

Maryland's Local Management Boards In Peril for Fiscal Year 2014???

Creating Jobs, Revenue and Results for Children & Families

What is an LMB?

Created by state law to help Maryland's communities better serve children and families by breaking down barriers and silos, LMBs create locally driven, cost-effective programs that get results. We work with local public and private agencies and residents to re-allocate resources toward supporting children and families before they are in crisis. After school programs, family support services and youth development and many other strategies connect children and families to the support they need and prevent problems like chronic absenteeism, high school dropout, teen pregnancy, gang involvement, long-term unemployment and homelessness just to name a few. Each LMB's board of directors includes representatives from business, health, recreation, law enforcement, education and social services agencies, county government, parents, clergy and community members. The Board oversees the LMB and helps identify community needs and priorities for the families in its county or jurisdiction.

LMBs Maximize Investments

In difficult economic times, every dollar counts. Local Management Boards across Maryland are implementing effective solutions that bring revenue to our communities, create jobs, ease budget pressures and ensure that vital services for our citizens are provided with positive results. These cost-effective approaches improve the lives of our local children and families.

- **Local Management Boards are Job Creators.** Each year LMBs create jobs through funding of services whose budgets include staff positions. Additionally, jobs that are created by programs launched by the LMBs in past years often are now sustained by other revenue sources.
- **LMBs Leverage State Funding and Create Efficiencies.** In Fiscal Year 2012, LMBs leveraged the Governor's Office of Children's investment of \$14.5 million and secured \$32.6 million in other state, local, federal and private funds. Less than 10% of these funds were spent on LMB core functions and administrative costs, with the rest going to programs and services for children and families.

LMBs Achieve Results

*Maryland Association of
Local Management
Boards*

*"24 Jurisdictions
working together
for a
strong Maryland and a
good place for families."*

LMBs have been successful in bringing needed services to our community. These services are having a positive impact on children and family well-being in communities across Maryland. In the long term, successful prevention services lower the demand for more costly interventions.

- Across the State, the LMBs served nearly 300,000 children and families in fiscal year 2012 alone.
- LMBs monitor these programs and thus can show how they are making measurable progress with those they serve and across community-wide indicators.

Across the State Citizens Agree that LMBs are Effective and Important

In 2010, 1,750 community members in each of the 24 jurisdictions were asked to share their views on the effectiveness of LMBs through an electronic survey. A study entitled: *Maryland Local Management Boards – Making a Difference for Children and Families*, was conducted with the support of the Richard A. Henson Foundation in Salisbury, MD and the Annie E. Casey Foundation in Baltimore. In that survey the respondents reported that Local Management Boards:

- Contribute to achieving better results for children in families in our county (87%)
- Operate programs that are achieving a high rate of success (86%)
- Enhance community resources to deliver needed services (85%)
- Assess community needs (88%)
- Build collaborative partnerships (88%)
- Help develop programs that respond to community needs and strengths (88%)
- Leverage new and existing grant funds and funding streams (79%)
- Engage community stakeholders to take action to make a difference for children and families in their community (79%)

National Research Also Proves What We've Seen Locally

- Local organizations achieve better outcomes than centralized government. – Dr. Elinor Ostrom, 2009 Nobel Prize Winner
- Counties [with state-funded local collaboratives] had made significant improvements in the severity of children and family problems that were not explained by initial levels or changes in social, economic and demographic factors. Severity of problems got worse in counties [without the local collaborative]." - Longhi Ph.D. & Porter, February 2009
- Creating and managing collective impact requires a separate organization and staff with a very specific set of skills to serve as the backbone for the entire initiative. Coordination takes time, and none of the participating organizations has any to spare. The expectation that collaboration can occur without a supporting infrastructure is one of the most frequent reasons why it fails. - Stanford Social Innovation, 2010

Current Status of LMB's

The overall funding for LMBs has been reduced from over \$54 million in 2008 to just \$16 million in FY 2011 and 2012. Many of these 'cuts' were actually a diversion of funds usually spent at the local level.

- For FY2013, a one-time fund swap removed another \$7.3 million from the Children's Cabinet Interagency Fund (CCIF) as LMBs used locally-held 'earned reinvestment money' as nonbudget funding to stay even with FY2012. There is no commitment to replace these nonbudget funds with general funds in FY2014, according to the Department of Budget and Management.
- Concurrently some sources suggest that the Governor's Office for Children is to be dismantled by FY2014 and with it the CCIF. **This would mean the final end of LMBs.**
- **Statewide we are over 450 respected county and business leaders serving as champions for children across Maryland's 24 jurisdictions.** Eliminating LMBs would end our coordinated hard work and dedication to help make our communities stronger.



LMB's Impact the Entire State

- In FY2012, 86,760 children were served by LMBs using the CCIF. The average cost to serve each child was \$157.
- In FY2014, over 300 children's programs will be lost, most offered by small, local not-for profits.
- In FY2014, local, state, and federal dollars that were leveraged by LMBs will also be lost to local communities.

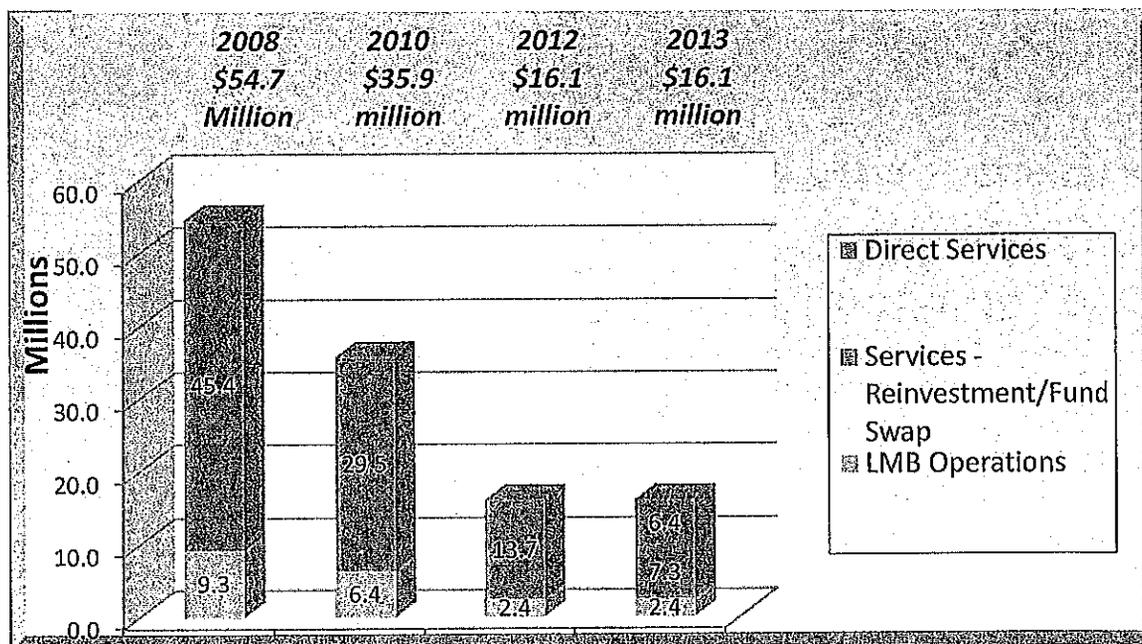
State Funding is Critical

Although today's budget realities are clear, the questions at this juncture are:

- Can Maryland afford to further reduce support to the vulnerable children and families served through LMBs?
- Can Maryland afford to step backwards from the progress made in improving the results for children and families through the LMBs?

These questions were answered by one survey respondent, "The State needs to recognize the value that the LMBs bring to the table. By investing in this organization (LMBs) you are investing in families."

HISTORY OF CCIF Funding for LMBs: FY 2008 to Present



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"Our local LMB allows us to see our tax dollars really at work for US!" ~ Survey Respondent