



**Be More Just,
Abundant, and
Creative!**

**BCYF's Vision for
Baltimore**

2026 Annual City Council Hearing



Your Vote. Your Fund. Your Youth.

BCYF exists because Baltimore voters created it.

A public commitment to ensure stable, protected funding for young people and the organizations that serve them.



BCYF Vision

A Just, Abundant, and Creative Baltimore.

Where young people have access to:

- Opportunity
- Mentorship
- Community support
- Pathways to thrive

Justice



Abundance

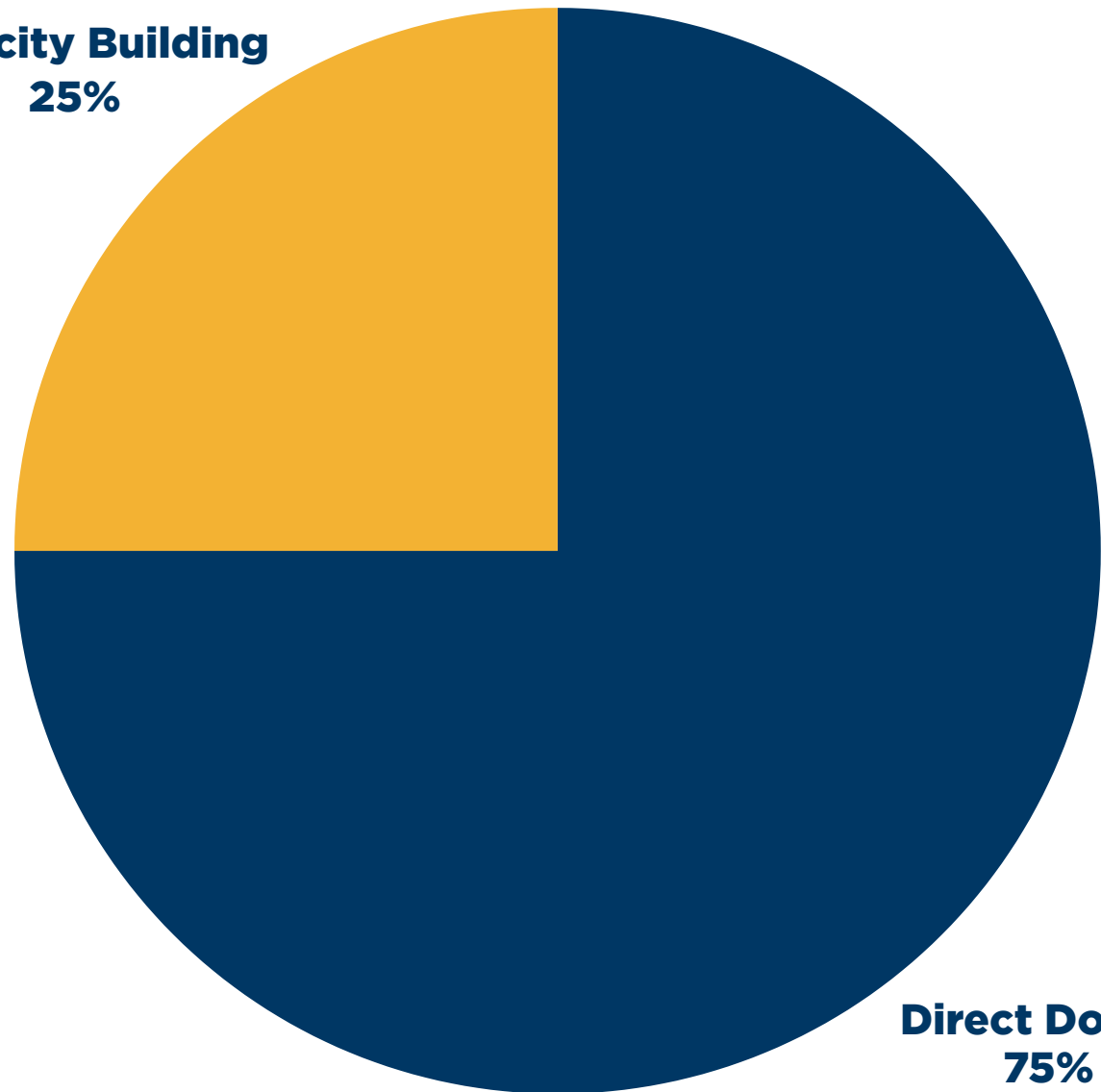


Creativity

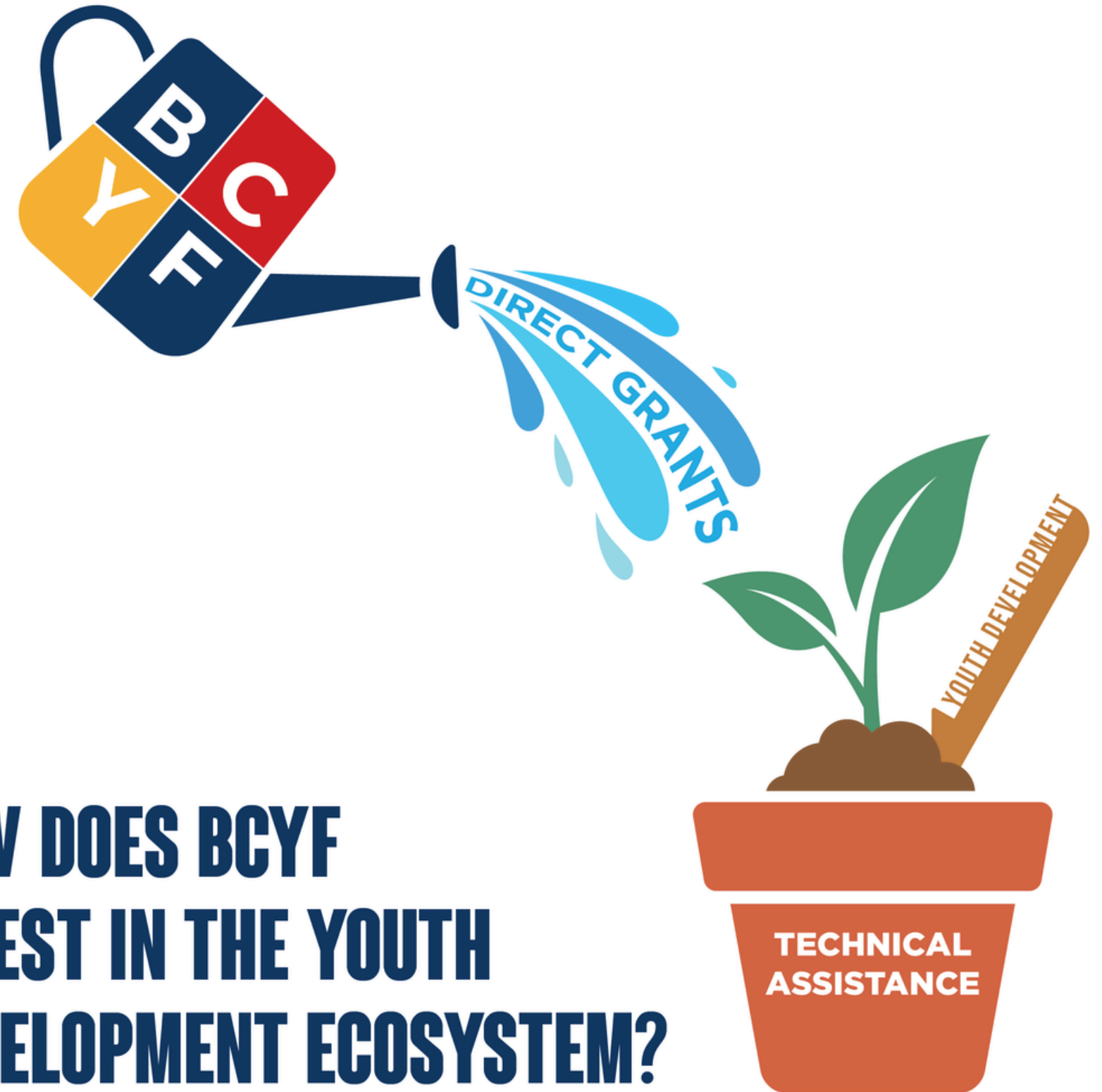


Dual Investment Strategy

Capacity Building
25%



Direct Dollars
75%



**HOW DOES BCYF
INVEST IN THE YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT ECOSYSTEM?**

Impact Since 2020

80% +
Multi-year grants

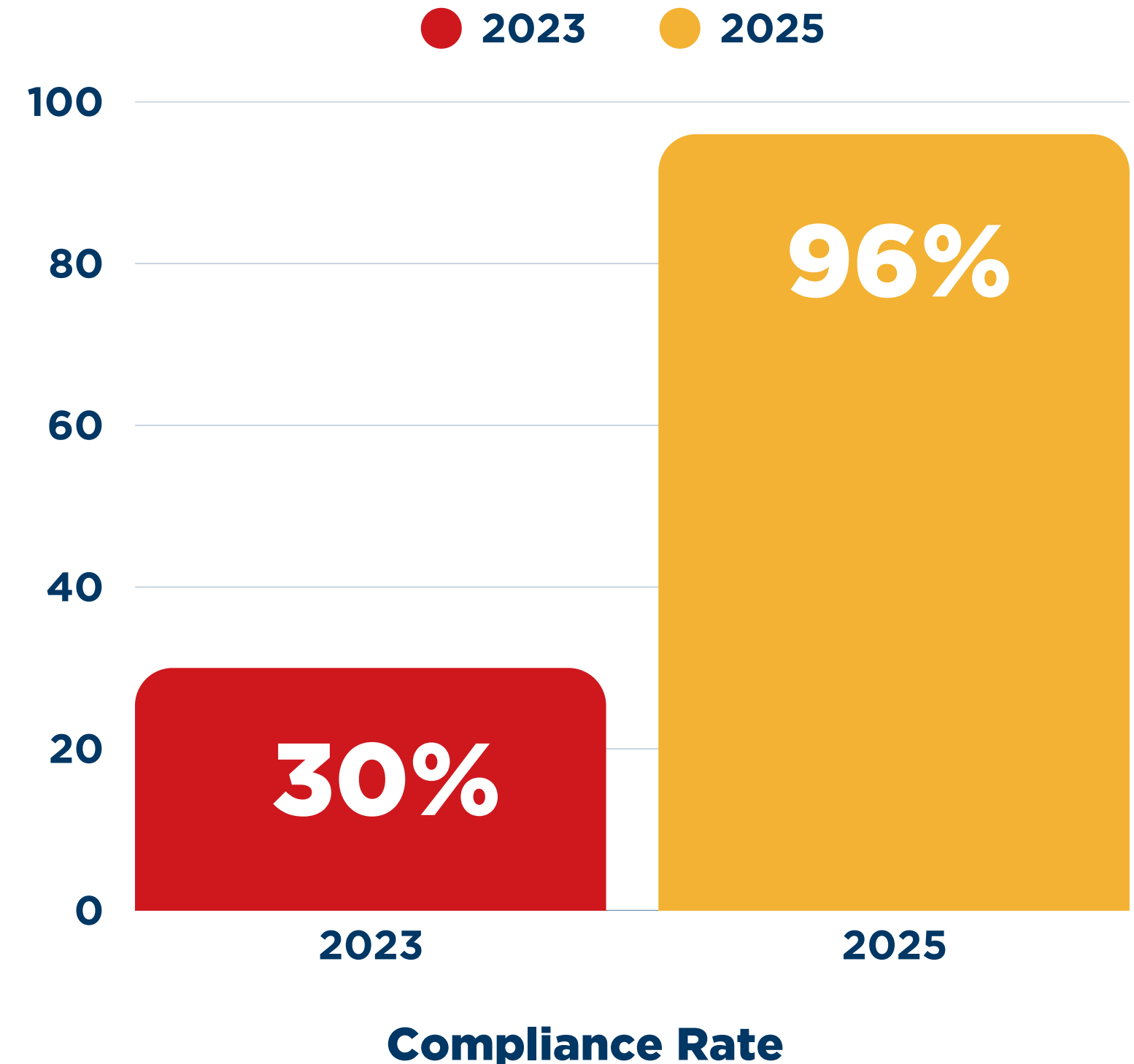
100+ **Organizations**
Funded

\$42M+
Awarded Since 2020

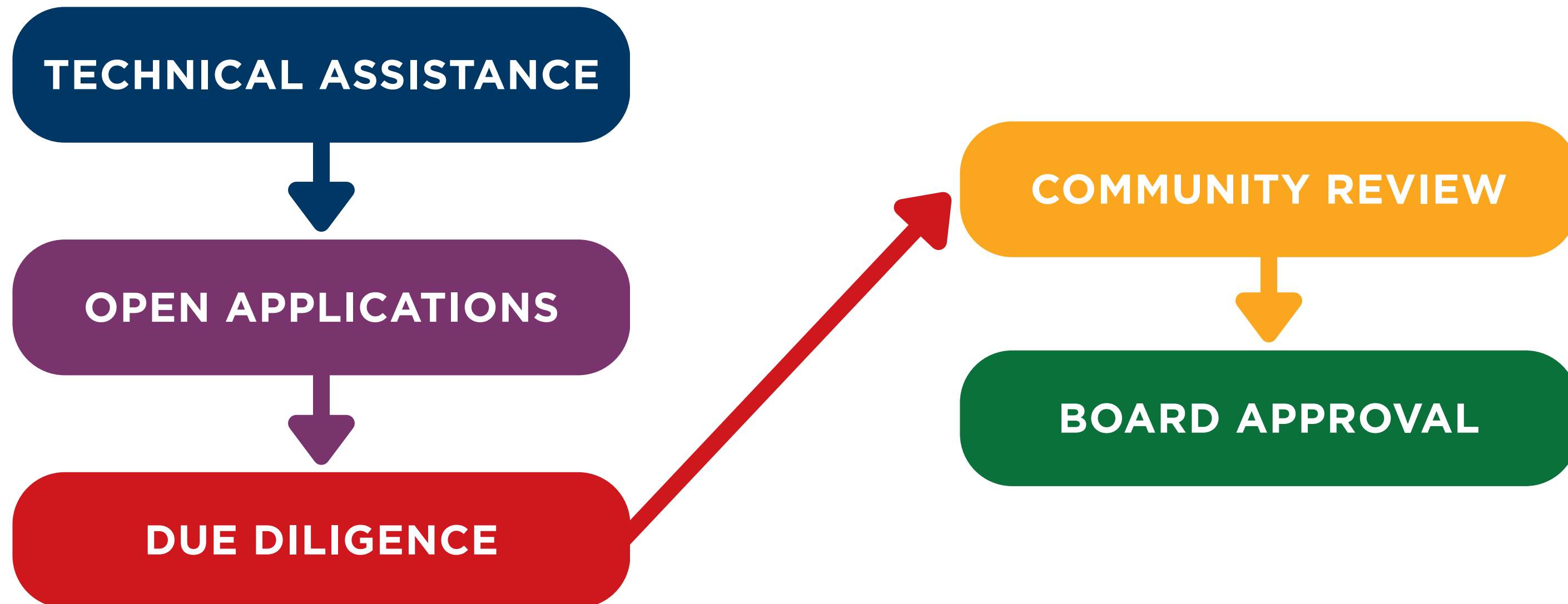
17,000+
Baltimore Youth Seats Citywide

Accountable & Public by Design

- Annual independent audits
- Quarterly financial reporting
- Public budget and programming hearings
- Public listing of grant awards
- Annual reports to Mayor and City Council



How Grants Are Made



Investment + Professional Learning

BCYF strengthens youth-serving organizations through both funding and professional learning.

- Majority of funding goes directly to community organizations
- Multi-year grants stabilize programs
- Professional learning strengthens leadership and operations

BCYF invests in neighborhood organizations and supports their growth through professional learning.



Strengthening Baltimore's Youth Development Field

- learning lab
- Learning Circles
- Pre-Application Technical Assistance (PATA)
- #bcreds
- Help Desks & Site Visits

2500+ Participants

300+ Hours of Learning



The Gathering

Citywide convening for Baltimore's youth development ecosystem.

- Practitioners
- Nonprofit leaders
- Public partners
- Funders

Strengthening collaboration and shared solutions for youth.



Learning from National Models

Harlem Children's Zone Opening Plenary

Baltimore practitioners engaged with national leaders to explore:

- Place-based youth development
- Cross-sector collaboration
- Long-term community impact



**Harlem
Children's
Zone**



Community Exhibition

Culminating event of the learning lab.

Celebrating:

- 1,000+ participants
- Grassroots leaders
- Youth development professionals
- Community partners

the learning lab
KNOWLEDGE FOR IMPACT

BC
YF BALTIMORE
CHILDREN &
YOUTH FUND



Stable Funding → Stable Programs

Stable funding creates stable programming.

Stable programming creates better outcomes for young people.

“When youth programs are stable, young people thrive.”



Charm City Youth Athletics (CCYA)

Expanding equitable access to middle school athletics.

Partnerships:

- BCYF
- Baltimore City Public Schools
- Community organizations



FY26 CCYA Cycle



Sports Offered

- Rowing
- Basketball
- Soccer
- Lacrosse
- Baseball & Softball
- Squash
- Dance & Step
- Volleyball
- Archery
- Yoga & Wellness



Public Partnerships

CCYA connects:

- Baltimore City Public Schools
- Baltimore Children & Youth Fund
- Community athletic providers



BALTIMORE CITY

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Creating stronger pathways to youth opportunity.

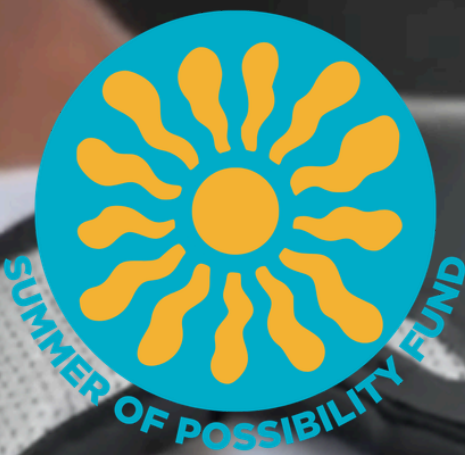
Summer of Possibility Fund 2026

Investment & Scale

- 30 total awards
 - 15 new grantees + 15 current BCYF grantees
- \$2M in direct grants supporting summer programming

Purpose & Vision

- Expand safe, joyful, and enriching summer opportunities
- Center youth voice, leadership, and pathways (ages 14-24)
- Strengthen grassroots organizations and long-term sustainability





What's New in 2026

Early Decision Timeline

- Decisions by Dec 15, 2025 to support staffing, planning, and program readiness

President's Fund (NEW)

- Multi-year awards to test impact of sustained funding on youth outcomes and organizational stability

Expanded Capacity Building

- 100+ hours of professional learning for grantee staff
- Includes health & safety certifications, trainings, and learning labs

Learning & Evaluation

- Pre-survey + ongoing data collection to drive continuous improvement





Early Feedback

- **Strong trust & alignment**
 - 96% positive application experience
 - 100% values alignment with BCYF priorities
- **Early decisions are critical infrastructure**
 - 97% say early notification is essential for planning, hiring, and program quality
- **Supports work—but access gaps remain**
 - 83% found supports helpful, but 15% did not use them → opportunity to increase uptake
- **Low-burden process is a differentiator**
 - Majority report BCYF application is easier than other funders
 - 30% rely solely on BCYF funding



Building Long-Term Impact

BCYF strengthens organizations through:

- Multi-year grants
- Professional learning
- Public partnerships
- Stronger compliance systems

GOAL:

Organizations become stronger after BCYF investment.



Join Us in Community

SAVE THE DATE!



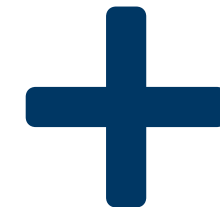
COMMUNITY EXHIBITION

A celebration of what's possible for Baltimore's young people, featuring immersive, science fair-style exhibits from our grantees showcasing real impact and bold ideas shaped through the BCYF learning lab.

- June 11, 2026**
- 5 PM - 8 PM**
- University of Maryland's BioPark**
801 W Baltimore St, Baltimore, MD 21201

the learning lab **BC** BALTIMORE CHILDREN & YOUTH FUND
KNOWLEDGE FOR IMPACT **YF**

Community Exhibition
June 11, 2026 | 5-8 PM



Summer of Possibilities Fair
Summer Opportunities for Baltimore Families

Join BCYF for a **FREE**, family-friendly fair where parents and caregivers can meet community organizations offering summer camps and programs for children and youth across Baltimore!



Drop in to explore summer options, connect directly with program providers, and get help signing your child up—all in one place.

A BoardLight Event, BCYF's board-led series focused on connection, information-sharing, and access.

- April 11, 2026**
- 9 AM - 1 PM**
- R. House**

Register Today!



Family activities, music, and food. Free and open to the public.

BC BALTIMORE CHILDREN & YOUTH FUND **BOARDLIGHT**

BoardLight: Summer of Possibilities Fair
April 11, 2026 | 9 AM - 1 PM

Connecting families with summer opportunities.



Closing

Public Purpose. Public Accountability. Youth Opportunity.

BCYF exists because Baltimore chose to invest in young people.

Our responsibility:

- Steward public resources
- Strengthen neighborhood organizations
- Expand opportunity for youth

“When youth programs are stable, young people thrive.”





Thank You!

