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January 18, 2019

The Honorable Catherine E. Pugh
Mayor, City of Baltimore
Room 250, City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

The Honorable Bernard "Jack" Young
President, Baltimore City Council
Room 400, City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Mayor Pugh and City Council President Young:

Associated Black Charities (ABC) is pleased to submit reports for September through November 2018 regarding progress of the Baltimore Children and Youth Fund.

The first disbursement of grant dollars has been awarded to 71 grantees; 13 grantees should receive their initial disbursements before the end of January 2019 and one grantee apparently cannot obtain insurance because they are viewed as an advocacy organization. We are seeking a resolution for this one grantee.

As you can see, the overwhelming issue for the delay was related to getting background checks and the appropriate insurances in place. (Per the agreement between the City and ABC, ABC had to assume liability for all grantees.)

Our governance model does not allow us to assume legal and financial liability for actions of organizations we have no relationship to, therefore the grantees had to obtain the required insurances with assistance from the BCYF staff (consultants operating on behalf of ABC) to fulfill the terms of the agreement with the City. This was part of our discussion prior to the completion of the MOU between the City and ABC.

With the assistance of Council President Jack Young's office, Lester Davis is working to schedule a meeting with the Law Department, Finance Department, and Risk Management to discuss this issue and potential solutions for future grantees. This issue of assuming financial and legal liability on behalf of grantees will likely be an issue for the permanent BCYF intermediary once it is established. We believe working together we can find a long-term solution.

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The other challenges for grantees was not having a fiscal system in place thus requiring a fiscal agent. As of this date, all the grantees have a fiscal agent if they do not have this capacity themselves.

Lastly, dates have been solicited to provide briefings to those applicants who were not selected and attached is a copy of the power point for those briefings.

Sincerely,


Diane Bell-McKoy
President and CEO

DBM:ct

Attachments