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INVEST *in* Baltimore

BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CULTIVATES CITY SCHOOLS FARM FUND

(Baltimore, MD, 06/02/09) The Baltimore Community Foundation today announced creation of the Great Kids Farm Fund of the Baltimore Community Foundation (BCF). The Fund at BCF will enable tax-deductible contributions to support Great Kids Farm, a 33-acre working organic farm in Catonsville that is owned and operated by the City Schools.

Located at the Bragg Nature Center, the farm gives students hands-on experiences through unique educational programming and vocational training. From pre-K through high school, students are immersed in the world of food at every step of the process, “from seed to fork.” They plant seeds, tend livestock and crops—some of which ends up in school cafeterias—prepare healthy meals, and participate in classes on everything from nutrition to urban agriculture. From mushrooms to micro-greens, from chickens to goats, city school students are getting an education—on farming, sustainability, and the role they themselves play in our food system.

“The Baltimore Community Foundation is delighted to announce the creation of the Great Kids Farm Fund,” noted BCF President Tom Wilcox. “Great Kids Farm represents yet another example of the City Schools’ successful efforts to transform student learning and strengthen education in our city.”

Contributions to the Great Kids Farm Fund will be invested in seeds, animals, composting, trees, farming tools and educational materials that support the diversity of farming

activity on the farm and its expansion to schoolyards and community gardens around the city. To learn more or to make a contribution, visit www.bcf.org/farm.

ABOUT THE BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Baltimore Community Foundation distributed \$28 million in 2008 to hundreds of nonprofit organizations in the Baltimore region and beyond. With assets of \$143 million, BCF comprises more than 600 different charitable funds.

BCF invites donors to **Invest in Baltimore** through its civic agenda, which combines economic development with poverty reduction by making strategic investments in the areas of human services, youth, education, transportation, neighborhoods, diversity, environment, arts and culture, and promoting Baltimore.

BCF helps individuals, families and organizations carry out their charitable plans, with the common goal of improving the quality of life in the greater Baltimore region, today and for generations to come. To donors, BCF offers a complete toolkit for charitable giving, expert assistance in learning more about the causes they care about, and the opportunity to join others with similar interests to learn and give together. To the community at large, BCF offers a permanent, growing source of grant monies, as well as a common meeting ground and leadership on important issues in our region.

In addition, BCF provides grantmaking oversight for two independent foundations, the William G. Baker Jr. Memorial Fund and the Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Charitable Foundation.

More information about **Invest in Baltimore** as well as support for individual donors' philanthropy and more can be found at www.bcf.org.

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