



MIMA

Brandon M. Scott
Mayor



Monthly Newsletter

March 2024
Bulletin #63

Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MIMA)

Together We Will Heal

On March 2nd, Mayor Brandon M. Scott, Senator Bill Ferguson, Fire Chief Wallace, Councilwoman Odette Ramos, and Councilman Zeke Cohen, together with multiple partners of MIMA, paid their respects and offered support to the families who were affected by the tragic house fire in Baltimore. In order to ensure that these families have access to information and resources about fire safety, MIMA collaborated with several partners, including CASA, Breath of God Lutheran Church, Comite Latino de Baltimore, the Red Cross, and the Baltimore City Fire Department to canvass the 3400 block of East Lombard Street and surrounding neighborhoods. This initiative was taken to ensure that fire alarms were installed, guaranteeing the safety of families and others within the neighborhood.

[Baltimore City Fire Department has many online resources about fire safety and how to be prepared, be informed, and be safe.](#) If you're a resident of Baltimore City, [submit a request to 311](#) if you would like the Baltimore City Fire Department to install a free fire alarm in your home. In an effort to inform communities across America to reduce the risk of fires, the [U.S. Fire Administration](#) also provides additional resources for fire safety and prevention.

Women's History Month

"Today and everyday, let's honor the remarkable achievements, resilience, and contributions of immigrant women. May we continue to strive for gender equality and empower women to thrive in every sphere of life".

The theme for this year's Women's History Month is "Women who advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion". Every year, we celebrate Women's History Month and International Women's Day to recognize the achievements of women in our society and around the world. This year, Mayor Brandon Scott is creating a safe space for young women to be seen and heard as part of the celebrations for Women's History Month. The sold-out event will feature a panel of speakers who are experts in their respective fields and have a wealth of knowledge to share as influencers.

**Mayor Brandon M. Scott's
YOUTH SUMMIT
INFLUENCEHer**

MARCH 15
11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Reginald F. Lewis Museum
830 East Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

REGISTER NOW

FREE

<http://tinyurl.com/INFLUENCEHER>

MUSIC | PANEL DISCUSSION | PHOTO BOOTH | RESOURCES | FREE FOOD | EMPOWERMENT

CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF
CHILDREN &
FAMILY SUCCESS
Brandon M. Scott
Mayor

Hopping into March-Happy Easter

Easter, the holiest day of the year for Christians, is just around the corner on March 31st. This is a day that holds great significance for the Christian faith and is celebrated with much fervor by millions across the world. It is an occasion to reflect on the meaning of life and the message of hope that Easter represents. Egg hunts and bunny photos have become a part of the Easter tradition and are a fun way to involve the whole family in this year's festivities. Register to celebrate with loved ones this year at the [B&O Museum Easter Egg Hunt](#).

Ramadan Mubarak-Happy Ramadan

Ramadan is the ninth calendar month for Muslims. Every year the sighting of the moon commemorates yet another year of reflection and fasting. Ramadan is the month the Holy Book for Muslims was revealed and many of the Islamic faith fast and internally reflect on the deeds and how to help the community. From sunrise to sunset Muslims refrain from eating and drinking to stand in solidarity with those who are without. During fasting, volunteering and increasing one's knowledge of the faith is highly encouraged. This year Enoch Pratt Free Library will host a [Community Ramadan Iftar with Mera Kitchen Collective](#) on March 21st from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. [Registration is required!](#)

Updates from our Office

11th Baltimore Immigration Summit

Get ready for the 11th Baltimore Immigration Summit! MIMA has received numerous proposals, and we're working hard to review all the candidates. Registration will open this month on **March 22** for the event which is scheduled to take place on **May 31st**. You won't want to miss this opportunity to learn, network, and engage with fellow immigration professionals. Stay tuned for registration announcements on our Instagram and Facebook pages.

Academic Internship Program- Summer Internship

[The Academic Internship Program \(ACIP\)](#) offers a unique opportunity for participants to gain professional experience, build skills through practical application, and obtain educational credits to be applied towards their major/minor at their academic institution. Interns will work on projects that are social-impact focused, and the primary goal of the internship is to offer young professionals interested in public service an opportunity to expand their networks and gain exposure to careers in local government. This is a 12-week, unpaid internship that provides current students and recent graduates with an opportunity to work directly with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs and receive academic credits for their academic institution. **Summer: June-August (Applications deadline: April 10th)**

Access to Care Act-Senate Bill 705

SB 705 Access to Care Act enables uninsured residents in Maryland to purchase health insurance through Maryland Health Benefit Exchange. Currently, immigrant families and individuals face significant obstacles in accessing healthcare. SB 705 represents a significant step towards ensuring equitable access to healthcare for all Maryland residents. The Scott Administration submitted written testimony in support of Senate Bill 705 Access to Care Act. Stay informed regarding the [Maryland General Assembly's path to approve Senate Bill 705](#).

Covid-19 Updates

The Changing Threat of Covid-19

[The impact of SARS-CoV-2](#), the virus that causes COVID-19, has changed dramatically since 2020. Although COVID-19 remains common, when compared to 2020, individual infections are less likely to result in severe illness for most people in the United States. COVID-19 poses the highest risk for older adults, infants, and people with pre-existing medical conditions, and there are multiple ways people and communities can help reduce their risk of infection. [Where to get tested for Covid-19 in Baltimore](#).

City Services

Baltimore City 3-1-1

[311 connects Baltimore citizens](#), businesses & visitors with a vast array of city services, programs and information. Either by a live agent-assisted phone call or through the self-service web or mobile portal, 311 allows customers to [report a problem](#), [request a service](#), [check the status of a previously submitted service request](#), [to request fire alarm installation](#), and obtain information regarding City programs or events. This month 3-1-1 will also be available in Spanish and other languages with be available in the future.



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Bureau of Revenue Collection

Looking for an easier way to pay for red light, civil citation, speed light, and metered water bills? [Baltimore City now offers customers the ability to pay](#) online via credit card or a personal/business checking account. Online payments are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Avoid the lines and pay online!

The Baltimore New American Access Coalition-Advancing with Resources

The Baltimore New American Access Coalition (BNAAC) is a group of community organizations [CASA, Esperanza Center, Southeast CDC, Global Refuge, led by MIMA, who are offering public benefit navigation to immigrant families in Baltimore. Eligible clients can receive help with applying for public benefits, including, health care coverage, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), WIC, cash assistance (TCA), childcare, water for all, and more. Since its inception, the BNAAC program has enrolled 577 clients from 23 different Baltimore City zip codes. Benefit Navigators aided in filling out 1340 public benefit applications. The program is currently providing benefit navigation support in over 13 languages.

- Global Refuge is now taking clients!
 - Interested clients can call, text, or WhatsApp message 443-365-0472
- For more information about the program, and eligibility, and to see our translated flyers visit our [website](#).
- To refer a client to the program, use the following [form](#).

What's New This Month?

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

MDHCD promotes and preserves homeownership through community development initiatives to meet the challenges of a growing Maryland. Through the Maryland Mortgage Program, the department has empowered thousands of Maryland families to realize the American dream of homeownership. [To find out more information about the program and financing solutions that help families, communities, and businesses.](#)

Lyric Baltimore Education

Attention students! [Lyric Baltimore is hosting the 2024 Dream Big Contest](#) for 5th-12th graders in Baltimore City and County. Submit your essay for a chance to showcase your work on the Lyric's historic stage and win prizes, including a laptop. Winners will also be featured on WBAL on June 19th. Don't wait, submit your essay today!

City of Refuge- Workforce Development Assistant Job Opportunity

Are you passionate about helping families and individuals transition out of crisis? If so, you'll be excited to know that The City of Refuge is hiring! As a member of our team, you'll play a vital role in making a positive impact on the lives of those in need. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity - send your resume and cover letter to Malewis@cityofrefugebaltimore.org today! Families and individuals transition out of crisis. They are looking to hire and if interested in employment please send all resumes to:

Malewis@cityofrefugebaltimore.org

Grant/Scholarship Opportunities

William & Lanaea Featherstone
William & Lanaea C. Featherstone Foundation in empowering first-generation students to achieve higher education and tackle unemployment through innovative workforce programs.



Baltimore Ravens Scholarship Program

At least one scholar will be chosen from each of the following areas: Baltimore City and the surrounding counties. The [Baltimore Ravens established this scholarship program](#) to enable local youth to continue their education on a collegiate level. The team has a long-standing history of service to local communities, and this fund will support those who do the same. In addition, this renewable scholarship is based on financial need and academic achievement.

Sherman Teachers Scholar Program-UMBC

The [Sherman Teacher Scholars Program](#) supports scholars to become culturally responsive and compassionate educators by collaborating with UMBC faculty and local schools. Through school-based partnerships, the program facilitates authentic learning experiences for scholars while promoting student achievement and engagement, particularly in STEM disciplines. The program provides academic and professional coaching to help scholars become high-quality teachers for urban schools. Scholars in early childhood and elementary education prepare to be experts in teaching and integrating STEM subject areas, while secondary candidates become experts in teaching their discipline.

Maryland Space Grant Consortium-NASA

One of [MDSGC's](#) goals is to support students who are attending or planning to attend an affiliate institution, who need financial support, and who wish to pursue studies in math, science, engineering, or technology, that are related to aerospace or may lead to a NASA-relevant career. Students may still



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submit off-cycle applications for consideration if funding becomes available. **Applicants must be U.S. citizens** enrolled as full-time students at a MDSGC affiliate, including:

- Johns Hopkins University
- Morgan State University
- Towson University
- University of Maryland College Park
- University of Maryland Baltimore County
- University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- Capitol Technology University
- Hagerstown Community College.

Community College Promise Scholarship-Maryland.Gov

The [Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship](#) is a last dollar scholarship that is available for the 2024-2025 academic year to students who enroll at a Maryland community college. Eligible students can receive up to \$5,000 to cover any remaining tuition and mandatory fee expenses after Federal or State financial aid has been applied.

EVENTS

Fresh Food Boxes-Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks

Don't miss the opportunity to get fresh food boxes for free every Thursday from 12 pm to 4 pm! BCRP is inviting you and your friends to the Plantation Park Heights Urban Farm, located at **3811 Park Heights Ave.** This event is open to everyone. Mark your calendars and be sure to check out the event calendar for [upcoming BCRP fresh food events!](#)



Food Giveaways in Baltimore City

Organizations with regularly updated food giveaway lists:

- So What Else - Baltimore
- Food Rescue Baltimore
- The Food Project
- Bmore Children Website

Dial 211 for free information to resources and programs in your area!

Weekly Food Giveaways




Food Giveaways in Baltimore City
Weekly Food Giveaways

Week Day & Time	Location
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30 am *one family/household per week	City of Refuge 3501 7th Street
Tuesdays 5 - 6 pm	L.I.F.E. Church Ministries 3820 S. Hanover Street
Wednesdays 10 am	Sacred Heart of Jesus 600 S. Conkling Street
Thursdays 12 pm - 4 pm	Plantation Park Heights Urban Farm 3811 Park Heights Avenue
Fridays 11 am *bring your own bag!	Salem United Methodist Church 3405 Gough Street
Saturdays 9 am	The Transformation Center 3701 4th Street



Spring Break Camp-Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks

Looking for an exciting and affordable way to keep your kids occupied during spring break? From March 25th to March 28th, BCRP is hosting camps from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at various Recreation Centers throughout the city. Don't miss out on this opportunity to keep your kids engaged, active, and having fun. Camp times are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and are hosted at Recreation Centers throughout the city. [Register to secure your child's spot.](https://bit.ly/bcrpspringcamps2024)



CAMPAMENTO DE VACACIONES DE PRIMAVERA

¡La Inscripción ya está abierta!

bit.ly/bcrpspringcamps2024

Sitios de Campamentos de Vacaciones de Primavera
 MARZO 25-28 8:30AM-5:30PM

- Bentalou
- Bocek
- Cahill
- Carroll F. Cook
- Cecil Kirk
- Cecil Kirk
- Teen Camp
- Coldstream
- Curtis Bay
- Dewees
- Edgewood-
- Lyndhurst
- Ella Bailey
- Fred B. Leidig
- Greenmount
- Harlem Park
- Herring Run
- JD Gross
- Lakeland
- Locust Point
- Madison
- Medfield
- Mora
- Crossman
- Morrell Park
- Mount Royal
- Northwood
- Rita Church
- Robert C. Marshall
- Roosevelt
- Samuel FB Morse
- Solo Gibbs
- Towanda
- Virginia S. Baker
- Woodhome

BALTIMORE CITY RECREATION & PARKS



SPRING BREAK CAMP

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

bit.ly/bcrpspringcamps2024

SPRING BREAK CAMP LOCATIONS
 MARCH 25-28 8:30AM-5:30PM

- Bentalou
- Bocek
- Cahill
- Carroll F. Cook
- Cecil Kirk
- Cecil Kirk
- Teen Camp
- Coldstream
- Curtis Bay
- Dewees
- Edgewood-
- Lyndhurst
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- Woodhome

BALTIMORE CITY RECREATION & PARKS

Money Power Day 2024-Cash Campaign

The nonprofit CASH Campaign of Maryland presents the 17th annual Money Power Day 2024, the region's largest free financial fitness fair. There are activities designed to inspire and inform people of all ages on how to improve their financial power. It is the largest free financial fitness fair in the region and includes various activities that aim to inspire and to educate.



MONEY POWER DAY 2024

MARCH 23

Saturday, March 23, 2024
 9:00am - 3:00pm

Poly-Western High School, 1400 West Cold Spring Lane, Baltimore, MD 21209

Read to Reef Crafternoons: Weekly Jellyfish Jamboree!-Enoch Pratt Library Orleans Street Branch

- **Tuesday, March 26 — Tiny Jarred Jellyfish Tank:**
 Customize your own tiny jellyfish tank by filling a plastic jar with water and selecting the aquarium accessories, fake foliage, model jellyfish, and other aquatic charms to live inside!

Save The Date

The nonprofit CASH Campaign of Maryland presents the 17th annual Money Power Day® 2024, the region's largest free financial fitness fair. Join us for an energy-packed day filled with exciting activities designed to inspire and inform people of all ages on how to boost their financial power!

CASH CAMPAIGN

For more information, visit www.moneypowerday.com | [@moneypowerday](https://www.facebook.com/moneypowerday) | [@moneypowerdayMD](https://www.instagram.com/moneypowerday)



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NATIONAL HAPPENINGS

The Department of Homeland Security's- Joint Webinar with USCIS on its New Fee Rule

The [Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman \(CIS Ombudsman\)](#) is holding a joint webinar with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) on the [final rule to update certain immigration and naturalization fees](#). USCIS announced a new fee rule effective April 1st, 2024. See how it could affect your immigration. This webinar will address topics including:

- New and updated fees and fee exemptions
- New form editions, deadlines, and grace periods
- The Asylum Program Fee for certain employment-based immigrant and nonimmigrant visa petitioners
- Reduced fee options for naturalization applicants and people who file online
- Changes to international adoption forms

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

[Policy Analyst Operations Officer II](#), Office of Equity and Civil Rights

[Event Staff Community Aide](#), Baltimore City Recreation and Parks

[Medical Claims Processor II](#), Health Department

[Various Openings](#), Johns Hopkins Medicine

[Customer Accounts Manager](#), Department of Public Works

[Emergency Services Associate](#), Mayor's Office of Homeless Services

[Direct Support Professional](#), Gallagher Services

[Basketball Coach](#), Islamic Leadership Institute

[Teacher \(Eastern Region\)](#), State of Maryland

[Housing Counselor](#), Southeast Community Development Corporation

[Front Desk Assistant](#), World Relief

[Head Start Education Coordinator](#), Catholic Charities

[Special Assistant to the Commissioner of Health](#), Grant Service Specialist III-Health Department

[Radio Dispatcher Supervisor](#), Department of Public Works

[Community Engagement Manager](#), Just Neighbors

Want to stay updated with the latest information and resources for our immigrant and refugee communities?

Follow MIMA on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

To sign up to receive our monthly update via email or suggest announcements to include, [please submit this form](#).