



COMMUNITY-CENTERED CAPITAL

## A TRANSFORMATIONAL GRANTMAKING STRATEGY FOR ADVANCING COMMUNITY-BASED SOLUTIONS, COLLABORATION, AND RACIAL JUSTICE

B'More Invested is an exciting new initiative anchored by OSI-Baltimore and Baltimore's Promise. Centering the core values of racial equity, justice, community transformation, and collaboration, this initiative brings together more than 30 community and philanthropic leaders to serve on the Grant Advisory Team and distribute more than \$2.3 million in pooled, private capital.

Most of this funding will be granted to local leaders of color who are working at the grassroots level to reimagine community-serving systems and advance community-based alternative solutions that promote healthy, safe, and thriving neighborhoods. A portion of this funding will be used for the overall facilitation and evaluation of the initiative as well as grantee capacity building and stakeholder education.

The B'More Invested Grant Advisory Team consists of 23 Community Stakeholders and 11 Funders who are eager to test, learn from, and scale promising innovations that tackle the most pressing issues of our city while also addressing the most urgent challenges and limitations of our local systems. B'More Invested will structure its work with an explicit Race Equity and Inclusion frame that governs every aspect of its development and decision-making.

B'More Invested embraces racial justice as a core principle in its funding approach by acknowledging and seeking to address longstanding patterns of underinvestment in local leaders and communities of color. B'More Invested seeks to organize and pool public and private capital to build a foundation for long-term, transformational approaches to community-based solutions and alternate funding mechanisms, while cultivating and supporting local leadership.

[BMoreInvested.org](http://BMoreInvested.org)

## FUNDING ELIGIBILITY



To be eligible for grant consideration, one must:

1

Be a Black leader, leader of color, or collective or partnership led by and prominently representing black people and/or people of color.

2

Lead a grassroots program, campaign, or initiative that serves historically marginalized and disinvested communities in Baltimore City.

3

Possess a proven track record and active community reputation of serving historically marginalized communities in Baltimore City.

4

Demonstrate a purpose and philosophy that aligns with the B'More Invested mission of supporting community-led efforts purposed to deconstruct, reimagine, and rebuild community-serving systems and institutions, and that aligns with one or more of B'More Invested's grant priorities.

5

Preferably, be resilient, persistent groups that are working successfully despite being left out of adequate support from traditional funders.

6

Be deeply respected by local communities and open to using the initiative to explore potential strategies for growth and sustainability.

## Our Focus Areas

The B'More Invested Grant Advisory Team expects to identify and fund efforts to support community-based alternative solutions working to address issues of community safety through the following three approaches:

- **SHIFTING CRISIS RESPONSE:** Community-based alternative solutions and interventions that respond to personal, group, or community crisis in an equitable and restorative manner. Examples include Black food sovereignty to address food access and community mediation to address interpersonal conflicts.
- **STABILIZATION:** Community-based alternative solutions and interventions that facilitate the stabilization and holistic growth and development of people. Examples include workforce development, housing and educational support, coaching and mentorship, and addiction treatment.
- **HEALING AND RESTORATION:** Community-based alternative solutions and interventions that ameliorate the intergenerational trauma and harm experienced by communities at the hands of unjust and inequitable systems. Examples include therapy and mental health support, holistic mind-body healing, trauma-informed care, truth and reconciliation work, and restorative practice.



Learnings from the initiative's pilot phase will be used to inform future iterations of the grantmaking model and be imparted to other local stakeholders to shape broader policy, practice, and local investment.

For more information, visit [BMoreInvested.org](https://BMoreInvested.org)

