

CITY OF BALTIMORE

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MAYOR'S OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD
SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT

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Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE) Quarterly Public Report

FY24 - Quarter 2

Period: October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023

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FY24 Q2 of MONSE's Securing Year

In Quarter 2 of its Securing Year, the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE) continues to prioritize the co-production of public safety with and for Baltimore as outlined in the City's comprehensive public safety strategy. As MONSE continues in the Comprehensive Violence Prevention Plan's Securing Year, the agency has built out the systems and staffing capacity necessary to both provide proof-of-concept and transition initial pilot programs toward full implementation.

Agency Formation and Hiring

This quarter, the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement onboarded staff in the following roles across the agency:

- **Community Violence Intervention Operations Manager**
- **Re-Entry Coordinator**

Major milestones for the agency during this period include:

- MONSE relocated from City Hall to 2700 Rayner Avenue on October 23, 2023. The new space is more fitted to the agency's current staff size, allowing the team to come together and collaborate more effectively than ever before, while being placed directly within a community MONSE serves.

MONSE Quarterly Updates - By Lane

Gun Violence Prevention

MONSE's Gun Violence Prevention team develops and implements strategies to shift the culture of gun violence in Baltimore City, with a focus on partnerships and coordination both with fellow City agencies, national organizations, and local stakeholders. MONSE engages high-risk communities in the pursuit of prevention and intervention in violence that could result in a shooting or homicide.

In this quarter, MONSE's Gun Violence Prevention team:

- Worked towards finalizing a Group Violence Reduction Strategy (GVRs) transitional employment program in partnership with MOED;
- Laid groundwork for long term relocation of GVRs participants in partnership with the MONSE Victim Services team;

- Continued work with site administrator partners LifeBridge Health Center for Hope and Associated Catholic Charities to fill Safe Streets Baltimore staff vacancies;
- Continued preparations for Group Violence Reduction Strategy expansion to the Central District by the end of January 2024;
- Initiated planning for Community Violence Intervention (CVI) Listening Tour sessions launching in early 2024;
- Built out and finalized GVRS Coordinated Neighborhood Stabilization Response (CNSR) integration process map;
- Hosted Hiring Event with all 10 Safe Streets sites;
- Reviewed and Updated CVI Operations Manual;
- Received GVRS evaluation findings from technical advisors at University of Pennsylvania;
- Completed Safe Streets Baltimore End of Year Report;
- Hosted a GVRS training around life coaching and other GVRS best practices with Roca, YAP, and other partners on 12/20;
- Hosted a CVI Advisory Board meeting on 12/21;
- Identified a School-Based Violence Intervention Programming service provider for two of the four pilot schools.

Victim Services

Every shooting and violent incident leaves behind a web of trauma – for the victim, as well as bystanders, families, neighbors, and even the perpetrators of violence.

MONSE’s Victim Services team has laid a foundation for intentional coordination with a trauma-informed approach, which is now supported by a fully-staffed lane.

In this quarter, MONSE’s Victim Services team:

- Hosted and participated in a number of events throughout October in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, including:
 - The Domestic Violence Awareness Forum, in partnership with My Covenant Place and the University of Baltimore’s College of Public Affairs, School of Health and Human Services on 10/4;

- 2nd Annual Women's Empowerment Conference sponsored by Ishshah's Place and Mount Lebanon Baptist Church on 10/7;
- LGBTQ Affairs Event with screening of Paris is Burning, ballroom exhibition and peace vigil for O'Shae Sibly on 10/5;
- Cut the Silence- End Domestic Violence Event in partnership with KLEEN Barbers on 10/9;
- "It's a date: Pros and Cons of Dating Apps" Event hosted by Coppin State University on 10/10;
- Coming Out & Dating: What's your LOVE language? LGBTQ+ Focus. Discussion on 10/11;
- Setting Boundaries for a Healthy Relationship on 10/12;
- Supporting Resiliency for Victims of Dating and Domestic Violence in the Workplace on 10/18;
- No More Silence. End Domestic Violence DV Resource Fair on 10/18;
- Being Proactive and Protected against STI's and HIV on 10/26;
- 2023 Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence annual meeting & awards ceremony on 10/26;
- 3rd Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Event 5k walk/run on 10/29;
- Participated in MIMA's New American Leadership Institute (NALI) Conference Panel Discussion on 10/5;
- Co-hosted the Human Trafficking Professionals Seminar in Ocean City, MD from 10/16-10/19;
- Hosted the first annual Victim Services Symposium on 11/1 in partnership with Baltimore City Office of Equity and Civil Rights. This was a day long symposium during Civil Rights week showcasing the collaborative efforts taking place to provide resources and support to victims of human trafficking, intimate partner violence, sexual assault and gun violence in addition to a moderated panel focused on survivor voices;
- Attended Interfaith Community Against Domestic Violence Conference on 11/9;
- Presented at DV 101 Community Presentation workshops in partnership with He's My Brother LLC on 11/9;

- Hosted Peace@Home Donation Drive on 11/11;
- Deputy Director of IPV spoke as a Guest Panelist on the *Applying an Intersectional Lens to Structural and Interpersonal Violence Against Black Women and Girls* panel in partnership with JHU Bloomberg School of Public Health and, Ujima, Inc.: The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community;
- Advanced Domestic Violence High Risk Case Review Team efforts;
- Hosted Human Trafficking Community Training on 12/12;
- Hosted a Brooklyn Homes Toy Giveaway on 12/20;
- Hosted a Coppin Academy High School Peer Group session discussing conflict mediation skills, safe dating knowledge, and other youth related topics.

Community Engagement and Opportunity

Dedicated to the co-production of public safety in all of Baltimore's neighborhoods, the Community Engagement and Opportunity team partners with residents, community-based organizations, institutions, businesses, and City agencies to stem the tide of violence, while simultaneously unearthing its root causes.

This team leads the agency's collaborative efforts in youth justice, re-entry, community healing, social and emotional development, coordinated neighborhood stabilization response, and other associated work.

MONSE's Community Engagement and Opportunity team has accomplished the following this quarter:

- Launched and completed a proactive stabilization of Edmonson Village;
- Hosted a Brooklyn Healing Day event in partnership with Let's Thrive Baltimore and others on 9/30;
- Launched a reactive CNSR at Morgan State University / Hillen Rd;
- Launched a reactive CNSR on the 2600 Block of Wilkens Ave;
- Launched a reactive CNSR in Morrell Park.

Policy and Research

MONSE's Policy and Research team is also responsible for developing and pushing Mayor Scott's legislative agenda as it relates to public safety. This team is also home to the agency's in-house data capacity.

MONSE's Policy and Research team has accomplished the following this quarter:

- Participated in the Local Control Advisory Board meeting on 11/16;
- Briefed City Council members on the agency's Brooklyn Mass Shooting After Action Report;
- Testified during a Public Safety and Government Operations (PSGO) City Council Hearing on October 11 alongside partners from the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) and State's Attorney's Office (SAO) on the Group Violence Reduction Strategy;
- Hosted the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) bi-monthly meetings on October 23 and December 21;
- Launched the 2.0 version of the Public Safety Accountability Dashboard;
- Testified during a PSGO Hearing on November 8 alongside DJS and BPD on Car Theft and Juvenile Justice;
- Briefed elected officials on the design and efficacy of the Safe Streets Baltimore CVI program;
- Attended HET Committee Hearing on Facial Recognition Technology;
- Attended PSGO hearing on November 15 alongside BPD to discuss the procurement of Surveillance Technology;
- Participated in PSGO investigative hearing on November 29 alongside BPD and the SAO to discuss Human Trafficking Investigations and Prosecutions;
- Automated IPV Stat by utilizing data from BPD, House of Ruth Maryland (HRM), and the MD Courts, serving as an internal tool to track IPV/DV data received from partners;
- Attended Local Government Justice Reinvestment Commission meeting on 12/6. *The Commission is charged with making recommendations regarding grants to local governments and creating measures to assess the effectiveness of the grants;*

- Testified during PSGO Hearing on December 13 alongside BPD to present an end of year recap along with goals for 2024;
- Participated in Health, Environment, and Technology Committee Hearing on Examining the State of Baltimore’s Middle Neighborhoods.

Finance

The Finance team ensures that MONSE has the necessary funding to support the agency’s work associated with implementation of the CVPP and the work of community-based organizations and service providers. This team works to expand the potential network of funding available for neighborhood safety.

This team provides programmatic and fiscal management of the grants that support community-based organizations and service providers; manages the contracts and fiscal needs of MONSE; works with the City’s Procurement Office, Chief Solicitor, Audits Office, and Board of Estimates to ensure all contracts are being executed properly; and identifies and compiles potential funding for immediate and future support.

MONSE’s Finance team has accomplished the following this quarter:

- Selected Anti-Human Trafficking Grant Awardees (FY24 General Funds);
- Selected Side-Step Youth Diversion Grant Awardees (FY24 General Funds);

Grants and Contracting

MONSE received Board of Estimates (BOE) approval for the following contracts, grant award acceptances, and agreements:

October 4, 2023

- **Intersection of Change, Inc. – \$50,000 (Term: 7/1/23-6/30/24).** *MONSE awarded Intersection of Change, Inc. \$50,000 to provide women in recovery with safe, supportive housing through Martha’s Place. The funding provided will support the operational cost to provide counseling, housing, rent, and learning activities.*

October 18, 2023

- **Department of Juvenile Services – \$251,000 (Term: 8/31/2023-6/30/2024).** *MONSE entered into an interagency agreement with the Department of Juvenile Services to support the planning and execution of a summer youth strategy, one*

that centers the perspectives and desires of young people and reduces unnecessary interaction with law enforcement.

- **Center For Urban Families – \$1.00 (Term: 9/1/23-8/31/24).** *MONSE entered into a lease agreement with the Center for Urban Families to utilize the CFUF-designated office space for the SideStep Youth Diversion Program to respond to the needs of youth and families in the community. The Youth Opportunity Coordinator (YOC) will use the facility to conduct individual screening and assessment evaluations with youth and engage their families in a safe space.*
- **Baltimore City Health Department – \$212,794.77 (Term: 10/18/23-10/17/24).** *MONSE entered into an interagency sublease agreement with the Baltimore City Health Department to lease the first floor of 2700 Rayner Avenue from the BCHD. MONSE will relocate from City Hall upon approval of the lease.*

November 1, 2023

- **Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention – \$3,600,000 (Term: 7/1/23-6/30/24).** *MONSE requested the Board approve an award/acceptance from the GOCCP to support a portion of the operating costs (staffing/program materials/equipment) for each of the ten Safe Streets sites.*

November 15, 2023

- **US Department of Justice – \$500,000 (Term: 2/1/23-1/31/27).** *MONSE requested that the Board approve an award / acceptance from the US Dept. of Justice to fund an interagency collaborative between MONSE, BCPSS, AND MOCFS to introduce a data-sharing and service agreement to address the unique stress points, barriers, and/or environmental challenges that place a young person at high risk of a violent encounter.*
- **Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention – \$212,754 (Term: 4/1/23-9/30/23).** *MONSE requested the Board approve an award/acceptance from the Maryland GOCCP to provide funding for outreach and intensive case management efforts to refer individuals who are at highest risk of shooting or being shot in relation to GVRS.*
- **US Department of Justice – \$700,000 (Term: 10/1/23-9/30/26).** *MONSE requested the Board approve an award/acceptance from the US Dept. of Justice to support the Justice for Families Program that focuses on keeping victims and their children safe from further abuse and holding offenders accountable.*

- **US Department of Juvenile Services – \$551,000 (Term: 8/31/23-6/1/24).** *MONSE requested the Board approve an award/acceptance from the US Dept. of Juvenile Services to support Baltimore’s Group Violence Reduction Strategy (GVRS); and allow greater opportunity for prosperity, pulling those participants further from the violent social networks with whom they had engaged.*
- **Greenmount West Community Center Foundation, Inc. – \$25,000 (Term: 7/1/23-6/30/24).** *MONSE awarded the Greenmount West Community Center Foundation, Inc. \$25,000 to develop and maintain a system to evaluate the effectiveness of the peaceful community space in meeting the needs of the community. They will train staff and volunteers in restorative practices, adverse childhood experiences, trauma informed care, and conflict resolution.*

December 6, 2023

- **The Johns Hopkins University – \$325,000 (Term: 3/17/23-3/16/24).** *MONSE requested the Board approve an award from Johns Hopkins University to support the Baltimore Focused Deterrence program. The goal of this project is to extend support toward Baltimore City’s GVRS multi-year focused deterrence program. GVRS aims to reduce homicides and nonfatal shootings while simultaneously minimizing incarcerations and improving police-community relations.*
- **Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention – \$507,389 (Term: 7/1/23-6/30/24).** *MONSE requested the Board approve an award from GOCCP to support building a Community Violence Intervention (CVI) ecosystem for Baltimore that will connect and fortify its existing network of disparate, one-off efforts, thereby covering more ground across the city.*
- **Medstar Health, Inc. – \$415,500 (Term: 7/1/23-6/30/24).** *MONSE awarded Medstar Health, Inc. \$415,500 to support a hospital-based violence intervention programs (HVIP) at MedStar Health, Inc., which will utilize Community Violence Intervention.*
- **NAMI Metropolitan Baltimore, Inc. – \$50,000 (Term: 7/1/23-6/30/24).** *MONSE awarded NAMI Metropolitan Baltimore, Inc. \$50,000 to create space for open conversations, provide resources, support and education to people living with mental health conditions and their families, and work to eradicate additional barriers: lack of knowledge, inability to recognize symptoms in oneself, and inability to identify adequate healthcare resources for mental health symptoms.*
- **St. Agnes HealthCare, Inc. D/B/A Ascension Saint Agnes Hospital – \$250,000 (Term: 7/1/23-6/30/24).** *MONSE awarded Ascension Saint Agnes Hospital \$250,000 to support their Hospital Based Violence Intervention Program.*

December 13, 2023

- **Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Inc. – \$415,500 (Term: 7/1/23-6/30/24).** *MONSE awarded Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Inc. \$415,500 to support their Hospital Based Violence Intervention Program.*

December 20, 2023

- **Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance – \$422,800 (Term: 10/1/23-9/30/25).** *MONSE requested the Board approve an award from the Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance to support capacity building for the continued expansion of the Group Violence Reduction Strategy.*
- **LifeBridge Center for Hope – \$500,000 (Term: 12/20/23-12/19/24).** *MONSE awarded LifeBridge Center for Hope \$500,000 to support the PAAVE program.*