



# ELLICOTT CITY PARTNERSHIP

## 2016 - 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



ELLICOTT CITY  
PARTNERSHIP



# Ellicott City Partnership

## FY 2016 - 2017

### A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

"I am very proud of how the ECP rose to the challenge in aiding our community in the aftermath of last year's disaster. Ellicott City has come back faster than anyone expected. As the ECP returns to its original mission, we are resolved to not only continue our town's economic recovery but to build on it, making Main Street even stronger. The ECP's role of economic development, preservation, and community advocacy is now more important than ever."

Karen Besson  
President  
Ellicott City Partnership

### ABOUT THE ELLICOTT CITY PARTNERSHIP

The ECP administers Ellicott City's Main Street program which is based on the five-point approach created by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to facilitate the economic revitalization of historic districts.

**Our Mission:** The Ellicott City Partnership is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve the heritage and vitality of historic Ellicott City, Maryland while enhancing and creating economic growth.

#### FY17 OFFICERS

**President** – Karen Besson  
**Vice President** - Debra Slack-Katz  
**Vice President** - Tom Coale  
**Treasurer** - Dianne Paulus  
**Secretary** - Bill Withers  
**Executive Director** - Maureen Sweeney Smith

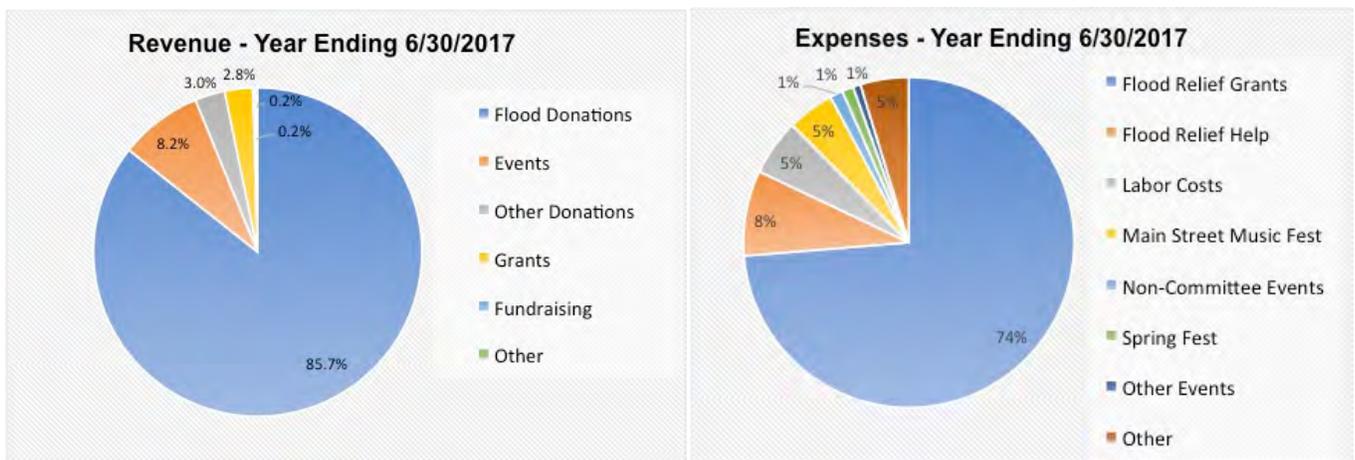
#### FY17 BOARD MEMBERS

Richard Ellsberry	David A. Hall	David Myers
Matthew Fleming	Raj Kudchadkar	John Papania
Heather Gaetano	Jason McMillan	Don Reuwer
Barry Gibson	Lexi Milani	Bruce Taylor
Charles Gruss	Christopher Miles	Vernon Thompson

# 2016 / 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Managed a total of over \$1.8 million dollars in flood donations from 3,000+ donors, and administered five separate relief programs to 190 residents in 107 households, 90 businesses, and 81 property owners while shouldering all administrative costs to support our community.
- Partnered with Howard County Economic Development Authority and the Maryland Small Business Development Center to provide merchants with free consulting services from retail expert Garrett Glover, resulting in business retention, increased employment, increased foot traffic and sales.
- Designed and launched new website, VisitOldEllicottCity.com, merging ECPartnership.org and VisitEllicottCity.com to create a single source of public information for visitors, businesses, and residents.
- Hosted monthly peer-to-peer roundtable discussions and other educational workshops to facilitate the sharing of best business practices to increase individual business revenue.
- Partnered with Howard County Tourism to raise awareness of the recovery of the business district and boost tourism. Projects included Small Business Saturday / Main Street Official Re-opening celebration, and the promotion EllicottCityHolidays.com with over 33,000 page views that supported holiday retail activity.
- Developed and hosted 16 town-wide promotional events, attracting 22,000+ visitors to Old Ellicott City.

# FINANCIALS



## OUR INCREDIBLY VALUABLE VOLUNTEERS

- Hosted 4 town-wide cleanups, helping to keep storm drains and waterways clear while beautifying Main Street.
- Offered advice on design and infrastructure issues throughout town.
- Participated in county workgroups and committees focused on flood recovery and prevention as well as on economic development.
- Staffed Ellicott City's many festivals and events, large and small.
- Collected funds for flood recovery which directly benefited affected property owners, business owners and residents.



## MAKING AN INVESTMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

Every dollar invested in the Ellicott City Partnership goes directly to supporting our mission to continually strengthen Old Ellicott City as a great place to live, work, shop, and celebrate. Funding raised through memberships, sponsorships, grants and personal donations is reinvested in the community – building partnerships, beautifying our environment, and inviting visitors and residents to shop and explore our Maryland Main Street.

## CONTRIBUTIONS THAT FUND SUCCESS

Sponsorship is key to the Ellicott City Partnership's ability to provide services and education to its members. The breadth of services we offer would not be possible without the generous support of our members and contributors. Invest in Old Ellicott City's future by making a donation or becoming an ECP member.

**[VisitOldEllicottCity.com/JoinECP](http://VisitOldEllicottCity.com/JoinECP)**



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