

the DOORWAY

REBUILD COMMUNITIES. EMPOWER FAMILIES. TRANSFORM LIVES.

A Publication of the Baltimore Urban Leadership Foundation aka The Door

AN UMBRELLA OF HOPE IN BALTIMORE CITY



The Door has had a very eventful and productive year serving the city of Baltimore in 2022. After pausing many of our programs due to COVID-19 restrictions, we have been able to fully re-open and continue to serve our community with excellence and to a greater capacity than before the pandemic.

We are extremely grateful to our supporters and donors for assisting us as we serve as a pipeline in our community. We have been able to partner with institutions and organizations throughout our city and state, and use the resources that they provide to help the residents in our community who are in great need.

As we serve as an ‘Umbrella of Hope,’ our mission remains the same: To facilitate the transformation and holistic growth of youth, families, and communities through collaborative partnerships, direct service, capacity-building, and resource development.

We value a faith-centered approach to development in three key areas:

1. youth leadership;
2. family strengthening; and
3. community building.

We value a community-participatory approach to addressing real issues faced by youth, families, and our targeted communities.

We value an asset-based approach to community capacity building that intentionally incorporates the strength and efforts of the community.

We value true partnership and collaboration among all sharing a collective interest and commitment to youth, families, and communities.

YOU CAN HELP

In these tough times, help from caring people like you is critical. Due to the state of the economy, it is harder than ever before to get funding and donations. Your support in any capacity is appreciated. We need your support so that we can continue to be part of the foundation that the community we work in really needs. There are several ways for you to donate!

DONATIONS

- Via our website:
www.thedoorinc.org
- By sending a check to:
The Door
P.O. Box 13447
Baltimore, MD 21203

THANK YOU

Your donations make our programs possible. We thank you in advance for your generosity and support. Additional information about any of our programs can be found on our website.

PROGRAM UPDATES



FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Our community pantry continues to provide food to the families in our community every Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. With the help of Baltimore City, the Maryland Food Bank, and Johns Hopkins, we distribute 1,000 produce boxes a month along with meat, beverages, snacks, household items (detergent, paper goods, plastic goods, etc.), personal care items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene items, pampers, etc.) and personal protective equipment (sanitizer, gloves, masks, cleaning supplies, etc.)

Through our partnerships with Baltimore City as a Resiliency Hub, Mayor Brandon Scott joined us this summer to distribute food to our community. Through this partnership, we will be able to distribute produce boxes twice a week throughout 2023.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION - AWARD

September is Hunger Action Month. The Door was awarded the Outstanding Partner Award for Baltimore City from the Maryland Food Bank in September 2022. This partnership has been extremely instrumental in providing food, and personal and household items to the residents of Baltimore City.

Accordingly, the Maryland Food Bank donated 184 turkeys and boxes of side dishes to The Door for our Thanksgiving meal distribution.

SERVING THE HOMELESS



The items that we receive from our partnership with the Maryland Food Bank have also been extremely helpful with our community outreach to the homeless population in Baltimore City. In 2020, The Door began partnering with Baltimore Humanitarian to provide 50 care packages a month to the homeless community. These care packages consist of personal care items (deodorant, masks, soap, hand sanitizer, toilet paper, etc.) and ready-to-eat food items (crackers, tuna fish, Vienna sausages, granola bars, pretzels, water, etc.)



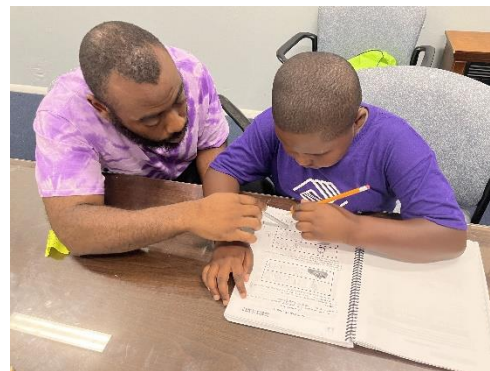
The mission of Baltimore Humanitarian is to bridge the resource gap for the homeless population in areas where community outreach programs are limited and poverty is at its peak. Sloane Lipkin, the leader of this organization, states “Our mission would not have been possible without our partnership with The Door’s food pantry. This partnership has allowed us to prepare over 1,200 care packages, and we are proud to be The Door’s homeless outreach partner. Their partnership is our biggest blessing because it makes Baltimore Humanitarian’s outreach possible, and we hope it continues for many years to come.”



YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Oh to be a kid again! The Boys & Girls Clubs of Metropolitan Baltimore (BGCMB) at The Door's summer camp was nothing short of amazing! Our 6-week camp ran Monday-Friday from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. There were 45 students enrolled and they ranged from age 6 years old to 12 years old. There were also five youth from the Mayor's Office Youth Workers program assisting with our camp.

This camp was very impactful on the youth through the opportunities which were available to them educationally, socially, physically, and artistically. We had tutors from the Sylvan Learning Center working with our youth, many arts and crafts projects, several field trips, many in-house guest speakers, and a structured social skills program which included: 1) Smart Girls, 2) Passport to Manhood, 3) Triple Play Healthy Habits, and 4) Smart Moves sessions. During our summer camp, our youth were very active and learned a lot by doing.



The two main goals of our summer camp program were to: 1) decrease the learning loss which occurs during the summer and 2) maintain consistent participation throughout the camp. Both of these goals were achieved. The youth who struggled academically throughout the school year worked with tutors from the Sylvan Learning Center daily and improved their reading and writing skills. Additionally, the 45 campers that we started with stayed enrolled in the summer camp program for the entire 6 weeks. Our enrollment did not decrease. We added 2 additional activity days to the end of the program because the students were not ready for it to end!

FIELD TRIPS AND ACTIVITIES

- The Washington D.C. Zoo
- Skateland Skating Rink
- Skyzone East Baltimore
- Patterson Park Swimming Pool
- Smithsonian Museum of Natural Science in Washington, D.C.
- Irvine Nature Center
- Ravens Training Camp 2022
- Brooklyn O'Malley Boys & Girls Club (kickball, dodgeball, and dance battle tournament)
- Planet Fitness (Fitness Day)
- Tie-dyeing, dress-making, painting, drawing



TESTIMONIALS

- Takai A. - 9 years old
"Summer camp was so fun, I wish I could go back! My favorite thing about the camp was going on trips. My favorite trip was the Skating Rink because we had a dance battle in the middle of the rink and took a group picture."
- Tykwane G. - 7 years old
"My favorite part about summer camp was coming and seeing Mr. Ranell and Miss Nia. I liked when we went to other clubs to play kickball and dodgeball."
- Keyasia K. - 9 years old
"My favorite part is when Miss Mia showed me how to make a dress from scratch. We also learned how to tie-dye our dress and bookbags."

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB METROPOLITAN BALTIMORE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

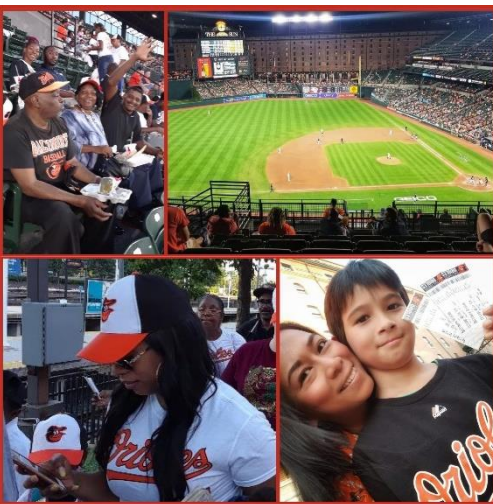
The Boys & Girls Club Metropolitan Baltimore after-school program at The Door is off to a great start. This year, the programming has been focused on its core developmental curriculum which includes:

- **Power Hour**— helps young people achieve academic success by providing homework help, tutoring, and high-yield learning activities and encouraging young people to become self-directed learners.
- **SMART Girls**— provides health, fitness, prevention/education, and self-esteem enhancement for girls.
- **Passport to Manhood**— teaches responsibility to boys with sessions that focus on specific aspects of character and manhood through highly interactive activities.
- **Triple Play Healthy Habits**— emphasizes good nutrition, regular physical activity, and improved overall well-being.
- **SMART Moves**— focuses on building key social-emotional skills (e.g. self-regulation, impulse control, and stress management) that young people need to make healthy choices about substance use, sexual activity, violence, and other risky behaviors.

Closing out the calendar year, we had a Christmas pajama party where we were joined by a few players from the Baltimore Ravens (Kahlil McKenzie, David Sharpe, Zack Johnson, and Ben Mason). This event was filled with food, games, arts and crafts projects, toys, and fun!

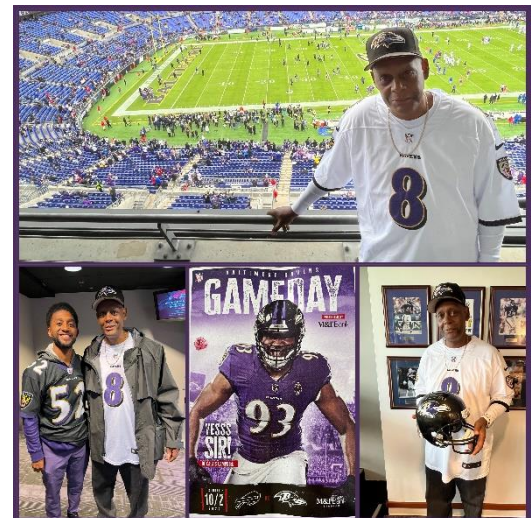


TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAMES



The Door had the opportunity to partner with Restoration Ministries to provide free Oriole Baseball tickets to the residents and their families in the community.

Mr. Paul, a hardworking staff member of The Door who worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic had the opportunity to attend his first Raven's football game courtesy of Chesapeake Employers Insurance.



RESILIENCY HUB

The Door has received national and international coverage for its work in Baltimore City as a Resiliency Hub.

CBS National News featured The Door in a segment that does a wonderful job of telling the story of its pantry participants and the challenges that The Door and other organizations like us face in trying to meet the needs of the community during inflationary pressures and waning pandemic funding and support.

Likewise, Japan's TBS International News featured The Door and our response to inflation in Baltimore City. As food costs rise due to inflation, but incomes for many people are not rising, the number of people leaning on The Door for extra support has been increasing rapidly. On average, about 100 people visit The Door each food pantry day, and it is increasing every week. This is consistent with the national trend. According to this news segment, "In the latest survey, 65% of the 200 food banks said they had increased the number of patrons."



COMMUNITY SAFE SPACE



Since The Door's full re-opening, we have served as a meeting place for the C.A.R.E. Community Association and Restoration Ministries. We have also provided rental space for residents in our community to host graduations, baby showers, birthday parties, and other family events.

In November, The Door partnered with the Boys & Girls Club Metropolitan Baltimore to host our first Fall Festival Resource Day. The purpose of this day was to connect individuals and families in our community with information and resources that they can use and share. This event was complete with arts & crafts, face painting, food, music, raffle giveaways, and participation from several other non-profit organizations. The organization which participated in this event were:

- **Grace Medical Center** - Specialized Case Management Program
- **Turn Around, Inc.** - Trauma Therapy, Advocacy, Case Management, Counseling
- **Enoch Pratt Free Library** - Mobile book services for youth
- **Southeast CDC** - Rental Counseling, Home Buying, Home Owner Workshops
- **There Goes My Hero** - Save lives. Provide hope. Help those impacted by blood cancer.
- **Strong City Baltimore and Adult Learning** - GED and English as a Second Language Classes
- **Outcast Food Network** - SNAP Benefits assistance and enrollment
- **Baltimore City Health Department** - Tobacco Initiative
- **Restoration Ministries** - Community-based church serving the residents for over 10 years
- **C.A.R.E. Community Association** - Cleaning, Active, Restoring, Efforts
- **HEBCAC – Dee's Place** - Wellness & Recovery Center
- **Coppin State University** - College of Health Professions, Helene Fuld School of Nursing

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS

STAINED GLASS WINDOW RESTORATION

The Door was constructed in 1900 and is located in the East Monument Historic District which is a contributing district to the National Register Historic District. The Door was initially built and functioned as a church in East Baltimore. However, in 1984, it began to operate mainly as a community center serving East Baltimore.

One of the features that adds to the historic and cultural significance of The Door is its stained glass windows. The Door has embarked on a 3-phase window restoration project. In 2022 we were able to complete Phases 1 and 2 of this project through grants provided by Preservation Maryland and the United Way. We were able to remove, restore and reinstall 3 interior windows and 1 exterior arch window. Following these repairs, plexiglass was installed around the windows to protect and preserve them.



PROUD TO SERVE THE EAST BALTIMORE COMMUNITY



“The Door is blessed and proud to serve its East Baltimore community and beyond. Giving back is a strong priority at The Door and a legacy that we strive to continue to fulfill. We are grateful for our partners, supporting organizations, volunteers, Board members, and donors. This is truly a collaborative effort that we enjoy being a part of. More information, videos, and updates can be found by visiting our website www.thedoorinc.org.”- Tehma Smith Wilson, CEO



The Door would like to thank the following for their generous support through financial contributions, volunteers, and in-kind donations: Mr. Jim Davenport and Family | The State of Maryland | The City of Baltimore | Councilman Glover and Staff | Johns Hopkins | The Maryland Food Bank | Baltimore City Police Department | The Rockefeller Foundation | The Abell Foundation | United Way | Boys & Girls Clubs Metropolitan Baltimore | Preservation Maryland | Merritt Properties | Chesapeake Employers Insurance | Restoration Ministries | Huber Memorial Church | C.A.R.E Community Association | Gayle Adams Community Committee | First Baptist Church of Pimlico | Mitzvah Fund for Good Deeds | Children's Fresh Air Society | Healthy Neighborhoods | Target | Terraza Custom Glass Design | USA Energy | Journalist Kendall Green | Donors | Staff | Volunteers | Local Media | Baltimore Humanitarian | Community Partners | Residents of N. Chester St.