



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

After \$10.6M Transformation, St. Francis Neighborhood Center Celebrates a West Baltimore Homecoming

Baltimore, MD (April 10, 2025) – On Saturday, April 26th, 2025, St. Francis Neighborhood Center (SFNC) will officially cut the ribbon on its expanded facilities. The celebration marks the completion of nearly 10 years and \$10.6 million in long-needed improvements to the West Baltimore community hub. The ribbon cutting—free and open to all—will kick off at 10 AM outside the Center, featuring a performance by the Baltimore Twilighters marching band, brief remarks from elected officials, and tours of the facilities. SFNC’s Homecoming Celebration will commence at 6 PM, featuring Baltimore-inspired cuisine, music/dancing, raffles, and a keynote by columnist Dan Rodricks, with proceeds supporting the nonprofit’s [free summer program](#).

For decades, SFNC has been a cornerstone of Reservoir Hill, providing vital resources and programming to West Baltimore residents at no cost. Originally operating out of two converted rowhouses, the Center steadily expanded under the leadership of the late Father Tom Composto, who led the nonprofit from the late 1960s until his death in 2011. His vision for a larger, more accessible and well-equipped community hub has finally become a reality.

Launched in 2016, the Count On Me capital campaign has revitalized and expanded the Center’s aging 1895 building, once home to Enoch Pratt Callow and Joseph A. Bank. Initial phases added a new roof, three new classrooms, a computer lab, cafeteria, and teaching kitchen. Now, the Center is gaining a new multi-purpose auditorium, additional classrooms, and renovated administrative spaces, allowing SFNC to address long waitlists, host concurrent youth and adult programs, and offer event space reservations to the community.

“We were told we couldn’t do it,” said Torbin Green, Executive Director. “Yet we powered through and made it so. I’d like to thank the Power Team—which consisted of SFNC board members, staff, community members, and advocates—for fundraising. After over 10 years, I am happy to see the completed Center being used by and for the community.”

Homecoming tickets are available at stfranciscenter.org/hoco. Guests are encouraged to wear elevated spirit attire celebrating their alma mater, neighborhood, or city. The evening will feature a dynamic food hall-style experience with bites from Little Havana, Keyvin’s Kitchen, and The Dive, paired with drinks from Deep Eddy Vodka, Cane Collective, and Checkerspot Brewing Co. SFNC is located at 2405 Linden Ave, Baltimore, MD, 21217 with its main entrance facing Whitelock St.

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St. Francis Neighborhood Center (SFNC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community-based organization founded in 1963 to serve the Reservoir Hill and Penn North neighborhoods of Baltimore City. Our mission is to dismantle inequity by cultivating community connections through tailored education and social interventions for West Baltimore. For over 60 years, we have continuously evolved to develop programs in response to present needs. Learn more at stfranciscenter.org.

Media Contact

Lily Goldsmith, Marketing & Communications Manager

lily@stfranciscenter.org

410-340-4861