



Diane Bell McKoy is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Associated Black Charities (ABC), a public foundation credited for its work as a catalyst for statewide advocacy, policy design and innovative transactional strategies as it relates to the impact of structural racism in depressing the economic and health outcomes for the African American community. As a result of not addressing this issue, it limits the overall economic viability for the State. A major contribution from ABC to the region was creation of the Policy Application for a Racial Equity Lens: Ten Essential Questions for Policy Development Review and Evaluation.

ABC, post the April uprising in Baltimore, has sought to serve as a connector with a number of the community activist organizations and the community development organizations and linking them to Baltimore's broader leaders of influence.

Ms. Bell-McKoy came to Associated Black Charities after completing an 18 month term as a Senior Fellow at the Annie E Casey Foundation. It was during her tenure at the Casey Foundation in partnership with Brookings Institution, the fundamentals of *More in the Middle* were birthed. It was based upon research that identified the region's persistent challenges of low asset outcomes for African Americans, ranging from no wage earners to high wage earners and the consistent disparities when compared to the region's white citizens.

Prior to her service at Casey, Ms. Bell-McKoy was the President and later, Chair of Empower Baltimore Management Corporation (EBMC); the non-profit organization that managed the Empowerment Zone in Baltimore City; the entity is now closed. Since the Empowerment Zone designation in 1994, more than 15,000 residents were placed in jobs and more than 12,000 jobs came to the Zone through new business development and/or business expansions. EBMC used outside data tools such as the State Wage Record data to verify its outcomes. And long after the Zone designation, as a result of investments, the Baltimore Empowerment Zone was able to yield a \$16 million dollar return on their various loans. **It has been documented and cited as one of the best community engagement models in the country.**

Ms. Bell-McKoy has also held positions in the nonprofit sector of Baltimore City, where she created one of the first family development programs in the field of substance abuse; in DC Government as Deputy, Child Welfare Division; in the D.C Mayor's Office, under Mayor Marion Barry, working in a four person research team in partnership with the Rockefeller Foundation on one of the country's first data driven anti-poverty initiatives; in Baltimore City Government under the leadership of Mayor Kurt Schmoke, Director, Mayor's Office of Children and Youth; as senior staff to Mayor Schmoke, **Chair, Community Building in Partnership Sandtown/Winchester** (Jim Rouse/Kurt Schmoke/BUILD initiative); Senior staff, East Baltimore Revitalization strategy; Chair of Human Services Sub-Cabinet, which she created; and ended her tenure under Mayor Schmoke as Deputy, Chief of Staff.

She serves on the boards of Baltimore Integration Partnership, Baltimore's Promise, *Humanim*, One Baltimore and Central Maryland Transportation Alliance. She also co-leads the Baltimore Aspen Workgroup for Dismantling Structural Racism as well as a Trustee for the Baltimore Community Foundation and the Secretary for the Board of the Association of Baltimore Area Grant Makers. In addition, Ms. Bell-McKoy serves on the national Policy Council for AARP.

Most recently she was named for the second time, one of the region's Most Influential Persons and has entered into the Daily Record's Top 100 Women's Circle of Excellence, signifying an honor for those women who have been recognized at least three different years.