

State Of Maryland

2022 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Minds in Motion Mobile Museum		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Eckardt	Adams	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Wicomico County	\$250,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Minds in Motion Children's Museum - Minds in Motion Mobile Museum		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
8. Special Provisions		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
Senator Adelaide C. Eckhardt		adelaide.eckardt@senate.state.md.us
Melanie Kerber		412-651-2236
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>For five years, a dedicated Board of educators, business professionals and community members have worked diligently to open a Children's Museum in Salisbury. Globally, children's museums have redefined exploration, discovery, investigation, creativity, and engagement, and offer interactive play and great spaces for families to enjoy and spend time together. Minds in Motion is pivoting to provide a mobile museum to travel through Wicomico County. To date Minds in Motion has: 1. Achieved 501 (3)(c) status 2. Developed website and social media platforms 3. Secured grant for feasibility study 4. Established a donor base; raised over \$50,000 in donations 5. Held an annual New Years Day Hot Chocolate 5K fundraiser 6. Been awarded \$15,000 by The Perdue School of Business at SU 7. Secured donation</p>		

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
11/01/2021	12/28/2022	6/15/2022	8/31/2022
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised	16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete	
50000.00	500 at Third Fridays and	5,000 annually	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Minds in Motion Children's Museum P. O. Box 4486 Salisbury, Md. 21803			
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	38B - Wicomico County		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[]	[]	[X]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Jeff Badger, Esq.	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	410-749-2356		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
Long Badger & Sheller LLP 124 East Main Street Salisbury, Maryland 21801			

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
0	10	10000.00	50000.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			No
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	1,073 square feet		
Space to be Renovated GSF	1,073		
New GSF			

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion

2022

28. Comments

The demographics of the Wicomico County School system project a snapshot of challenges. Just under 2/3 of the population qualify for the federal free and reduced lunch program. The district enrollment of 15,000 is the largest on the Eastern shore of the country. Many parents are working in the service industry with long hours and not nearly enough money to support a family. The local funding allocation is the second to the last in the state. Nearby Ocean City leads the state with the most local funding due to all of the revenue from this highly populated and popular vacation resort frequented by 8 million tourists annually.

The rate of literacy and math proficiency in the elementary schools hovers at 35% in both areas. The scores are considerably lower in the underserved and food insecure elementary schools where poor attendance is common. The college preparedness rate is 22%, woefully deficient for graduating seniors. The graduation rate is an anemic 72%, far below the state average. In 2017, the kindergarten preparedness score was 33% of entering five year old students.

This is a dismal portrait of what Wicomico County strives to produce. Students with low grades, test scores, literacy indicators, graduation rates and college preparedness are at risk for a lifetime of poor job prospects, high unemployment or underemployment, low income, substance abuse, self-esteem issues and relationship problems. Such students become adults who are highly dependent on social safety nets of welfare, food stamps, and subsidized housing. They are much more likely to be dependent on society rather than become a contributing society member paying taxes and investing in a community's well-being.

Minds in Motion is doing their part to improve the future for all children, especially those in under-served neighborhoods. Through working with key stakeholders like the state government, we are asking action in approving this bond bill application and offering the needed \$250,000 to fund the renovation of the traveling museum and purchase the displays for school-aged children to enjoy. We are dedicated to cutting a wide geographical swath, going into all rural and lows-income areas. Our visits and activities will peak student curiosity, increase engagement and lead to the development of higher order thinking skills e.g. drawing conclusions, making inferences, developing the persistence to complete investigations, collaborate with others and apply previously-gained knowledge in daily problem--solving.

Children retain information by talking and participating. "The ones doing the talking are doing the learning" is a common classroom mantra. The state legislature has the ability to make a sizeable contribution to the successful development of children and change their lives for the better. This generation of current underachievers are often victims of a system that has failed them. By supporting this bond bill, the approved funds will pay for this bus overhaul. You will not only add to the likelihood of increased educational proficiency of children but also to their confidence and self esteem, increasing the risk for more extensive goal setting. Tomorrow's leaders are in need of rigor in their learning and your actions have the capacity to realize this goal.