One Vision, One Community

The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Community Campus is the centerpiece of UMB’s deep commitment to West Baltimore and to the collaboration — undertaken with our neighbors — that will strengthen it.

Located immediately west of UMB’s academic campus, adjacent to the seven distinct neighborhoods that comprise the Southwest Partnership (see map), the Community Campus allows us to meet and serve residents where they are. It places the University’s faculty, staff, students, and our neighbors in West Baltimore within easy reach of one another. With access to each other’s expertise and resources, we can marshal these attributes to address complex challenges, strengthen community development, and promote external investment.

As an anchor institution in West Baltimore, UMB prides itself on establishing meaningful ways to integrate with its valued partners and neighbors as one cohesive community. Engagement is a core tenet of our mission and culture.
**Community Engagement Center – Anchoring Our Community Campus**

The cornerstone of the Community Campus is the UMB Community Engagement Center (CEC), which opened in 2015 to deepen our relationships with our closest neighbors. In the past five years, the center has recorded nearly 50,000 visits from men, women, teens, and children who engage with our provisions: programs, services, supports, activities, and training. Each visit is a symbolic act of trust. The CEC is where we help our neighbors find jobs, give children a safe place to learn and play, host health and fitness programs, and connect neighbors with resources that help them succeed. Having outgrown our former 3,500-square-foot space, the CEC moved to a renovated 20,000-square-foot historic building on Poppleton Street, where services and activities are being expanded to meet growing community demand. It also houses the UMB Police Athletic/Activities League (PAL), and serves as a home to UMB’s nationally recognized CURE Scholars Program, which prepares West Baltimore middle and high school students for competitive and rewarding research, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), and health care careers.

The Community Campus encompasses additional UMB-affiliated programs and buildings, connecting students, employees, entrepreneurs, and neighbors in solving intractable problems of health, equity, and justice. The University of Maryland BioPark is Baltimore’s largest biotechnology cluster. More than 40 biotech companies, research institutes, and clinical facilities share the 14-acre park, while some 1,000 employees actively build the city’s science community and innovation economy. The BioPark also hosts the University of Maryland, College Park Robert H. Smith School of Business and Baltimore City Community College’s Life Sciences Institute, and is a pipeline to the state’s growing need for skilled biomedical and health science workers. The University of Maryland BioPark and the company affiliates provide huge supports to the community in a number of ways, including a Halloween party, supply drives, and community funding opportunities.

**Pride in Partnership – James McHenry Elementary/Middle School and Recreation Center**

Community partners are integral to our Community Campus. The James McHenry Recreation Center, located mere yards from the new CEC, offers a large space in which to expand a rich portfolio of community-based — and community-driven — programming. We are working with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks and major donors to renovate the rec center and bring in high-quality after-school programming with a focus on STEM and athletics. Next door is James McHenry Elementary/Middle School, which was named a Baltimore City “turnaround” school in 2017. With new leadership, federal money, and focused coaching by one of the city’s higher-performing public schools, rigorous curricula are being implemented, student achievement is climbing, and investors are transforming the school and its culture. Our partner, United Way of Central Maryland (UWCM), is embedded at James McHenry as the community school partner, convening agencies and nonprofits to provide students and families a network of wraparound services. Furthermore, UWCM is planning to expand its widely lauded Ben Center model to the Community Campus, providing community members with numerous family-focused programs and services.
Fulfilling UMB’s Educational Mission

The Community Campus is central to the teaching mission of UMB, whose graduates are the nation’s front-line providers in health, law, and human services. Working with our community — in our community — is essential to UMB students’ development as engaged, culturally competent, and collaborative professionals. It makes them more effective, sensitive practitioners who are better able to understand the circumstances of the patients and clients they’ll serve throughout their careers. As a future hub of UMB’s interprofessional education initiative, the Community Campus will help fulfill UMB’s educational mission.

As an anchor institution in West Baltimore, the University of Maryland, Baltimore prides itself on establishing meaningful ways to integrate with and strengthen the neighborhoods that are west of our downtown campus and home to our many community engagement initiatives.
YOUR SUPPORT

**Philanthropic Investment**

Philanthropic investment in our Community Campus will strengthen UMB’s capacity to offer key provisions requested by our neighbors in West Baltimore to improve the health, well-being and vitality of the community.

The UMB Community Campus will coordinate with other partners working and investing in the area, including: **Real Estate and Community Developers:** Wexford, Ventas, Cross Street Partners, La Cité; **Major Employers:** Paragon, Maryland Proton Treatment Center, Pharmaron, Hussman Institute for Autism; **Workforce Training:** Baltimore City Community College, BioTechnical Institute of Maryland, Bon Secours Mercy Health, NPower; **Foundations and Government Agencies:** Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Abell Foundation, Goldseker Foundation, France-Merrick Foundation, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and others including Southwest Partnership, Under Armour, and the B&O Railroad Museum.

Additionally, we are inviting donors and funders with an interest in supporting UMB’s partnership with the United Way of Central Maryland — a partnership that provides family-focused programs and services on the Community Campus.

**Be a Catalyst for Change**

As UMB’s ambitious plan for a healthy, vibrant, and prosperous West Baltimore community becomes reality, we ask you to serve as a catalyst for meaningful change by investing in:

- Provisions for our community including programs, services, supports, activities, and trainings
- An endowment to sustain the Community Engagement Center in perpetuity
- Naming of a space within the Community Engagement Center, which provides critical unrestricted operating support.

Your generous support will help ensure the financial viability of the UMB Community Campus, and will create a lasting positive impact on our common community. We are seeking philanthropic partners deeply committed to meeting these lofty goals.

UMB seeks leadership philanthropy to support the human capital, programs, and facilities necessary to develop and grow vital services. In addition to generating gift support to help fund annual operations, we aim to create an endowment to sustain the Community Engagement Center in perpetuity.

**We Invite You to LEARN MORE**

For more information, please contact

**James L. Hughes, MBA,**

Interim Chief Philanthropy Officer and Senior Vice President, Office of Philanthropy, at 410-952-3552 or jhughes@umaryland.edu.