



**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH,  
AND VICTIM SERVICES**

**At-Risk Youth Prevention and Diversion  
Programs Annual Report FY 2023**

*§ 8-605 of the Human Services Article; Chapter 6 of 2019  
(Senate Bill 112); MSAR #11900*

**Wes Moore**  
Governor

**Aruna Miller**  
Lt. Governor

**Dorothy J. Lennig, Esq.**  
Executive Director  
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

Submitted by:  
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services

Contact: Tracey Webb  
410-697-9313 | [Tracey.Webb@Maryland.gov](mailto:Tracey.Webb@Maryland.gov)

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## Introduction

In accordance with § 8-605 of the Human Services Article, the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (Office) must submit a report to the General Assembly by December 31 of each year, as it relates to the implementation and effectiveness of at-risk youth prevention and diversion programs.

To address its charge, the Office allocated grant funding from the Children’s Cabinet Interagency Fund (CCIF) to Local Management Boards (Boards) to provide resources at the local level to strengthen community-based services - through the use of at-risk youth prevention and diversion programs - and to improve the quality of life for children and families.

Pursuant to § 8-605 of the Human Services Article, this *At-Risk Youth Prevention and Diversion Programs Annual Report FY 2023* provides information on the implementation of programs and strategies of at-risk and diversion programs funded by the Boards through the Children’s Cabinet Interagency Fund (CCIF), between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. It also provides a follow-up to several reports that were submitted in response to § 8-605 of the Human Services Article. To view these reports, please visit the Office’s website at: <https://goccp.maryland.gov/reports-and-publications/>.

## Programs Implemented

As required by §§ 8-601 and 8-603 of the Human Services Article, the Boards must oversee the development of prevention and diversion programs to ensure each program provides services to school-aged youth and their families to prevent or divert youth from entering the juvenile justice system and to help make them ready for adulthood by age 21. For State FY 2023, the Children’s Cabinet, through the Office, awarded \$14,142,523 to programs that fit the definition of at-risk youth prevention and diversion programs.<sup>1</sup> Each Board was required to submit a semi-annual and annual program report that included data on the agreed-upon performance measures for each program. A complete listing of programs funded in FY 2023 is available in [Appendix A](#).

## Effectiveness

The Children’s Cabinet, through the Office, establishes fiscal and program accountability in the implementation of Community Partnership Agreements (Agreements) and the use of other State

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<sup>1</sup> Section 8-601 of the Human Services Article defines an “at-risk youth prevention and diversion program” as services provided to school-aged youth and their families to prevent or divert youth from entering the juvenile justice system and to help make them ready for adulthood by age 21.

resources by the Boards. Fiscally responsible approaches are accountable to taxpayers and focus on spending existing funds more effectively. To that end, the Office works to ensure that the Children's Cabinet funds are invested only in those programs or services that achieve measurable results. Data for the performance measures for each program shows whether the strategies and programs funded by the Children's Cabinet, through the Boards, are making a difference in the lives of Maryland's families. These interventions represent new pathways to opportunities and a push for systemic change that will further Governor Moore's vision of ending childhood poverty and building a world-class education system.

To review the programs funded by each Board and the data on the effectiveness of the programs, please visit <http://goccp.maryland.gov/child-well-being-scorecards-by-county/>.<sup>2</sup>

### **Case Vignette: Hood 2 Good**

[Hood 2 Good](#) is a successful, grassroots after-school program for gang-involved youth and youth at-risk for gang involvement in low-income, public, and subsidized housing in Annapolis. Participants are primarily African American and Latinx. The program uses art as a mechanism for youth to process trauma and challenging emotions, explore topics and issues of interest with subject matter experts, develop skills for coping and mindfulness, and develop artistic and technical skills to support college and/or career readiness. In addition, the participants also engage in regular community service activities to create meaningful connections with their community.

In State FY 2023, 32 youth were served who were directly impacted by incarceration (n = 21) and gang involvement or at risk for gang involvement (n = 11). The program outcomes for the fiscal year include:

- 82% (n = 9) of gang-involved participants or participants at risk for gang involvement remained free of gang involvement during the reporting period.
- 57% (n = 12) of participants impacted by incarceration reported increased communication, family stability, maintenance of familial connections, or support in reunification.
- 100% of participants directly impacted by incarceration reported an improved attitude and outlook for communication, family stability, and resources available during and after incarceration.

In addition to the 32 youth served above, the program served 960 youth from the local public housing community. These youth participated in field trips and community service activities.

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<sup>2</sup> It is important to note that users may select a link to view the Scorecard page for the Boards, to include hyperlinked listings of the programs funded. Information is updated in real time for each Board as it becomes available.

## Conclusion

Although statistically significant conclusions cannot be made for the programs, the improvement in the [results](#) and [indicators](#) measured annually and documented in Maryland's Results for Child Well-Being can be attributed, at least in part, to the collaborative efforts implemented by the Boards in their communities. Data reported by the Boards for at-risk youth prevention and diversion programs indicate that children who received preventive services show improvement in overall functioning as measured by various assessments and a decrease in negative behaviors and outcomes. The data also shows that children engaged in preventive programs are less likely to re-offend during service interventions.

Children and youth who are diverted from the juvenile justice system or who reject negative behaviors (e.g., drug use, pregnancy, gang involvement, dropping out of school, etc.) often represent fiscal savings to the State. Participation in these intervention programs reinforces positive behaviors and protective factors for young people, so investing in these programs can be a cost-effective strategy. Children and youth who have access to early intervention and prevention programming are likely to be more socially responsible, productive young adults who can contribute to the economy and are assets to the State.

## Appendix A: FY 2023 Children’s Cabinet Interagency Fund (CCIF) Expenditures by Priority Area

County	FY23 Funded Programs and Expenditures	FY 2023 Programmatic Funding <sup>3</sup>	Community Based Programs	Preventing OOS Placements	Impact of Incarceration	Disconnected Youth	Childhood Hunger	Youth Homelessness
<b>Allegany</b>		<b>\$344,080</b>						
	HOMEBUILDERS®			216,261				
	Detention Center Program				19,455			
	Project AIM		46,000					
	Youth Services Coalition Planning Grant				52,214			
	Pathways to Learning Outreach Program				10,150			
<b>Anne Arundel</b>		<b>\$882,226</b>						
	Youth Empowerment Services (YES)				115,752			
	Behavioral & Emotional Support and Training (BEST) 2.0				179,905			
	Black Wall Street Mentoring Program				85,030			
	Healing Circles				33,500			
	Hood 2 Good				65,000			
	Systems of Care		352,944					
	Strengthening Families				50,095			
<b>Baltimore City</b>		<b>\$2,362,412</b>						
	Healthy Families America - Home Visiting					505,285		
	Cherry Hill Community Food Strategy						350,000	
	Youth Service Bureau					244,594		
	Thriving Youth Strategy			857,533				
	Care Coordination Strategy			405,000				

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<b>Baltimore County</b>		<b>\$1,316,285</b>						
	Healthy Families America – Home Visiting		154,136					
	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Plus		157,000					
	MST – Emerging Adult					703,890		
	Youth Services Bureau – Lighthouse			89,750				
	Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Outreach Services							211,509
<b>Calvert</b>		<b>\$229,036</b>						
	Home Visiting Hybrid for High Risk Moms						81,000	
	WIOA Outreach and Enrollment					75,000		
	Family Engagement			10,820				
	Open Table						62,216	
<b>Caroline</b>		<b>294,253</b>						
	Teen Court		30,715					
	YMCA Mentoring Program		33,274					
	Men for Change Mentoring Program		35,264					
	Caroline County Behavioral Health School-based Program		35,000					
	Transportation Planning Grant /Pilot		160,000					
	Community Support							
<b>Carroll</b>		<b>\$460,795</b>						
	Connecting Youth in Carroll County					292,833		
	Suicide Intervention and Prevention Services		88,999					
	Wraparound Family Service		78,963					





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	Youth Success through Education and Employment (YSEE) Program					105,298		
	Getting Ahead						30,000	
<b>Garrett</b>		<b>\$463,825</b>						
	Early Care Healthy Families						312,825	
	Partners After School						81,000	
	Learning Beyond the Classroom						25,000	
	Planning Initiative – Housing Feasibility Study							45,000
<b>Harford</b>		<b>\$511,000</b>						
	Project SEEK				176,000			
	Reducing Childhood Hunger						71,000	
	Trauma Informed Care & Mental Hlth Services		264,000					
<b>Howard</b>		<b>\$215,000</b>						
	Healthy Food Access						78,000	
	Summer Workforce Readiness and Youth Employment					65,000		
	Summer Scholars					72,000		
<b>Kent</b>		<b>\$221,143</b>						
	Healthy Families Mid-Shore Home Visiting						101,100	
	Minary’s Dream Academy		86,598					
	Student Behavioral Wellness Planning		33,445					
<b>Montgomery</b>		<b>\$962,823</b>						
	Mo-Co Reconnect		878,823					
	Social Emotional Learning (Goal Setting Girls and AMEN)					84,000		

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Prince George's		\$1,205,541						
	Knowledge Equals Youth Success					214,625		
	Know Better, Live Better Health and Nutrition						132,242	
	Weaving Hope						100,842	
	Project Wellness						84,297	
	Pathway to a Healthy Lifestyle						132,242	
	Opportunity Youth Empowered Toward Success					112,242		
	Bowie Disconnected Youth Program					107,359		
	Improving Workforce Development & Employment Outcomes for Disconnected Youth in Foster Care					122,167		
	Prince George’s Hope Project - Hope Project Training Academy					199,525		
Queen Anne's		\$267,368						
	Healthy Families				72,532			
	Family Navigator				42,804			
	Achievement Mentoring				60,319			
	CommUNITY Mentoring					46,244		
	Transportation Voucher Program					45,469		
St. Mary's		\$368,731						
	Interagency Liaison			49,000				
	Reconnection of Opportunity Youth to Education and Employment					107,508		
	SMCPS Mentoring		92,213					
	After-School at GWCES			5,490				

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	After-School at RES		6,936					
	Healthy Families Southern Maryland		107,584					
<b>Somerset</b>		<b>\$183,481</b>						
	Parenting Skills Development				32,680			
	G.R.I.T Mentoring Program		3,443					
	Healthy Somerset Community Gardening Program						14,451	
	Preparing Children for School		36,260					
	Somerset Youth Crossover Project - Planning		75,000					
	Transportation Barrier Study & Pilot		15,438					
	Youth Basketball Mentorship Program		6,209					
<b>Talbot</b>		<b>\$431,374</b>						
	Conversations on Race					65,545		
	Healthy Families Mid-Shore					107,500		
	Healthy Habits						38,343	
	Reengagement Coordinator					49,160		
	Career Pathways					49,750		
	Afterschool Programming		38,039					
	Primary Project		83,037					
<b>Washington</b>		<b>\$690,802</b>						
	Family Centered Support Services					105,800		
	Family Strong Program				90,000			

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	School Based Mental Health Services		332,496					
	Western Maryland Consortium Disconnected Youth Services					50,687		
	Juvenile Diversion Program		111,819					
<b>Wicomico</b>		<b>\$570,000</b>						
	Navigation							95,000
	Family Education		50,000					
	Trauma Informed Care/ACEs		70,000					
	Homeless Youth Drop-In							95,000
	Reducing Childhood Hunger Program						50,000	
	Youth Skills and Workforce Development					70,000		
	Youth Truancy/Absenteeism Strategy		70,000					
	Early Childhood ACEs		70,000					
<b>Worcester</b>		<b>\$637,126</b>						
	Worcester Navigation						150,000	
	Building Bridges to Stable Families				150,378			
	Worcester Connects		150,000					
	Poverty Planning		36,748					
	Bounce Back		150,000					
		<b>FY 2023 Funding</b>	<b>Community - Based Programs</b>	<b>Preventing OOS Placements</b>	<b>Impact of Incarceration</b>	<b>Disconnected Youth</b>	<b>Childhood Hunger</b>	<b>Youth Homelessness</b>
	<b>Total Programmatic Funding:</b>	\$14,131,588	\$5,971,178	\$428,267	\$1,416,973	3,820,019	\$1,960,103	\$535,048
	<b>% of overall FY 2023 Programmatic Funding:</b>		42.25%	3.03%	10.03%	27.03%	13.87%	3.79%
	<b># of Programs:</b>	120	48	6	16	26	19	5

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