

Maryland Council on Innovation and Impact

December 9, 2024

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Virtual

Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance:

Jonny Dorsey, *Chair; Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor on Innovation and Impact, Office of Governor Wes Moore*

Lisa Hamilton, *Honorary Co-Chair; President and Chief Executive Officer, Annie E. Casey Foundation*

Mark Lerner, *Honorary Co-Chair; Board Member, Baltimore's Promise*

Rachel Garbow Monroe, *Honorary Co-Chair; President and CEO, Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation*

Beth Blauer, *Associate Vice Provost for Public Sector Innovation, Johns Hopkins University*

John Brothers, *President, T. Rowe Price Foundation*

Cheryl Dorsey, *President, Echoing Green*

Matt Gallagher, *President and CEO, Goldseker Foundation*

Don Gips, *CEO, Skoll Foundation*

Jake Day, *Secretary of Housing and Community Development*

Dr. Laura Herrera Scott, *Secretary, Maryland Department of Health*

Rafael López, *Secretary, Maryland Department of Human Services*

Carmel Martin, *Special Secretary, Governor's Office for Children and Senior Advisor to the Governor on Economic Mobility*

Paul Monteiro, *Secretary, Maryland Department of Service and Civic Innovation*

Vinny Schiraldi, *Secretary, Maryland Department of Juvenile Services*

I. Welcome, Meeting called to Order, and Remarks from Chair

Chair Dorsey called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and attendees. He provided a brief overview of activity over the last few months, highlighting the partnerships to date and applauding the critical roles that agencies have played in advancing state partnerships. Chair Dorsey also provided additional detail on the Maryland Tough Baltimore Strong Alliance and the \$16M Key Bridge Fund. \$14M has been committed to emergency relief, small business support, and community wellbeing and resilience. The remaining \$2M will be allocated for remembrance efforts. Chair Dorsey celebrated the Council's momentum and the opportunity to accelerate partnerships over the next year.

II. End of Year Update

Manager for Strategic Partnerships Nicolas Zevallos previewed the Council's forthcoming End of Year Report, during which he provided an overview of key metrics from the partnerships initiated since the start of the Moore-Miller Administration and highlighted ways in which these collaborations have strengthened Maryland's capacity for cross-sector initiatives. These cross-sector partnerships involve a wide range of issue areas, including increasing access to benefits, reducing gun violence among youth, and expanding high-dosage tutoring. Zevallos encouraged sharing Maryland's successes with the social sector and other states.

III. Discussion: 2025 Partnerships

Chair Dorsey invited members to share their ideas on how the Council could catalyze more partnerships in Maryland. Council members encouraged the State to continue building capacity and strengthen coordination with the social sector given potential reductions in federal funding. Members discussed mapping funder priorities with the State Plan and establishing early indicators of success to measure the impact of partnerships. Lastly, the Council underscored the importance of alignment between the public and private sectors to maximize impact.

IV. Spotlight: Reinvest Baltimore

Secretary Jake Day discussed the Reinvest Baltimore Initiative, a coordinated effort between the State of Maryland, Baltimore City, nonprofit, and for-profit partners to eliminate concentrations of vacant properties, revitalize neighborhoods and maximize the economic potential and quality of life for residents in Baltimore City. The Governor's executive order also called for the establishment of the Baltimore Vacant Buildings Reinvestment Council (VBRC). The VBRC, composed of representatives from state, city, private, and philanthropic sectors, has developed a five-year plan to transition at least 5,000 vacant properties into productive use, aiming to create stable, healthy, and equitable neighborhoods. Guided by data-driven, whole-block strategies, the VRBC seeks to address racial wealth gaps and historic inequities while promoting mixed-use, walkable communities.

V. Closing Marks and Adjourn

Chair Dorsey concluded the meeting.