



Merrimack Valley Black & Brown Voices, Inc.

Contact@mvbbvoices.org | P.O. Box #516 North Andover, MA 01845

February 3rd, 2022

Good evening family,

As we recently announced our newly 501 (c)(3) status back in November of 2021, we are delighted to also share with you that Merrimack Valley Black & Brown Voices has been awarded our first state grant of \$55,000 through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED)'s Community Empowerment and Reinvestment Program.

“As the inaugural round of grant recipients demonstrates, the Community Empowerment and Reinvestment Grant Program is a powerful source of assistance to address a wide range of needs with specific solutions developed by community leaders, coalitions, and established organizations that are known to, and live among, the people and neighborhoods they serve,” Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito said at Thursday’s announcement at UTEC in Lowell.

The Community Empowerment and Reinvestment Grant Program seeks to develop, strengthen, and invest in community-led efforts that are working to bring positive economic outcomes to communities that face historically disproportionate challenges to economic growth. Specifically, the program was developed to support communities with high rates of incarceration and/or recidivism, widespread poverty, and large groups of disadvantaged and underrepresented populations. [Learn more here.](#)

Our organization is grateful to be working with the Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development to help strengthen and build our communities. This grant will be supporting a new program: Merrimack Valley Black & Brown Advancement Program. More information about this program will be released throughout the month. We thank all of our donors and those who have continued to support us through this growth.

With gratitude,

Merrimack Valley Black & Brown Voices, Inc
Mayara Reis, Elizabeth Walther-Grant, Bria Gadsden,

Staff and Board of Directors
Elizabeth Buckley, Gabrielle Womack, Miguel Quinones