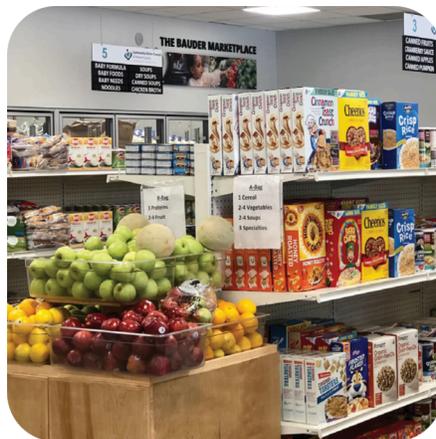




# CORNERSTONE OF OPPORTUNITY

*Strengthening lives. Building community.*



**Community Action Council**  
of Howard County

## WHO: Investing in our Neighbors

Since 1965, the Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC) has stood alongside individuals and working families needing assistance. CAC has been the community's trusted partner during moments of hardship—ensuring children and families have access to the resources necessary to reach stability and independence.

Today, Howard County is a place of opportunity, strength, and prosperity. Yet thousands of working families struggle every day to remain stable. These families must navigate rising housing costs, increasing childcare expenses, and the growing challenge of putting food on the table – basic needs many of us take for granted.

### CAC'S IMPACT SNAPSHOT

LAST 5 YEARS



*distributed more than 6 million pounds of food and served over 25,000 neighbors through nearly 94,000 visits to the Howard County Food Bank*



*made thousands of homes safe and secure statewide through our weatherization program*



*educated over 1,600 children*



*helped thousands of families keep their lights on*

These numbers represent more than demand. They represent families—parents working multiple jobs, children whose futures depend on early education, and neighbors doing all they can to remain stable in an increasingly costly environment.

***Over 40% of CAC's clients reside along the Route One corridor.***

## WHAT: Meeting the Need

Howard County is one of the nation's most prosperous communities, yet thousands of local families still struggle to put food on the table and afford early childhood education. The increasing demand for essential services has outgrown the capacity of CAC's current facilities. What once met the needs of the community can no longer sustain the scale or complexity of today's demand. Without significant investment, CAC's ability to fulfill its mission—and to serve the families who depend on these services—will be limited.

***This moment requires commitment.***

## WHY: This Investment Matters—Now More Than Ever

When families have access to food and early childhood education, children are healthier, parents remain employed, and families build pathways toward independence.

When these resources are limited, families face difficult choices that can have lasting consequences. The Cornerstone of Opportunity Campaign ensures that CAC can meet this moment with the scale, effectiveness, and sustainability required to fulfill our mission.

## WHERE: CAC's Cornerstone of Opportunity Campus on Montevideo Rd

The **Cornerstone of Opportunity Campaign** represents the most ambitious investment in CAC's history: A **\$12 million capital project** to build the Cornerstone of Opportunity Campus. Located along the Route 1 Corridor, this campus will be home to a larger Howard County Food Bank and a new high quality Early Childhood Education Center—ensuring CAC can serve Howard County for generations to come. This area has long been underserved, and it's time for a community commitment to these neighbors.

### An Unprecedented \$12 Million Investment in Community Stability

This investment will allow CAC to:

- ✓ Expand access to nutritious food to families facing food insecurity.
- ✓ Increase availability of high-quality low-to-no cost early childhood education.
- ✓ Serve significantly more families in need of CAC's services.
- ✓ Strengthen operational capacity and long-term organizational sustainability.
- ✓ Ensure access to critical services in underserved areas of Howard County.

*This is more than just an investment in facilities. It is an opportunity for you to play a part in strengthening lives and building communities.*

## WHEN: Now

CAC has purchased the land on Montevideo Road in Jessup, contracted with the architect, and secured the contractor. The project is projected to take 12-14 months.

***When Neighbors, Partners, and Supporters Come Together,  
Every Household Grows Stronger.***

With your generous investment in the Cornerstone of Opportunity Capital Campaign, you're helping us solve current challenges in our community and address the fundamental needs of our neighbors.

**To learn more or to discuss giving opportunities, please contact**

Chris Brandt, Director of Development

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