FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CHEER, supported by its Long Branch coalition of partners, selected as ENOUGH (Engaging, Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Government, and Households) Initiative Grantee supporting Governor Wes Moore's Initiative to fight the root causes of child poverty

Long Branch, MD- Community Health and Empowerment Through Education and Research (CHEER), along with our team of partners, is excited and honored to be a recipient of the ENOUGH, Track 2: Plan Development Grant, bringing together a diverse set of stakeholders from within the community. The Long Branch team of partners includes: **Interfaith Works, Montgomery County Recreation Department, Montgomery County Public Schools (including Rolling Terrace and New Hampshire Estates Elementary School), Silver Spring Regional Center, City of Takoma Park, Montgomery County Community Action Agency (DHHS), Story Tapestries, Montgomery Housing Partnership (MHP), Clifton Park Baptist Church, Holy Cross Health, Montgomery County Food Council, University of Maryland, Montgomery College, Empowering the Ages, and The Giving Square.**

> *"The importance of the ENOUGH initiative can't be stressed enough. For there to still be children in our community missing a meal or not getting their nutritional needs is absurd. Our children deserve the best which starts at home with what's on their plate. A healthy body leads to healthy minds which creates a healthy community to build our future. Thank you Maryland and Gov Wes Moore."* **Omar Marroquin, Long Branch Community Member**

The $300,000 awarded, with technical assistance for this team, will aid CHEER and our coalition of partners to strengthen and create new partnerships, update our community assets and needs assessments, and continue our community-building work with residents, youth and families. Together we will build an action plan with community-based strategies to address the root causes of child poverty in the Long Branch and Takoma Park area of Montgomery County.
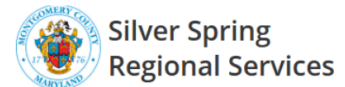
The ENOUGH grant will support the use of strategies identified from our previous work, including interactive listening, training, and planning sessions with members of the community leading to more meaningful participation, greater outreach to schools and government, and increased engagement with community members and potential partners creating the space to map out potential solutions to issues facing those living within the region. Our work will focus on the following four ENOUGH Result Areas: Cradle to Career Education, Healthy Families, Economic Secure Families, and Safe and Thriving Communities.

CHEER and our coalition of partners would like to thank Governor Wes Moore and the Governor's Office for Children for the opportunity to take our work to the next level for the benefit of the community we serve.

For more information about CHEER, visit us here communitycheer.org.

Learn more about the ENOUGH Initiative at the Governor's Office For Children.

Long Branch Coalition of Partners