FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation Commits $15 Million
to Support East Baltimore Kids, Families, and Older Adults

Multi-year Investment Will Help Fund Education, Workforce, and Senior Programs

Baltimore, MD - East Baltimore Development Inc. announced today that the Maryland-based Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation will provide $15 million to the East Baltimore Revitalization Initiative, the largest neighborhood revitalization project ever undertaken in Baltimore. The Foundation's multiyear investment will support neighborhood residents by strengthening and expanding educational opportunities, workforce initiatives, and programs for older adults.

The East Baltimore Revitalization Initiative is an ambitious plan to stabilize and revitalize East Baltimore by transforming the neighborhood into a healthier, thriving community for families and children. The project will create an estimated 8,000 jobs, up to 2,200 new and rehabilitated mixed-income residential units, a state-of-the-art community learning campus, green space, business and retail opportunities, and recreational facilities. Today’s announcement was held at Park View at Ashland Terrace, the first senior housing community in the revitalized neighborhood, and was attended by elected officials, philanthropic and civic leaders and community residents.

“The redevelopment of East Baltimore is one of the two or three most important projects in this city in the last 100 years. The Weinberg Foundation is proud to provide its name and its finances to the success of this project. The Foundation believes that its investment in East Baltimore will have an impact at least as great as anything else the Foundation has accomplished since Harry Weinberg died in 1990,” said Shale D. Stiller, president of the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation.

Douglas W. Nelson, president and CEO of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, said “We’re delighted that the Weinberg Foundation has committed its resources, expertise and enthusiasm to this project. The organization is a respected pioneer in the city and a partner in helping to strengthen families and communities. I know that East Baltimore residents of all ages will benefit from the Weinberg Foundation’s contributions to revitalizing this historic neighborhood.”
The Weinberg Foundation investment, to be allocated over the next five years, will build upon existing EBDI programs and support new initiatives in the areas of zero to 18 education, workforce development, and services for older adults, including:

- **A state-of-the-art community learning campus, anchored by a new preK-8th grade school.** The campus will become a focal point of the revitalized neighborhood, providing not only education but also health and social services, recreational opportunities, and cultural enrichment programs for East Baltimore residents of all ages. The school will set a standard for innovation, and reflect the priorities and values of parents and the community. The new school will open in 2009 with plans to complete the new seven acre school campus in September 2011.

- **A comprehensive workforce development strategy designed to ensure that residents can successfully compete for new jobs and attract market-oriented investment to the community.** In partnership with the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Mayor’s Office of Employment Development, the Johns Hopkins Institutions, and community-based workforce development service providers, EBDI created a workforce track that includes immediate, short-term, and longer-term initiatives to help local residents increase their access to employment through job readiness and placement services; customized skills training; and career advancement opportunities in healthcare, construction, and biotech.

- **A range of supportive services for relocated senior residents and those remaining in the redevelopment area.** It is anticipated that the Weinberg Foundation’s support will fund a range of new health and learning efforts that will supplement and complement the work of other partners serving East Baltimore’s older residents, including the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and Baltimore’s Community on Aging and Retirement Education.

“We're very grateful that our newest partner, the Weinberg Foundation, has agreed to fund critically needed services that will enhance the lives of children, working parents and older adults in East Baltimore. These services will play a crucial role in the revival of these neighborhoods, and we hope this generous grant will prompt other private groups and government agencies to provide additional support for this ambitious urban development project,” said Dr. Edward D. Miller, CEO/Dean of Johns Hopkins Medicine.

Since moving into its second phase in late 2007, the East Baltimore Redevelopment Initiative now includes development of affordable and market-rate housing units, rehabilitation of current properties and green housing development. As part of an ongoing effort to ensure that as many neighborhood residents return to or remain in the community as possible, East Baltimore residents will continue to have priority access to the new housing under EBDI’s Right of First Return Policy.

“Housing opportunities such as these are possible as a result of ongoing support by EBDI’s critical stakeholders, who have stepped up at important junctures,” said Joseph Haskins, Jr., Chairman and CEO of Harbor Bank and Chairman of the EBDI Board of Directors. “With engaged partners like the Annie E. Casey and Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundations, we can target our resources more directly to the goal of a thriving East Baltimore for all of its residents.”

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The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation Inc. is one of the nation’s largest private foundations and is dedicated to relieving the burdens of poverty, especially among older adults. For more information, visit www.hjweinberg.org.

East Baltimore Development Inc. (EBDI) is a nonprofit partnership of private and public entities that is undertaking the single largest redevelopment project in Baltimore, transforming 88 acres with $1.8 billion in new investments. For more information, visit www.ebdi.org.