



DELAPLAINE
FOUNDATION

THE GREATER GOOD

Fall 2026

A Quarterly Report from Delaplaine Foundation, Inc.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we move into the season of gratitude and giving, it feels like a natural time to pause, reflect and appreciate the people and experiences that have been part of our journey. For Delaplaine Foundation, this



period feels especially meaningful as we continue celebrating 25 years of "Philanthropy for a Greater Good" and look ahead to an exciting and rewarding completion of 2026.

We were excited to welcome the new members of our Board of Trustees, Anne Rollins, Debbie Powell and Arnold Farlow to the table at our Strategic Board Meeting where their enthusiasm and fresh perspectives quickly joined the energy and dedication already shared by our current Board of Trustees, Associate Board and staff. We are so grateful to all of them for their commitment to guide the Foundation and strengthen the work we do together.

One of the greatest privileges of our work is spending time with the nonprofit organizations we support and getting to know the people behind their missions. Site visits take us beyond the grant application and progress report, giving us the opportunity to hear their stories and witness the difference they are making each day. The dedicated people who lead, work and volunteer at these nonprofits are truly the heart of our community! These visits are a wonderful reminder of why we do what we do and you will read about several of our extraordinary nonprofit grantees in the pages ahead.

Twenty-five years is quite a milestone but we are so excited about what comes next. It's been a year of celebration and appreciation as we live out our mission to be "dedicated to the enrichment of communities, families, and quality of life for all!"

With gratitude,

MICHELE CORR



City Youth Matrix families approach the Pride of Baltimore II docked at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine in Baltimore.

Nonprofits Partner to Create Unique Sailing Experience

An unforgettable day was had by City Youth Matrix program participants and their families who enjoyed sailing on the Pride of Baltimore II, a replica War of 1812 privateer schooner, and visiting Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine. After receiving grant funding from Delaplaine Foundation, the nonprofit Pride of Baltimore sought to provide a unique sailing experience to Frederick County residents who might never have a chance to sail on the Chesapeake Bay. When Delaplaine Foundation Board President Marlene Young suggested reaching out to City Youth Matrix, the perfect partnership was forged.

On June 6, 2026, 35 participants, City Youth Matrix Executive Director Aaron Vetter and Delaplaine Foundation Executive Director Michele Corr boarded

a bus to Baltimore. The day began with a two-hour sail aboard the Pride of Baltimore II, where everyone had the chance to become part of the crew, helping hoist the sails, taking a turn at the wheel, learning about Maryland's maritime history and the story of Frederick native Francis Scott Key, and the night he wrote the National Anthem in the harbor. For many, being on a boat was a brand new experience.

The history lesson continued at Fort McHenry, where the group explored the grounds and toured the historic fort, with park rangers bringing the story of our nation's past to life. It was an especially meaningful way to celebrate America's 250th anniversary and create memories that will last far beyond the day itself. One parent remarked, "This was one of the best trips we have been on and

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Delaplaine Foundation, Inc., is a private family foundation based in Frederick, Maryland, dedicated to the enrichment of communities, families, and quality of life for all. We do so by supporting programs to strengthen the arts and culture, educational advancement, health, and human services in Frederick County, as well as historical preservation and spiritual enlightenment in Frederick County and surrounding areas.

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City Youth Matrix kids and families aboard the Pride of Baltimore II.

definitely a core memory for my girls! They were so excited to go and tell their friends at school today about how they got to go sailing and help the crew."

"We were thrilled to see this group participate," shared Pride of Baltimore Executive Director Lori Ferrara, noting that the families from City Youth Matrix were the ideal participants for the sailing experience. Vetter was equally enthusiastic, expressing his gratitude to Delaplaine Foundation and Pride of Baltimore for making the day's events possible for the children and their parents.



Fort McHenry Park Ranger speaks to City Youth Matrix participants.

"Being able to join the families for this incredible adventure was so meaningful to me, but what made it just as special was seeing two of our nonprofit grantees collaborate to create something neither could have done alone," stated Executive Director Corr. "There is nothing quite like seeing a grant come to life right in front of your eyes."



Left, Michele Corr and Aaron Vetter are seen in front of the Pride of Baltimore II. Right, a City Youth Matrix participant gets a feel for the wheel aboard the reproduction 19th century topsail schooner.

Grant funding to first-time applicant Pride of Baltimore II covered the cost of the trip. Learn more about these two nonprofit organizations at: www.pride2.org and www.cityyouthmatrix.com.



Restoration of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Lappans



Ed Maloy, Senior Warden, Ted Delaplaine, Vice President, Delaplaine Foundation, Rev. Dr. Brandt L. Montgomery, Vicar, Michele Corr, and Blair Wilson in front of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Lappans.

The mission of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Lappans, is twofold. Their central focus is ministering to the hearts, minds and souls of their parishioners, to spread the Gospel, and to serve neighbors. A secondary goal is to share Civil War-era stories with the public. Located in Boonsboro, MD, just six miles from the Antietam battlefield, St. Mark's is ideally positioned to illustrate the civilian side of the Civil War to visitors.



Maddox headstone at the St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Lappans graveyard.

The stately stone church was founded in 1849 by local landowner and surgeon Dr. James Thomas Notley Maddox. During the fall of 1862, the sanctuary became a make-shift hospital for soldiers wounded at the Battle of Antietam. Dr. Maddox treated soldiers on both sides of the fight, with local lore claiming many men are buried in his cornfields.

St. Mark's also plays prominently in African American history as well. The church was originally constructed with a "slave balcony" so that enslaved individuals could attend services along with the white parishioners. This balcony exists today in a restored state, complete with replica benches, as a symbolic reminder of the segregation and oppression of enslaved people that existed prior to their emancipation. Additionally, gravestones of both free and enslaved African Americans are found in the adjoining churchyard.

While this beautiful church remains impressive, after 176 years of operation with only minor repairs, St. Mark's is in need of restoration. Prior renovations to install a furnace underneath the church and stairs to the cellar have compromised certain walls of the building. Under



Photo taken from the slave gallery at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Lappans.

the dual funding pillars of historical preservation and spiritual enlightenment, Delaplaine Foundation awarded a \$10,000 grant to assist with foundation repair and electrical upgrades in its 2025 grant cycle.

Restoration efforts remain ongoing. Once complete, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Lappans, will open its doors to welcome visitors for tours of the church and graveyard. If you would like to learn more about the church, its history, or to donate to restoration efforts, please visit: www.stmarkslappans.org.



Celebrating Achievement and the Power of Literacy



Michele Corr is seen with Denise Hill, Executive Director, Literacy Council of Frederick Co., and Josh Pedersen, Director of Grantmaking at Ausherman Family Foundation.

This past July, Executive Director Michele Corr was invited by the Literacy Council of Frederick County to speak at the organization's Celebration of Achievements Dinner. For Corr, the evening was meaningful as she was able to share her own struggles with reading throughout her primary school years. During college she was diagnosed with dyslexia, which allowed her to identify and obtain the support and tools she needed to thrive.

Corr applauded program participants for their commitment to investing in their futures, recognizing the time and

determination it takes to create a better life for themselves and their families. Praise was given to the Literacy Council's staff, Board, and volunteers for the life-changing work they do to help people build confidence, gain skills, and achieve their goals. Current programming at Literacy Council of Frederick includes English as a Second Language, Workforce Services, and Life Skills/Basic Literacy.

Delaplaine Foundation has supported the Literacy Council of Frederick County since 2012.



**DEPLAINE
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Chords of Courage Recognized for its Student Songwriting Camps



Caron Dale, Founder and CEO of Chords of Courage, with Delaplaine Foundation President Marlene Young.

Delaplaine Foundation celebrates the work of Chords of Courage, its founder Caron Dale, and the YMCA of Frederick County for bringing two summer Student Songwriting Camps to life, one for middle school students and one for high school students. At camp, students explored the building blocks of songwriting, from lyrics and melody to verses and choruses. More importantly, they were given an opportunity to use their voices and turn the issues that matter to them into music.

Students tackled topics including bullying, vulnerability, insecurity,

racism, ICE, cyberbullying, animal cruelty, sexual assault and hunger, finding creative ways to start conversations about difficult issues. The camps concluded with students joining to perform the songs they had written together. Delaplaine Foundation President Marlene Young attended and was invited to sing along with the middle-school students as they performed their original composition. Delaplaine Foundation has supported Chords of Courage and its mission to create meaningful learning experiences through music since 2015.

