



Dear Citizens,

As my administration and the Baltimore City Police Department work to implement my new crime reduction strategy for Baltimore’s neighborhoods, we do so knowing that our contribution is only one part of the solution. To significantly reduce gun violence requires instilling a respect for human life that is missing on the streets of Baltimore today.

Three months ago, I held a series of community meetings with students, educators, community group leaders, and clergy to discuss crime in their communities, and asked them to help find solutions that work in their neighborhoods. My hope was that by bringing dedicated and caring individuals into a room together, great ideas for community engagement would come forth and soon be put into action. I am happy to say that this month we are beginning to see the results of our very productive meetings.

1. For an entire week, Sean Fields and Bishop Reginald Kennedy from Gospel Tabernacle occupied a dangerous street corner with other ministers to send a message of hope to local kids, prostitutes, drug addicts, and gang members.
2. The God and Gang Clergy Summit and ‘Ministers on Patrol’ – led by Samuel Redd in collaboration with the Baltimore Family League, P.U.L.S.E., and other clergy, gathered local ministers to talk about how individual churches can engage their community to reduce gang membership and violence.
3. The “Stop Sinning” anti-violence campaign is organized by prominent minister Dr. Rev. Jamaal Harrison Bryant. Dr. Bryant is using his influence in the community to spread the word of non-violence, and also organized a gun buy-back event.
4. Another anti-gun event, called “Stop the Violence – Turn in the Guns”, was organized by Father Damien Nalapa from St. Gregory the Great Baptist Church.
5. Pastor Albert J. Merritt from Churches in Action, Inc., and Pastor James Mullen from

the Kedesh House of Prayer are organizing community canvassing events in troubled neighborhoods with their congregations.

6. Rev. Sharon Allen from God's Unlimited Power Ministries also organized community canvassing and held candlelight vigils in the neighborhood around her church.

In many ways, we are counting on the people who live, work and worship in the city to turn their frustration and fear into motivation for action. Working along side other dedicated community leaders, I am confident that people can change the culture of their neighborhoods for years to come. We must not give up hope that a solution to the violence can be found.

Year after year, people come to the city in search of new opportunities for them and their families. We owe to them and the other future residents to make Baltimore as inviting and safe as possible. Many have already stepped forward and began working to forge a more promising future for this city, but I know there is more to be done, and people in the communities who can do it. I promise that my administration will support those willing to work to make this city better for everyone.

As always, I am interested in what you think about our plan to make our city a dynamic place to LIVE, EARN, PLAY and LEARN. Please [email me](#) your comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Sheila Dixon
Mayor
Baltimore

Baltimore's LatinoFest

June 23-24, 2007

Saturday, June 23rd, 12:00 Noon – 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 24th, 12:00 Noon – 9:00 p.m.

Patterson Park - Eastern Avenue and Linwood Avenue

Admission: \$5 for Adults – Children Under 12 FREE

Headliner: Fania All-Stars Legend Larry Harlow and His New Latin Legends Band.

For more information, call (410) 783-5404, or visit [LatinoFest](#) online.

Volunteers Needed for Artscape!

July 20-22, 2007

Artscape, the largest arts festival in the mid-Atlantic region, is in need of volunteers like you to make the festival a success! Volunteers are needed in a wide variety of

areas, including the Artist Market, Art Galleries, Family Art Park, Hospitality Areas, and many others.

As a thank you, all volunteers receive one free parking pass, one free t-shirt, refreshments, and access to indoor restrooms and air conditioning!

If you are interested in volunteering for Artscape, please email BOPAvolunteer@promotionandarts.com.

Baltimore Farmers' Market

Sundays Under the JFX

Baltimore Farmers' Market:

Everyone is invited to enjoy this one-of-a-kind shopping experience at economical prices. While strolling the market, guests can revel at the sight of the large quantity of the freshest fruits and vegetables, eggs, a variety of breads from Maryland area farmers, and delight in homemade treats. In addition, food vendors add spice to the market with cultural cuisine, popular pit beef sandwiches, pastries, cheese, and gourmet treats.

Sundays, May 6 - December 23, 2007
8am to sellout, approximately noon

Holliday and Saratoga streets underneath the Jones Falls Expressway

Activities for the Whole Family

Special Events All Around Baltimore

The Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks offers activities for city residents and guests - educational hikes and walks, sports leagues, youth and senior activities, and fun for the family.

Please visit [Rec & Parks' Events Calendar](#) for dates and times.



TV25: How Baltimore sees itself

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