



News Release

ICYMI: Quotes and Video from Third Annual Bridging Communities Conference

Baltimore, Md. (July 8, 2026) — The Office of the Maryland Comptroller welcomed more than 300 nonprofit leaders, state agency representatives, philanthropic partners, and community advocates to Coppin State University for the third annual Bridging Communities Conference on Tuesday, June 30.

Hosted in partnership with Maryland Nonprofits and the Coppin State University Nonprofit Leadership Program, the conference brought together nonprofit and public sector leaders to share resources, build connections, and explore collaborative strategies to address the challenges facing Maryland communities.

Quotes from the conference:

“Our nonprofit sector plays a dual role in Maryland’s success,” said **Comptroller Brooke E. Lierman**. “These organizations employ nearly 300,000 Marylanders and generate billions in economic activity, while also fulfilling missions that make our communities stronger. This conference helps support these organizations as the businesses they are and as drivers of positive change in Maryland communities.”

“Coppin State University is proud to welcome leaders from across Maryland who are committed to strengthening our communities through service and partnership,” said **Anthony L. Jenkins, President of Coppin State University**. “By bringing together nonprofits, government, and higher education, this conference creates opportunities to

share knowledge, build lasting relationships, and prepare the next generation of nonprofit leaders to make a meaningful impact.”

“Maryland’s nonprofit organizations are essential partners in improving the lives of people across our state,” said **Carmen Marshall, Interim CEO of Maryland Nonprofits**. “As organizations navigate increasing community needs and an evolving funding landscape, opportunities like the Bridging Communities Conference help foster the partnerships, resources, and shared solutions nonprofits need to continue serving Marylanders.”

“Nonprofits are often the first to respond when our communities face challenges, providing critical services that families rely on every day,” said **Senator Antonio Hayes**. “Bringing together nonprofit leaders and state agencies strengthens those connections and helps ensure organizations have the tools they need to continue making a difference in communities across Maryland.”

Access [photos from the event](#).

Watch a [recap video of the event](#).

###

Media Contacts

Renesha Alphonso

ralphonso@marylandtaxes.gov

240-426-6826 (cell)

Adam Abadir

aabadir@marylandtaxes.gov

667-408-0768 (cell)

Comptroller of Maryland, 80 Calvert Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401, United States