Baby Bonds in
Montgomery
County, MD
Evaluating Impact,
Cost, and Feasibility

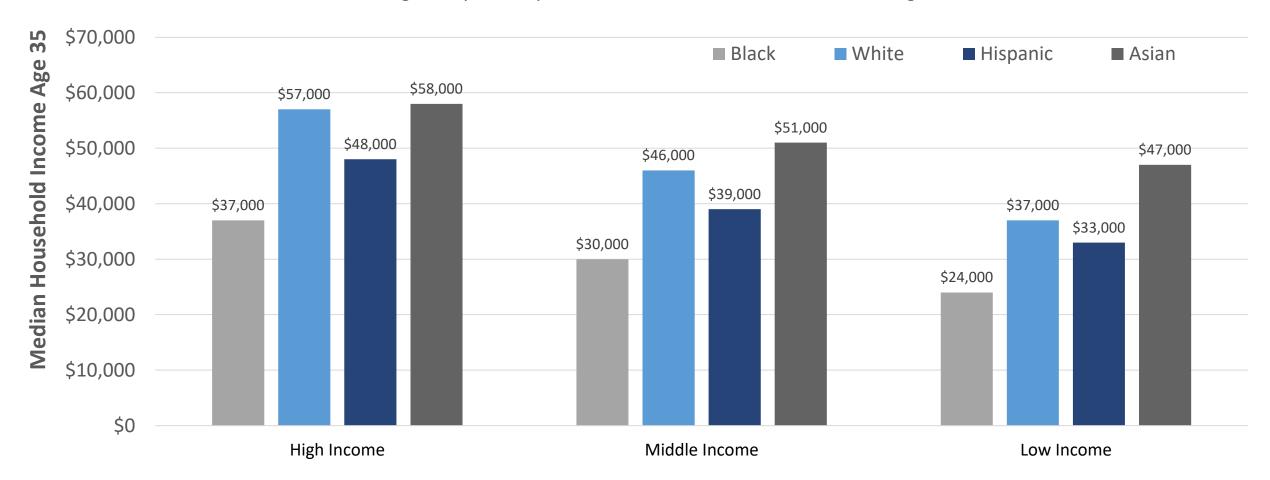
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#### Closing the Income Gap Does Not Close Wealth Gap

Montgomery County's Children's Outcomes in Adulthood Age 35



**Parent Income** 

Source: The Opportunity Atlas and Federal Income Tax Records, 2014-15

Note: High, middle, and low incomes represent the 75<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> percentiles respectively

## **How Baby Bonds Work:**



## **GROW** Funds are invested by the government on children's behalf in order to grow appreciably.

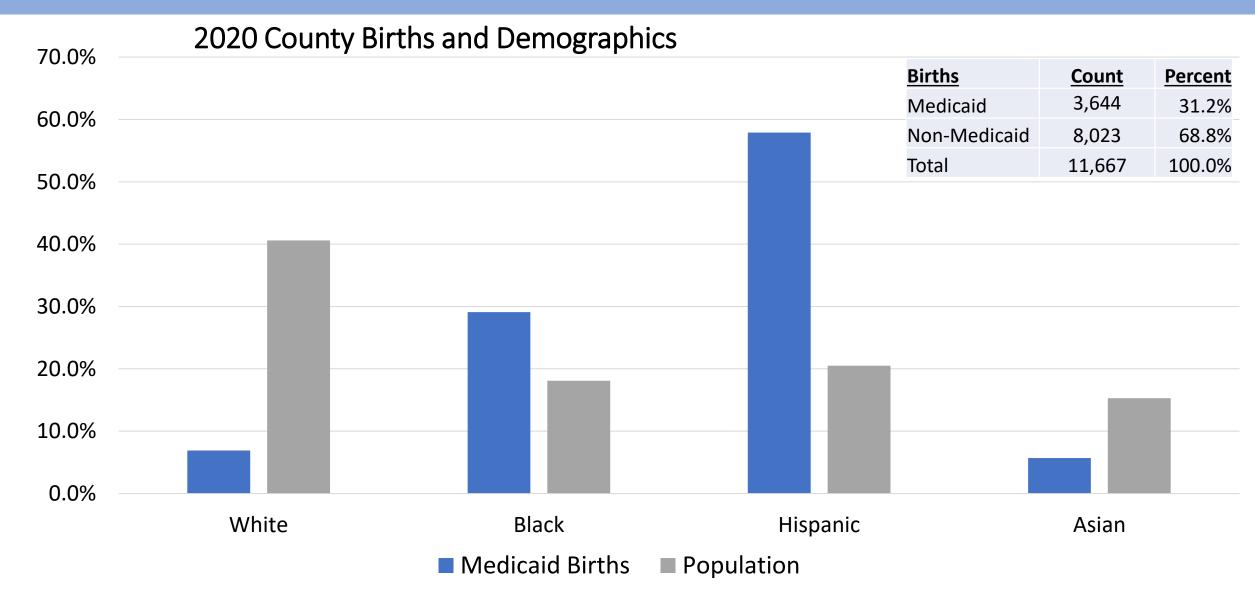


## Baby Bonds in Connecticut and DC

Jurisdiction	Initial deposit	Annual gov't contribution	Eligibility	Est. total endowment by adulthood	Specified uses of funds
Connecticut	\$3,200	None; generates interest from investment	Medicaid-eligible households	\$10,000 - \$12,000	<ol> <li>Education</li> <li>Home purchase</li> <li>Business         <ul> <li>investment</li> </ul> </li> <li>Other assets         <ul> <li>yielding long-term gains to</li> <li>wages or wealth</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
DC	\$500	Up to \$1,000 annual deposits plus earnings, yearly deposits vary by income	Medicaid-eligible households with income below 300 percent of Federal Poverty Line	\$15,000-\$25,000	<ol> <li>Education</li> <li>Home or commercial property purchase</li> <li>Business investment</li> <li>Retirement investment</li> </ol>

Source: The Urban Institute, 2023.

### Who would benefit from Baby Bonds in the County?



Source: Vital Statistics Administration, Maryland Department of Health, 2020; U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates Program, 2021

### Projecting Baby Bonds in Montgomery County

	CT Baby Bonds	Tier 1	Tier 2
Initial Deposit per Child	\$3,200	\$4,250	\$6,500
18-year value	\$12,639	\$16,786	\$25,673
25-year value	\$21,563	\$28,638	\$43,799
30-year value	\$31,580	\$41,942	\$64,147
Annual funding per 1,000 children	\$3,200,000	\$4,250,000	\$6,500,000
Annual Cost for Montgomery County	\$11,660,800	\$15,487,000	\$23,686,000

Note: Futures value calculation assumes a 7.93% rate of return (5-year average from the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System). Cost for Montgomery County calculated using 2020 Medicaid birth statistics.

#### **Putting Baby Bonds to Use**

#### **Education:**

Baby Bonds 18-year Future Value -> \$12,000 to \$25,000						
	Annual Tuition and Fees for a Resident	Projected Degree Cost				
UMD - College Park	\$11,505	\$46,020				
Morgan State University	\$8,118	\$32,472				
Montgomery College (15 credit hrs.)	\$5,394	\$10,788				

#### **Buying a Home:**

- Baby Bonds 25-to-30-year future values ranged from \$20,000 to \$64,000
- Potential to cover the down-payment, closing fees, and other upfront costs.

#### **Business Investment**

Use Baby Bonds to invest in or start a business



Source: University of Maryland, Morgan State University, Montgomery College

#### Recommendation

Seize this opportunity to address the wealth gap and provide life-changing capital to young adults from Montgomery County

1. Become the first county in the U.S. to pass and enact Baby Bonds legislation

AND/OR

2. Becoming leading advocates for Baby Bonds implementation at the state level

- Addresses the Racial Wealth Gap
- Investment in Montgomery County

# Thank you, Montgomery County Council for this opportunity. And special thanks to:

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