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## Governor Moore and Lieutenant Governor Miller Visit Baltimore Safe Haven

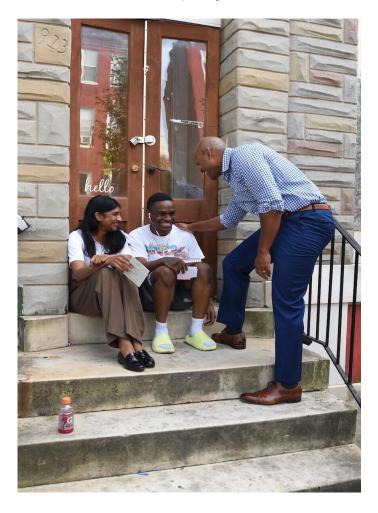
**ANNAPOLIS, MD** — Yesterday, Governor Wes Moore and Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller visited Baltimore Safe Haven, a transitional housing facility in Baltimore that provides services for Maryland's transgender community. The visit, made in partnership with the Maryland Commission on LGBTQIA+ Affairs, provided an opportunity to tour the organization's housing facilities, learn about the services they offer, and participate in a discussion about the needs of transgender Marylanders.

"In Maryland, we lead with love and inclusion and nobody should have to justify their own humanity," **said Gov. Moore.** "Baltimore Safe Haven provides help and hope to the people who need it most. The only way forward is together, and Baltimore Safe Haven has a partner in the State House. We have a lot of work to do, and we must tackle that work in partnership. If we do, we can build a kinder, safer Maryland for all."



Since 2018, Baltimore Safe Haven has been an invaluable resource for our LGBTQIA+ community. The organization provides comprehensive programming to help unhoused and high-risk individuals who identify as LGBTQIA+, including drop-in food distribution, housing, educational and vocational opportunities, and access to primary and mental healthcare, case management, substance use treatment, and legal services. During the visit, the governor announced an additional \$2 million in funding for housing and support programs.

"Baltimore Safe Haven's services are a critical link in the continuum of care for our LGBTQIA+ community, specifically for Black transgender Marylanders, and our administration is proud to be their partner," **said Lt. Gov. Miller.** "Our administration's mission to 'leave no Marylander behind' isn't just a tagline, it's a values statement, and by continuing to support organizations like Baltimore Safe Haven, we're putting our values into action."



The Moore-Miller administration is working to ensure that Maryland is a safe haven for members of the LGBTQIA+ community. On March 31, Governor Moore <u>proclaimed</u> the first-ever International Transgender Day of Visibility in Maryland, celebrating transgender, gender diverse, nonbinary, and two-spirit people while raising awareness of the work that remains to achieve trans justice.

On May 3, Governor Moore <u>signed</u> the <u>Trans Health Equity Act</u> into law, which requires Maryland Medicaid to provide gender-affirming treatment and care in a nondiscriminatory manner, consistent with current clinical standards.

In June, Governor Moore <u>proclaimed LGBTQIA+ Pride Month</u> in Maryland, hosted the first LGBTQIA+ Pride reception in Government House, and <u>signed</u> an <u>executive order</u> to protect gender-affirming health care in Maryland. The order protects those who are seeking, receiving, or providing gender-affirming care in Maryland from attempts at legal punishment by other states.

To learn more about Baltimore Safe Haven, visit <u>baltimoresafehaven.org</u>.