

# House News

Empowering Female Leaders of Tomorrow

Fall/Winter 2022-2023

Issue 1

## UPCOMING EVENTS

President's Day  
February 20  
PGCS Pro. Dev. Day- schools closed  
March 6  
First day of Ramadan  
March 23  
Spring Break  
April 3-7

### Hybrid Mentoring Program- Mentor Meet & Match



On December 16th, Bernadette's House held a meet and match event at the Laurel Women's Club where our volunteer mentors and the girls in our program got to meet and learn about each other via a fun 'speed dating' kind of event. We also did line dancing and played some musical chairs while enjoying light refreshments.

Thanks again to our dedicated mentors for their commitment to help our girls Believe, Blossom, and Soar!



Having some fun with musical chairs.

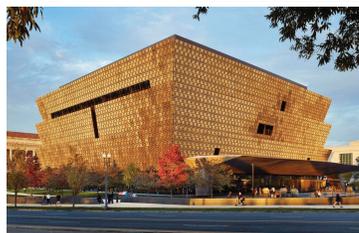


The meet and greet 'speed dating' game. Mentors on the outer ring, mentees in the inner ring.

### Hybrid Mentoring Program- Cultural Experience Field Trip

On December 17th, Bernadette's House welcomed our Philadelphia partner "Front Steps Mentoring" for their first in-person cultural visit. For many, this was a first-time visit to the nation's capital. A visit to the National Museum of African-American History and Culture was both exciting and educational. After checking into their hotel, they received a brief etiquette lesson on dining out. Finally, they enjoyed dinner at a local restaurant! It was a long day, but everyone agreed the events were well worth the drive!

If you are interested in giving back to your community, and want to mentor, contact us at [www.bernadetteshouse.org](http://www.bernadetteshouse.org).



Counter-clockwise from top:  
Group photo opportunity.  
African American History  
Museum.  
Enjoying some dinner while  
making friends.  
Clara Brown statue at the African  
American History Museum.

## Holiday Dinner! We Time & Cheers!

January 6, 2023

BH mentors, volunteers, and supporters take on the personas of famous singers, poets, authors, and astronauts in a hilarious ice breaker guessing game of "Who Am I" upon greetings, holiday cheer, and the enjoyment of authentic Mexican cuisine at the Acapulco Restaurant & Grill in Laurel—hosted by Carol Nash, Robin Edwards, and the BH Board.



1. Soraya Rigaud, Cathy Dixon-Kheir, Carol Nash, & Emilola Abayomi gather for a photo op.
2. Cindy Rankin, Andie Cohen, & Cheryl Gray enjoying the evening.
3. Grace Saunders & Dresden Davis.
4. Raaechael Santizo, real estate agent helping us locate a new BH facility, poses for a pic with Carol Nash.



Photo L to R. Dresden Davis, Robin Edwards, Dr. Grace Saunders, Paula Johnson, Soraya Rigaud, Zainab Abbas, Carol Nash, Cathy Dixon-Kheir, Emilola Abayomi, Andie Cohen, Myra, Cindy Rankin, Tanya Ray, Cheryl Gray



## Bernadette's House and Giving Tuesday

On November 29th, 2022, Bernadette's House once again participated in Giving Tuesday. #GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. Through our social media outlets and the generous support of so many friends of Bernadette's House, we were able to raise close to \$2,000! These funds will be put to excellent use, as the kickoff of the Hybrid Mentoring Program was in December, and the initiative is already well underway. Thanks so much to everyone for getting the word out about the great work that is being done by BH's all-volunteer team!



Acting Board President, Andie Cohen at a CFC event in Rockville, MD

## Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)

With the end of the U.S. Government's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) on January 15th, 2023, Bernadette's House (BH) is pleased to report on another successful fundraising effort. We are so grateful to all the donors, whose pledges totaled \$5,658 in the 2022 season (our second highest amount since starting with the CFC in 2018). We also want to thank the BH volunteers who manned the information tables at three charity information events. In addition to introducing many people to the organization, valuable community connections were made with other local nonprofits that operate in a similar focus area. A reminder to all Federal Government employees that BH's CFC number is 49698. Please look for us on your donation sheets in 2023. THANKS!



Cindy Rankin, our new BH Board Member, at a CFC event in Montgomery County, MD

## The Passing of the Legendary Television Icon, Barbara Walters



On December 30, 2022, trailblazing television icon Barbara Walters passed away at the age of 93. Walters made a name for herself back in 1976 as co anchor with Harry Reasoner on ABC's

Evening News when she conducted exclusive interviews.

Over the ensuing years, she would interview politicians, celebrities, athletes, and other people of note in the public eye. Years later, she would create the show "The View", providing a forum for women of different backgrounds and views to discuss the latest topics in the news.

After 25 years in television, Walters was inducted into the Television Hall of Fame. In 2000, she was presented a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. In May 2014, during the renaming of part of the ABC News' Headquarters to "The Barbara Walters Building", Walters said, "People ask me very often, 'what is your legacy?' and it's not the interviews with presidents, or heads of state, nor celebrities. If I have a legacy, and I've said this before and I mean it so sincerely, I hope that I played a small role in paving the way for so many of you fabulous women."

## Wes Moore Elected as First Black Governor of Maryland



The first black governor of Maryland, and the third black person to be elected governor in US history, Wes Moore said in interviews, "I'm proud of the history that I'm going to make in this race of being the state's first Black governor. And also I'm proud of it because I know how complicated the racial history is in the state of Maryland and how complicated the racial history in the United States is. Maryland is the state of Harriet Tubman, and Frederick Douglass, and Thurgood Marshall."

Moore said people voted for him, "because they knew that together, we could actually build a state that everyone could believe in and everyone could thrive in."

Three policy areas Moore wants to focus on are work, wages, and wealth. For work, he envisions an education system to teach students to be employers and not just employees. Moore would like to see improved wages as "we still have too many people in this state that are working jobs - and in some cases - multiple jobs - and still living below a poverty line." Moore also wants Maryland to lead the nation in taking on the racial wealth gap and "making sure that people can own more than they owe."

Best of all, Moore is quoted as being confident these programs can be implemented without raising taxes.



### We have work to do!

By making a tax-deductible donation now, you can help us to continue our most critical programs in the upcoming year. Please visit our website [www.bernadetteshouse.org](http://www.bernadetteshouse.org), and click the "Donate Now" button.



A note of appreciation to all of our anonymous donations through facebook.