



Family League Announces \$1 Million Investment in Summer 2025 Youth Development Programming

13 Partner Organizations to Serve Over 1,000 Youth Across Baltimore Through High-Quality Summer Initiatives

Baltimore, MD (June 6, 2025) – Family League has awarded over \$1 million to 14 million community organizations operating 24 sites across Baltimore City, addressing the increased demand for summer youth development programming with a strategic focus on older youth and youth adults aged 14-24.

Meeting Critical Summer Youth Development Needs

Baltimore City continues to face growing demand for structured youth programming, particularly for older teens who often lack access to quality summer opportunities. Family League's investment addresses this gap through evidence-based programming that prioritizes workforce development, college and career readiness, and social-emotional learning alongside traditional enrichment activities.

The Summer Youth Development initiative will serve 1,000+ youth across 18 zip codes between July and August 2025, providing safe spaces where young people can learn, explore innovative opportunities, improve skills, discover new talents, and build meaningful connections. Research informs that regular attendance in high-quality summer programs improves relationship skills, creates agency and identity development, and strengthens youth assets while supporting positive developmental outcomes.

Community-Driven Selection Process

Family League's Community Advisory Board (CAB) played an integral role in the grantmaking process, reviewing applications and making funding recommendations from over \$2.5 million in requests. This community-driven approach ensures investments align with neighborhood priorities and local expertise. Awards range from \$18,500 to \$90,000, with a median award of \$45,000, supporting diverse programming from single-focused initiatives to comprehensive multi-week experiences.

"We're investing in more than just summer programming—we're creating pathways to opportunity for Baltimore's young people during critical development years," said Jenee Tucker, Senior Director of Community Impact at Family League. "By prioritizing older youth and ensuring quality through evidence-based framework, we're addressing both immediate needs and long-term outcomes that strengthen our entire community."

Summer 2025 awardees include Access Art, Arts for Learning, Baltimore Curriculum Project, Boys and Girls Club of Metropolitan Baltimore Child First Authority, Civic Works, KEYS Empowers, Moving History, MTM Foundations, National Born Champions, New Visions Youth Services, Soccer Without Borders, The Y in Central Maryland, and the United Way of Central Maryland.

Supporting Baltimore's Broader Youth Development Ecosystem

Beyond direct grantmaking, Family League participates in the Summer Funding Collaborative, bringing together diverse stakeholders to ensure coordinated, high-quality programming across the city. The organization also provides technical assistance and professional development for funded partners, utilizing the David P. Weikart Youth Program Quality Assessment framework to maintain evidence-based standards.

All programming adheres to Weikart's Youth Program Quality Assessment framework, focusing on safe, supportive, interactive, and engaging environments. Focus areas span mentorship, workforce development, academics, college and career readiness, social-emotional learning, mental health support, arts, and youth leadership development.

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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, the organization has worked collaboratively to support data-informed, community-driven solutions that align resources to dismantle the systemic barriers which limit the possibilities for children, families, and communities. Guided by core values of stewardship, performance, trust, respect, and equity, Family League has invested \$19+ million to 84 community-based partners in the 2024 fiscal year, benefiting more than 14,000 children, youth, and adults in Baltimore.

For more information, visit www.familyleague.org.

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