



Zeke Cohen

Councilmember

First District

513 City Hall • Baltimore, MD 21202 • 410-396-4821 • ZEKE.COHEN@BALTIMORECITY.GOV

February 9, 2021

RE: Support of SB0299 – Human Services – Trauma Informed Care – Commission and Training

Dear Finance Committee of the Maryland State Senate,

We are writing this letter today to formally support the passage of SB0299—Human Services—Trauma-informed Care—Commission and Training.

This legislation would establish a Commission on Trauma-Informed Care to coordinate a statewide initiative to prioritize the trauma-responsive and trauma-informed delivery of state services that impact children, youth, families, and older adults.

According to data from The Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, 56% of Baltimore's children and 41.6% of children across Maryland have experienced one or more major traumatic events. Left unaddressed, each of these adverse childhood experiences can have a devastating impact on health outcomes and lead to an increased risk of addiction, incarceration, and other risky behaviors.

The CDC used survey data from more than 144,000 adults from 25 states and found that 60% reported at least one bad childhood experience. One in six people across the United States has experienced four or more kinds of adverse childhood experiences. Women, American Indian and Alaskan Natives, and African Americans were more likely to experience four or more of these experiences.

Trauma is often looked at as a problem of inner-city neighborhoods and poor families—but trauma is not isolated to one area of the state, and in reality, we all likely know somebody who has experienced a traumatic experience. More so, given these statistics, it is very likely that state employees who work with and serve the public, are serving people who have indeed, experienced some form of trauma in their own lives.

Locally, in Baltimore, many people are already working on initiatives. We have worked to turn Baltimore into a trauma-responsive city by passing very similar legislation at the local level, the Elijah Cummings Healing City Act. Mayor Scott, his cabinet, and their staff as well as City Council members and their staff have all begun training. Training in city agencies is set to begin soon. Schools throughout the city use restorative practices to help students work through their behavioral issues rather than punishing them. We encourage other communities in the state to adopt similar strategies.

We support this legislation as a step toward the state of Maryland becoming a trauma-informed state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zeke Cohen".

Councilmember Zeke Cohen



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INDIVIDUAL SIGN ON

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Street Address</u>	<u>Zip Code</u>
Jessica	Fauntleroy	4017 Cranston Avenue	21229
Desyree	Dixon	1534 Bolton Street	21217
Donna	Bruce	5A Crismers Court	21207
Tracy	Bale	236 E. Montgomery St. The Shriver Center, 1000 Hilltop Circle	21230
Eric	Ford	928 E. North Avenue	21250
Annette	March-Grier	2121 Windsor Garden Lane	21202
Yahtiley	Phoenix	3609 Woodlea Ave	21207
Monica	Guerrero Vazquez	2233 Orleans St	21214
Tiffinee	Scott	3 South Potomac Street	21231
Meredith	Lonberger	28 Neves Ct	21224
Chanei	Clemons	1329 Roland Heights Ave.	21234
Blake	Maciel	1223 Oakhurst Place	21211
Angela	Waddell	4940 Eastern Avenue	21216
Panagis	Galiatsatos	3605 GIBBONS AVE	21224
Mark	Jews	3329 Noble Street	21214
Melissa	Buckley	3204 Brightwood Avenue	21224
Charnell	Covert	912 Western Run Road	21207
Susan	Magsamen Batkis, LCSW- C,MPM,QBS	600 N Wolfe St	21030
Donna	Cook-Thomas	835 Wildwood Parkway	21287
Jessica	Bridgford	136 Garden Ridge Road	21229
Erricka	Gavin	1708 W. Rogers Ave.	21228
Lindsay	Gilliam	1012 Argonne Dr.	21209
Christa	Bucknor	3001 East Drive	21218
Sharon	Cobbs	4918 Villa Point Drive	21217
Nikki	Bone	6007 Hunt Club Lane	21001
Lee	Nunez	6007 Hunt Club Lane	21210
Israel	Turner	1738 Wentworth Ave.	21234
Jamal	Feldman	5210 Sipple Ave	21206
Dara	Randolph	11223 Orleans Way	20895
Jakerya	Venza	15 Charles Plz Apt 605	21201
Angela	Holmes	6005 Ready Avenue	21212
Neatrice		6149 PARKWAY DRIVE FL#1 205 Goodwood Gardens, Baltimore, MD	21212
Peter	Bain		21210
Ngina	Victor	5114 The Alameda	21239
KaeShawn	Stewart	701 George Street	21201
Sarah	Smith	427 George Street	21201
Elizabeth	Getzoff	1708 West Rogers Ave	21201



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ORGANIZATION SIGN ON

Jessica	Fauntleroy	4017 Cranston Avenue	21229	Restoring Destiny Mental Health Services
Desyree	Dixon	1534 Bolton Street	21217	Bolton Therapy & Wellness
Donna	Bruce	5A Crismers Court The Shriver Center,	21207	Donna Bruce
Eric	Ford	1000 Hilltop Circle	21250	The Choice Program at UMBC
Annette	March-Grier	928 E. North Avenue 2121 Windsor Garden Lane	21202	Roberta's House Inc.
Yahtiley	Phoenix	2233 Orleans St	21207	MPAC-Maryland Peer Advisory Council
Tiffinee	Scott	3 South Potomac Street	21231	MPAC
Meredit h	Lonberger	3605 GIBBONS AVE	21224	Up2Us Sports Baltimore
Mark	Jews	3329 Noble Street	21214	Holistic Health Counseling and Coaching
Melissa	Buckley	912 Western Run Road	21224	Healing City Baltimore
Susan	Magsamen Batkis, LCSW-		21030	Johns Hopkins Arts and Mind Lab, Center for Applied NeuroAesthetics.
Donna	C,MPM,QBS Batkis,LCSW-	600 N Wolfe St	21287	Johns Hopkins Hospital
Donna	C,MPM,QBS	305 Washington Avenue	21204	Consultas Psychotherapy Practice, LLC
Erricka	Bridgeford	136 Garden Ridge Road	21228	Baltimore Ceasefire 365
Ali	Smith	1014 West 36th Street, Baltimore MD	21211	The Holistic Life Foundation
Dara	Feldman	11223 Orleans Way	20895	Virtues Matter