

CITY OF BALTIMORE

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

FY '25 - Quarter 4

Period: April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025

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MONSE FY '25 Q4

In Quarter 4 of 2025, the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE)'s focus continued to be working 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 closes out the Comprehensive Violence Prevention Plan's (CVPP) Finishing Year, the agency is focused on strengthening systems and transitioning 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:

- Chief of Finance
- Victim Services Manager
- Summer Fellow working with the School-Based Violence Intervention Program
- Intern to support Communications

Major milestones for the agency during this period include:

- Launched the annual Safe Streets Safe Summer programming.
- Assisted in hosting a Gun Violence Awareness Month Public Health Resource Fair and gun lock distribution event with hospital partners.
- Celebrated Baltimore Re-Entry Action Council's work as part of National Second Chance Month.
- Held an annual Safe Streets Baltimore retreat to uplift and bring Safe Streets staff together in collaboration.
- Launched the Emerging Leadership Academy for Safe Streets staff to strengthen rising leaders in the Community Violence Intervention (CVI) ecosystem.
- Participated in the City Council budget hearing process for FY26.
- Supported Carver Vocational Technical High School students with interview preparation and job acquisition as part of the school's School-Based Violence Intervention pilot.

- Assisted in the takedown of a violent group operating in South Baltimore through the Group Violence Reduction Strategy (GVRS).
- Expanded GVRS into the Baltimore Police Department's (BPD) Southern District.
- Co-hosted the 2025 B'More Safe Human Trafficking Symposium.

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:
 - Woodbourne-McCabe
 - Cherry Hill
 - Brooklyn
 - McElderry Park
 - Belair Edison.
- Filled additional vacancies at Safe Streets sites.
- Conducted an annual Safe Streets Baltimore retreat that focused on reflection, growth, and healing.
- Supported and facilitated a resource fair for Safe Streets Baltimore staff after their annual retreat concluded.
- Safe Streets and the Community Violence Intervention team participated in weekly meetings to discuss the purpose and implementation of violence prevention plans.

- Met with Dr. Daniel Webster of Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health to discuss the Community Violence Intervention Advisory Board and use recommendations to better inform future decision-making related to CVI work.
- Worked with agency partners to secure funding for and hold a citywide Safe Streets Walk Against Gun Violence.
- Launched the Safe Streets Emerging Leadership Academy to help staff develop leadership, communication, trauma-informed care, strategic thinking, and administrative skills, rooted in the values and framework of Cure Violence and Safe Streets Baltimore (SSB).
- Coordinated a conversation between Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program partners and the Maryland Health Care Coalition Against Domestic Violence.
- Held the 5th Annual Safe Summer Kickoff in Druid Hill Park on June 7th.

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:

- Expanded operations to the Southern District.
 - Supported the hiring of additional mentors and life coaches at Roca and Youth Advocate Programs.
 - Collaborated with the State's Attorney's Office to streamline and improve processes for district expansion.
 - Reestablished the reporting of GVRS subjects (anyone who has been identified as group member involved) to include investigation on group member-involved incidents in addition to homicides and non-fatal shootings.

- Further developed and strategized a plan for stay-away tracking.
- Completed the development of the Integrated Intelligence Plan.
 - Coordinated with the Baltimore Police Department to unify their intelligence communications.
- Advanced and completed the development of the District Outreach Plan.
- Completed the “Service Participant Disengaged Notification”.
- Engaged BPD Neighborhood Coordination Officers with GVRs outreach.

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:
 - Co-hosted the 2025 Maryland Human Trafficking Investigators Seminar in Ocean City, Maryland, and the B’More Healthcare Symposium: Seeing & Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking at Harbor Hospital.
 - Continued to hold Victim Services Coordinating Council meetings with the Baltimore Police Department’s and State’s Attorney’s Office Victim Services teams.
- Supported and assisted additional victims of violence.
- Identified individuals who are not generally considered “high-risk” for experiencing and surviving gun violence and compiled resources to provide for them. Thereby focusing on additional individuals to prevent them becoming higher risk and connecting them to assistance where it may not otherwise be offered.

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:

- Advanced planning for expansion of the SideStep youth diversion program in partnership with BPD through developing an MOU and building out internal processes.
- Held a Fayette Street Outreach Community Day on June 7th as part of our Neighborhood Policing Plan work.

MONSE activated stabilization efforts and community responses in the following areas:

- Cedonia, following a non-fatal shooting involving a juvenile on April 2nd.
 - The Cedonia stabilization effort was closed out on June 26th, 2025.
- Belair-Edison, in response to a youth-involved shooting on May 7th.
 - The Belair-Edison stabilization effort was closed out on June 26th, 2025.
- Kernewood, following a youth-involved shooting that occurred on May 12th.
 - The 45-day stabilization in Kernewood has been closed out on June 26th, 2025, with regular check-ins occurring within the area.
- Pennsylvania/Laurens, in response to a police involved shooting that occurred on June 17th.
- Carrollton Ridge and Edmondson Avenue, following a quadruple-person-involved shooting that took place on June 25th.
- Woodbourne McCabe, in response to a non-fatal shooting that occurred on June 26th.
- Mosher, following a police-involved shooting that took place on June 26th.

Policy and Research

MONSE's Policy and Research team is 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:

- Provided support for the transition to the new Baltimore City Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), co-chaired by Mayor Scott, Baltimore City Circuit Court Administrative Judge Audrey J.S. Carrión, and Baltimore City District Court Administrative Judge Geoffrey G. Hengerer. The CJCC is a coordinated effort of Baltimore City, the Judiciary, the State, and the Federal governments to meet collaboratively to identify, plan, and coordinate solutions for issues that exist and which may arise in the criminal justice system. The Council's Bylaws and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) were finalized and the inaugural bi-monthly meeting was held in May 2025.
- Provided ongoing staff support for the Public Safety Advisory Commission (PSAC), including coordination with the Council President on filling vacant commission member slots. Monthly PSAC meetings were held with strong attendance and engagement.
- Continued ongoing work toward expanding Baltimore's 911 diversion efforts, including stakeholder engagement meetings and the presentation of findings from MONSE's preliminary analysis of 911 call data and parameters of a potential pilot program. The 911 diversion expansion project was selected as one of the FY26 federal earmark requests (\$1.184M) sent to committee.
- Launched program in partnership with Baltimore Witness to include in every Victim Notification Service (VNS) a link enabling victims to connect with MONSE and access the supports and services available through the Victim Services team. In addition to providing important real-time information to Baltimore residents, this collaboration allows our Victim Services lane to reach more victims in need.
- Began preliminary evaluation of the newly launched School Based Violence Intervention Program (SBVIP) based on data from the first year of implementation (the 2024-25 school year).

Grants and Contracting

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

April 4, 2025

- **Mercy Hospital – \$75,000 (Term: 10/01/2024 - 06/30/2025).** *Anti-Human Trafficking Grant*
- **Salvation Army – \$50,000 (Term: 10/01/2024 - 06/30/2025).** *Anti-Human Trafficking Grant*
- **United Way Amendment \$3,143,345.30 (Term: 07/01/2024 - 12/31/2025).** *United Way is supporting MONSE with the management of \$3.1 million in funding to subrecipients from American Rescue Plan Act funds in 2025.*
- **Violence Against Women Act Grant \$250,000 – (Term: 04/01/24 - 03/31/2025).**
- **Performance Incentive Grant Fund (PIGF/PJRA) Grant \$278,500 – (Term: 07/01/24 - 06/30/2025).** *The Performance Incentive Grant Fund has allocated \$278,500 in funding for MONSE. The fund is aimed at providing resources to reduce the amount of people incarcerated both statewide and locally in Maryland through diversion and deflection programming.*

May 21, 2025

- **Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention and Policy via the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) – \$92,800 (Term: 1/1/2025-9/30/2025).** *In the FY of 2025, the Governor’s Office of Crime and Prevention and Policy has granted MONSE with \$92,000 to support MONSE’s school-based violence intervention pilot program.*

June 4, 2025

- **Second Amendment to Subgrant with Let’s Thrive Baltimore, Inc. – (Term: 10/01/2023 - 04/18/2025).** *This Amendment will retroactively amends the Original Agreement to make the effective date retroactive to 10/1/2023, as the Subgrantee rendered the agreed-upon services starting on 10/1/2023. The primary objective of the Let’s Thrive Baltimore program is to divert at-risk youth from gun violence involvement and create positive life changes through a holistic approach that encompasses conflict resolution, mediation, cognitive behavioral therapy, and empathy.*