Maryland Council on Innovation and Impact
March 21, 2025
3:00 PM - 4:00 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 Lawson, *Honorary Co-Chair; President and Chief Executive Officer, Annie E. Casey Foundation*
- Mark Lerner, *Honorary Co-Chair; Board Member, Baltimore's Promise*
- Beth Blauer, *Associate Vice Provost for Public Sector Innovation, Johns Hopkins University*
- John Brothers, *President, T. Rowe Price Foundation and President, T. Rowe Price Charitable*
- David Daniels, *President and CEO, Bainum Family Foundation*
- Cheryl Dorsey, *President, Echoing Green*
- Matt Gallagher, *President and CEO, Goldseker Foundation*
- Jan Rivitz, *President and CEO, Aaron Straus and Lillie Straus Foundation*
- Jake Day, *Secretary, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development*
- 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, Remarks from Chair**
   Chair Dorsey called the meeting to order and welcomed members and attendees. He recognized David Daniels, President and CEO, Bainum Family Foundation, as the newest member of the Council and thanked him for his role in championing the ENOUGH Alliance. Chair Dorsey highlighted recent achievements, including innovative state partnerships with SIRUM to expand access to more affordable prescription drugs and with Work for America to help recruit, retain, and empower the next wave of public servants. Chair Dorsey also discussed the continued progress of the ENOUGH Alliance and applauded the combined efforts of philanthropic institutions to commit more than $100 million in funding to fight concentrated child poverty.

II. **Update and Discussion: Federal Government and Social Sector**

Director of Federal Relations and Senior Advisor Matthew Verghese provided a comprehensive overview of the evolving federal funding landscape and its implications for Maryland. He discussed estimates of reductions in the federal workforce and its potential impacts in Maryland, including institutions with large federal contracts or grants. Additionally, Verghese called attention to the proposed cuts in federal funding for Medicaid, TANF, and SNAP programs, which could have a significant impact on Maryland's budget.

III.   **Spotlight: Maryland State Innovation Team**
        Chief Innovation Officer Francesca Ioffreda discussed the Maryland State Innovation Team, an internal consultancy and solution incubator that collaborates across agencies and sectors to accelerate new ways to reduce childhood poverty and improve economic mobility. The Innovation Team recently launched a project focused on expanding access to capital in low- to moderate-income (LMI) communities through the Maryland Community Investment Venture Fund.

IV.   **Discussion: AI and Opportunities for Collaboration**
        Senior Advisor for Responsible AI Nishant Shah presented Maryland's AI Enablement Roadmap, outlining five strategic pillars: (1) mature Maryland's AI governance capabilities; (2) strengthen the Maryland's data foundations; (3) build momentum around experimentation and adoption; (4) increase Maryland's "AI IQ"; and (5) study and cohere state approaches to AI in critical domains such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure. Shah highlighted opportunities for partnership, particularly in areas like permitting and licensing and creating a pipeline of AI professionals focused on social impact.

V.   **Closing Remarks and Adjourn**
        Chair Dorsey concluded the meeting.