



Brandon M. Scott  
Mayor

# MIMA



## Monthly Newsletter

### UPDATES FROM OUR OFFICE

**Congratulations to our Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Awardees!** We're excited to honor our 2022 Mayor's Hispanic Heritage Awardees, who have made outstanding contributions toward our communities.

In the category of Emerging Leader, **Morelys Urbano** established the first student organization at Morgan State University to support undocumented students through community awareness, engagement, and support. She has also organized community marches to advocate for immigrants.

In the category of Educator, **Genesis Rosales** is a Spanish teacher at Baltimore Design School who has inspired students through her emphasis on Latin American identity and the African Diaspora. In her free time, she serves as a world language teacher ambassador and a facilitator for the Baltimore City New Teacher Institute.

In the category of Service Provider, **Iveth Campo** has been a Baltimore Medical System community health worker for 15 years, addressing health needs for Spanish-speaking families. She has provided education, resources, and care with respect to chronic conditions, teen pregnancy, sexual health, infant death, and COVID-19.

In the category of Volunteer, **Reyna Becerra** is a first-generation immigrant from Mexico and a dedicated advocate for food justice, supporting food distribution sites hosted by numerous community organizations. Reyna is considered a champion for food access within and for Baltimore's Hispanic and Latino community.



**MIMA**

**ARE YOU A SERVICE PROVIDER OR COMMUNITY ADVOCATE?**

Join this new **WhatsApp** group to hear about and share information about resources in the city for our immigrant and refugee communities.

To join, scan the QR code or go to [bit.ly/bmore-resource-whatsapp](https://bit.ly/bmore-resource-whatsapp)



This year's Delfina Pereda Echeverria Award recipient is **John S. Graham III**, a businessman and lawyer who has practiced for over 40 years. A former member of the Mayor's Committee on Hispanic Affairs and currently president and CEO of Sullivan Cove Consultants, he has built cross-cultural dialogue and understanding while amplifying professional opportunities for traditionally underrepresented communities.

#### Baltimore City Resources WhatsApp Group

Are you a service provider or community advocate? Join the Baltimore City Resources WhatsApp group, a channel for you to share additional community resources, events, and programs, by

scanning the QR code or using the [signup link](https://bit.ly/bmore-resource-whatsapp) (bit.ly/bmore-resource-whatsapp).

### Highlighting our Community Advisory Board (CAB) and AAPI Advisory Committee

Community voices are a crucial part of the work we do here at MIMA. This month, we're highlighting two groups of dedicated community members who help us better serve immigrants, refugees, and those with limited English proficiency in Baltimore City.

#### CAB

This month, we restarted convenings of our CAB, which has overseen MIMA's work and implementation of our strategic plan since 2019. In addition, CAB members have the opportunity to offer feedback to various City agencies and serve as MIMA ambassadors within their respective communities.

#### Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Advisory Committee

Our newest advisory group, the AAPI Advisory Committee was established this year with the aim of advising and advocating for policies and services responding to issues affecting AAPIs—especially immigrants, refugees, and those with limited English proficiency—living and working in Baltimore City. The long-term vision of the group is to nurture a sense of AAPI inclusion in City-level conversations and responsiveness to needs of the AAPI community, with the hope that this community is heard and represented.



## COVID-19 UPDATES

### New Update on Bivalent Boosters for Children 5-11

On October 12, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) **expanded their approval of the updated booster to include children ages 5-11**. If you want your family to be the most protected against COVID-19 this fall and winter season, please get your boosters of this new vaccine!

Here's an update on what to know:

- **Anyone ages 5 and up** who has completed their primary COVID-19 vaccine series (either 1 dose of J&J or 2 doses of Moderna, Pfizer, or Novavax) can receive the new bivalent booster. You can receive **either Pfizer or Moderna** as your booster dose, regardless of which vaccine brand you received in the past.
- You can get a bivalent booster **2 months after** your last dose of vaccine.
- More information about all COVID-19 vaccines can be found in English and Spanish on the [CDC's website](https://www.cdc.gov).

Register for a vaccine appointment by visiting the [Baltimore City Health Department's \(BCHD\) vaccination registration web page](#), available in English and Spanish, or by calling 443-984-8650. Spanish speakers can call and/or leave a voicemail with the Esperanza Center (667-600-2314) to sign up for a vaccine appointment.

#### Testing

Check [MIMA's Facebook page](#) every Monday for the upcoming week's testing schedule.

#### Treatment

If you have tested positive for COVID-19 and are having symptoms, there may be treatment available for you. These treatments are only for patients who are at high risk of severe covid illness. Those who may

be eligible can complete the [Baltimore Convention Center Field Hospital COVID Task Force Adult Patient Telehealth Self-Referral Form](#).

## COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

As MIMA continues to reconnect with community groups, we've had the pleasure of chatting with organizations making change throughout Baltimore. Read more about how they're working to support our Baltimore communities!

Are you a nonprofit organization, ethnic civic organization, religious institution, or other community group interested in meeting with MIMA? Contact us at [mima@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:mima@baltimorecity.gov).



### [Latino Providers Network](#)

The Latino Providers Network manages and coordinates a membership community base umbrella organization with over 70 organizations and 200 individual members that provide direct services to the Latino community in the Baltimore Metropolitan Region in the areas of health, education, immigration, business, employment, arts & culture.

### [Baltimore Digital Equity Coalition \(BDEC\)](#)

BDEC connects committed organizations and individuals to coordinated efforts that advance digital equity and close the digital divide in Baltimore City. Their four main goals include access to devices, greater internet connectivity, digital skills & tech support, and advocacy.

### [Immigration Outreach Service Center \(IOSC\)](#)

IOSC is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to serving immigrants through legal services, health care services, housing information, assistance in finding educational and employment opportunities, and food assistance.

### [Latino Racial Justice Circle \(LRJC\)](#)

LRJC is a nonprofit group that supports the Latino community in the Baltimore area through programs in education, legal assistance, community dialogues, and advocacy.

### [Kids in Need of Defense \(KIND\)](#)

KIND is the preeminent U.S.-based nongovernmental organization devoted to the protection of unaccompanied and separated children. Their work includes legal services, social services, policy and advocacy, and family separation response.

## WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH?

### Survey with an opportunity to win a \$2,500 grant

In-Place by AndAccess is conducting a 30-minute survey for business owners to learn more about the neighborhood, business, and financial conditions that may be putting businesses at risk. Those completing the survey will be automatically entered for a chance to win one of three \$2,500 grants and pro-bono technical assistance. This survey closes on November 13. Learn more at [andaccess.com/inplace](http://andaccess.com/inplace)

### Pads for Pals

Many women in the U.S. cannot afford feminine hygiene products, known as *period poverty*. Pads for Pals is collecting donations of unopened feminine products, which will be distributed to schools and shelters throughout the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. For more information, please contact Ahsia at [padsforpals@yahoo.com](mailto:padsforpals@yahoo.com).

### Grow My Business, Empieza el Negocio de sus Sueños

Grow My Business (GMB) is a 12-session business growth program designed to accelerate women entrepreneurs with existing microenterprises. For more information, see the [GMB flyer](#). To apply, use the [GMB application](#)

Ready to make your dream business a reality? Join LEDC for *Empieza el Negocio de Tus Sueños*, a 4-part series (offered in Spanish) walking you through each step of launching your business. For more information, see the [Empieza el Negocio de Tus Sueños flyer](#). To apply, use the [Empieza el Negocio de Tus Sueños application](#)

### Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) Holiday Career and Resource Fair 2022

On November 17, MOED will be hosting a Holiday Career and Resource Fair at the Baltimore War Memorial (101 N. Gay Street). Those interested in attending the event should complete [Holiday Career and Resource Fair registration form](#) ([bit.ly/moedholiday](http://bit.ly/moedholiday)) by Monday, November 14. For more information, see the [Holiday Career and Resource Fair flyers](#).

Several other hiring events will be happening in the coming weeks. For more information, see [these flyers](#).

### Free Cybersecurity Training and Job Placement Assistance

Baltimore Cyber provides entry level IT/cybersecurity curriculum development, training, and range services at no cost to participants. The 6.5-month course commences with Job Readiness, CompTIA's A+, Network+ and Security+ training, and then continues with command line training and Security Operations Center (SOC) simulation Training. These programs are designed for the unemployed and underemployed entry-level IT/Cybersecurity population. For more information, see the [cybersecurity training flyer](#).



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## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

### BCHD and Civic Works COVID-19 Small Grants

Baltimore's historically redlined communities still experience significant disparities in critical, health-related resources like food, emergency assistance, transportation, and mental health services. The inaccessibility of these resources drives health disparities, including COVID-19 vaccination rates. BCHD and Civic Works are awarding mini-grants of up to \$25,000 to community-based organizations in

Baltimore City to:

- Increase COVID-19 vaccination access and education in underserved communities.
- Expand and improve access to health-related resources.
- Improve the health and well-being of Baltimore City residents.

Applicants who meet the COVID-19 Vaccination and Outreach (COVAX) and Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) mini-grant programs are encouraged to apply to both programs. Applications open on December 5, 2022. Visit the [Baltimore City COVAX Mini-Grants web page](#) for more information.

### Women's Cooperative Fund Catalytic Grant

The Women Cooperatives Catalytic Grant aims to support projects to bring cooperatives to scale by employing Black and Latina Women in Baltimore. For more information about the grant, eligibility requirements, and documents to apply, see the [Women Cooperatives Catalytic Grant flyer](#). To apply, use the [Women Cooperatives Catalytic Grant application](#).

### Small, Minority, And/or Women-owned Business Wage Subsidy Grant

The Small, Minority, And/or Women-owned Business Wage Subsidy Grant offers up to \$18,000 to help small businesses in Baltimore City negatively affected by the pandemic hire employees. For more information, see the [wage subsidy grant terms and conditions](#) or the [wage subsidy grant flyer](#). Those interested can apply using the [wage subsidy grant application form](#) ([bit.ly/SWMB-form](http://bit.ly/SWMB-form)).



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Baltimore City Veterans Day Parade**  
*Washington Monument, 699 North Charles Street*  
Friday, November 11, 12 p.m.

After a hiatus due to COVID-19, Mayor Brandon M. Scott is excited to announce the return of the Baltimore City Veterans Day Parade to recognize the selfless service that millions of Americans have given to our country. The parade will begin at the Washington Monument and conclude at the War Memorial Plaza.

- **Dekabès (Domino) & Kompa with Komité Ayiti**  
*Ministry of Brewing, 1900 E Lombard St*  
Saturday, November 12, 4–9 p.m.

Come out and play Dekabès (dominoes) while enjoying the sounds of Kompa at this free event hosted by Komité Ayiti! In addition to a domino competition for a prize, COVID-19 information will be available.

- **6th Community Forum On Healthy Aging: Staying Healthy, Strong, & Resilient**  
*Zoom*  
Monday–Tuesday, November 14–15

Join the Johns Hopkins Institute for Clinical Translational Research for a two-night event where local residents, patients, scientists, and health care professionals come together for a "real talk" about healthy aging and to share what scientists and clinicians understand so far about living well as we age. Learn more and register at the [Community Forum Eventbrite page](#).

## NATIONAL HAPPENINGS

### Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Announces Parole Program and Expansion of Title 42 Expulsions for Venezuelans

On October 12, DHS [announced a new process that allows Venezuelan nationals and their immediate family members to come to the United States](#), if they have a supporter who agrees to provide financial support. In the same announcement, they note that "Venezuelans who enter the United States between ports of entry, without authorization, will be returned to Mexico." Advocates are criticizing the move to couple the parole program with efforts to expel Venezuelans seeking refuge, [urging DHS to restore access to asylum](#).

### DHS Designates Ethiopia for Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

On October 21, DHS [announced the designation of Ethiopia for TPS](#)—for the first time—for 18 months. Individuals eligible for TPS under this designation must have continuously resided in the United States since October 20, 2022.

### Final Public Charge Rule to Go in Effect

Since the last presidential administration, implementation of the public charge test has changed to allow more immigrants to access the care and help they need. In December, [DHS's final public charge rule](#) will be in effect, restoring the historical understanding of *public charge* that had been in place before the previous administration.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

[NEW] [Self-Sufficiency Program Coordinator](#), Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees (MORA)

[NEW] [Staff Attorney](#), Tahirih Justice Center

[NEW] [Refugee Youth Project Specialist](#), Refugee Youth Project at Baltimore City Community College

[Paralegal \(bilingual Spanish/English preferred\)](#), Public Justice Center

[Economic Development Officer](#), Baltimore Development Corporation

[Bilingual Claims Processor](#), Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth & Victim Services

[Bilingual Housing Counselor. Maryland](#), Latino Economic Development Center

[Bilingual Housing Counselor. Baltimore](#), Latino Economic Development Center

**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 contact [mima@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:mima@baltimorecity.gov).