



# Catalyst For Infant Health Equity Grant

Supported by Health Resources and  
Services Administration

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Baltimore HealthyStart Inc



Bmohealthystart



Baltimore Healthy Start, Inc.



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# Purpose

The Catalyst for Infant Health Equity Grant's purpose is to support the implementation of existing action plans that apply data-driven policy and innovative systems strategies to reduce infant mortality (IM) disparities in a specific county/jurisdiction.

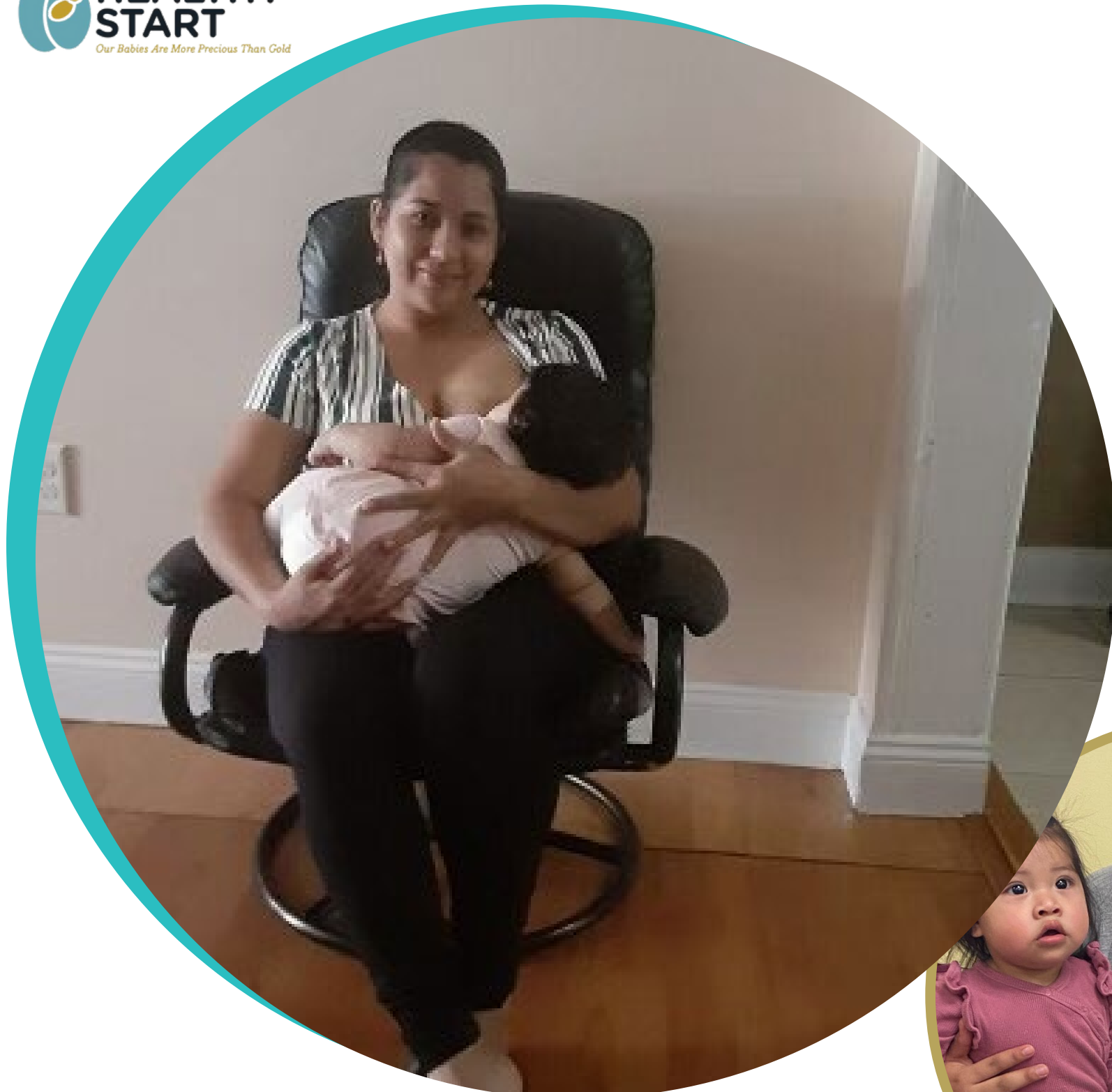
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## What This Grant Will Address

The BHS Catalyst Grant will address housing for pregnant women and families as it relates to the social determinants of health and birth outcomes.

The overarching goal of the project is to reduce infant mortality and the disparities in infant mortality between various racial groups







## Social Determinants of Health Focus

### Social & Community Context

- Improving Capacity & Stability
- Engaging & Strengthening residents

### Neighborhood and Built Environment

Working with landlords to develop healthy housing, walkable communities, and green spaces within proximal needed services

### Economic Stability

- University Courses
- Housing Affordability
- Workforce Development





- Housing Navigators will work with 40 tenants/year and secure affordable and healthy housing within 24 -36 month contracts
- Offer the Housing University to educate tenants on economic/financial literacy
- Provide support to reduce stress and improve housing stability and pregnancy outcomes
- Develop community green spaces and canopies in order to build a more aesthetic environment and promote healing
- Host a landlord/developer symposium to provide information and support to landlords to further healthy development

## Baltimore Healthy Start Catalyst Strategies





## Catalyst Strategies (CONT'D)

- Advocating to make tenant assistance and resources more available .
  - Working with landlords to participate in existing tenant -assistance programs
  - Equipping pregnant women with knowledge and resources through workshops
  - Individualized counselling and eviction prevention grants through housing navigators .
  - In Year 2 & Year 4, media campaigns are planned to raise awareness and sensitivity to the connection between safe and healthy housing and infant health equity .
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## Strategies

All strategies were developed based on the planning grant that the Community Action Network (CAN) received in order to develop the new action plan.

During the planning process the community was engaged through surveys, one-on-one interviews and meetings to determine what they desired in the community to improve housing and the environment







## Our Strategic Partnerships/ Key Partners

- Center For Urban Families
- Family Survivor Network
- Charles Johnson Park
- Unified Services
- Division Street Landscaping
- Baltimore Healthy Start Community Action Network
- Coppin Community Development Corp
- Civic Works



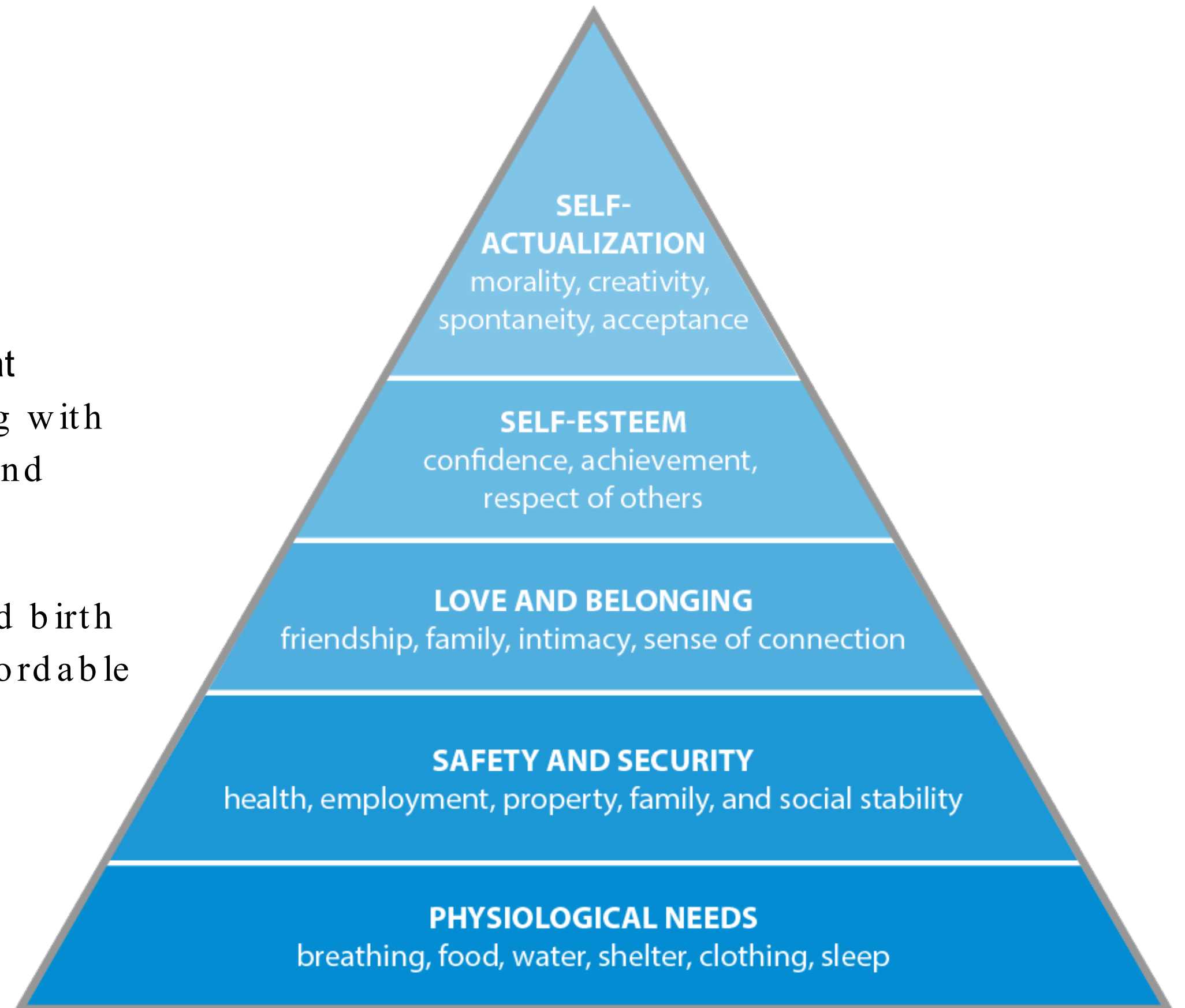


# The Importance of Addressing Housing Affordability

Housing is fundamental to all other success. It is at the base of Maslow's hierarchy of needs along with breathing, water, and food, sleep, clothing, and reproduction

We cannot expect mothers to be healthy and birth healthy babies without safe, healthy, and affordable housing and communities.

We would like set asides for housing dedicated to pregnant and recently postpartum women just as other groups have set asides allocated to them.





# 1 Year Success!

- All staff were successfully onboarded for the Housing University project in January 2023.
- Staff training curriculum and Tenant Housing University Curricula were developed.
- Staff trained/Policies & Procedures were developed January-April 2023.
- Official Launch on May 11, 2023—Ribbon Cutting & Press Conference.
- Currently 44 participants enrolled.





# 1 Year Success! (2)

- Planning Committee Established for Housing Provider Symposium. Date and Venue set.
- Plots identified and applications submitted for adopt-a-lot to secure greenspaces.
- Established partnerships with other agencies within the community to develop and maintain greenspaces/lots.

