

State Of Maryland

2024 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Identity Headquarters and Community Center		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
King	Lopez	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Montgomery County	\$1,000,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Identity Headquarters and Community Center property		
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 Nancy King		nancy.king@senate.state.md.us
Hope Gleicher		(301) 803-9321
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>Identity creates opportunities for Latino & other historically underserved youth/families in Montgomery County to realize their potential. Identity serves 50,000 residents annually with social-emotional skill building, academic support, workforce development, case management & community mental health programs all created & delivered with and for community. Identity youth show real improvements in managing emotions, resolving conflict, & speaking up for themselves. Identity co-founded & co-leads the Black & Brown Coalition for Educational Equity and Excellence with the NAACP. Programs/services are provided at 5 school-based Wellness Centers, 2 Youth Opportunity Centers, 20+ public schools & on playing fields across the county. Renovating 620 E Diamond will allow Identity to consolidate & expand services and operations, now spread across several leased properties.</p>		

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

Identity requests funds for shovel ready renovations to a building at 620 E Diamond Ave, Gaithersburg that will function as a community center and as Identity's program & operations headquarters for the 50,000 county residents who benefit from its programs/services yearly. The property is in very good condition. Identity will focus on completing the most critical repairs as quickly as possible to turn the current industrial building into a safe & welcoming community space & begin to move into the building in fall 2024. Renovations will enhance energy efficiency & include essential improvements such as new flooring, replacing damaged windows, new lighting, ADA upgrades to restrooms & kitchens, a new handicap accessible ramp & signage. The building will house workforce development, case management & community mental health, plus programs/services for older youth & parents, & will incorporate indoor & outdoor spaces for cultural, recreational & educational activities.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	
Design	\$160,000
Construction	\$1,140,000
Equipment	
Total	\$1,300,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources - (List all funding sources and amounts.)

MD Legislative Bond Initiative	\$1,000,000
Montgomery County	\$250,000
City of Gaithersburg	\$50,000
Total	\$1,300,000

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
Underway	May 2026	February 2024	December 2026
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	
0.00	0	50,000 youth and families	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
2013	\$130,000	Identity House Expansion - leveling the lot including	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Identity of Maryland A/k/a Identity, Inc. 620 E. Diamond Ave. Gaithersburg, MD 20877		same	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	39 - Montgomery 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:	Beth McIntosh Irving, Stein Sperling	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	301-838-3224		No
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
Stein Sperling 1101 Wootton Parkway Suite 700 Rockville, MD 20852			

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	121	0.00	10230000.00
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?			Yes
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
Grafik Industries	expires 3/31/26	\$11,575/m	11,386
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	23,974		
Space to be Renovated GSF	23974		
New GSF	0		

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

1991

28. Comments

Identity was founded in 1998. Since its earliest days, Identity has focused on assisting students and disconnected youth living in high-poverty areas of Montgomery County, Maryland who are most at risk for poor social-emotional, academic and work-life outcomes. Working with tens of thousands of youth and their families annually, Identity supports their successful transition into adulthood after school, in the community and on playing fields with bilingual and trauma-informed programs. Identity's core values emphasize that young people come first, every child has potential, youth deserve a second chance and community members are full and direct partners in the work.

These bedrock values have given Identity a solid foundation for impressive achievement over the past 25 years. Identity publishes a rigorous annual evaluation which demonstrates its results. Identity youth report real improvements in their ability to manage difficult emotions; resolve conflict; speak up for themselves; (re)connect to school, the workforce and the community; and avoid substance abuse and other harmful behavior. For example, 77% of unemployed, out-of-school Identity youth (re)enroll in secondary or higher ed or become employed; 65% of youth are more optimistic about the future, and 70% report a decrease in substance use. Identity youth show improved school attendance and achievement, and their families report improved communication and more involvement in their children's lives, including in their education, after participating in Identity's programs. Lifesaving safety-net support and caring human connections stave off hunger, homelessness and despair in families during times of extreme crisis.

Testimonies from individuals provide additional evidence of the impact Identity has on the lives of those it touches: I wonder where kids like me who don't have their mothers or fathers here would be without Identity. Thanks to Identity, I am where I am. I am going to college!- Elan, High School Program Participant. They believed in me and taught me to believe in myself.- Lidice, Community Mental Health Program Participant. Thanks to Identity the words fear and uncertainty are no longer in my future. Today I think about my future with joy, security and confidence ... Today I feel capable of achieving many things that years ago, I thought were not for me. - Vanessa B., parent. During the pandemic, Identity offered a lifeline to services and supports for populations that were especially hard hit, so much so that President Biden wrote to Identity Your efforts are not just saving lives, they are helping us get our lives back.

In January 2020 a fire destroyed Identity's iconic original headquarters and community space at 414 E. Diamond Ave. In 2013, a \$130,000 Maryland Bond bill helped to support the leveling of the lot and creation of a parking area. After more than two years of searching, Identity identified the 620 E. Diamond property to become its new headquarters and raised \$4.3 million in private money to purchase it in January 2024. With support from the LBI, Identity can transform an industrial building into a new center to anchor current and future work and be a welcoming space for Latino and other underserved youth and families, as well as the greater community. The project and requested LBI includes design (architectural; structural, civil, electrical, mechanical and plumbing engineering; and landscaping) and construction/renovations.