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FAMILY LEAGUE OF BALTIMORE HOSTS COMMUNITY SCHOOL 2024 SUMMER INSTITUTE IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bringing together over 150 Community School Coordinators for professional development of Transformation Framework Essentials

Baltimore, MD – June 17, 2024 – Family League of Baltimore, in collaboration with the Mayor's Office and Baltimore City Public Schools, proudly kicked off the Community School 2024 Summer Institute today at Patterson High School. The two-day event, spanning June 17 and 18 gathers over 150 Community School Coordinators for an intensive professional development experience centered on the essentials of the Community School Transformation Framework.

The institute aims to equip coordinators with the skills and knowledge necessary to foster equitable and supportive environments for students. Participants will engage in over two dozen workshops, network, share resources, and plan for the upcoming school year. The event features a robust agenda, including an opening session, an interactive workshop by Dr. Lawrence T. Brown, a resource fair, and a closing celebration.

"The Community School Summer Institute is a cornerstone of the Family League's efforts to support and empower our Community School Coordinators," said Demaune Millard, CEO of Family League of Baltimore. "Their work is critical in creating equitable and supportive environments for all students.

Dr. Lawrence T. Brown, an Open Society Institute Bold Thinker Award recipient and author of *The Black Butterfly*, delivered the opening workshop. "I'm thrilled to engage with the coordinators during this year's institute," Dr. Brown remarked. "Together, we can explore innovative strategies to champion the next chapter of diversity, democracy, and community involving Baltimore schools."

Baltimore City, with 155 community schools, boasts the largest network of community schools in any local jurisdiction within Maryland. These schools aim to promote positive, equitable outcomes by providing comprehensive support – ranging from physical and mental health services to academic and extracurricular activities. Acting as hubs, community schools unite families, communities, and partners to eliminate barriers to learning, fostering environments where students can thrive.

Family League has been instrumental in facilitating the Community School (CS) Strategy, working alongside lead agencies to provide services at the community level. Partnering with Baltimore City Public Schools and the Mayor's Office, Family League ensures that students receive a holistic education that integrates academics, health and social services, community development, college and career readiness, and family engagement. By promoting data-driven solutions, Family League and its partners work to challenge systemic inequities and create positive school climates conducive to learning and growth.

"The collaboration between Baltimore Public Schools, the Mayor's Office, and Family League is instrumental in driving positive change and data-driven impact, ultimately ensuring that every student has the resources they need to succeed," said Sheila Drummond-Camm, Baltimore City Public Schools Manager.



Community School Coordinators are essential to this strategy, serving as full-time staff who connect diverse stakeholders and leverages resources to meet their school community’s needs. For over 20 years, Family League has supported this strategy in collaboration with Baltimore City Public Schools, enhancing the impact and reach of community schools across the city. The strategy has expanded from 45 to 155 schools in recent years, bolstered by resources from the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future. This year, nearly every school in Baltimore is a Community School, demonstrating the profound impact and reach of the initiative.

About Family League of Baltimore: Family League of Baltimore is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and the designated Local Management Board for the City of Baltimore. Since 1991, it has served as an architect of change by promoting data-driven, collaborative initiatives and aligning resources to create lasting outcomes for children, families, and communities. Guided by core values of stewardship, performance, trust, respect, and equity, the Family League provided \$22.2 million to 81 community-based partners in the 2023 fiscal year, benefiting over 25,000 children, youth, and adults in Baltimore.

For more information about the Community School 2024 Summer Institute, the Community School Transformation Framework, and Maryland’s Community Schools, please visit:

- [Family League of Baltimore](#)
- [Community School Transformation Framework – Learning Policy Institute](#)
- [Blueprint for Maryland’s Future](#)
- [Maryland Department of Education Office of Community Schools](#)

Contact:

Zanes E. Cypress
communications@familyleague.org