



Annual Report

JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024



**community
bridges** Empowering Girls,
Building Leaders for the Community



Dear Community Bridges Supporters,

As we reflect on the successes of FY24 and embark on the opportunities of FY25, I am filled with immense gratitude for what we have accomplished together. Community Bridges continues to empower girls from under-resourced communities to become resilient young women who thrive as students, engaged community members, and confident leaders. These achievements are only possible because of the unwavering support from community members like you.

As we move forward into FY25, our mission remains steadfast: to empower girls from under-resourced communities to become resilient young women who thrive as students, engaged community members, and confident leaders. We are excited to build on the momentum of FY24, continuing to expand our reach and deepen the impact of our programs. We know that education and empowerment are transformative forces, breaking the cycle of poverty and creating a future where every girl can achieve her full potential.

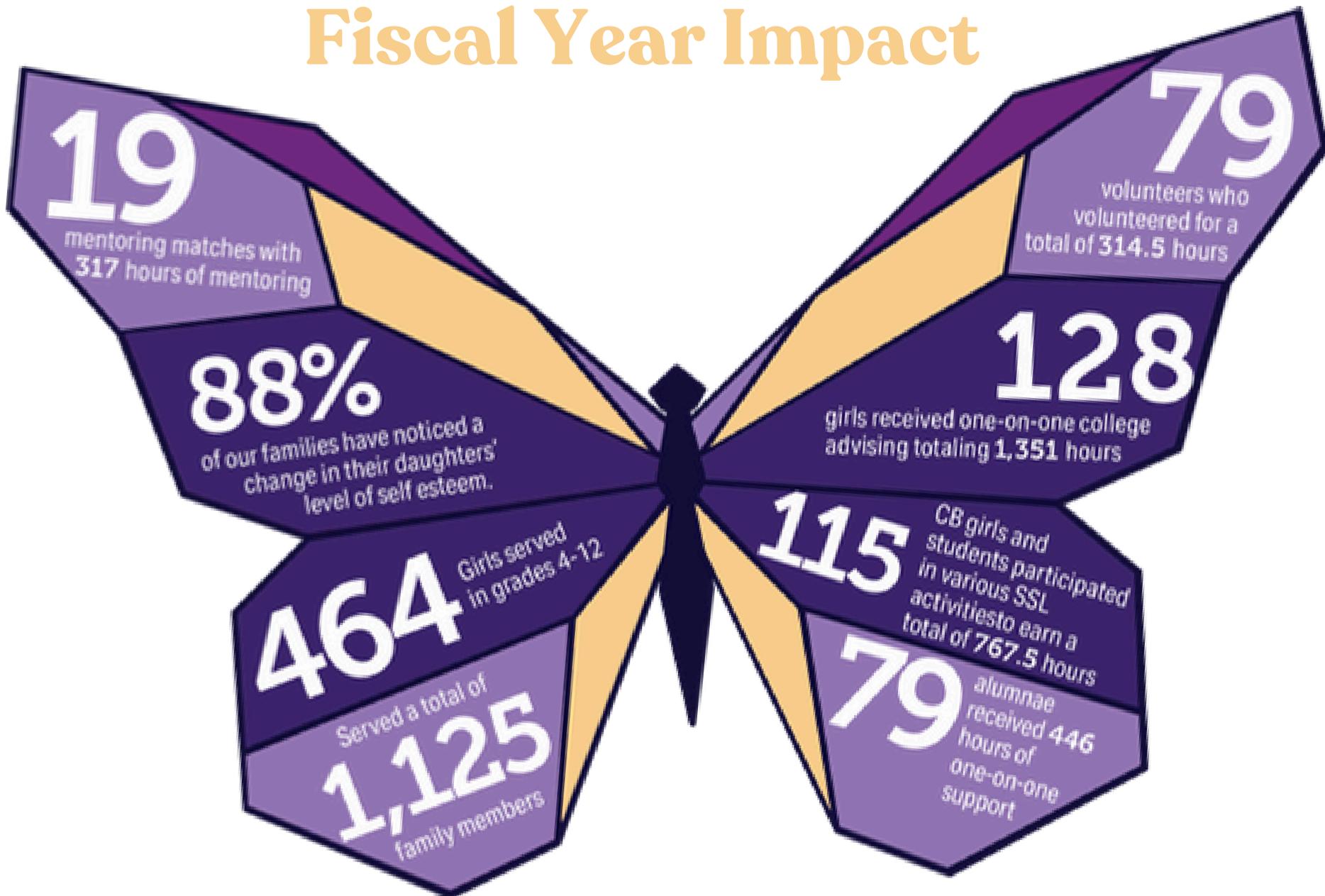
Thank you for standing with us in this journey. Whether through your generous contributions, volunteering, or simply sharing our story, you play a vital role in the success of our mission. Together, we are transforming lives and building a brighter, more equitable future.

With heartfelt gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Babe-Thomas".

*Shannon Babe-Thomas
Executive Director*

Fiscal Year Impact





OUR MISSION

Community Bridges empowers girls from under-resourced communities to become resilient young women who thrive as students, engaged community members, and confident leaders.

OUR VISION

We envision a future where girls are celebrated for their strengths, empowered through equal access to quality education, and equipped to lead with compassion in their communities.

OUR VALUES

- We are committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in everything we do from our girls to our staff.
- Empowerment: Girls and young women have the tools to explore opportunities to actualize their dreams and goals.
- Community-based Approach: CB leverages connections through networking, building bridges, and active listening to provide a foundation for our girls' futures.
- Relationships & Trust: CB builds relationships to create safe spaces for the girls we serve, their families, and communities.
- Respect & Compassion
- Resourcefulness & Resilience
- Holistic Approaches
- Strengths-based Approach





Learning Access Program



15

students served
in Elementary
and Middle
School

140

Total hours of one
on one tutoring
with The Siena
School

35

hours of parent
participation

The Learning Access Program, formerly known as the Education Pilot Program serves the purpose of ensuring Community Bridges participants reach their highest academic potential and are supported with any learning accessibility early on. In FY'24 we continued to expand the program to Community Bridges participants in additional schools. We are currently serving 15 students (1 from the first cohort, 6 from the 2nd cohort and 8 from the 3rd cohort) in elementary and middle school. With the ongoing support of Weinfeld Education Group, serving as parent advocates for our CB families, 4 students were found eligible for an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Community Bridges Girls Program

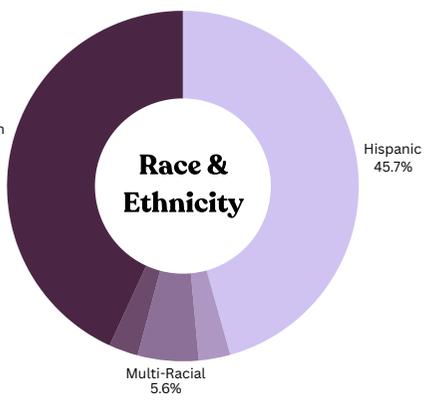


Average of 33 weeks of after-school program sessions

464 girls served in grades 4-12

46 field trips and special events offered

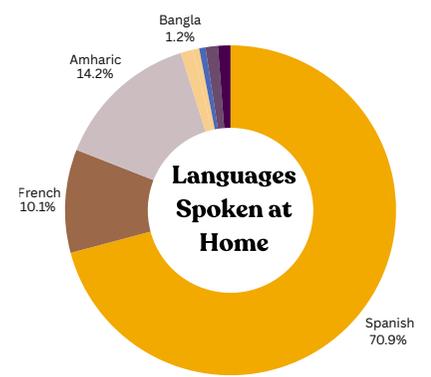
Average of 4,898 hours of participation across all schools



83.84%
of CB girls qualify for free or reduced price meals, an accepted indicator of poverty



96.35%
of CB girls are first-generation



Community Bridges Girls Program

The Community Bridges Girls Program encourages girls in 4th through 12th grades to explore their identity, increase their self-esteem and build their character in a safe and nurturing space. Our integrated programming encourages our girls to lead holistically healthy lives: emotionally, socially and physically.

Monthly Themes

- **September:** School Community Building
- **October:** Team Building, Cultural & Personal Identity, CB Core Values and Norms
- **November:** Self Esteem, Healthy Friendships, Thanksgiving Day Parade
- **December:** Self Care, Multicultural Holiday Celebrations, Empathy
- **January:** Vision Boards, MLK Day of Service, CB elections & Leadership
- **February:** Black History Month, Visits to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)
- **March:** Women's Leadership
- **April:** Substance Abuse Prevention, Career Exploration, Financial Literacy, GLOW Career Summit
- **May:** Health & Wellness, Mindfulness, OTC Rehearsal, End of Year Celebrations



College Access and Success Program

College Access and Success Program: Comprehensive 1-on-1 and group college advising, college application & financial aid application support for seniors, as well as support for students in college.



Community Bridges has helped me through the entire college process. Being first gen and having no idea where to start, it was a big challenge for me. I am very grateful that CB helped me through it: showing me how to request letters of recommendation, structure my essay, complete my Fafsa and Common App, and explaining this process to my parents too.

Karen Gomez Rivas, Loyola University Maryland

Our College Access program is offered in person to Community Bridges enrolled students in Spring of their junior year.

In FY'23, **31** seniors were enrolled in College Access at: Albert Einstein High School, Gaithersburg High School, John F. Kennedy High School, Montgomery Blair High School, Northwood High School, Paint Branch High School, and Springbrook High School.

100% of HS Seniors enrolled in Honors/ AP, IB classes and/or Dual Enrollment

84% of HS Seniors attended a 4-year institution as of Spring 2025

71% of HS seniors are eligible for Federal/MD state aid

65% Earned the Maryland State Certificate of Merit (high GPA /advanced classes)

65% Received the State of Maryland's Certificate of Meritorious Service



\$2,147,621

in Institutional Aid & Scholarships Awarded to our 2024 graduates

Class of 2024 Data Points

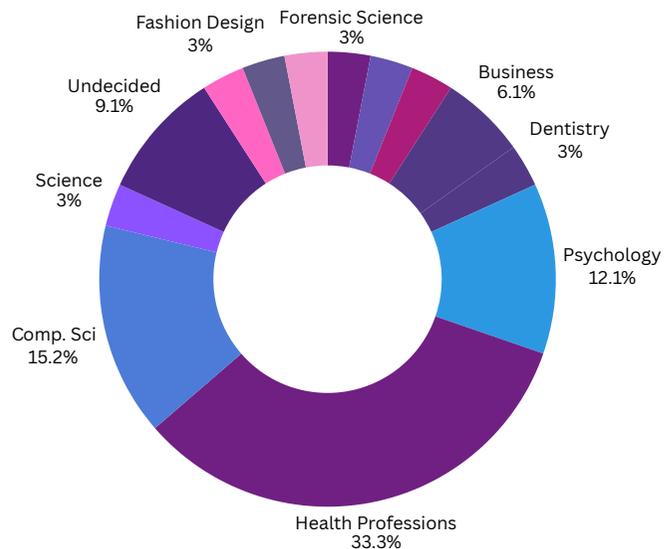


	Number of students provided with One-on-One College Advising	One-on-one hours of College Advising and Support
CB Juniors	18	32
CB Seniors - Access	31	873
College Students - Success	79	446
College Access & Success	128	1351

Colleges Applied & Admitted

- American University, DC
- Catholic University of America, DC
- Drexel University, PA
- Fordham University, NY
- George Washington University, DC
- Hampton University, VA
- Hood College, MD
- Howard University, DC
- Loyola Maryland University, MD
- McDaniel College, MD
- Morgan State, MD
- Mt. St Mary's University, MD
- Notre Dame of Maryland, MD
- PACE University, NY
- Spelman College, GA
- Stevenson University, MD
- Temple University, PA
- Towson University, MD
- Trinity Washington University, DC
- University of Maryland - Baltimore County, MD
- University of Maryland - College Park, MD
- University of Maryland - Eastern Shore, MD
- University of Southern California, CA
- Washington Adventist University, MD

Field of Study



Mentoring Program



The Community Bridges Mentor Program serves as an extension to our core CB Girls Program. In order to fulfill our mission of empowering girls from diverse backgrounds residing in Montgomery County, our mentors come from varied backgrounds. This year each mentor and mentee formed a close relationship with one another. Our mentors truly emphasize the importance of post secondary education and civic responsibility.

317

Total hours mentors and mentees spent together this year

19

total mentoring matches

13

Mentor Program events held for mentors and mentees





CB Family Support

In FY'24 We served **200** unique families through the CB Family Institute (special events and family support) and connections to outside resources this year serving a total of **1,125** family members. CB families participated in events for a total of **429** instances. CB hosted **25** family events where several family members participated.

“Community Bridges has been and continues to be of much support to my daughter. It helps her in her self confidence and meet new girls her age. I think this is a magnificent program because it is of such great help to adolescent girls. It helps them focus on their goals and also helps them learn more about colleges and universities.”

93.75% of our families have noticed a change in their daughters' problem solving skills

87.50% of our families have noticed a change in their daughters' ability to self-advocate

87.50% of our families have noticed a change in their daughters' level of self esteem

81.25% of our families have noticed a change in their daughters' sense of leadership in school and/or community

FY'24 Financials

INCOME

Total Income By Source: \$772,974

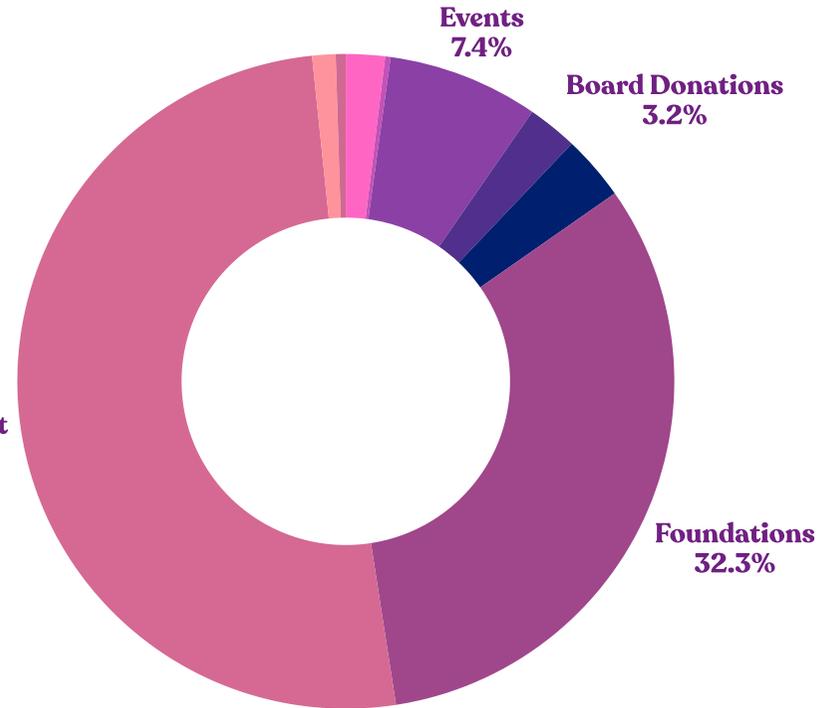
Foundations/Grants: \$237,350
Government Support: \$373,450
Board Donations: \$23,500
Individual Giving: \$18,133
Corporate Donations: \$3,614
Workplace Giving: \$1,957
In Kind: \$8,460
Events: \$54,580
Investments: \$14,082

EXPENSES

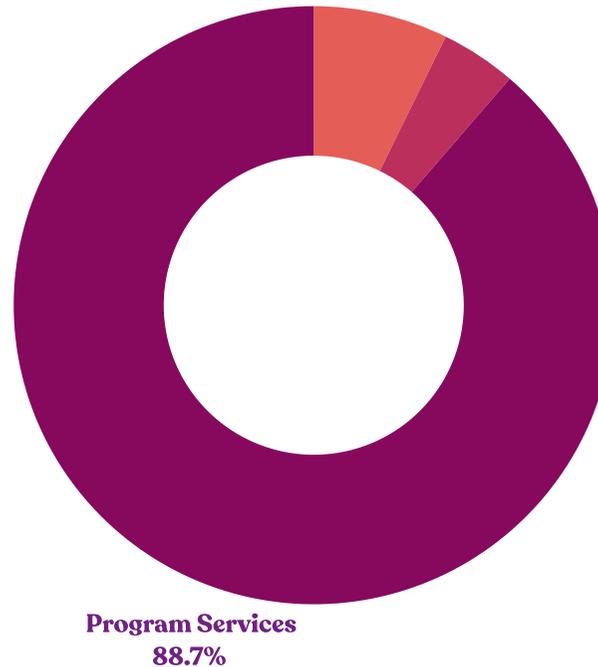
Total Expenses By Source: \$908,837

Program Services: \$805,888
Management + General: \$65,921
Fundraising: \$37,028

**Government Support
50.8%**



**Mgt and General
7.3%**





Board of Directors FY'24

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Partner, PwC

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THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND BEING PART OF THE COMMUNITY BRIDGES STORY!

Contracts, Corporate & Foundations

\$30,000 and above

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Learning Access Program
- Many Hands
- Montgomery County DHHS
- The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation

\$29,000-\$20,000

- Hattie M Strong Foundation
- Healthcare Initiative Foundation
- Milton and Dorothy Sarnoff Raymond Foundation
- Nancy Peery Marriott Foundation
- PwC Foundation

\$19,990-\$10,000

- American Endowment Foundation
- Crimsonbridge Foundation
- Lainoff Family Foundation
- Mitchell Cutler Foundation
- Paul. M Angell Foundation
- Schugar Foundation
- Sharing Montgomery

\$9,999 and under

- All Set Restaurant & Bar
- Almagamated Charitable Foundation
- City of Takoma Park
- DC United
- DIVAS - GWCF
- Fager Family Fund
- GBCC LLC
- Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce
- Joseph W. McCartin Insurance
- La Casita Pupuseria
- Montgomery College
- Nora Roberts Foundation
- Rose and Harold Fund
- Sandy Spring Bank
- Soroptimist International of Montgomery County, MD
- Streamline Management
- TaylorMade Experience
- The Universities at Shady Grove
- Turow-Blumberg Giving Fund
- Verizon

Individual Donors

\$10,000 and above

- Amy Abraham
- Jane DeAngeli & Mark Kindig
- Robin Salomon

\$9,999 - \$2,500

- Catherine Kennedy
- Christine Owens
- Douglas & Mary Beth McDaniel
- Julie Statland
- Margo Reid
- Mary Freeman
- Priscilla Bullock

\$2,500 - \$1,000

- Allison Abayasekara
- Bonnie Hammerschlag
- Carla Reid
- Deirdre Robinson
- Elizabeth Kaplan
- Jennifer Creighton
- Judith Bernsen
- Kenneth Nelson
- Leslie Heyer
- Lorraine Voles
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- Marina Major
- Mr. and Mrs. Bumpers
- Patti Giglio
- Stephanie LaMassa
- Susan & Greg Madden
- The Woman's Club of Chevy Chase
- Theresa Testoni
- Wendy Doernberg & Aaron Goldstein

\$999 - \$500

- Amy Smith
- Barbara Rogers
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- Brooke Butler

- Carolyn Pollard
- Charmaine Matheson
- Deena Barlev
- Elizabeth Keeler & Harvey Meyerson
- Ericka Boone
- Gabriele Wright
- Jeannette O'Connor
- Kelly Jennings
- Shannon Babe-Thomas
- Ryan Thomas
- Zetta Leftridge

\$499 and under

- A.S. Jacobs
- Alan Doernberg
- Alexandra Hohensee
- Alicia Hannon
- Amy Kossoff
- Amy Levner
- Ana Aguilar
- Ann Mullen
- Anna Korban
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- Annie Foster Ahmed
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- Gary H Arlen
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- Godinez Hernandez Family
- Greg Kessler
- Gregory King
- Haddasah Alabi
- Helen Rivera
- Henry Masur
- Holly Fechner & Kevin Mills
- Isabel Argoti
- Jaclyn McGarry
- Jacqueline Samuda
- Jamila Marcus Potter
- Jan Bogrow & John Fleder
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- Janelle Palmisano
- Janice Derr
- Janine Brunson-Johnson
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- Jenn Laskin
- Jennifer Wood
- Jennifer Bears
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- Lucile Freeman
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- Margot Zimmerman
- Maria Elena Singelmann
- Marie Djoko
- Mark Cymrot
- Matthew Wolf
- Mauhickouai Nemlin Koffi
- Maureen Lam
- Maureen Hylton
- Maury Gittleman
- Maxine Martino
- Maya Smith &
- Rick Hoskins
- Melissa Watts
- Molly Knopf
- Molly Kuhn
- Nadia Atcha
- Nancy Wright
- Neil & Linda Burka
- Norah Neale
- Oneyda Mancia
- Orin Schepps
- Pam Feinstein
- Paul Wright
- Paul Lehrman
- Rachel Schiff
- Rashada Jackson
- Rebecca McCabe
- Richard Geier
- Richard & Rita Gollub
- Rod & Ana Godinez
- Rose Oppenheim
- Ryan Rilette
- Samantha Justice Kelley
- Samuel Statland
- Sara Moline
- Sarah Burnett
- Scott Van der Wiel
- Seth Radwell

- Sharon Silverman
- Shawna Melvin
- Shelley Sams
- Stacy Roth
- Susan Horst
- Sydni Flowers
- Tasha Gross
- Thania Torres
- Tiffany Brewington
- Tilahun Asfaw
- Wanda Rose
- Wendy Lance
- Wendy Howard
- Wilsonia Cherry
- Yudith Espinal

In-Kind

- Action Youth Media
- Adventure Park at Sandy Spring
- Alaska Airlines
- Alexis Rice
- Andrea Sherman
- Annie - National Theatre
- Atara Margolies
- Autobahn Indoor Speedway & Events
- Baltimore Center Stage
- Baltimore Orioles
- Barbara Rapp
- Beat the Bomb
- Belen Micheal
- Black Ankle Vineyards
- Bowie Baysox
- Building Museum
- C&O Canal Day and Bus Restaurants
- Cameron Mitchell
- Caren Danies
- Celia Solloway
- Christina Fleps

- Cirque Du Soleil
- Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant
- Cora Ingram
- Crimsonbridge Foundation
- CVS
- D.C. United
- Darcy Tell
- Dana Lane
- Diana Ditto
- DC Bus
- DC Crawling
- DC Spy Museum
- Deirdre Robinson
- Donna Crisalli
- Elite Island Resorts
- Famous Daves
- Farmers Restaurant Group
- FlanCake by Gaby
- Galley Bay Antigua
- Giani Bernini
- Gloria Crowley
- Go Ape Rope Course
- Gourmet Gift Baskets
- Grandstand Sports
- Great Frogs Winery
- Hammock Cove Antigua
- Heidi Landecker
- Imagination Stage
- Joanna Ramani
- June Gardner
- Kathryn Guzzey
- Kate Bollie Vie
- Kathy Flaxman
- Kaylee Peters
- Kelly Thelin
- Kendra Scott
- Kristen Henry
- Laureen H Lee
- Laurie Mical
- Linda OHare

- Linda Wolpert
- Linganore Wineries
- Lisa Marlow
- Los Establos Panama
- Maria Elena Singelmann
- Mary Bahrs
- Melissa Watts
- Meadows Farms
- Michelle Boesche
- Milena Caraballo, Theta Eta Chapter of Sigma Lambda Upsilon
- Mister Car Wash
- Movement
- Mya Taveras
- Myra Ryan
- Mystics
- National Aquarium
- Nancy Wright
- Olney Theatre
- Patricia Robinson
- Pam Blumenthal
- Pineapple Beach Club
- Rita Pin Ahrens
- Round House Theatre
- Sally Miller
- Shauna Smith
- Sheepskin and Alpaca
- Signature Theatre
- Six Flags
- St. James Club
- Strathmore
- Susan Board
- Suzanne Bell
- TaylorMade Gems
- The Club Barbados
- The Vineyards at Dodon
- Theresa Testoni
- Tondalayo Royster
- Union Craft Brewing
- Varuna Salon
- Waredaca

- Washington Nationals
- Washington Spirit
- Wilsonia Cherry
- Wolf Trap
- Yesenia Romero
- Zachary's Jewelers

Volunteers

- Adore Corina Bagasao
- Aggarwal Family
- Alex Marin
- Alexia Constanza
- Andrea Alvarez
- Annie Goldberg
- Ashley Siers
- Becky Martinez
- Beth Zendman
- Charlene Terrell
- Cyndie Shadow
- Debra Liverpool Efrata Obsa
- Elliot Siers
- Erica Ramirez
- Eryn Downey
- Esvin Vasquez
- Greg Siers
- Ingrid Ramirez
- Ishrat Jabin
- Jamila Potter
- Janet Fried
- Jeannette O'Connor
- Jeannette Olen
- Jeff Gunnulfsen
- Jennifer Bonilla
- Jennifer Gunnulfsen
- Jennifer Orellana
- Jocelyn Belmonte
- Johana Solis
- John Moulden
- Julia Osagie
- Karishma Mirchandani
- Karon Phillips
- Kassia Tefera
- Kelly Porter
- Keona Williams
- Kristin Coordinator
- Leo Frankel
- Leoeade Baden
- Lorig Charkoudian
- Marilyn Ramirez
- Marinobi Medrano
- Marsha Seidelman
- Martha Bohrt
- Marilyn Ramirez
- Maya White
- Meg Jimenez
- Mickey Inzany
- Miss Montgomery County & Sister Queens
- Montgomery College
- Montgomery County Commission for Women
- Montgomery County Recreation
- MOST - AmeriCorps VISTA
- Nahun Andrade
- Natalia Argoti
- Odalys Lugo
- One Montgomery Green
- Peter Siers
- Reemberto Rodriguez
- Sarah Benett
- Shelley Sams
- Stella Siers
- Sterling Wilmer
- Strathmore
- Theresa Testoni
- Teresa Campos
- YMCA

Strengthen the future together as a CB family!



Scan to support CB!

\$1,600
\$500
\$250
\$100
\$50
\$25

INVEST IN A GIRL FOR ONE YEAR
MENTOR TRAINING FOR ALL CB MENTORS
FIELD TRIP FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
COLLEGE ACCESS AND SUCCESS WORKSHOP
CB FAMILY WORKSHOP
ENROLLMENT FEE FOR ONE CB GIRL



CB_EMPOWERGIRLS



CB_EMPOWERGIRLS



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