

Who We Are

Family League of Baltimore (Family League) 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 in Baltimore by promoting data-driven, collaborative initiatives and aligning resources to create lasting outcomes for children, families and communities. In Fiscal Year 2018, Family League provided more than \$13 million to 73 funded partners.

As Baltimore's Local Management Board, Family League manages and deploys funds from local and state government, leveraged against philanthropic supports and guided by the vision of a Baltimore where every child grows up in a family and community that thrives. The organization supports collective impact strategies to reduce duplication of services by:

- Ensuring public dollars invested in programs and services align with community priorities;
- Directing resources towards the needs of the “whole” child, from prenatal and family health care up through college and career; and
- Strengthening the capacity of existing service providers across the City;

Foundational to the success of this work is our ability to influence systems and advocate for solid public policy that ensures children and families are thriving. Our priorities are guided by the eight Maryland Results for Child Well-Being.

MARYLAND RESULTS FOR CHILD WELL-BEING



Babies Born Healthy

Supporting policy to achieve healthy birth outcomes, specifically decreased infant and maternal mortality



Healthy Children

Advocating for policy that removes barriers to access to nutritious meals and supports programming focused on healthy lifestyles



Children Enter School Ready to Learn

Supporting policy that addresses key drivers to increasing school readiness by kindergarten



Children are Successful in School

Supporting policy that improves student attendance, supports high-quality expanded learning opportunities and improves school climate



Youth Complete School

Advocating for policy that supports reduction in dropout rates amongst high school-aged youth



Youth Have Opportunities for Employment or Career Readiness

Advocating for policy that provides supports for youth-focused workforce development



Communities are Safe for Children, Youth, & Families

Supporting policy that ensures safe environments that allow children and families to thrive



Families are Safe & Economically Stable

Supporting policy that provides equitable access to a living wage and opportunities for economic security

For more information, contact:

Matt Quinlan, Public Policy Manager: 410.236.5488, mquinlan@familyleague.org

FAMILY LEAGUE
OF BALTIMORE

Racial & Economic Equity Analysis Tool

Family League of Baltimore recognizes that it is critical to approach our work through a racial equity lens. The Racial Equity Analysis Tool supports our efforts to advocate for policy changes in a way that mitigates the impact of racism entrenched in existing structures by accounting for stakeholder input, unintended consequences, root-cause transformational ability, and questions of implementation in the development of legislation.

CRITERIA	MEASURES
STAKEHOLDERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who is the policy intended to affect?• Which groups might unintentionally be impacted by the policy?• Is there a racial/socioeconomic divide?• To what extent have stakeholders/impacted populations been consulted?
IMPACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the intended impact of the policy?• What unintended impacts might the policy have?• Is there evidence of potential for disproportionate impact(s) along racial/socioeconomic lines? Can disproportionate impact(s) be minimized/mitigated?
TRANSFORMATIONAL ABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does the policy aim to combat the root cause of a racial/socioeconomic injustice?• Are proposed benefits to racially/socioeconomically subjugated groups realistic?• Does the policy deconstruct oppressive racial/socioeconomic structures?
IMPLEMENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What historical or current context should be considered to ensure the policy achieves its racial/socioeconomic equity aims?• Who is responsible for proper implementation of the proposed policy? Is the expectation reasonable?• How will stakeholders be included in the implementation process?• Do funding mechanisms exist to ensure policy implementation as intended?

Note: This tool was partially developed using Associated Black Charities' *Ten Essential Questions for Policy Development, Review and Evaluation* and The Center for Racial Justice Innovation's *Racial Impact Assessment Guide*.

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MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Need for Data Sharing & Local Committee Establishment

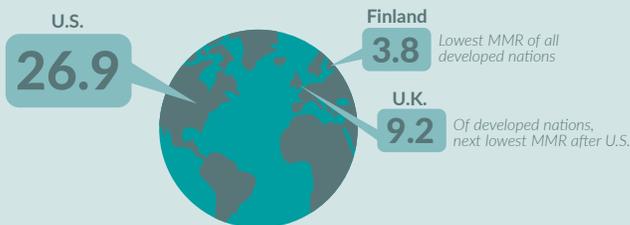
Family League of Baltimore takes an intergenerational approach to its work, as the issues faced by Baltimore's children and families require whole-child, whole-family solutions. In order to meet the Babies Born Healthy and Children are Healthy Results for Child Well-Being, we recognize the critical importance of maternal health. As a lead implementation partner of the city's B'More for Healthy Babies initiative, Family League has been working with the Baltimore City Health Department and Health Care Access Maryland since 2009 to address positive birth outcomes for mothers and children.

Though we have seen a decrease in the city's Infant Mortality Rate, we have no such assurance that we've been impacting the Maternal Mortality Rate. Empirical evidence at the state level highlights disparities in maternal health outcomes along racial lines, regardless of socio-economic status, and we recognize that policy solutions to this issue must operate through a racial equity framework to have systemic, long-term positive impacts.

GLOBAL COMPARISON

The **United States'** Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) is much higher than that of other developed nations.

MMR is measured as deaths per 100,000 live births



Maryland's MMR is slightly lower than the national average, but compared to other developed nations, this rate is still much too high.



RACIAL DISPARITIES

NATIONALLY

Black women's MMR is

2.5x

greater than White women's.

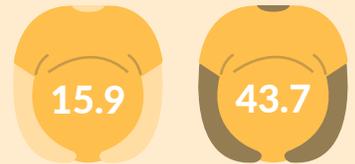
Risk of maternal mortality seems to be exacerbated by race, young age, and residence in rural and high-poverty communities.

IN MARYLAND

Black women's MMR is

2.74x

greater than White women's.



*as of 2015

Racial disparities in maternal health outcomes are *likely not to be attributed to race itself*, but to **systemic social** and **economic forces** which **institutionalize racism** in the development and health of women of color, Black women in particular.

PROPOSED POLICY SOLUTION

The Maryland General Assembly should pass legislation that will:

1

Require the state Maternal Mortality Review Committee to share disaggregated, local data with any requesting local health department. This allows local health departments to determine if there are local factors to be mitigated, lowering the state's overall MMR.

2

Allow local health departments to establish their own Maternal Mortality Review teams, modeled after the way local Fetal and Infant Morality Review (FIMR) and Child Fatality Review (CFR) teams are established and operated.

3

Require that all fatality review teams at the state and local level include in their annual reports information on the racial demographics of their case review and analysis of that data for racially disparate outcome trends.

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THRIVE BY THREE GRANT PROGRAM

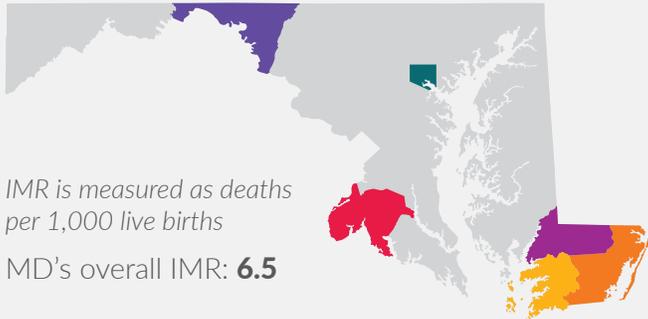
Need for Expansion of Funding

Family League of Baltimore takes an intergenerational approach to its work, as the issues faced by Baltimore's children and families require whole-child, whole-family solutions. In order to meet the Babies Born Healthy, Children are Healthy, and Students are Prepared for School Results for Child Well-Being, we recognize the effectiveness of an intergenerational approach to infant and maternal health and recognize the long-term value of investing in the earliest years of life.

As a lead implementation partner in the B'More for Healthy Babies initiative, which works to address factors contributing to healthy pregnancies, positive birth outcomes, and on-track early childhood development, we have been working with the Baltimore City Health Department and HealthCare Access Maryland since 2009. The expansion of funding for the Thrive by Three Grant Program has the potential to positively impact care coordination services in the City, yielding positive results for low-income women, children, and families.

A jurisdiction's Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is its leading health indicator.

Maryland Counties with the Highest IMR



- Somerset: **41.2**
- Worcester: **12.6**
- Charles: **10.9**
- Wicomico: **10.9**
- Washington: **9.8**
- Baltimore City: **8.7**

Poverty decreases access to adequate healthcare for everyone, with particularly disastrous impacts for pregnant women and young children.

% of Households Considered Impoverished as of 2016 by County



Administrative Care Coordination (ACC) funds support life-saving links to services for pregnant Medicaid recipients.

Pregnant Medicaid recipients who were **not enrolled** in this care coordination system were

more than 5x more likely to have a fetal or infant death,

contributing to preventable increases in the IMR.

Baltimore City faces a \$1.5M gap in ACC funds for FY20 and expects the gap to widen if nothing is done.

PROPOSED POLICY SOLUTION

In passing SB 912 during the 2018 General Assembly Legislative Session, Maryland acknowledged our statewide need for 0-3 care coordination.

Now is the time to stand behind this fact by sufficiently funding the existing Thrive by Three Grant Program, which will provide:

Additional staffing and resources for home visiting programs and child care providers

A coordinated approach to centralizing eligibility determination and entry processes so families can easily benefit from a broad range of services

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SUMMER SNAP FOR CHILDREN BILL

Addressing Summer Hunger Slump

Family League of Baltimore takes an intergenerational approach to its work, as the issues faced by Baltimore's children and families require whole-child, whole-family solutions. In order to meet the Children Are Healthy, Students Succeed in School, and Families are Safe and Economically Stable Results for Child Well-Being, we recognize the critical importance of uninterrupted access to fresh, high-quality food.

The summer months present financial and physiological barriers to nutrition, growth, physical development, and familial financial stability for Baltimore City Schools students, all of whom receive free breakfast and lunch at school during the academic year.



SUMMER HUNGER SLUMP: When students are out of school & no longer receive school breakfast & lunch.



FOOD INSECURITY: When a household has limited or uncertain access to enough healthy food.

MARYLAND'S HUNGER CRISIS

1 in 8
Maryland households



Considered "food insecure" by the USDA

Nearly **200,000**

Baltimore City residents depend on the critical support of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) for nutritious food.



Roughly 1/3 of these residents are **children ages 18 & under**

RACIAL DISPARITIES

Percentage of Baltimore City residents living in a food desert



STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM REGULAR ACCESS TO HEALTHY MEALS



Make fewer mistakes, work faster in math & vocabulary



Perform better on standardized tests



Improved concentration, alertness, comprehension, memory & learning



Improved school attendance

States who have piloted the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children (SEBTC) program have reported several positive outcomes for children.



30% increase in consumption of whole grains



1 additional serving of fruit & vegetables per day



33% reduction in child food insecurity



8% reduction in number of sugar-sweetened drinks consumed

PROPOSED POLICY SOLUTION

The Maryland General Assembly should pass the **Summer SNAP for Children Bill**

The Bill adds additional funds each month for every school-aged child in the household during the three months in Summer and a one-time addition (per child) for winter break.



+\$30 per month per child



+\$10 (one-time) per child

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COMMISSION ON INNOVATION & EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

"KIRWAN COMMISSION"

WHAT IS IT?

The Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, commonly known as the "Kirwan Commission," represents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to transform Maryland's school system into one that equitably supports all of our children, from early childhood to college and career readiness.

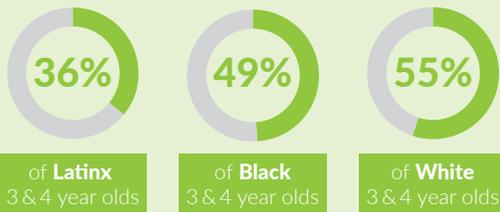
We know that improving our school system will take a major commitment from our state – the Kirwan Commission's last cost estimate projected a \$3.8 billion dollar investment that is needed over the next 10 years. This will require dedication from our state and local leaders, including the Governor and the General Assembly.

WHY DO WE NEED IT?

Currently, our schools are not equitably preparing our students for success. Educational inequities set an imbalanced playing field from the beginning and create learning gaps that are not easily closed in later years.

Early Childhood

Latinx 3 & 4 year olds are much less likely to be enrolled in early childhood education than their Black & White peers.

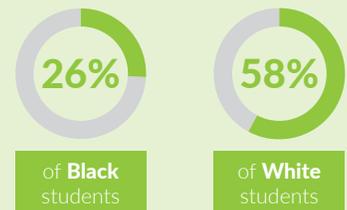


Low-income children are much less likely to be enrolled in early childhood education than their peers of higher income.



Elementary School

% of students who met or exceeded expectations on 4th grade reading



This racial disparity persists regardless of household income.

High School

Black students are much less likely to have access to Advanced Placement (AP) programs than their White peers.

Black students make up **35%** of all high school students.

Yet, they only represent

14% of AP test-takers.

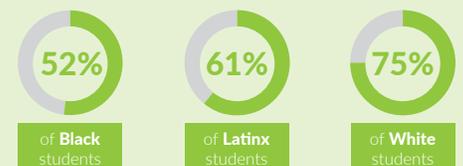
White students make up **41%** of all high school students.

Yet, they represent

54% of AP test-takers.

Postsecondary

White students are much more likely to enroll in postsecondary education within one year of graduating from MD. public schools than Black & Latinx peers.



Teacher Experience

Schools with the most students of color have more first-year teachers than schools with less students of color.

Schools comprised of **84%** or more students of color have **10%** first-year teachers

Schools comprised of **18%** or less students of color have only **5%** first-year teachers

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FAMILY LEAGUE
OF BALTIMORE

WHAT DO WE SUPPORT & RECOMMEND?

Recommendations from the Commission Supported by Family League

While the Commission is not expected to complete their final recommendations until later this year, we call on the Maryland Legislature to support the Commission's FY2020 "Down Payment" proposal, which would begin shifting our state's education system toward one that more comprehensively addresses the needs of our students. Family League also supports the following recommendations made by the Commission:

- 1 Expand full-day Pre-K for 4 year olds
- 2 Fund seed grants for teacher collaboratives, to implement higher teacher standards
- 3 A 3% increase in teacher salaries
- 4 Fund Community School Coordinators and Health Service Practitioners for schools with 80% or more concentration of poverty
- 5 Increase Health and Behavioral Health funding at \$10.5M
- 6 Create a Special Education placeholder weight

Additional Recommendations from Family League

Family League urges the Commission to finish their final report in a timely manner, and to continue to take seriously the recommendations from Dr. Toldson and consider race equity in all of their recommendations. **Concentrations of poverty cannot be used as a substitute or proxy for race equity, and any attempt to adjust our school funding formulas without a thorough analysis of and focus on race equity will only perpetuate the achievement gaps that exist within our schools.** Our children and our future are depending on the development and funding of a world class education system, and the Kirwan Commission is our opportunity to create that future.

The following recommendations are grounded in Maryland's Results for Child Well-Being:

RECOMMENDATION	RESULT AREAS IMPACTED
Fully fund universal full-day Pre-K for all three and four-year-olds	Babies are born healthy  Children enter school ready to learn 
Funding for Pre-K expansion should consider rates of children at schools with known racial disparities in educational outcomes, including racial disparities in discipline, gifted and talented programs, and assignment to special education classes	Children enter school ready to learn  Children are successful in school 
Expand Judy Centers, Family Support Centers, and the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program	Babies are born healthy  Children enter school ready to learn  Children are successful in school 
Fully fund our public schools AND fund a robust Community School Strategy which includes Community School Coordinators and health and behavioral health services in schools in areas of concentrated poverty and with historically underserved student populations	Children are healthy  Children are successful in school  Youth will complete school 
Develop racially equitable funding formulas that take into consideration the damaging and on-going impacts of structural racism on students of color	Children enter school ready to learn  Children are successful in school  Youth will complete school  Communities are safe for children, youth, and families 
Ensure that any adjustment to Direct Certification does not compromise the Community Eligibility Provision, which has expanded universal free school meals to all Baltimore City Public School students, as well as nearly 100,000 students statewide	Children are healthy  Children enter school ready to learn  Children are successful in school  Youth will complete school  Families are safe and economically stable 

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