents. With higher mortgage interest rates, higher home costs, and low housing inventory, individuals are taking longer to purchase homes but with the help of NHS services (including funding from banks and other foundations), 42 individuals successfully purchased homes in West Baltimore and another 68 legacy residents received lending and grant services for home repairs. In 2023, NHS was able to assist 29 homebuyers with down payment assistance. They also acquired an additional 18 homes for the rehab program while actively rehabbing 25 homes. In 2024, they are slated to work with even more residents and are securing another 30 homes for rehab.

#### CUMULATIVE IMPACT

##### Participants by Programming

Internet Service:	250
Technology Training:	146
Financial/Tax Prep:	1,385
Housing Counseling:	65
Home Repair:	41
Home Purchase:	38
Violence Intervention:	470
Re-entry:	357
Mental Health:	666
Case Management:	728
Transportation Supports:	191
Health Care/Ed Services:	1,244
Legal Services:	598
Furniture/Goods:	26

*Source: WBRF Grantee Reporting Data*



## ADDRESSING COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

Every three years, Maryland hospitals survey communities, analyze data, and meet with groups representative of the community to understand area health needs and plot forward strategies to address them. In 2019, Bon Secours Baltimore initiated the first phase of the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) for what is now Grace Medical Center which was later completed by LifeBridge Health. The study identified a wide range of key issues and findings and prioritized them. In addition, key issues were raised directly to LifeBridge Health staff as part of a series of outreach and engagement sessions with leaders. The chart below plots how WBRF investments to date align with those issues and priorities identified by the study and the community. WBRF staff continues to work closely with community members, health leaders, nonprofit partners, anchor institutions, other funders, and government representatives to inform and align our investments to meet ongoing community needs. A new Sinai Hospital/Grace Medical Center CHNA is expected to be completed in mid-2024.

### WBRF INVESTMENTS ADDRESSING 2019 CHNA FINDINGS

Identified Community Issues from 2019 CHNA	CHNA Priorities Established	LifeBridge Health Listening Tours	Grants Awarded to Date 11/30/2024
Crime and Related Trauma [Mental Health]	X	X	8
Behavior Health / Substance Abuse/ Opioid			0
Access to Primary Care Physicians			3
Chronic Conditions			3
Children's Health			1
Health Education/Public Education System	X	X	3
Youth Services	X	X	64
Access to Healthy Foods	X		10
Employment and Workforce Development	X	X	36
Community Engagement			34 (SNG)
Housing and Homelessness	X	X	6
Financial Counseling and Literacy			4
Coordination of Services Across Community		X (Grime)	5
Senior Support Services	X		5
Transportation			1



## FUNDING THEMES - FY 23

### **Nonprofit Capacity Building**

An important strategy for WBRF is to provide capacity building support to the many organizations serving the West Baltimore community. As part of this effort, WBRF has invested in a series of capacity building initiatives. In FY 23, Maryland Association of Nonprofits (MD Nonprofits) completed their second year of capacity building programming for WBRF grantees. Programming included a series of workshops focused on key topics of interest to nonprofit organizations such as board recruitment, communications, fundraising, and sustainability. Participation in the workshops was targeted to grantee leaders, emerging leaders, and Board members. In addition to the workshops, MD Nonprofits also hosted a more intense cohort for nine organizations focused on data and evaluation.

WBRF also supported two other capacity building strategies. Innovation Works is providing capacity building, mentoring, investment and other supports to entrepreneurs and social enterprises serving the West Baltimore community. The Black Executive Director's Network is supporting targeted West Baltimore nonprofit leaders who are participating in a ten-month cohort program designed to build individual and organizational capacity while also countering systemic issues.

### **Place-Based Investment**

While WBRF grant activities support programming throughout West Baltimore, additional efforts are focused in areas closer to Grace Medical Center and The Factory. WBRF staff work closely with Southwest Partnership and Anchor Group, two collaboratives consisting of community organizations and leaders, anchor institutions, nonprofit partners and faith-based representatives. The collaboratives focus in on subareas of zip code 21223 which, despite having historical socio-economic challenges, has very strong and resilient leaders and community organizations that are working together for a stronger future. In this area, WBRF offers Small Neighborhood Grants to support events, needs, and build community. Eleven Small Neighborhood Grants were made in 2023. WBRF also considers strategic capital projects that align with our portfolio in this area such as the Poppleton Recreation Center that is expected to open in 2024. WBRF was also a co-investor into a retail market study focused on Southwest Partnership, worked with other institutions to support Anchor Group strategies, and continued making progress on the Factory which is helping catalyze reinvestment of the West Baltimore Street corridor.

## THE FACTORY: A WEST BALTIMORE OPPORTUNITY CENTER

WBRF and LBH are continuing efforts to create a new resource center to support the community. WBRF purchased 5. N Calhoun Street and has been working for 3 years to convert the former gelato factory of 33,000 square feet into a new home for nonprofit organizations and LBH community facing entities. The redeveloped building will include space for five tenant suites, and a potential production and demonstration kitchen as well as a classroom that can be used for education-related programming, computer lab and meeting space for small and large groups.

Building construction has been delayed by efforts to improve water pressure needed to support sprinkler systems. Work is ongoing and WBRF is expecting to move into the building in 2024. Funds are being raised to support the next phases of the building including two tenant suites and the commercial teaching / production kitchen. WBRF investments to date are approximately \$12 million with total projected costs for the building at \$14.3 million.

Planned programming in the building includes several community facing LBH organizations such as VSP which will host the PATH Program designed to help individuals obtain training, certifications, internships and jobs in the healthcare field. Center for Hope which administers violence response programming and supports survivors of multiple forms of abuse along with the Safe Streets program supporting the Franklin Square community will be based in the building. A range of additional community serving organizations have also committed to move into the building full-time. Project JumpStart will host their West Baltimore Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training Programming on the first floor. Baltimore's Promise, a city-wide collaborative that serves as a catalyst to support youth from cradle to career, will make the Factory its new home and occupy space on the first floor. On the second floor, Innovation Works, which connects neighborhoods, entrepreneurs, social innovation assets, and investors to build sustainable neighborhood economies, will have space. The second floor also includes the teaching and production kitchen. WBRF is working with So What Else? which specializes in youth mentoring and food access strategies to manage the kitchen programming when complete. The Factory will also support some part-time programming hosted by NAMI Baltimore which provides education and peer led mental health programming and services as well as Byte Back which will administer digital literacy programming. WBRF anticipates hosting and coordinating other programs, events and services to support the West Baltimore community once construction is finished and operations begin.



## ABOUT US

West Baltimore Renaissance Foundation (“WBRF”) was created as part of the November 2019 acquisition of Bon Secours Hospital Baltimore, now known and Grace Medical Center, by LifeBridge Health (LBH). WBRF operates as a nonprofit organization created to administer grant dollars from the HSCRC and to oversee the acquisition, redevelopment and programming of the Resource Center known as The Factory: A West Baltimore Opportunity Center. Activities that are funded by the WBRF serve residents of West Baltimore. As a guideline, the WBRF emphasizes programs and activities that benefit individuals in zip codes 21223, 21217, 21216, and 21229 in its grantmaking.



## MISSION

To empower West Baltimore residents and communities through strategic investments that expand services, amenities, and opportunities that lead to a lasting impact on health and quality of life.

## VISION

The West Baltimore Renaissance Foundation is a portal of health and wellness to the West Baltimore Community. We take responsibility for improving the health of our community through care management, enhancing workforce development, providing access to healthy food and providing family support. We engage our community at all points by Caring Bravely.

### WBRF Board Members

Leslie Simmons, LifeBridge Health  
Edith Gillard-Canty, Community Director  
Amy Shlossman, LifeBridge Health  
Camille Blake Fall, Maryland Department of Health  
Dr. Trecia Henriques, LifeBridge Health  
Charles Jackson, Baltimore City Mayor’s Office  
Sr. Mary Shimo, Bon Secours Baltimore Health Corporation

### WBRF Officers and Staff

Leslie Simmons, Chair of the Board of Directors  
Amy Shlossman, President  
David H. Krajewski, Treasurer  
Jason H. Weiner, Secretary  
Kurt Sommer, Executive Director  
Anna Tatro, Program Manager  
Karen Adams, Administrative Coordinator

WBRF would also like to acknowledge and thank Neil Meltzer, Rebecca Altman, Dr. Letitia Dzirasa, Dr. Arsalan Sheikh, and Dr. Mark Martin for their leadership and support of our mission.

## FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES: SMALL NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
<b>Central Baptist Church (FY 23)</b>	\$2,500	Central Baptist Church will hold two events and provide a total of 100 families with holiday turkey kits. At Christmas, 100 youth will benefit from holiday gift bags.
<b>Fayette Street Outreach (FY 23)</b>	\$2,000	Fayette Street Outreach will provide toys at a holiday event that will serve up to 200 families.
<b>Friends of SOWEBO / Hollins Roundhouse (FY 23)</b>	\$2,500	Friends of SOWEBO will be hosting the SOWEBO Festival featuring art, food, music, kids programming, and health services on Memorial Day weekend. Approximately 1000 participants are anticipated.
<b>Friends of Kirby Lane Park (FY 23)</b>	\$1,000	Friends of Kirby Lane Park will be hosting a celebration honoring the launch of the park on August 20, 2022.
<b>For My Kidz (FY 23)</b>	\$1,500	For My Kidz will host a Thanksgiving meal drive serving approximately 300 individuals with turkeys and holiday meal kits.
<b>Franklin Square Community Association (FY 23)</b>	\$2,500	FSCA will host 4 music and community building events between May and October 2023 in Franklin Square Park.
<b>Pathway Forward (FY23)</b>	\$2,500	Pathway Forward and Allen AME Church will provide holiday baskets for 50 families. They will use resource counselors to provide baskets at James McHenry School, Frederick Elementary, Franklin Square, and Mary Ann Winterling. They will provide food, gifts and other essentials for families and seniors to have a nice holiday experience.
<b>PeacePlayers International (FY 23)</b>	\$2,500	PeacePlayers will hold a 6th annual MLK celebration where they will combine sports programming with peacebuilding and leadership education for 60 young people living in communities experiencing conflict.
<b>St. Luke's Youth Center (FY 23)</b>	\$2,500	SLYC's free after school program will provide 60 children with social-emotional learning, academic
<b>Southwest Sports and Fitness Alliance (FY 23)</b>	\$2,500	SFA will coordinate its annual 5K race for 300-400 participants. The course path will include local landmarks and include neighbors, families, and local resources to create active healthy communities.

**FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES:  
SMALL NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS**

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
HeartSmiles with Mahogany (FY 23)	\$1,000	HeartSmiles and Mahogany will host a back to school event providing back packs and materials as well as food and games for approximately 300 youth.
United Way of Central Maryland (FY 23)	\$2,500	The 2023 Poppleton Back-to-School Party will be held on Wednesday, August 23rd from 4-7 PM on the 1130 block Lexington Street between N. Carrollton and N. Schroeder Streets. The event will be open to all community residents. Targeted outreach will be done to reach local families through Community School Coordinators and staff at James McHenry, Vivien T. Thomas and Excel.



## FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES: PROGRAM RELATED GRANTS

	GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
<b>FOOD ACCESS</b>	So What Else (FY23)	\$125,000	So What Else will provide food access and youth mentoring operations in the communities of West Baltimore through their on-the-ground operations of Emergency Hunger Relief Program. They will hire a full-time Youth Director and an Assistant Youth Director to build capacity in their youth programming.
	Brown Girl Wellness with City Weeds (FY23)	\$10,000	Brown Girl Wellness, Inc. in partnership with City Weeds will serve approximately 100 families per week during 3 weekly food give away events. Additionally, they will serve approximately 50 families per month through cooking classes and food experience outreach events.
	U Empower of MD - The Food Project (FY 23)	\$125,000	The Food Project's food production and meal distribution program increases food access and provide job opportunities to at-risk youth in 21223. Funding will support salaries, food deliveries, and food distribution strategies.
	4MyCity (FY23)	\$150,000	4MyCity will address issues of food insecurity, environmental issues and employment. Programming aims to divert 55 million pounds of food, provide 400 food rescue bags daily (including 250 to West Baltimore families), and provide 24 youth with workforce mentoring programming.
<b>MENTORING</b>	Code in the Schools (FY 23)	\$75,000	Code in the Schools Prodigy Program is an advanced job skills education and mentoring program with several components that engages young people in technology and job skills development courses starting in middle school through age 24.
	Cody Young Empowerment Youth Charities (FY 23)	\$75,000	Cody's Cave (CC) a safe and mentoring space for 25 boys 14 to 18 years old that live in zip code 21217. Youth learn tools to combat negativity, manage stress and prevent gun violence. Groups are offered on mental health, job readiness, art, computers, finances, healthy eating, exercise, conflict resolution and more.
	10:12 Sports (FY 23)	\$50,000	10:12 Sports will continue mentoring programming serving over 250 youth and grow their workforce development program focusing on job and career training placement opportunities.
	B360 (FY 23)	\$50,000	B-360's STEM, Workforce and Diversion programming will work with a goal of 300 West Baltimore youth in cohorts to transition youth and young adult riders in West Baltimore out of traffic into programming and safe space to grow transferable skills, increase economic justice, disrupt the prison pipeline and help add sustainability.
	Baltimore SquashWise (FY23)	\$50,000	SquashWise will administer squash instruction, tutoring college preparation, career development, and mentoring for 60 middle and high school students.
	Center for Technology Access and Training (FY 23)	\$22,500	The Create Initiative will provide specialized training for youth with a focus on coding, web design, video creation, video editing, digital photography, and music production. Students will be exposed to state-of-the-art, education and business software including: HTML, WordPress, image and video editing, and music production software and equipment.

## FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES: PROGRAM RELATED GRANTS

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
Liberty Village Project (FY 23)	\$36,000	The Liberty Village Project's summer program is a robust set of experiences for 70 young people including culinary arts, boxing, gardening and technology. It will also include the launch of the inaugural sessions of the National Basketball Association (NBA) sponsored Jr, NBA program for girls and boys ages 5 to 18.
Let's Thrive Baltimore (FY 23)	\$75,000	Let's Thrive Youth in Action participants come together 4 days a week to discuss a variety of topics including conflict resolution, sex trafficking, mental health, and college prep. The youth will also care for the healing garden in West Baltimore.
Ed Reed Foundation (FY23)	\$40,000	The Ed Reed Foundation will offer youth sports programming for 50-75 students, up to 500 camp participants, and up to 1000 that could participate in BurnAlong. The Foundation serves an estimated 10,000 individuals with Thanksgiving Meals in Baltimore, Miami, and New Orleans.
Excellence & Ambition (FY 23)	\$42,380	The E&A Summer Program will provide 35 high school students and young adults a wide array of hands on experiences and skill development in the arts, dance, music. Activities will help support the growth of 3 existing youth-led small businesses. Efforts will include a youth town-hall meeting, community clean-ups, beautification projects, community cookout, youth concerns, and or block parties.
Five Smooth Stones (FY 23)	\$25,000	Five Smooth Stones Foundation will guide students into a positive post-secondary experience. Year round in school and out of school program assists 7th and 8th grade students with building and executing a successful high school/college access pathway.
Higher Achievement (FY23)	\$100,000	Higher Achievement will recruit 110 participants and implement a covid recovery program at two elementary schools to provide 300 additional hours of out of school engagement to aid in the recovery from the disrupted instruction and trauma of COVID.
I AM MENTality (FY23)	\$60,000	I AM Mentality's Leadership Development Academy will provide programming including health & wellness, financial literacy and leadership development delivered by mentors and inspiring Baltimore community members to 60 youth.
KIPP Baltimore (FY 23)	\$70,000 (two grants of \$35,000)	KIPP Baltimore will develop and implement a peer to peer mentoring program in two Baltimore City High Schools recruiting 11th grade KIPP Baltimore alumni to be mentors to 9th grade alumni at their high school.

## FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES: PROGRAM RELATED GRANTS

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
National Football League Alumni Association / ABC Park Seminoles Sports Agency (FY23)	\$90,000	ABC Park will provide affordable public park activities and continue its year-round, no-cost youth athletics program that serves 150 children aged 6 to 16. This year they will partner with Pipeline 2 Prosperity Inc, to implement their Ready Program for 50 youths that will provide long-term mentoring services and career coaching.
Nehemiah Central Development Corporation (FY 23)	\$34,384.50	This summer program will focus on food including all of the elements of food growing, production, and distribution providing youth job training, workshops and hands on experiences for 15 youth.
Parks and People Foundation (FY23)	\$125,000	Parks and People will be advancing the development of academic enrichment opportunities for Baltimore City students and the creation of green spaces in West Baltimore neighborhoods. Foundation funds would support the SuperKids Camp summer learning program, the Branches workforce development program, and developments for Smithson Park, Unity Park, Gwynns Falls Trail, Mighty Park, and Stockton Street Park.
St Francis Neighborhood Center (FY23)	\$64,735.50	Programming will support student engagement in project-based learning activities to maintain engagement in math and literacy as well as enrichment activities focused around subjects including STEM, art, Computer Science, and nutrition/wellness. They will serve 100 k-8th students in the summer program.
St. Luke's Youth Center (FY23)	\$100,000	SLYC's free after school program will provide 60 children with social-emotional learning, academic interventions, enrichment, and leadership development and train community members, parents and teens to serve as tutors and mentors, providing high-quality individualized academic interventions to 30 young scholars.
The Be.Org (FY23)	\$60,000	The Be. Org requests funding to support 100 youth through the implementation of three signature programs. Be.Virtual will engage 25 students and is a virtual reality program that provides a STEM workforce development. The Food Playground held at Charles Carroll Barrister Elementary will have 3 cohorts engaging 30-45 youth. Character Education will be offered at Belmont Elementary for 30 students.
The Seed School of Maryland (FY23)	\$10,000	SEED MD's Senior Internship Program allows 14 students to apply their knowledge in the classroom to real-world situations to gain marketable skills in internship positions.
Thread (FY 23)	\$100,000	Thread matches ninth graders academically performing in the bottom 25% of their class with multiple volunteers to form a Thread Family that represents a diverse cross-section of Baltimore. Volunteers are trained to connect with young people to set goals, identify and remove barriers, and achieve goals.

**FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES:  
PROGRAM RELATED GRANTS**

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
Urban Alliance (FY 23)	\$150,000	Urban alliance will place 100 young adults in paid, professional internships across Baltimore; Baltimore High School Internship Program (HSIP) is an evidence-based, year-round initiative targeting high school seniors and recent graduates that combines over 100 cumulative hours of hard and soft skill training with paid work experiences, mentoring, and case management from a dedicated UA Internship Program Lead.
Wide Angle Youth (FY 23)	\$200,000	WAYM programming centers around access to high-tech media equipment, mentoring, and career/college readiness skills. Programming features small classes to encourage mentoring, promote relationship-building, and allow for wrap-around support and barrier-removal, particularly for high school and older youth.
Wombwork Productions (FY23)	\$30,000	Nu Generation Art Ensemble is WombWork’s extracurricular program for high school-age youth. For Summer Programming Youth will gather for four days a week, six hours each day over the course of six weeks. Subject matter and activities for youth include dancing, drumming, theatre, and general visual arts with room for learning about other subjects the youth express interest in.

**MENTORING**

## FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES: PROGRAM RELATED GRANTS

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
Franciscan Center (FY 23)	\$36,000	The Dignity Plates Training Academy is a 13 week long, free program in culinary arts and training and will recruit 16 West Baltimore students. Graduates are prepared for positions as a prep cook, front line staff, and in some cases, lead cooks and have a safe serv certification.
BioTechnical Institute of Maryland (FY 23)	\$100,000	BTI will support and train 15 West Baltimore students into BioSTART with 75% moving into the Laboratory Associates program.
Friendly Loving Opporotunities (FY 23)	\$45,396	Targeting homelessness and workforce development in West Baltimore, FLO will create an opportunity for 8 formerly homeless/incarcerated, low income individuals to gain employment, earn a wage, and give back to their own community. They deliver and assemble furniture for low income families with children that need gently used furniture, toiletries, food, and household goods. The Furniture Assistance Program serves over 260 and homeless outreach over 8,000.
Innovation Works (FY23)	\$100,000	Innovation Works, through its Neighborhood Strategy, will be supporting the development and expansion of social enterprises in West Baltimore.
NPower (FY 23)	\$125,000	NPower helps West Baltimore young adults (ages 18-26), veterans and veterans' spouses overcome barriers to success to find jobs with family sustaining wages. NPower's no-cost IT training, professional development, and wrap-around social services with community partners help individuals become career ready entry-level tech professionals in 27 weeks.
Jane Addams Resource Center (FY23)	\$75,000	JARC Baltimore proposes to deepen connections with the greater Park Heights and West Baltimore community by hiring a Career Navigator (CN) to support recruitment strategies and assist with career navigation. They provide workforce development training in CNC Machining and Welding serving approximately 100 individuals a year.
Intersection of Change (FY23)	\$75,000	S2L2 program aims to continue to address the neighborhood's recidivism rate, food apartheid crisis, job opportunities, and making healthy produce available to the community. They will provide job training to 20 youth, 4 re-entry individuals and produce 10,000lbs of food.

## FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES: PROGRAM RELATED GRANTS

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
Pass IT On (FY 23)	\$50,000	The Empowerment Fellowship Program provides technologists with the opportunity to receive no-cost instruction in Information Technology and Cybersecurity. 20 West Baltimore participants will be led through a rigorous, 40-week training program focused on developing them from Novice practitioners to IT experts with various certifications..
Paul's Place (FY23)	\$69,500	Through Groundworks Kitchen, funding will support workforce development programming for 60 economically disadvantaged adults for jobs in the food service each year. Funding is for a full-time Workforce Development Manager who will cultivate relationships with employers and match new graduates/ alumni with jobs, provide case management to graduates as they transition from job training into the workplace.
Project JumpStart (Federated Charities Corporation of Frederick) (FY 23)	\$175,000	Project JumpStart will establish a training site at The Factory and, in partnership with Bon Secours Community Works, train 55 West Baltimore residents to enter full-time employment and potentially an apprenticeship program in the carpentry, electrical, plumbing fields.
VSP – Sinai (FY 23)	\$275,000	Partnering with established local community workforce development partners in the Grace Medical Center catchment area, VSP proposes to provide 50 residents with vital employment services to achieve career direction, life skills training and work readiness in a healthcare setting, job search skills, and job placement services, leading to stable employment.



WEST BALTIMORE  
RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION

**LIFEBRIDGE  
HEALTH.**  
**CARE BRAVELY**

## FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES: PROGRAM RELATED GRANTS

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
BLK ED Network (FY 23)	\$25,000	The BLK ED Network's Executive Director will host a ten-month cohort program designed to build individual and organizational capacity while also countering systemic issues. This will include recruitment and enrollment of 15 Black leaders from West Baltimore nonprofits.
MomCares (FY 23)	\$125,000	MomCares will pilot a doula program at Sinai Hospital's NICU, providing healing circles, case management, emergency services, and post-discharge doula services
No Struggle No Success (FY23)	\$85,000	No Struggle No Success (NSNS) serves as an advocate for individuals returning from prison helping them navigate a full range of services and resources to reduce program participants from reoffending while also initiating work with at-risk youth. The program provides a comprehensive reentry home planning that restores the formerly incarcerated by mobilizing individuals to become advocates for their own personal development and for their community while living healthy to address the challenges of returning citizens.
Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore (FY 23)	\$125,000 Match Based on Reporting or Projection: \$703,000	Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore, Inc. will be creating and sustaining homeownership in West Baltimore by providing homeownership counseling, foreclosure prevention counseling, financial coaching, tax credit application assistance, and lending services to 235 residents
Clergy United for the Transformation of Sandtown (FY23)	\$300,000	CUTS will support a second year of proactive outreach and education around Cardiovascular Disease focused on the residents of Sandtown but also extending into surrounding West Baltimore. They are working with LBH to provide education and to encourage behavior modification to support participants in accessing early cardiovascular disease-related care, which has been proven to be vital in reducing CVD morbidity and mortality.
LBH Mobile Unit (FY 23)	\$10,000	The mobile unit will use \$10,000 for maintenance and repair of the mobile unit. The Mobile Unit goes directly into this neighborhood and brings pediatric primary care services to children, and ensuring they receive up-to-date wellness visits, sports physicals and vaccinations
Rebuilding Together Baltimore (FY23)	\$200,000	Rebuilding Together Baltimore (RTB) will provide critical home repairs in Southwest Baltimore (21223). 40-50 predominately elderly low income households will be served with improvements. The focus of repairs will be on structural issues, home systems, and health and safety issues. RTB will expand services into Fayette Street Outreach, Boyd-Booth, and Carrolton Ridge neighborhoods.

## FISCAL YEAR 2023 GRANTEES: PROGRAM RELATED GRANTS

POPULATION HEALTH

GRANTEE	AMOUNT AWARDED	PURPOSE
University of Maryland, Baltimore Community Engagement Center (FY 23)	\$70,000	The University of Maryland, Baltimore Community Engagement Center and the CASH Campaign of Maryland will provide a comprehensive package of services to 1,200 West Baltimore residents including financial education, coaching, free tax preparation, and benefits screening to help families increase their financial stability.
Parity Baltimore (FY23)	\$200,000	Parity Baltimore will support 44 existing prospective homebuyers with services and support to improve credit and get them to be loan ready. They anticipate completing 10 homes in 2023 increasing the number of Black homeowners by 10 and reducing the number of blighted and vacant properties by 10.
Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (FY23)	\$70,000	MVLS will provide free legal services, community education and outreach in West Baltimore. They will do outreach and will attend 12 West Baltimore Community Events and distribute 250 fact sheets.
Partnership (FY 23)	\$125,000	Southwest Partnership will use this award towards the renovation and reopening of the Poppleton Recreation Center. After renovation of the recreation center, Southwest Sports and Fitness Alliance is expected to become the lead tenant of the building where they will host offices and operate programming.



WEST BALTIMORE  
RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION

