

CITY OF BALTIMORE

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MAYOR'S OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD
SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT

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Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE) Quarterly Public Report

FY '25 - Quarter 3

Period: January 1, 2025 through March 31, 2025

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MONSE FY '25 Q3

In Quarter 3 of 2025, the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE) looks forward to continuing the work toward full implementation and sustainability of the Comprehensive Violence Prevention Plan. The agency remains committed to prioritizing the co-production of public safety with and for Baltimore as outlined in the City's comprehensive public safety strategy. As MONSE continues further into the Comprehensive Violence Prevention Plan's (CVPP) Finishing Year, the agency is focused on strengthening systems and transitioning initial pilot programs toward full implementation.

Agency Formation and Hiring

This quarter, the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement onboarded staff in the following roles across the agency:

- Deputy Chief of Community Engagement and Opportunity
- Community Violence Intervention Operations Manager
- GVRs Community Partnership Manager
- Community Stabilization Coordinator
- Interns to support Intensive Case Management

Major milestones for the agency during this period include:

- Launched weekly internal coordination process to review homicides and nonfatal shootings across all agency lanes, conduct deconfliction, and further provide tailored responses to traumatic incidents.
- Held the City's annual Vigil of Remembrance to honor the lives of those lost to violence in 2024.
- Helped facilitate a major law enforcement takedown with the Group Violence Reduction Strategy principals in Curtis Bay.
- Kicked off Victim Services Listening Sessions at Safe Streets sites across the city.
- Testified in Annapolis in support of legislation to impose a Firearm Excise Tax with the purpose of funding CVI programming and a bill that would limit the sale of easily modifiable firearms.

- Held a showcase of the community violence intervention ecosystem for representatives from over 30 municipalities visiting as part of the University of Chicago's Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy.

MONSE Quarterly Updates - By Lane

Community Violence Intervention

MONSE's Community Violence Intervention (CVI) team develops and implements strategies to shift the culture of gun violence in Baltimore City, with a focus on partnerships and coordination both with fellow City agencies, national organizations, and local stakeholders. MONSE engages high-risk communities in the pursuit of prevention and intervention in violence that could result in a shooting or homicide.

In this quarter, MONSE's CVI team:

- Supported Safe Streets Shooting Responses in:
 - Park Heights
 - Woodbourne-McCabe
 - Belair-Edison
- Worked to identify a new Community-Based Organization to support CVI operations in the Edmondson Site to improve stability and overall progress.
- Supported and participated in Safe Streets Brooklyn's 3rd annual Black History Celebration at Baybrook Elementary/Middle School;
- Safe Streets took the following initiatives:
 - Safe Streets Penn North held a Grab & Go event to address food insecurity to promote peace in our communities.;
 - Safe Streets Brooklyn held a community walk to spread awareness and the message that gun violence is not and should not be normal.;
 - Safe Streets hosted a resource fair in McElderry Park alongside the Living Classrooms Foundation, with visits and contributions from the University of Chicago's Community Violence Intervention Leadership Academy program;

- Held Day of Service, promoting conflict resolution and peace at Digital Harbor High School in partnership with the Movement Team and students;
- Joined the Movement Team at the Under Armour Brand House to celebrate exemplary Baltimore City School students;
- Partnered with Baltimore City Schools, The Movement Team, and DTLR to celebrate students at Carver at a pop-up event;

Group Violence Reduction Strategy

In January 2022, the City of Baltimore launched the Group Violence Reduction Strategy (GVRs) in partnership with the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) and the State's Attorney's Office (SAO).

This proven strategy aims to address the norms perpetuating violence in Baltimore by focusing resources on individuals identified as being at the highest acute risk of involvement in gun violence.

MONSE's GVRs team works to coordinate all GVRs partners, develop outreach strategies for potential participants, and collaborate with service providers to ensure participants at the highest risk of violence are provided the resources they need to stay safe, alive, and free.

In this quarter, MONSE's GVRs team:

- Supported a major law enforcement takedown, resulting in the arrest of a violent group, with charges including illegal possession of firearms and distribution of fentanyl, following a long-term investigation in South Baltimore.

Victim Services

Every shooting and violent incident leaves behind a web of trauma – for the victim, as well as bystanders, families, neighbors, and even the perpetrators of violence. MONSE's Victim Services team has laid a foundation for intentional coordination with a trauma-informed approach, which is now supported by a fully-staffed lane.

In this quarter, MONSE's Victim Services team:

- Hosted, supported, and attended a series of events to promote the well-being of those affected by violence:

- Held healing event at Walter P. Carter in honor of E’vaa Sewll with partners to promote healing and help staff and young people navigate the untimely loss;
- Observed National Human Trafficking Awareness Day to promote awareness in the city of Baltimore;
- Hosted a Trauma support event on January 24, 2025, in honor of a McDonald's security guard who was killed;
- Held listening sessions to further the work of violence prevention in Baltimore through the sharing of knowledge on how to better leverage and integrate victim services and community violence intervention work in the following Safe Streets sites:
 - Franklin Square;
 - Park Heights;
 - Brooklyn;
 - Cherry Hill;
 - Sandtown.
- Met with the Baltimore Police Department's Victim Services to discuss how to address service gaps for victims of robbery and assault who are not being fully served by the current BPD Victim Services.
- Assisted Councilwoman Odette Ramos with removing a housing barrier for two secondary victims and their children, who have been experiencing homelessness since leaving their home out of fear of being targeted due to a familial homicide in 2020.
- Co-hosted Baltimore’s National Mentoring Month celebration with MENTOR Maryland and DC, where mentoring organizations from the community gathered to share experiences and form new partnerships.
- Hosted UMBC students for an “alternative spring break” panel that focused on bringing together experts from Safe Streets, PeaceTeam, the House of Ruth, the Baltimore City Health Department, and the Department of Juvenile Justice to foster conversation on how the organizations work together to co-produce public safety;

- Anti-Human Trafficking Manager Tom Stack informed the community on tangible ways to decrease human trafficking and address root causes on WMAR-2 News.
- Baltimore's Blue Dot Program assisted in the take down of a sex trafficking ring across Maryland through thorough partnerships between nurses and first responders.
- Supported the implementation of the Doula Project, which trains Baltimore local doulas and midwives to collaborate and provide training to identify abuse during pregnancies in partnership with MedCHI.

Community Engagement and Opportunity

Dedicated to the co-production of public safety in all of Baltimore's neighborhoods, the Community Engagement and Opportunity team partners with residents, community-based organizations, institutions, businesses, and City agencies to stem the tide of violence, while simultaneously unearthing its root causes.

This team leads the agency's collaborative efforts in youth justice, re-entry, community healing, social and emotional development, coordinated neighborhood stabilization response, and other associated work.

MONSE's Community Engagement and Opportunity team has accomplished the following this quarter:

- Partnered with the Indianapolis Tru Colors organization around honest and open dialogue about the root causes of violence and mechanisms to prevent it.
- Held a public re-entry support meeting with Baltimore's Re-entry Action Council (RAC) to discuss re-entry challenges and solutions to decrease the number of individuals who return to incarceration.
- Held Peace Mobile International Women's Day celebration in McElderry Park to support and celebrate women's empowerment;
- Held a Neighborhood Policing Plan dismount and community resource event in partnership with BPD and the Greater Baybrook Alliance.
- In the month of January 2025, the Peace Mobile had a presence in Dunbar on Tuesdays and Thursdays in response to a non-fatal robbery in the area.

Policy and Research

MONSE's Policy and Research team is also responsible for developing and pushing Mayor Scott's legislative agenda as it relates to public safety. This team is also home to the agency's in-house data capacity.

MONSE's Policy and Research team has accomplished the following this quarter:

- Director Mavronis, along with bill sponsor Delegate Mireku-North, Moms Demand Action, Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence, LifeBridge Health's Center for Hope, EveryMind Inc., and Maryland Shock Trauma, provided testimony in support of HB387 - the Comprehensive Community Safety Funding Act.
- Director Mavronis joined Deputy Mayor Anthony Barksdale and BPD to testify in support of HB1287 which would limit the sale of convertible pistols in Maryland.
- Partnered with forensic experts to visit and observe how the Medical Examiner's Office uses forensic investigations to support public safety through data-driven strategies.

Grants and Contracting

MONSE received Board of Estimates (BOE) approval for the following contracts, grant award acceptances, and agreements:

January 8, 2025

- **The Baltimore Ravens – \$150,000 (Term: 11/15/24-11/14/26).** *The Board is requested to approve acceptance of Grant from The Baltimore Ravens, through the Baltimore Ravens Limited Partnership, in the amount of \$150,000, to be paid over: two years, to the City of Baltimore, Mayor's, Office on Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE). The purpose of this grant is to support Baltimore's Gun Violence Reduction Strategy (GVRS), specifically the technical assistance provided by a consulting team from University of Pennsylvania's Crime and Justice Policy Lab.*
- **Performance Incentive Grant Fund – \$278,250 (Term: 7/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board is requested to approve an Award/Acceptance Award State of Maryland for MONSE - Supportive Housing for Returning Citizens in Baltimore City. MONSE has received approval under the Performance Incentive Grant Fund (JRA GF) program to fund a transitional housing initiative to benefit newly returning citizens across Baltimore City. Program funds will provide housing costs*

(to include three months' rent and related security deposits) for 37 individuals during the performance period.

- **Travel Request, Chanel White – \$1,034 (Term: 11/13/24-11/14/24).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a retroactive employee travel request and reimbursement for Chanel White's attendance at the NLC City Summit in Tampa, Florida, from November 13th to November 14th. CoS White attended to join a panel on Baltimore's school-based violence intervention program.*

January 22, 2025

- **Araminta Freedom Initiative, Inc. – \$50,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with Araminta Freedom Initiative, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City's Human Trafficking Program in which Araminta Freedom Initiative, Inc., To begin establishing a drop-in center for survivors of trafficking and youth/young adults at risk for being trafficked.*

February 5, 2025

- **Asylee Women Enterprise, Inc. – \$25,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with Asylee Women Enterprise, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City's Human Trafficking Program in which Asylee Women Enterprise Inc., will highlight and value the experiences and expertise of survivor youth, providing meaningful opportunities for them to develop new skills and engage with the community.*
- **The Tahirih Justice Center, Inc. – \$25,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with the Tahirih Justice Center, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City's Human Trafficking Program in which The Tahirih Justice Center, Inc. to deliver trauma-informed legal and social services to underserved and under resourced immigrant survivors of sex and/or labor trafficking in Baltimore City, and to increase community capacity to respond to the needs of immigrant survivors in trauma-informed ways, towards enabling survivors to access justice, heal, and ultimately thrive in the aftermath of harm.*
- **Let's Thrive Baltimore, Inc. – \$25,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with Let's Thrive*

Baltimore, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City's Human Trafficking Program in which Let's Thrive Baltimore Inc. aims to provide critical support and resources to victims of human trafficking and domestic violence while also empowering youth to take leadership roles in prevention efforts.

- **Drink at the Well, Inc. – \$25,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with Drink at the Well, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City's Human Trafficking Program in which Drink At The Well, Inc. will provide support and security to all of our programming with at-risk, low-income women recovering from poverty related trauma in South Baltimore.*
- **Turnaround, Inc. – \$50,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with Turnaround, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City's Human Trafficking Program in which Turnaround, Inc., aims to provide critical support and resources to victims of human trafficking and domestic violence while also empowering youth to take leadership roles in prevention efforts.*
- **Her Resiliency Center, Inc. – \$25,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with Her Resiliency Center, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City's Human Trafficking Program in which Her Resiliency Center aka Her Resiliency Center Incorporated, to engage women in Baltimore City being sexually exploited at the street level to foster trust and offer issue specific interventions.*
- **Employment Contract, Erin Cunningham – \$6,000 (Term: 10/1/24-9/30/25).** *The Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement is requesting approval of an employment contract for Erin Cunningham, for one year beginning the date of Board of Estimates approval, for 200 hours. Erin Cunningham will serve as a Contract Service Specialist II.*
- **Employment Contract, Darnell Penn – \$7,500 (Term: 10/1/24-9/30/25).** *The Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement is requesting approval of an employment contract for Darnell Penn, for one year beginning the date of*

Board of Estimates approval, for 375 hours. Darnell Penn will serve as a Contract Service Specialist II.

February 19, 2025

- **Uplift Alliance, Inc. – \$25,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with Uplift Alliance, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City’s Human Trafficking Program in which Uplift Alliance, Inc. plans to reduce the collateral consequences of involvement in the criminal and civil legal systems for human trafficking survivors, people who trade sex, and those populations put at highest risk of exploitation.*
- **Safe Exit Initiative, Inc. – \$50,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with Safe Exit Initiative, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City’s Human Trafficking Program in which Safe Exit Initiative (SEI), Inc., aims to provide consistent street outreach services for individuals impacted by exploitation in the sex trade.*
- **City of Refuge Baltimore, Inc. – \$25,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with City of Refuge Baltimore, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City’s Human Trafficking Program in which City of Refuge Baltimore, Inc. will provide vulnerable women who are at risk or devastated by exploitation and slavery with the safety, compassion, and resources.*
- **Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, Inc. – \$25,000 (Term: 10/1/24-6/30/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a Grant Agreement with Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, Inc. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions under which the City will provide a grant award to the Grantee under the City’s Human Trafficking Program in which Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service, Inc. will provide support in removing barriers to justice through free civil legal help to human trafficking survivors, people who trade sex, and those populations put at highest risk of exploitation.*
- **University of Pennsylvania – No Cost Extension (Term: 7/1/21-3/31/25).** *The Board of Estimates is requested to approve a no cost extension with the University of Pennsylvania. The term of the University of Pennsylvania*

Agreement was from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, approved on October 5, 2022. The term of the First Amendment was from July 1, 2021, through March 31, 2023, approved on March 15, 2023. The term of the Second Amendment was from July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2024, approved on September 6, 2023. Now the Provider needs additional time to finalize the work under the Original Agreement and the Parties wish to further amend the Original Agreement to now terminate on and through June 30, 2025, with no additional funds needed.

March 5, 2025

No MONSE contracts appeared on the March 5, 2025 Board of Estimates meeting.

March 19, 2025

- **Travel Request, Thomas Stack – \$192.64 (Term: 3/24/25-3/28/25).** *MONSE requested that the Board approve a travel request for Thomas Stack to attend the Maryland Human Trafficking Investigators Seminar. Thomas Stack, Anti-Human Trafficking and Sexual Assault Response Manager, Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement and has co-sponsored this seminar for the past five years. The MHTIS is also sponsored by the United States Attorney’s Office, Mission 14, Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force, and MAGLOCLN.*
- **Travel Request, Chanel White – \$956.79 (Term: 3/24/25-3/28/25).** *MONSE requested that the Board approve a travel request for Chanel White to attend the Maryland Human Trafficking Investigators Seminar. The Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement has co-sponsored this seminar for the past five years. The MHTIS is also sponsored by the United States Attorney’s Office, Mission 14, Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force, and MAGLOCLN.*
- **Employment Contract, Wanda Carter – \$10,500 (Term: 3/19/25-3/18/26).** *The Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement is requesting approval of an employment contract for Wanda Carter, for one year beginning the date of Board of Estimates approval. Wanda Carter will serve as a Contract Service Specialist II.*
- **Employment Contract, Tarshea Smith– \$6,500 (Term: 3/19/25-3/18/26).** *The Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement is requesting approval of an employment contract for Tarshea Smith, for one year beginning the date of Board of Estimates approval. Tarshea Smith will serve as a Contract Service Specialist II.*