



SOUTHWEST QUARTERLY REVIEW

JULY 2026 EDITION

We're Building Community Together.





Welcome Message

Spring was a season of momentum across Southwest Baltimore!

Over the past three months, Southwest Partnership continued investing in housing, supporting small businesses, improving public spaces, and strengthening partnerships that make our neighborhoods more vibrant and connected. From starting a new annual Housing Fair partnership with University of Maryland, to helping new and existing businesses with capital improvements; from securing additional housing renovation and home repair investments to celebrating renovated community spaces—This quarter reflects the collaborative work happening every day throughout our seven neighborhoods.

Thank you to our neighbors, partners, volunteers, funders, and community leaders who continue helping us build a stronger Central Southwest Baltimore. We invite you to explore this quarter's highlights and join us for the exciting work still ahead.

If you'd like to support any of the work we do, especially our neighborhood stabilization efforts, **please consider donating!** Having flexible funds to help repair steps for elderly residents or fence off vacant lots makes a world of difference for our neighbors.

Share Your News With Us!

Have a story, event, or neighborhood moment you think deserves to be featured in a future newsletter? We'd love to hear from you.

Please reach out to Jakerya Randolph, Marketing Manager, at jakerya@swpbal.org to share ideas and help us continue highlighting the people, places, and progress that make Central Southwest Baltimore so special.

Partnership Spotlight: Rebuilding Together Baltimore

Each quarter, we'll spotlight a partner that has played an instrumental role in advancing Southwest Partnership's mission and strengthening our communities.

Since 2020, Rebuilding Together Baltimore has been a valued partner in preserving affordable homeownership and improving housing conditions throughout Southwest Baltimore. Through this collaboration, RTB provides no-cost critical home repairs for low-income homeowners, helping residents remain safe, healthy, and independent while advancing the goals of the Southwest Partnership Housing Action Plan.

This quarter, Rebuilding Together Baltimore is repairing **12 homes** in the **Poppleton and Hollins Market neighborhoods** for families earning below **60% of the Area Median Income (AMI)**. The repairs are expected to be completed by the end of July and are funded through the Housing Authority of Baltimore City as part of the final Choice Neighborhood Grant closeout. Southwest Partnership is proud to serve as the fiscal sponsor for this important investment.

Partnership Impact Since 2020

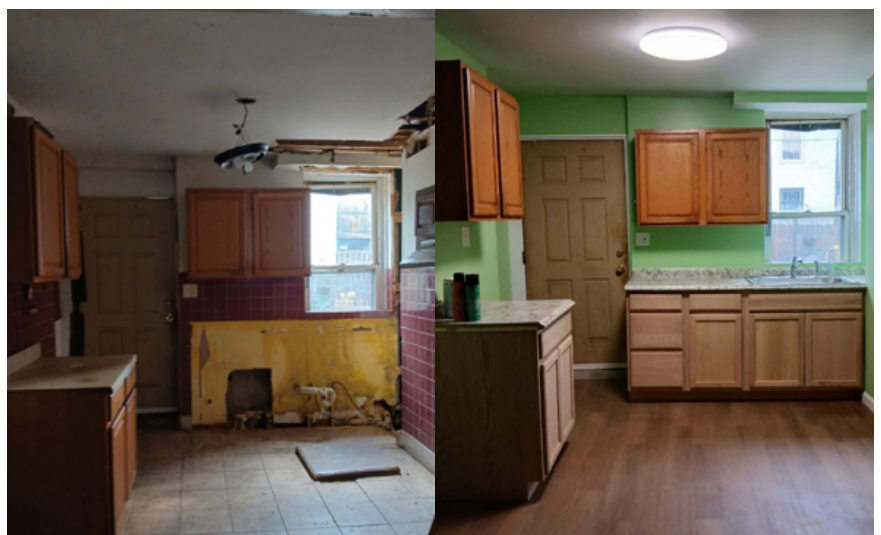
- **133 homeowners served**
- **839 repairs completed**
- **More than \$3 million invested** in Southwest Baltimore homes and neighborhoods

The average homeowner served is **74 years old** and has lived in their home for **32 years**, with many aging in place on fixed incomes or living with disabilities. Repairs have included accessibility modifications, roof replacements, plumbing and electrical work, structural repairs, and smoke and carbon monoxide detector installations.

Together, Southwest Partnership and Rebuilding Together Baltimore are preserving homes, strengthening neighborhoods, and ensuring longtime residents can continue to thrive in Southwest Baltimore.



Map of all homes served within our footprint



Before and after photo of the kitchen of a 65 year old Pigtown homeowner

Housing Development: Building Stable and Vibrant Neighborhoods

Southwest Partnership continues expanding affordable housing opportunities while building long-term partnerships that support neighborhood revitalization.

This quarter, SWP was awarded Community Catalyst Grant funding to support redevelopment efforts on Sargeant Street. At the same time, our housing team successfully acquired its second BVRI property, continuing progress toward bringing additional vacant properties back into productive use.



Construction activity remains underway on James Street and Schroeder Street, while predevelopment work continues on Sargeant Street and Woodyear Street.

Our partnership with Wells Fargo Foundation also continued to grow this quarter, creating new opportunities to expand investment in Southwest Baltimore and strengthen future housing initiatives.

Housing Progress

- Community Catalyst Grant awarded for Sargeant Street properties
- Second BVRI property successfully acquired
- Construction underway on James Street and Schroeder Street
- Predevelopment progressing on Sargeant Street and Woodyear Street
- Continued conversations with Wells Fargo regarding future neighborhood investment



Photo from our Spring, MCIC Inspection

Want to stay up to date on our housing work?
Visit: <https://swpbal.org/housing-program>

Commercial Development: Supporting Local Businesses and Entrepreneurs

Southwest Baltimore's commercial work continues to grow through business support, new storefronts, and entrepreneurship.

This quarter marked the completion of the Commercial Development Improvement Program (CDIP), which invested nearly half a million dollars into strengthening neighborhood business districts. Through this effort, eight existing and new businesses received support, helping activate commercial corridors and create new opportunities for residents and entrepreneurs.

This quarter's celebrations included the first anniversary of Nino & Son's Pizza, a local success in West Baltimore. The community also welcomed Black Cat Bakery, enhancing the neighborhood's small business ecosystem.



Photo of Black Cat Bakery

Southwest Partnership (SWP) also hosted a successful community tax assistance event, with the Cash Campaign of Maryland connecting residents and entrepreneurs with valuable financial resources.

SWP proudly sponsored this year's SOWEBO Arts and Music Festival, providing booths for upcoming businesses in the area, continuing our commitment to neighborhood events that celebrate local businesses and community culture.

Coming Soon: Southwest Entrepreneurship Conference

The Southwest Entrepreneurship Conference is scheduled to be held in October at 4MLK. Planning for this year's event is already in progress, and they are currently accepting sponsorship opportunities, vendors, speakers, and panelists.

Sign up for our Commercial News & Updates list to stay informed!



Public Spaces & Organizing: Creating Safer and More Connected Neighborhoods

Southwest Partnership (SWP) continues creating cleaner, safer, and more welcoming public spaces throughout Southwest Baltimore.

Through Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development, SWP funded and completed renovations at Saratoga Inner-block Park in Franklin Square. Improvements included new sod, fencing, a pergola, picnic tables, and a community garden bed, transforming the space into an inviting neighborhood gathering place.

Residents celebrated the improvements during a June community cleanup, demonstrating the power of neighbors working together to maintain and activate shared spaces..



Photo of site visit with SWP and community partners



Photo of the inner block park after improvements

Meanwhile, alley gating has officially begun in Mount Clare. The first installation, completed with Sparks Quality Fencing, secures alleys surrounding neighborhood anchors like Clay Pots, and complements existing redevelopment work happening through Make Space homeownership rehabs. Additional resident signatures continue to be collected for future installations.

In Pigtown, Southwest Partnership also continued installing decorative string lights and doorbell cameras through the funding from the South Baltimore Gateway Partnership.

These improvements focus on creating safer corridors that connect neighborhood families to Carroll Park and nearby schools.

Get Involved In Southwest



Upcoming Southwest Partnership Events:

SWP Governance Committee - Monday, August 10

The Southwest Partnership Governance Committee will be meeting to discuss upcoming initiatives and improvements within the organization. This is an excellent chance for community members to have their voices heard and to participate in shaping the future of Southwest Baltimore.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Tax Credit Workshop - Thursday, August 13

You could be eligible for valuable tax credits that put money back in your pocket. Join Southwest Partnership and the Cash Campaign of Maryland for a free tax credit workshop where experts will answer your questions, help you understand available credits, and connect you with resources to maximize your refund.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Public Board Meeting - Tuesday, September 15

Join us in person at the UMB Community Engagement Center Conference Room for our public board meeting. This is a great opportunity to engage with the staff and board of the Southwest Partnership while discovering more about our programs and future plans.

[LEARN MORE](#)

To stay connected to these events and more, along with the latest updates, visit our calendar at swpbal.org/events. You can also follow the [SOWEBO Events Instagram account](#), a new collaboration between UMB, SWP, and the West Baltimore Renaissance Foundation.

Know of an event happening in Southwest Baltimore?

Reach out to Jakerya, Marketing Manager, at jakerya@swpbal.org to add it to our shared calendar.



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