



Maryland taxpayers spend approximately \$288 million to incarcerate 7,794 people from Baltimore City. The burden of incarceration is disproportionately felt by some communities. The same communities that experience incarceration most acutely also have the greatest challenges serving their residents. Rather than spend millions of dollars to incarcerate people from each of these communities, the funds could, instead, be invested in education, workforce development, treatment, and housing services.

Number of people in prison from Southwest Baltimore	413
Cost of incarcerating people from Southwest Baltimore	\$15,281,000

Challenges in Southwest Baltimore

The challenges that Baltimore communities face contribute to a cycle of incarceration, poverty, and lost opportunity. Redirecting people and funds away from prison would help Baltimore City address these persistent challenges and barriers to the success of each community. Specific indicators of the challenges faced by this community include:

Population 16-64 not Employed (2008-2012)*	49.1	%
Employed Population with Travel Time to Work of 45 Minutes or More (2012)	27.4	%
Median Household Income (2008-2012)	28,085	dollars
Families Receiving TANF (2012)	23.5	%
9 th -12 th Grade Students that are Chronically Absent (2012)	52.1	%
Population (25 years and over) with Less than a High School Diploma (2012)	59.4	%
Number of Narcotics Calls for Service per 1,000 Residents (2011)	259.8	calls
Mortality Rate for 15-24 year olds (2012)	22.0	per 1,000 youth
Life Expectancy (2012)	67.8	years
Residential Properties that are Vacant or Abandoned (2012)	25.9	%
Children (aged 0-6) with Elevated Blood-Lead Levels (2012)	3.7	%
Violent Crime Rate	24.8	per 1,000 residents

Investments in Opportunity for Southwest Baltimore

For what taxpayers spend on incarceration in Southwest Baltimore, Baltimore City could invest in an array of programs and resources already available to help address community challenges.

	Cost per person	Number that could be served with \$15,281,000
Drug treatment for adults	\$4,494	3,400 adults
Employment training	\$5,000	3,056 people
Housing (per month)	\$1,252	12,205 families
GED course	\$1,000	15,281 students