



COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR COMMISSION

2024 Biennial Report

December 24, 2024

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BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

**BIENNIAL REPORT: COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AND REPAIR COMMISSION
2024**

John A. Olszewski, Jr.
County Executive

D'Andrea L. Walker
County Administrative Officer

Sevetra Peoples-Brown
Chief Officer, Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Executive Director, Human Relations Commission

Matthew Carpenter
Deputy Director, Office of Budget and Finance

Baltimore County Council
Izzy Patoka, Chair

Governor Wes Moore

Governor's Office of Social Equity
Audrey Johnson, Executive Director
Courtney Davis, Deputy Director

Maryland State Budget & Taxation Committee
Guy J. Guzzone, Chair
James C. Rosapepe, Vice-Chair

Maryland House Appropriations Committee
Benjamin S. Barnes, Chair
Mark S. Chang, Vice-Chair

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Date of Submission: December 24, 2024



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.
County Executive

SEVETRA PEOPLES-BROWN
Executive Director, Human Relations Commission
Chief of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Division

December 24, 2024

Honorable County Executive John A. Olszewski Jr.
Honorable County Administrative Officer, D'Andrea L. Walker
Honorable Members of the County Council
Honorable Governor, Wes Moore
Honorable Members of the Governor's Office of Social Equity
Honorable Members of the State Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Honorable Members of the State House Appropriations Committee

Dear Elected and Appointed Officials:

I am pleased to present the December 2024, Community Reinvestment and Repair Commission (CRRC) Biennial Report. Per § 1-322(b)(2) of the Cannabis Reform Act of 2023, "*counties are required to adopt laws establishing the purpose for which money received from the fund may be used, and to report annually on how funds were expended.*" This year is the first CRRC report submission.

In June 2024, Baltimore County's Council unanimously approved Bill 37-24, authorizing the establishment of the CRRC and a Special Revenue Fund for the community reinvestment and repair efforts. Per § 3-3-2903(c) of Bill 37-24, "*on or before December 1, 2024 and every 2 years thereafter, the commission shall create and publish the report required by Annotated Code of Maryland, Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, § 1-322(b)(2)(ii) on how funds received from the State Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund were spent during the immediately preceding 2 fiscal years.*" The CRRC is a 9-voting member board, established to make recommendations for the use of Community Reinvestment and Repair Funds. The Commission's recommendations are advisory in nature and not binding. In addition to 9-voting members, there are 6 ex-officio non-voting member roles from the following agencies: Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Department of Economic and Workforce Development, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Housing and Community Development, Baltimore County Public Schools, and the Community College of Baltimore County. While we are in the recruitment phase for voting members, ex-officio representatives from the respective agencies are confirmed.

The administrative oversight and engagement of the Commission is managed by the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). The fiscal management of the Special Revenue Fund is managed by the Office of Budget and Finance (OBF). Together OBF and DEI work collaboratively to manage the community reinvestment and repair portfolio. This includes establishing a Community Reinvestment and Repair Special Fund (CRRSF) Grant Program to fund resources and services that support the County's 15 disproportionately impacted areas. These geographic areas had above 150% of the State's 10-year average for cannabis possession charges in 2013 – 2023. The launch of the CRRSF grant program is expected to occur in July 2025.

As of December 2024, the County has received \$10.7 million and has committed and expended a combined \$350 thousand (or 3.3%) of CRRSF to support Freezing Weather Shelter operations. A detailed fiscal report is attached. Other activities related to the CRRC and special fund include launching a community survey to receive feedback from County residents regarding what they believe should be the focus areas for funding efforts. In January 2025, an updated version of the survey will be circulated.

The County will continue to practice equitable decision-making for all CRRSF initiatives. This includes establishing and tracking metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of the special funded initiatives that target disproportionately impacted and low-income areas. The County is appreciative of the ongoing guidance and support provided by the Governor’s Office of Social Equity. We are happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for the opportunity to share.

Sincerely,



Sevetra Peoples-Brown
Executive Director, Human Relations Commission
Chief Officer, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Attachment:

Baltimore County Government_CRRSF Fiscal Report – 12.2024

**Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund
Baltimore County
Report For Activities through December 2024**

Revenue

Quarterly distribution

Q1-FY2024 - CRRF	652,822	
Q2-FY2024 - CRRF	782,632	
Q3-FY2024 - CRRF	637,696	
Q4-FY2024 - CRRF	1,200,403	
Q1-FY2025 - CRRF	618,104	
Total Quarterly Distributions		3,891,658

Q1/Q2-FY2024 - License Conversion Fee Distribution	4,650,602	
Jan-Jun-2024 Cannabis License Conversion Fee Distribution	2,240,400	
Total Conversion Fee Distributions		6,891,003

Total Revenues		10,782,661
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Committed & Expended Funds

Committed but not Expended

HHS Freezing Weather Shelter - Security	298,035	
HHS Freezing Weather Shelter - Custodial	18,877	
HHS Freezing Weather Shelter - Prep and Delivery of Prepared Meals	32,978	
Total Committed but not Expended		349,891

Expended Funds

HHS Freezing Weather Shelter - Day Porter Services at Freezing Shelter		963
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Total Committed & Expended Funds		350,854
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Funding Remaining for Program Activities		10,431,807
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* Data provided by Office of Budget and Finance as of 12.24.2024