EDUCATE. EMPOWER. ELEVATE. BUILD LEGACIES.

# Fact Sheet

Building Generational Wealth Youth Program, Inc.

BGWYP teaches Baltimore young people ages 11 to 24 how money, work, and ownership really work, and stays with them for years. Founded in 2026.

| At a glance | |
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| **Mission** | Equip Baltimore youth and young adults with financial knowledge, career strategy, mentorship, professional exposure, negotiation skills, and asset-building discipline to increase economic mobility in historically underserved communities. |
| **Who we serve** | Baltimore City youth and young adults, ages 11 to 24, in four age-matched stages: Foundations (Grades 6 to 8), Exploration (Grades 9 to 10), Mastery (Grades 11 to 12), and Transition-Age (18 to 24). First cohort: 60 participants. Free for families. |
| **Program** | Six-week Summer Accelerator (24 days, 96 hours) plus School-Year Continuation: three touchpoints a month, September to May. Level-Up Mentor Certification for older youth and alumni, always under adult supervision. |
| **First-year targets** | Grades 6 to 8: 85% complete a budget and trusted-adult map. Grades 9 to 10: 90% draft a verified resume; 100% attend sector shadows. Grades 11 to 12: 100% complete a postsecondary or job packet; 90% complete FAFSA tasks. Ages 18 to 24: 85% complete an independent budget; 80% maintain wage tracking. |
| **Safety** | Written safeguarding manual; fingerprint, FBI, and registry screening before any youth contact; ratios of 1:10 (Grades 6 to 8) and 1:15 above; no adult alone with a young person; 24-hour reporting. No youth on site until insurance and the facility agreement are in place. |
| **Governance** | Seven-member Board with Finance, Education, Procurement & Grants, Governance, and Risk & Safeguarding committees; conflict-of-interest policy; related-party firewall; Executive Director pay set by disinterested directors; 22 written operating procedures. |
| **Budget** | First year: $437,608 total, which is our fundraising goal. Operating budget $397,808 ($6,630 per young person) plus a 10% reserve of $39,800. |
| **Legal status** | Maryland nonprofit corporation, incorporated July 9, 2026. Application for federal 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status is pending. EIN on file. |
| **Leadership** | Edward J. Shepard, MBA, Founder, President & Executive Director. Board: Dr. Stacy Shepard (Secretary; Chair, Education), Tamara Robinson (Interim Chair of the Board; Treasurer; Chair, Finance), Gerald Green (Chair, Procurement & Grants), Ja-Mel Johnson (Chair, Governance), Daniel M. Wilkins (Chair, Risk & Safeguarding), and Dr. Frederick V. Engram Jr. |
| **How to help** | Host a sector shadow, mentor (after screening and training), introduce us to a partner, or join our list to hear when giving and sponsorships open. Once open: sponsor a seat ($6,630) or a facilitator ($3,600), or choose a partnership level at bgwyp.org/partner. |
| **Contact** | Edward J. Shepard · ejshepard@bgwyp.org · 202-841-4666<br>General inquiries: info@bgwyp.org · (443) 592-0494 · Baltimore, Maryland · bgwyp.org |

Building Generational Wealth Youth Program, Inc. is a Maryland nonprofit corporation. Its application for federal 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status is pending. Deductibility of gifts depends on IRS approval.