



AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE PRESERVATION PROGRAM GRANTS

Presented by Preservation Maryland, data provided by the Maryland Department of Planning

The General Assembly created the African American Heritage Preservation Program in 2010 to encourage the identification and preservation of buildings, sites and communities of historical and cultural importance to the African American experience.

SUPPORT LEVEL FUNDING AT \$1 MILLION IN FY 2017

IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

\$5 million
investment
through
68 grants
in
18 counties

CRITICAL FUNDING

AAHP is the state's only grant program dedicated to the protection and enhancement of African American historical and cultural resources and fill a critical funding gap for at-risk landmarks across the state.

Non-profits, local governments, businesses and individuals are eligible for funding for acquisition, construction, capital improvement and pre-development costs.

Illustrative projects:

Preservation of **Tolson's Chapel**, a former African American church and Freedmen's Bureau school in Sharpsburg, to **Chestertown's Charles Sumner Grand Army of the Republic Post #25**, built by African American Civil War veterans.

Structures assisted by the program serve as museums, community centers & parks.

Buildings that might otherwise be lost, like **Loving and Charity Hall**, lodge hall & gathering place in Montgomery County, and **frame houses of African American ship caulkers** in Fells Point, are saved.

Grant projects are increasing the visibility of African American history, such as **Pomomoy** in southern Charles County, and the **Kunta Kinte-Alex Haley Memorial** on the Annapolis waterfront.

IMPORTANT FACTS

- The African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program is a permanent program of the Maryland Historical Trust. AAHPP is administered jointly by the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture and the Maryland Historical Trust, an agency of the Maryland Department of Planning.
- AAHPP manages a special, non-lapsing fund subject to annual appropriations for the award of African American Heritage Preservation Grants
- In a streamlined process, the Department of Planning may grant financial awards upon receiving the recommendations from the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture and the Maryland Historical Trust.
- Decision making about preservation easements recently transferred from the Department of Planning to the Maryland Historical Trust who has the choice to allow or waive an easement as needed.
- The Department of Planning may reserve up to 20% of the money in the AAHP Grant Fund to award African American Heritage Grants to eligible projects on an emergency basis, similar to other MHT grant programs.



Re-enacting a schoolhouse scene at Tolson's Chapel.