

News Release

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Comptroller Franchot Virtually Presents Baltimore City Schaefer Award to Munir Bahar

COR Health Institute transforms lives and neighborhoods

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (August 26, 2020) - Comptroller Peter Franchot virtually presented the [William Donald Schaefer Helping People Award](#) for Baltimore City to Munir Bahar, founder of COR (Community Organized Response) Health Institute and the 300 Man March. Mr. Bahar accepted the award on behalf of the nonprofit organization he founded 19 years ago to rescue neighborhoods from crime and violence, empowering young men to positively change their lives with programs that strengthen both mind and body.

Mr. Bahar launched COR Health to boost self-esteem and physical health in at-risk youth through a free martial arts program that also teaches self-discipline and conflict resolution. Reclaiming the vacant row homes on Collington Avenue to build COR Health resulted in the removal of drug traffickers and a safe neighborhood built on mutual respect. His core mission to reduce violence and recover the streets for Baltimore City youth embodies the principles held dear by William Donald Schaefer, the late Baltimore mayor, Maryland governor and comptroller whom the award honors.

Mr. Bahar also co-founded the 300 Man March with City Council President Brandon Scott in 2013. The grassroots group promotes anti-violence efforts through weekly community walks across the city and specifically helped quell violence following the death of Freddie Gray in 2015. Mr. Bahar is also in the process of opening the William Adam Entrepreneurial Institute to provide young adults with a foundation in business education that spurs financial growth and lifelong economic stability.

View the virtual ceremony [here](#).

Since 2012, Comptroller Franchot has annually traveled to each of Maryland's 24 jurisdictions to honor an individual or organization serving their community. This year, all Schaefer Award presentations will be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual press releases will be sent announcing each of the honorees, along with a link to view the virtual ceremony.

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