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NEWS FROM: GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR CHILDREN

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Contact: Kim Malat 410-697-9245

Governor's Office for Children Announces \$18 Million in Grant Awards to Local Management Boards

Grants Will Fund Programs Aimed at Strengthening Children and Families

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Maryland's Children's Cabinet, through the Governor's Office for Children, today announced \$18 million in statewide grant awards to Maryland's Local Management Boards (LMBs). Located in all 23 counties and Baltimore City, the LMBs bring together resources at the local level to strengthen services to children, youth, and families. These grants will fund more than 100 child- and family-focused programs in Fiscal Year 2018 (June 2017-June 2018).

Through an extensive planning process that involved hundreds of community members in every jurisdiction, the LMBs identified strategies that will address critical needs for children, youth, and families in their jurisdictions. By implementing programs and promising strategies that achieve measurable results, LMBs position Maryland as a leader in developing solutions to issues that have a far-reaching effect for children and families in states and communities across the country.

"We are deeply committed to protecting our most vulnerable citizens, and our Children's Cabinet is working every day to remove obstacles for Maryland's struggling children and families," said Governor Larry Hogan. "From implementing initiatives that connect at-risk youth with job readiness programs to home-visiting and parenting workshops, these grants will assist thousands of families throughout Maryland."

The programs and strategies proposed by the LMBs include interventions for some of Maryland's most vulnerable populations: families and children affected by caregiver incarceration; disconnected youth between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither working nor attending school; children and youth who are food-insecure; and youth who are experiencing homelessness. These interventions represent new

Governor's Office for Children
100 Community Place Crownsville, Md. 21032
410-697-9235
Info.goc@maryland.gov
www.goc.maryland.gov

pathways to opportunities and a push for systemic change that will further Governor Hogan's vision of ensuring an economically secure Maryland for all.

For example, Queen Anne's County plans to help students in grades 6 to 10 who are at greatest risk of school absenteeism, dropping out, or being referred to Juvenile Services. Grant funds will enable the County to match volunteer part-time mentors with these students and work one-on-one with them on a weekly basis and at their middle or high school. The students are supported with academic tutoring, opportunities to visit colleges, and exposure to vocational experiences.

"Maryland's LMBs are the 'boots on the ground' in our communities and the Governor's Office for Children values their unique role in developing local approaches to addressing local needs for children, youth, and families," said Arlene Lee, Governor's Office for Children Executive Director. "It is truly wonderful that these grants will support so many promising programs."

For the full list of grants and programs, please see: <http://goc.maryland.gov/>

About the Governor's Office for Children

The Governor's Office for Children is committed to ensuring that all Maryland children, youth, and families live and prosper in healthy, safe, and thriving communities. The office partners with state agencies, Local Management Boards, and community-based organizations to promote the well-being of Maryland's children, youth, and families.

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