

# AUDACIOUS IDEAS + PRAGMATIC SOLUTIONS

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# LASTING CHANGE FOR BALTIMORE

## OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-BALTIMORE 2011 GRANTS LIST

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### THE VISION

At the Open Society Institute-Baltimore, we have a vision of a healthy and prosperous city, one that provides real opportunity for all children and adults, especially those who live in poverty and are held back because of racial discrimination.

OSI-Baltimore was created in 1998 to find solutions to problems that have challenged numerous urban centers, with the idea that many of the solutions found here could be transferable to other places around the country.

With an advisory board composed of the city's foremost leaders, practitioners, and scholars, and a staff of exceptional professionals who are leaders in their fields, we analyzed the root causes of Baltimore's problems. From there, we identified three interconnected issues that must be addressed in order for the city to thrive in the future. And we set out to find practical solutions to change the status quo.

**Today, we continue to design and implement practical solutions to create a different city. With community partners and policy makers, OSI-Baltimore is developing effective solutions and making lasting change in Baltimore.**

### TO MAKE THIS VISION A REALITY, WE:

- ▶ Help youth stay connected to and engaged with school and on the road to success.
- ▶ Tackle drug addiction by making treatment readily accessible.
- ▶ Reduce incarceration for youth and adults, curtailing the spiraling costs of prisons and jails.
- ▶ Build a growing corps of individuals working on the ground, directly with the community. Over the past fourteen years we have supported the ingenuity of more than 120 Baltimore Community Fellows – dedicated social entrepreneurs and visionaries. They change lives every single day.

# EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



*The Education and Youth Development program aims to ensure that all of Baltimore's children grow to be successful workers, engaged, informed citizens, and supportive family and community members.*

## **ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

**\$40,000** over one year to support its education advocacy program

## **AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MARYLAND FOUNDATION**

**\$75,000** over one year to educate the public about the needs for effective, adequately-resourced public schools to serve all of Maryland's children, particularly those who are poor and who reside in Baltimore

## **BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**\$85,000** over one year to support a project manager to oversee the implementation of an electronic student health record system in Baltimore City Public Schools (funded through allocation to OSI-Baltimore through Open Society Foundations' Special Fund for Poverty Alleviation)

## **BALTIMORE URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE**

**\$90,000** over one year to engage in youth-led advocacy efforts to improve secondary school attendance by assessing and changing peer attitudes and practices

## **FAMILY LEAGUE OF BALTIMORE CITY**

**\$150,000** over two years to provide support for a staff member to coordinate its Extended Learning Time, After School and Community Resource School Initiatives with Baltimore City Public Schools in order to enhance program quality, impact, and sustainability

## **FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**\$120,000** over one year to launch a communications campaign that will reach out to, educate, and motivate City Schools' staff, parents, and students to improve school attendance

## **GLSEN: GAY, LESBIAN AND STRAIGHT EDUCATION NETWORK**

**\$25,000** over one year to help Baltimore City middle school staff create safe and supportive environments for students who are gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, trans-gendered, or questioning their gender or sexual identity

## **GREATER HOMEWOOD COMMUNITY CORPORATION**

**\$70,000** over two years to support the Baltimore Education Coalition's public education and organizing efforts to advocate for adequate resources and reforms of the Baltimore City Public School System

## **MARYLAND DISABILITY LAW CENTER**

**\$65,000** over one year to improve the attendance and engagement of students with disabilities in Baltimore's secondary school

## **PLAYWORKS BALTIMORE**

**\$7,000** over one year to support professional development training for its executive level staff to enhance the sustainability of its programs

## **PUBLIC JUSTICE CENTER**

**\$50,000** over one year to advocate for the implementation of policies and practices that promote educational continuity and academic success among highly mobile students, including homeless students, in Baltimore City Schools

## **SAFE AND SOUND**

**\$116,070** over 15 months to support a collaborative initiative to improve student attendance in Baltimore City Public Schools

## **THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY**

**\$77,000** over one year to support the Baltimore Education Research Consortium's efforts to research and broadly disseminate its findings on the educational progress of Baltimore City Public School students

## **WIDE ANGLE YOUTH MEDIA**

**\$37,600** over eight months to support a youth-led effort to develop compelling school attendance messages and to promote student use of the "Rate Your Ride" texting service to improve public transportation services for Baltimore City Public School students

# CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE JUSTICE



*The Criminal and Juvenile Justice program works to reduce the overuse of incarceration and its social and economic costs and to promote justice systems that are fair, are used as a last resort, and offer second chances.*

## **ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

**\$125,000** over one year to engage in public education and advocacy efforts to support juvenile justice reform

## **ALTERNATIVE DIRECTIONS**

**\$41,000** over one year to engage formerly incarcerated people in grassroots organizing, leadership development and policy reform efforts

## **BALTIMORE ALGEBRA PROJECT**

**\$25,000** over one year to engage in youth organizing and advocacy efforts to stop the construction of a youth jail and to reallocate the funding for the jail to facilities and programs that offer youth opportunities

## **COMMUNITY CONFERENCING CENTER**

**\$75,000** over one year to engage in community conferencing as an alternative to school-based arrests in Baltimore City

## **COMMUNITY LAW IN ACTION**

**\$105,500** over one year to engage in community organizing and public education efforts to reduce the number of youth who are prosecuted as adults and held in adult jail pre-trial

## **EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES OF MARYLAND**

**\$125,000** over one year to provide reentry services to Baltimore Empowerment Zone residents who are formerly incarcerated

## **FUSION PARTNERSHIPS**

**\$100,000** over two years to enable the Maryland Restorative Justice Initiative to engage in grassroots organizing, strategic communications, and advocacy efforts to reform Maryland's parole policies

## **JFA INSTITUTE**

**\$20,000** over 3 months to develop a plan to safely reduce the populations of the Baltimore City jail and Maryland prisons

## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES TASK FORCE**

**\$55,000** over six months to engage in communications and advocacy efforts to reduce barriers to employment for people with criminal records

## **JUSTICE POLICY INSTITUTE**

**\$100,000** over one year to engage in research, policy advocacy and communications efforts to promote criminal justice reform in Maryland

## **LIVING CLASSROOMS FOUNDATION**

**\$125,000** over one year to provide reentry services to Baltimore Empowerment Zone residents who are formerly incarcerated

## **MARIAN HOUSE**

**\$50,000** over one year to engage in the production and public dissemination of a book featuring the successes, struggles and advocacy needs of women who are formerly incarcerated and/or recovering from drug addiction (co-funded with Tackling Drug Addiction Program)

## **MARYLAND OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER**

**\$25,000** over six months to produce and widely distribute informational brochures and handbooks for youth and their families on how to navigate the Baltimore City juvenile and criminal justice systems

## **PUBLIC JUSTICE CENTER**

**\$80,000** over one year to engage in public policy reform and communications efforts to reduce the number of youth who are prosecuted as adults and held in adult jails pre-trial

## **UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FOUNDATION**

**\$75,000** over one year to support the Choice Program's efforts to provide case management and other support services to Baltimore City Public School students as an alternative to school-based arrests, suspensions, and expulsions

# TACKLING DRUG ADDICTION PROGRAM



*The Tackling Drug Addiction program works to increase access to high quality drug addiction treatment for Baltimore residents, especially the uninsured and underinsured. Recognizing that addiction is a chronic disease, the program aims to insure addiction treatment is integrated into the public health care system.*

## **BALTIMORE CITY SUBSTANCE ABUSE DIRECTORATE**

**\$105,000** over one year to initiate and develop a virtual counseling project which will increase treatment adherence and treatment satisfaction resulting in increased continuation in treatment

## **BALTIMORE SUBSTANCE ABUSE SYSTEMS**

**\$89,000** over one year to build the capacity of Baltimore public primary health care providers to identify and refer patients for addiction treatment

## **DANYA INSTITUTE**

**\$86,000** over seven months to train six behavioral health center staff and three "train the trainer" coaches to use the new federal Affordable Care Act to improve the delivery of addiction treatment services in Baltimore

## **MARIAN HOUSE**

**\$50,000** over one year to engage in the production and public dissemination of a book featuring the successes, struggles and advocacy needs of women who are formerly incarcerated and/or recovering from drug addiction (co-funded with Criminal and Juvenile Justice program)

## **MARYLAND ADDICTION DIRECTORS COUNCIL**

**\$50,000** over one year to engage in advocacy and public education efforts to improve and expand the addiction treatment workforce

## **MARYLAND ADDICTION DIRECTORS COUNCIL**

**\$175,000** over one year to provide general support

## **MARYLAND CITIZENS' HEALTH INITIATIVE EDUCATION FUND**

**\$30,000** over one year to fully achieve the goals of the 2010 alcohol tax campaign by ensuring appropriate allocation of new alcohol tax revenue; help guide the state's implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA); and to build a coalition of 250 supporters to raise the state's tobacco tax for health care funding in 2015

## **MENTAL HEALTH POLICY INSTITUTE FOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING**

**\$180,000** over one year to expand access to drug addiction treatment by integrating services at a community mental health center

## **NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG DEPENDENCE - MARYLAND CHAPTER**

**\$150,000** over ten months to provide general support

## **NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG DEPENDENCE - MARYLAND CHAPTER**

**\$125,000** over one year to provide support for the Recovery Leadership Program

## **NATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH NETWORK**

**\$75,000** over one year to support the public education, advocacy and organizing efforts of the Maryland Women's Coalition for Health Reform to ensure that Marylanders have access to a full range of health care services, including comprehensive addiction treatment

## **PUBLIC JUSTICE CENTER (FISCAL AGENT FOR MEDICAID MATTERS! MARYLAND)**

**\$100,000** over two years to ensure that addiction treatment providers have access to accurate and timely information on Medicaid developments and the motivation to engage in related advocacy to expand access to treatment

# BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS



*The Baltimore Community Fellowships program works to meet the challenges facing Baltimore's most needy communities by identifying and supporting social innovators of unusual promise and providing them with the ingredients to ensure their ideas have a stable foundation and long-term viability.*

*In 2011, each Fellow received a stipend of \$48,750 over 18 months.*

## **EMILY DATNOFF**

Emily will establish the Baltimore Deportation Defense Project to help lawyers who represent non-citizens understand the interplay between the criminal justice and immigration systems and effectively represent their clients. She will provide low-cost or pro bono services to represent detained non-citizens in the immigration system.

## **ANDREW GADDIS**

Andrew will build upon the successes of the Charm City Clinic, a free community-based health center that he helped to establish in East Baltimore. Based on the model of the Men and Families Center, a community center that has been serving its neighborhood for over fifteen years, the clinic provides screenings, case management, health education and community outreach.

## **NATALIE KEEGAN**

Natalie will improve and expand upon Kids-4-K9s, an education program that uses the natural bond between children and animals to teach youth to control their anger, find non-violent ways to solve conflicts and increase their ability to empathize. She will bring therapy dogs into two schools to encourage less aggressive behavior among city youth.

## **MAYA KOSOK**

Maya will create an alliance to help urban farmers across the city to gain access to information and resource—such as large equipment, labor and marketing—in a cost-effective manner to increase their productivity and success. The project will help create economic opportunity for city-based farmers with a larger goal of increasing food access and education throughout the city.

## **LARA LAW**

Lara will support a group of youth leaders who are working to establish a comprehensive drop-in resource center for homeless youth and youth who have transitioned out of the foster care system. The young people will be able to use the drop-in center to meet basic needs, such as laundry and showering, to participate in independent living classes taught primarily by their peers, and to apply for government benefits and connect with schools or employment.

## **JILL PARDINI**

Jill will expand and improve upon Soccer Without Borders, a tutoring and mentoring program she founded that uses organized soccer to help refugees and immigrants adjust to life in the United States, do well in and out of school, and stay physically and emotionally fit.

## **JASON REED**

Jason will continue his work with the Curtis Bay-Brooklyn Urban-Agriculture and Stewardship Program, which focuses on community gardening at the Filbert Street Garden. The project will use urban agriculture to improve the health of residents and students in that community, foster community pride, increase awareness of the need for land stewardship and teach participants about good nutrition.

## **LA TASHA VANZIE**

La Tasha will build EVOKU Actualized Global Leadership Experience (EAGLE), a project designed to train underserved youth to design and implement social entrepreneurial community service projects, network with professionals, establish a portfolio of work and travel outside the country. The project, which focuses on leadership and career development, will accept students from across the city.

## SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

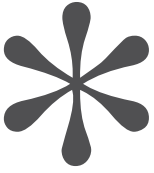
### **ASPEN INSTITUTE**

**\$5,000** over one year to support a Racial Equity and Society Seminar for Baltimore's civic leaders in the fall of 2011

### **THE FUND FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**\$100,000** to provide a portion of the required matching funds for the U.S. Department of Education's i3 award for Baltimore City Public School System's Middle Grades STEM Summer Learning Program

# OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-BALTIMORE



## *Audacious thinking for lasting change.*

*We focus on three interconnected issues that must be addressed in order for the city to thrive. Our goals are audacious, but working with public and private partners, we offer pragmatic solutions.*

### **THE CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAM SEEKS TO:**

- ▶ Increase the number of Baltimore residents who are diverted from the criminal and juvenile justice systems, particularly those accused of non-violent offenses.
- ▶ Promote systemic reform of unfair criminal and juvenile justice policies and practices relating to arrests, pre-trial procedures, sentencing, conditions of confinement, and parole and probation.
- ▶ Ensure that individuals with criminal and juvenile records successfully reenter and reintegrate into Baltimore City.

### **THE EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AIMS TO:**

- ▶ Keep children connected to school: pre-k through graduation.
- ▶ Support school reform efforts to create new schools.
- ▶ Expand opportunities for learning when school is not in session.

### **THE TACKLING DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT INITIATIVE WORKS TO:**

- ▶ Use the opportunity of health care reform to help Baltimore City and Maryland as a whole reach nearly universal access to a comprehensive, high-quality public treatment system.
- ▶ Ensure access to high quality public treatment and related services for those that remain uninsured after the 2014 health care reform implementation.
- ▶ Facilitate the creation of and help to sustain a strong, diverse addiction treatment advocacy community, inclusive of those most affected by substances use disorder services policies.

### **THE BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM CONTINUES TO:**

- ▶ Recruit, select and support dynamic, resourceful and committed social entrepreneurs to become Baltimore Community Fellows.
- ▶ Build an active corps of individuals committed to revitalizing underserved neighborhoods by providing resources for a growing Community Fellows alumni body, now over 120 individuals.

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