



MIMA

Monthly Update

MARCH 2025

Happy Ramadan!



Ramadan Mubarak! In Islam, Ramadan is the ninth month of the lunar calendar and the holy month of fasting. This month marks a period of introspection, communal prayer, and reading of the Qur'an. The end of Ramadan is celebrated with Eid al-Fitr, the "Feast of Fast-Breaking." Many immigrant communities in Baltimore who hail from all around the world celebrate Ramadan in line with their faith!

You can support your Muslim friends, family, staff, coworkers, students, and clients by being sensitive to their cultural and religious beliefs. This may involve making adjustments to their schedules or routines to accommodate their fasting and ensuring they have access to halal food.



UPDATES FROM OUR OFFICE

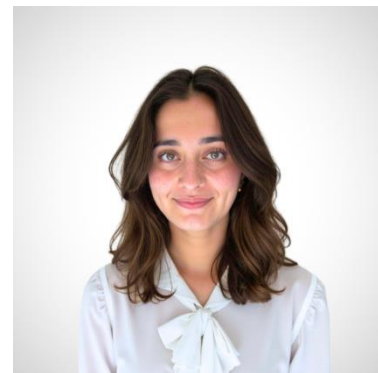
Introducing Our Newest Staff Members

Katie Miller returns to the MIMA team as our Language Access Project Manager, having served as MIMA's Senior Program Coordinator in 2018. In her role as the Language Access Project Manager, Katie will improve City agencies' capacities for providing equitable language access to constituents.



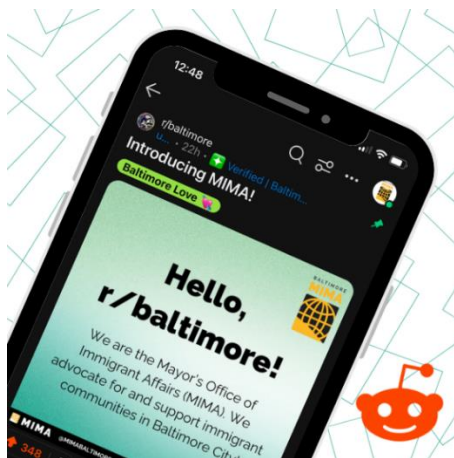
Katie first joined Baltimore City government in 2014 as a Shriver Peaceworker Fellow in Councilmember Jim Kraft's office. After completing her M.S. in Geography and Environmental Systems at UMBC, she served as an Open Society Institute Community Fellow with CASA, focusing on food justice and sanctuary organizing, and worked in the labor movement. When Katie is not at City Hall, you can find her baking bread or walking her dog, Wilbur, in Patterson Park.

Maliheh Varzandeh joins MIMA as an intern for the Spring 2025 semester. She is a senior at Towson University, where she is majoring in Family and Human Services with a focus on family dynamics, interpersonal relationships, and family theories. Maliheh will assist in planning the Baltimore Immigration Summit and participating in community outreach events. Maliheh has two cats, Charlie Brown and Enid, and will soon begin training to become a Certified Pilates Instructor.



MIMA is Now on Reddit

MIMA has joined fellow Baltimore City agencies, the [Department of Transportation](#) and [3-1-1](#), on Reddit! We look forward to sharing information with even more Baltimoreans and to interacting with you on this platform. Follow us on Reddit at [u/MIMAbaltimore!](https://www.reddit.com/u/MIMAbaltimore/)



Community Resource Guide

With the change in federal administration at the beginning of this year, there have been many shifts in the immigration policy landscape. Please see the "National Happenings" section below for a summary of federal actions that may impact our communities. Additionally, please continue consulting our office's [guide to services and resources](#).

Immigration Summit Registration Opening Soon

Registration for the 12th Annual Baltimore Immigration Summit opens on **March 31!** This free event provides a full day of presentations from academics, policymakers, service providers, activists, community leaders, and others working with and for immigrants and refugees in our region.

This year's summit will take place at Towson University on **May 30**. Last year, registration sold out in less than twenty-four hours! Make sure you are [subscribed to our email updates](#) and following us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Reddit](#) to be first in line for the registration link.

Internship Opportunities



Our office is now accepting applications for Summer 2025 internships. We offer valuable opportunities for hands-on experience in areas such as communications, language access, and other key roles supporting our mission. These internships are designed to offer academic credit for your work and contributions.

If you are passionate about making a positive impact in immigrant communities and eager to build your skills, we encourage you to apply!

[Apply to intern with MIMA by April 10](#)

Bi-Weekly Community Stakeholders Call

Our Community Stakeholders Calls take place every other Friday from 11:30 AM to 12:15 PM and are hosted virtually on Microsoft Teams. Each session features two guest presenters who share information about their organizations and the services that they offer to the immigrant community in Baltimore City.

The call brings together a diverse group of partners and stakeholders, including non-profits, faith-based organizations, civic groups, educational institutions, and city agencies. The next two calls will feature the following presenters:

March 21	April 4
The Alzheimer's Association	Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City
Luminus 4/4 Victim Witness Division	B'More Fresh

[Join MIMA's stakeholder calls](#)



CITY SERVICES

Deadline for YouthWorks in Less Than a Month

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development is now accepting applications for YouthWorks, a five-week employment opportunity for Baltimore City youth between the ages of 14 and 21. This program provides participants with meaningful, paid work experience, as well as opportunities for mentorship and to develop professional skills. Learn more on the [YouthWorks website](#).

[Apply to Youthworks by April 4](#)

Recreation and Parks Taking Registrations for Spring and Summer Camps

Registration is now open for spring and summer programs hosted by the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP). Spring Break Camps will take place **April 14 to 21**, a week full of games, crafts, sports, and outdoor adventures for various age groups. Register for a Spring Camp on the [BCRP website](#).

At Summer Camps, campers enjoy swimming, games, nature exploration, STEM activities, pick-up sports, crafts, and more at the city's recreation centers, parks, and facilities for eight weeks. The programs will run from **June 23 to August 15** and are open to various age groups, from 5 to 15 years. Register for a Summer Camp on the [BCRP website](#).



Shred Your Documents at the Department of Public Works' Shred Day

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is hosting "Shred Days" to help residents to clear out their clutter. Bring paper documents that you no longer need but that may have sensitive information (up to two 32-gallon bags). A GROW Center Pop-Up will also be giving away free trees, mulch, and more. The next event is taking place **March 29** at Furley Elementary School from 8 AM to 12 PM. Find more information on [this flyer](#).



Diabetes Management Program for Spanish-Speaking Seniors

The Baltimore City Health Department is hosting a free four-week Diabetes Management Program to help Spanish-speaking seniors (ages 60 and above) manage their diabetes or pre-diabetes. Sessions are weekly on Wednesdays from 2:30 to 4:30 PM, beginning on March 12 at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Southeast Anchor Branch. To register, call or message Sydney Hiestroza at 667-391-2455, and find more information on [this flyer](#).

B'More Fresh Provides Additional Food Assistance for SNAP Recipients

Baltimore City residents enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) can earn \$30 per month to purchase fruits and vegetables when they shop online with a participating grocery store. After spending \$5 on SNAP-eligible items, shoppers will receive a \$30 produce voucher in their online account. Visit the [B'More Fresh Voucher Program website](#) for more information.

Discount on Water Bills Available for Certain Households through Water4All

Water4All is a program that offers discounts on water bills for eligible Baltimore City residents. Baltimore City residential households who meet income and certain other requirements are eligible. Visit the [Water4All website](#) for more information on eligibility and to apply.

Buy Back the Block Grants Available for Homebuyers

The Buy Back the Block program provides grants to Baltimore City residents who rent and purchase a home within the grant-eligible Baltimore City area. These grants do not require repayment.

The \$10,000 “Home Purchase” grant reduces upfront costs for purchasing a home, while the \$20,000 “Home Purchase and Renovation” grant reduces upfront costs if you are renovating in addition to purchasing a home. To find out if you are eligible, visit the [Buy Back the Block website](#). Information about this program in [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Korean](#), and [French](#).



LOCAL EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Lawyer in the Library: Immigration Information

Legal practitioners from Just Neighbors and World Relief will be available to speak with individuals seeking information on immigration-related matters. Practitioners can provide general information on basic immigration-related inquiries, distribute informational materials, provide referrals, and more. Services will be available in Spanish.

These sessions are hosted at the Southeast Anchor Library (3601 Eastern Ave.), every other Wednesday from 11 AM to 2 PM, with upcoming dates on **March 12** and **March 26**.



Afghan Support to School Impact Scholarship

Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) is partnering with the Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees to administer the Afghan Support to School Impact Scholarship (AS2SI). Offered to the immigrant Afghan population throughout Maryland, this scholarship provides a chance for youth and young adults to advance their education and job training. To find more information and apply, visit [BCCC's website](#).

[Apply to the AS2SI Scholarship](#)



Community Assistance Network's Community Choice Pantry

If you live in certain Baltimore City zip codes and meet income requirements, you are eligible to pick up pantry food from the Community Assistance Network (CAN)'s Community Choice Pantry at the Garden Village Community Center on **March 11** from 11 AM to 2 PM. Check if you live in an eligible zip code on [this flyer](#) and check your income eligibility on [CAN's website](#). A Spanish interpreter is available on site.

Centro SOL Free Distribution of Fresh Produce

Centro SOL, in partnership with the City of Baltimore and Common Market, provides free distributions of fresh produce once a month on Wednesday mornings before noon at 5215 Wright Ave, Baltimore, MD 21205. The next distribution date is **March 19**.

Centro SOL Embajadores de Salud

Weekly on Saturday mornings, Centro SOL hosts Embajadores de Salud, a free health education program to promote healthy lifestyles that are also culturally conscious. Each participant-centered session includes presentations, workshops, and physical activities. Sessions are held in Spanish for the entire family. Find more information on [Centro SOL's website](#), and [register through this form](#) to receive the location and details.

Empowering Communities for a Sustainable Future

Join Morgan CARES and the Maryland Clean Energy Center for their next Community Power Circuit Meeting. This free event will explore practical ways to save on energy bills, reduce energy consumption, and embrace clean energy practices that benefit your community.

This event will take place **March 27** at 6 PM at the Morgan CARES Community Center, 2101 E Biddle St, Suite 1204. Find more information on [this flyer](#).

Key Bridge Small Business Direct Grant Program

The Baltimore Community Foundation (BCF), in collaboration with the Greater Baltimore Committee, is accepting applications for the Key Bridge Small Business Direct Grant Program. This program provides direct cash assistance for small businesses severely impacted by the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse in March of 2024. Grants will range from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Find more information and the application on [BCF's website](#).

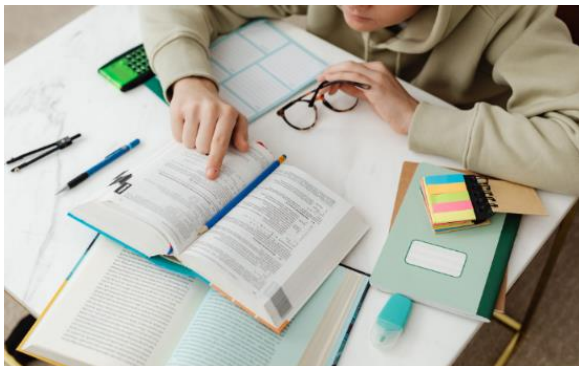


[Apply for a Small Business Grant by March 20](#)

Prince George County's Public Schools Latino Education Summit

Prince George County's Public Schools is holding its 2nd Annual Latino Education Summit, a day of inspiration, learning, and community empowerment, on **March 22** from 10 AM to 1 PM at the Prince George's Community College, Dukes Student Center.

This event will feature workshops, networking, exclusive giveaways, and resources. Patricia De Lima from ElZol 107.9 will present as a special guest, and Dr. Gabriela Lemus, Executive Director of Maryland Latinos Unidos, will deliver the keynote speech. Find more information on [this flyer](#) and register through [this form](#).



Virtual ESL and Other Language Courses through the Enoch Pratt Free Library

The Enoch Pratt Free Library offers free, virtual classes for personal and professional development. These instructor-moderated, six-week online classes can be accessed in all Pratt Library locations and on personal computers with a library card.

New sessions start every month, and courses include [Grammar for ESL](#), [Writing for ESL](#), [Spanish for Medical Professionals](#), and [Spanish for Law Enforcement](#). The next two sessions begin on **March 12** and on **April 16**, respectively.



NATIONAL HAPPENINGS

Judicial Immigration Updates

Lawsuits have been filed against many of President Trump's executive orders related to immigration. Several federal judges have granted preliminary injunctions, which halt the actions in question, against the executive order seeking to revoke birthright citizenship for the children of residents without legal status. Follow the development of these and other lawsuits at the [Just Security Litigation Tracker](#).

Executive Immigration Updates

Pause on Applications from Parolees: In mid-February, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has paused the processing of applications filed by individuals who entered the U.S. on categorical parole programs, such as Uniting for Ukraine, the Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela parole program, Family Reunification Parole). This change impacts re-applications for parole as well as other applications filed by such individuals, such as adjustment of status, TPS, and asylum.



Termination of TPS for Haiti: On February 20, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem vacated a decision by the previous federal administration to extend Haiti's Temporary Protect Status (TPS) by eighteen months. TPS for applicants from Haiti is set to end on August 3, 2025, unless extended.

Expansion of Expedited Removal: DHS has expanded use of "expedited removal," which allows the government to quickly deport someone they believe to be lacking legal status without granting them the opportunity to see a judge. Those being targeted for expedited removal within the interior of the U.S. include those who are neither admitted nor paroled and those who cannot show they have resided in the U.S. for two continuous years. Consult the [National Immigration Law Center's website](#) for more information on expedited removal as well as how to prepare against and your rights in such a situation.



COVID-19 UPDATES

Where To Get Vaccinated in Baltimore City

An updated COVID vaccine for 2024-2025 is now available. This vaccine targets the most widespread strain of COVID currently circulating. Get this year's vaccine for the greatest protection against COVID-19. Visit the Baltimore City Health Department's page for a [weekly schedule of COVID vaccination clinics](#).

**GET VAXXED
WALK-UP CLINICS**

You do not need an appointment to get vaccinated at these walk-up clinics. Vaccines are also widely available in local pharmacies. Search [the national database of pharmacy locations](#) for vaccine availability.

Place Your Order for Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests

As of late September 2024, residential households in the U.S. are eligible for another order of four free at-home tests from USPS.com. Each order includes four individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests. Find more details about at-home tests, including extended shelf life and updated expiration dates, on [this page from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](#).

Orders will ship free. To order free COVID-19 tests, fill out [this form with the USPS](#).





EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- [NEW] [Human Services Assistant](#) | Bureau of Community Health Services, Baltimore County Government | English and Spanish fluency required
- [NEW] [Outreach Worker—Women, Infants, and Children \(WIC\)](#) | Clinical Services, Baltimore County Government | English and Spanish fluency required
- [NEW] [Temporary Branch Office Representative](#) | Taxpayer Services Division, Comptroller of Maryland | English and Spanish fluency required
- [NEW] [Medical Assistant](#) | Johns Hopkins Health System | English and Spanish fluency required
- [NEW] [Medical Assistant](#) | Johns Hopkins Health System | English and Spanish fluency required
- [NEW] [Revenue Cycle Coordinator](#) | Johns Hopkins Health System | English and Spanish fluency required
- [NEW] [Medical Office Assistant](#) | Johns Hopkins Health System | English and Spanish fluency required
- [NEW] [Scheduling Coordinator](#) | Kennedy Krieger Institute | English and Spanish fluency required
- [NEW] [Scheduling Coordinator](#) | Kennedy Krieger Institute | English and Spanish fluency required
- [NEW] [Child Development Teacher](#) | Kennedy Krieger Institute | English and Spanish fluency required
- [Food Ministry Coordinator, Part-Time](#) | Amazing Grace Lutheran Church | English and Spanish proficiency required (scroll to the bottom of the linked page)
- [Administrative Coordinator](#) | House of Ruth | English and Spanish fluency required
- [Student Conduct and Attendance Staff Specialist](#) | Baltimore City Public Schools | bilingual skills required
- [Teacher](#) | Baltimore City Head Start | English and Spanish fluency required
- [Job Readiness and Placement Specialist](#) | Esperanza Center | English and Spanish fluency required
- [Various Bilingual Positions](#) | Baltimore Medical System | *enter “bilingual” in the search field*

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