



B C F  
BALTIMORE  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

## NEWS RELEASE

For More Information:

Gigi Wirtz

410-332-4172 ext. 180; [gwirtz@bcf.org](mailto:gwirtz@bcf.org)

### **Baltimore Community Foundation Elects Bank, Bell-McKoy, Heller and Wilson to Board *Caplan named Honorary Trustee; Pinkard named Trustee Emeritus***

(*Baltimore, MD- April 8, 2007*) The Baltimore Community Foundation (BCF) has elected Raymond L. Bank, Diane Bell-McKoy, Ellen M. Heller and Jay M. Wilson to its board of trustees. Retiring trustee Constance R. Caplan was named an honorary trustee of BCF, and former board chair Walter D. Pinkard Jr. was named trustee emeritus.

“The diversity of backgrounds of our trustees reflects the broad mission of the Baltimore Community Foundation,” said BCF Chairman E. Robert Kent, Jr. “BCF not only supports the philanthropic interests of hundreds of individual and corporate donors, but also serves the entire community through its civic agenda, *Invest in Baltimore.*”

#### **New trustees Bank, Bell-McKoy, Heller, Wilson**

**Raymond L. Bank** is the founder and principal of Raymond L. Bank & Associates, which invests in and advises small private marketing-driven companies in the consumer, direct marketing, and services sectors. Bank was formerly the President and COO of the venture firm Merchant Partners. He is an honorary trustee and past president of the board of Gilman School.

**Diane Bell-McKoy** was appointed president and CEO of Associated Black Charities, Maryland’s only African American-led grantmaking institution, in 2006. Previously she had served as a senior fellow at the Annie E. Casey Foundation and earlier

as president and CEO of Empower Baltimore Management Corporation, whose board she currently chairs. She also serves on the Biotech Board of Directors for East Baltimore Development Inc. and University of Maryland Research Park, as well as on the board of the Alex. Brown Center for Entrepreneurship at UMBC.

**Ellen M. Heller** was appointed a Judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City in 1986. She was Judge in Charge of the Civil Docket, and in 1999 was the first woman in Maryland appointed to the position of Circuit Administrative Judge overseeing the entire court. Although Judge Heller retired in December, 2003, she continues to sit part time as a trial judge. Judge Heller is President of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and a member of the Board of Visitors at the University Of Maryland School Of Law and the International Advisory Board of the Johns Hopkins Berman Bioethics Institute, among many other community and civic commitments.

**Jay M. Wilson** is former Vice Chairman and Director of Mercantile/PNC, where he was CEO of Investment and Wealth Management. Prior to Mercantile, Wilson was a founder and general partner of Spring Capital Partners, a private equity firm, and CEO of Steeltin Can Corporation. Among numerous civic and community commitments, Wilson has held leadership positions with the Walters Art Museum and the Baltimore Symphony, and currently serves on the boards of the University System of Maryland Foundation and Baltimore Partners for Enhanced Learning.

### **Retiring trustees Caplan, Pinkard**

**Constance R. Caplan** was named honorary trustee as she retired after serving 17 years on the board. As chair of BCF's Arts and Culture Committee, Caplan oversaw grantmaking in that area from 1991 until 2006. She was instrumental in urging public as well as philanthropic sector attention to the potential for cultural tourism in Baltimore.

**Walter D. Pinkard** has been named trustee emeritus. He was elected to BCF's board in 1991 and served as chairman from 1997 until 2006. During his tenure as chairman, 250 new philanthropic funds were established and BCF distributed \$160 million in grants, with more than 90% of that total going to nonprofit organizations in the Greater Baltimore region.

### **About the Baltimore Community Foundation**

The Baltimore Community Foundation is the third largest grantmaker among Maryland's charitable foundations, with distributions in 2007 of \$30 million to hundreds of nonprofit organizations in the Baltimore region and beyond. With assets of \$193 million, BCF comprises more than 500 different charitable funds.

BCF's civic agenda, *Invest in Baltimore*, combines economic development with poverty reduction through 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.

###

*Photos of Bank, Bell-McKoy, Heller and Wilson are attached.*