## Legal Aid: Suzanne and Stuart Salsbury Endow Director of Trial Advocacy Position

Nanda Haskel 🛗 February 3, 2022 🗿 6 min read

A generous gift of \$800,000 from Stuart Salsbury, JD '71, and Suzanne Salsbury, JD '73, is giving a big boost to opportunities for students at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law in the area of trial advocacy.



With this investment, the longtime law school supporters have endowed a new position — the Salsbury Director of Trial Advocacy — to manage Maryland Carey Law's trial team program, which allows students to hone their courtroom skills in competitions across the country. The law school also will establish the Salsbury Trial Competition, an

internal event that will provide a platform for students to test and exhibit their advocacy skills.

"We are deeply grateful to Stuart and Suzanne Salsbury for their incredible commitment to Maryland Carey Law," said Dean Donald B. Tobin, JD. "This gift ensures the sustainability and strength of our trial team for generations of students to come."

The Salsburys, who received a 2021 University of Maryland, Baltimore Catalyst for Excellence Award (along with their son, Ben, and daughter-in-law, Rebecca), attended the law school in the early 1970s and thrived in the moot court program, but missed the chance to be on a trial team. By the time Ben Salsbury, JD '07, was a first-year law student, the National Trial Team was well established, having started in the late 1990s, and well supported by alumni who volunteered to coach and travel with the students. Ben became one of the team's stars along with his future wife, Rebecca Salsbury, JD '08, and celebrated a national championship in his final year.

Despite its success, the team had challenges with funding, and, in 2007, the Salsburys established an endowment to help offset students' travel expenses and tournament fees. Since Ben's graduation, he has volunteered countless hours to coach and co-direct the team. That experience reinforced his view that the trial team needed a permanent director to make the program one of the best in the country. Ben's vision aligned with his parents' philanthropic priorities, and they decided to endow the position. "It was the right time to do the right thing," the Salsburys said.

Suzanne and Stuart have spent their careers as litigators. Before retiring in 2011, Suzanne practiced for 37 years in the juvenile and child support divisions of the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office. She was the first assistant state's attorney in Maryland to job share with a partner. After a federal clerkship, Stuart joined the law firm of Israelson, Pines & Jackson, which ultimately became Salsbury, Clements, Bekman, Marder & Adkins, LLC. He has practiced as a trial lawyer for over four decades and is recognized as one of Maryland's

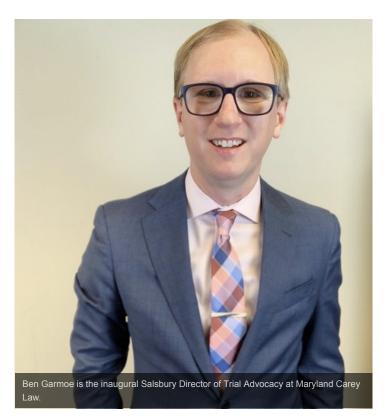
premier medical malpractice attorneys, having served as president of the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association and on the Board of Governors of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. The couple's daughter, Jessica Salsbury, JD, is continuing the family's contribution to the legal profession, working in immigration law since she graduated from American University's Washington College of Law in 2005.

The Salsburys believe that Ben's experience on the trial team was invaluable preparation as he grew into his own litigation career. In 2015, Ben and fellow alumnus Kevin Sullivan, JD '03, co-founded Salsbury Sullivan, LLC, a boutique litigation firm in downtown Baltimore. Stuart, who signed on to contribute his experience at Salsbury Sullivan in 2016, said, "I saw what trial advocacy did for Ben. ... I have always felt that trial advocacy is one of the most important parts of what you should be doing in law school."

Maryland Carey Law's new Salsbury Director of Trial Advocacy position has been filled by Ben Garmoe, JD '16, who had been the team's part-time managing director since 2020. In 2021, Garmoe led the University of Maryland, Baltimore County's mock trial team over Yale University to win the American Mock Trial Association national championship for the first time in program history.

A former captain on the Maryland Carey Law trial team, Garmoe is thrilled to be back with the team full-time, calling the newly endowed position his "dream job," adding, "I am incredibly grateful because this school meant so much to me. To get to walk here every day and do this job, I can't imagine anything better."

Since Garmoe came on full time last fall, the team has seen growth and success, taking first place in the Quinnipiac School of Law's highly



competitive Criminal Justice Trial Advocacy Competition in October.

Current trial team member Nicholas Spiller, a Class of 2023) student who competed in the Quinnipiac event, is thrilled by the direction the team is taking thanks to the Salsbury gift.

"Being on the trial team is providing me with valuable experiences that I know are preparing me for the reality of lawyering," Spiller said. "Everyone involved with the team, from the coaches to classmates, have been very encouraging and supportive. I am grateful that the team now has a full-time, permanent director to build on our momentum and continue strengthening the program for future students."

In recognition of the Salsburys' generosity, Maryland Carey Law also intends to create the Salsbury Trial Competition, an annual event similar to the longtime Myerowitz Moot Court Competition in which students present briefs and oral arguments before local judges and vie

for seats on the Maryland Carey Law Moot Court Board. Members of the trial team, which is a for-credit student organization, are selected through a rigorous two-round tryout process. The competition likely will become integrated into that process.

Garmoe, who is a past Myerowitz winner, appreciates the benefits of an elite, internal competition for students. "Myerowitz has such an important role around here," he noted. "Ever since I was a student, I thought that the trial team should have something similar."

Stuart and Suzanne Salsbury feel the same way, emphasizing their desire for a signature competition to be the cornerstone of a thriving trial advocacy program, which, Suzanne remarked, already produces "some of the star litigators and judges in Maryland."

The Salsburys' remarkable history of philanthropy at the law school began soon after their graduations in 1971 and 1973. Recognizing that being a state school does not mean an institution is fully funded, the Salsburys have been unwavering in their dedication to supporting their alma mater.

"The law school gave me all kinds of opportunities," Stuart said. "It opened up a whole different life and world."

The couple also stepped up when the law school undertook the construction of a new building in the early 2000s, making a significant gift toward the capital project. Additionally, Stuart served on the school's Board of Visitors for 25 years. "The Salsburys' commitment to philanthropy is inspiring," said Shara Boonshaft, JD '02, Maryland Carey Law's assistant dean of development and alumni relations, reflecting on the couple's enduring generosity. "In creating this legacy and in all they have contributed for decades, Stuart and Suzanne exemplify the value of giving back, for which the law school is profoundly grateful."

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### Wanda Haskel

Wanda Haskel is a communications specialist in the Department of Communications at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law.

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UMB on the Move



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# Alumna Pledges \$1.5 Million to Endow School of Dentistry Professorship

Joel Kabot 🗎 February 2, 2022 🧿 3 min read

Alumna Karen J. Ivers, DDS '88, recently pledged \$1.5 million to the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD) to endow a professorship supporting academic excellence and discovery-driven research, the fourth endowed professorship at the school since 2015.



"Research is key to any school's legacy," Ivers says. "When you attract prominent researchers, the entire school thrives — from the labs to the clinics to the classrooms."

UMSOD Dean Mark A. Reynolds, DDS '86, PhD, MA, concurs.

"Endowed professorships empower universities to recruit, retain, and recognize outstanding faculty members as well as support in perpetuity their work as educators, scholars, researchers, and clinicians," he says. "Dr. Ivers' gift helps foster enduring academic excellence."

Ivers' journey through dentistry demonstrates her own commitment to the profession, in its many forms, and to academic dentistry.

She started in art school at Alfred University in upstate New York, intending to be a potter, before realizing that her real passion was elsewhere. Ivers developed an interest in dental hygiene, which led her to leave art school and work for an orthodontist in Trenton, N.J., before entering dental hygiene school at Temple University in 1974.

It's a natural progression from the art world to dentistry, Ivers notes.

"They really aren't all that different from one another," she says. "I've always loved the artistry of dentistry — how you can change someone's whole look and life."

While working as a dental hygienist, Ivers went to night school at University of Maryland University College to finish her bachelor's degree, then took additional prerequisites needed to apply to dental school. Entering UMSOD at age 30, she embraced her role as a nontraditional student, which included working as a dental hygienist on weekends.

"It was great that Maryland took older students, who add so much diversity and experience to the profession," Ivers says.

She also notes the important and essential demographic changes that have occurred in dentistry since her years in school, especially when it comes to the representation of women.

"The influx of women in the profession has been very impactful, which enables dentistry to be of greater service to diverse communities," Ivers says.

The same holds true for philanthropy. Ivers joins fellow alumna Venice K. Paterakis, DDS '81 — whose generosity led to the creation of UMSOD's first endowed professorship — as female benefactors who have not only made significant philanthropic gifts to the school, but also have provided service to its mission.

After all, this latest gift is just a continuation of Ivers' dedication to her alma mater. As a dentist in private practice in Chevy Chase, Md., Ivers served as a Dean's Faculty member at UMSOD, making the long drive from Montgomery County to West Baltimore to instruct and counsel dental students.

Things have come full circle for Ivers, who's retired and living in Naples, Fla. She recently took up pottery again, and the time she spends molding clay leads her to reflect on her decision to pursue dentistry. "I know I chose the right career," she says. "I had an amazing run, and the School of Dentistry has a special place in my heart. I feel very fortunate to be able to make an investment in UMSOD and position the school for future success."

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### Joel Kabot

Joel Kabot is a writer and editor in the Office of Institutional Advancement at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry.

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Called to Service: Community-Minded Alumnus Dickerhoff Never Forgets His Maryland and School of Dentistry Roots



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# Called to Service: Community-Minded Alumnus Dickerhoff Never Forgets His Maryland and School of Dentistry Roots

Not even a bolt of lightning could stop David G. Dickerhoff, DDS '82, MAGD, from talking about the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD).

A few days earlier, lightning had struck his practice in Fayetteville, N.C., knocking out about 35 personal computers, 20 or so land lines, all the radiology equipment, and the security system. Although technicians and workers were still milling about his offices, Dickerhoff was willing to chat via cellphone about why giving back to his alma mater is important to him.



"I grew up in Cumberland and still root for the Orioles, the Terrapins, and the Ravens," he said. "I still consider myself a Maryland boy even though I have lived in North Carolina since 1991. And I am very appreciative of the things the dental school has done for me."

Throughout the years, he and his wife Janice Dickerhoff, who have sons ages 18 and 21, have remained committed to the notion of giving back. In 2019, the couple made a major multiyear pledge to UMSOD's Annual Fund and are supporters of the Dean's Innovation Fund and the Dean's Scholarship for Leadership & Excellence.

"I have always felt that Maryland gave me an incredible start to my dental education," David Dickerhoff said. "Because of that, I have tried to give back. As an elder and clerk of session in my church, Christ's example of being a servant has always inspired me to service."

Since 1996, the Dickerhoffs have operated a private practice comprising five general dentists, two specialists, and a support staff of 30. Janice, a former U.S. Army patient administration specialist, oversees all of the practice's higher-level functions, such as employee benefits, payroll, and taxes.

As an undergraduate at Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College), David Dickerhoff joined the U.S. Army ROTC. After graduation, he applied to UMSOD but was turned down. He then served with the Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C., from 1978-82.

"In that four-year stint of service, they sent me to Jump School, and I was a platoon leader, executive officer, and company commander in a medical clearing station where I earned my

Master Parachutist's Wings and Expert Field Medical Badge," Dickerhoff said. "The biggest thing is that those four years allowed me to grow up a little bit."

He applied again to UMSOD and was accepted. "I really appreciate Maryland accepting me into the class. It taught me so much; I have always been proud to be an alumnus."

Dickerhoff fondly recalls competing on a parking lot roof with the Baseliners, an intramural basketball team, and learning from transformational professors such as Timothy F. Meiller, DDS, PhD, professor in UMSOD's Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences, and Richard Wynn, PhD, professor in UMSOD's Department of Neural and Pain Sciences. But "it should surprise no one that my favorite faculty member was Dr. Hal Crossley," he said.

After dental school, Dickerhoff continued his military career, serving in Wildflecken, Germany, and Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, as well as completing two advanced general dentistry residencies at Fort Sill, Okla., and Fort Bragg. Dickerhoff also donates time to community organizations such as North Carolina Missions of Mercy and Rebuilding America's Warriors. He served for a decade as chair of the United Way of Cumberland County's dental division, and, since 2017, has been the North Carolina state chair of Dental Lifeline Network, a national nonprofit that provides access to dental care for the medically compromised and elderly.

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### **Holly Selby**

Holly Selby is the senior marketing and media specialist for the University of Maryland School of Dentistry.

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FEBRUARY 2022

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# Join the UMB Community Engagement Center's Sustainers Society and Open the Doors for Lasting Change

Rrandon Desiderio 🛗 February 2, 2022 🧿 4 min read

Late in the fall of 2021, the newly renovated University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) Community Engagement Center (CEC) celebrated its grand opening with a gathering that included leaders from throughout the state of Maryland as well as UMB faculty, staff, and students. The keystone that will maintain the CEC's services, events, and activities for years to come free of charge for the greater West Baltimore community and beyond is the CEC Sustainers Society — and your participation in the society is essential to keeping UMB's vision of a better, more prosperous West Baltimore closer in sight than it has been for many years.



"The nice thing about the recurring giving for members of the Sustainers Society is that it helps us guarantee this funding for years to come," said Lisa Vuolo, executive director of annual and leadership giving in UMB's Office of Philanthropy. "When you think about the popularity of streaming services like Netflix and Hulu, we all engage in small monthly contributions without realizing and just 'set it and forget it.' What we're hoping to do through the CEC Sustainers Society is promote these small, doable steps and connect them to transformational philanthropic giving that can really make a lasting difference and sustain program planning in the process."

The new CEC is the cornerstone of <u>UMB's Community Campus</u>, a location and concept that demonstrate a deep commitment to strengthening West Baltimore in collaboration with the neighbors who live there. Working hand-in-hand with community leaders and neighbors, UMB has reimagined the historic building that now houses the CEC into an architecturally stunning, 20,000-square-foot venue that includes a large event space, a dance and movement studio, private consultation rooms, and a robust computer lab. The expansion and relocation of UMB's CEC is in response to more than 45,000 recorded visits from men, women, teens, and

children who have engaged with its services and programming since the original CEC opened in 2015.

"This new center is a place that our community deserves," Ashley Valis, MSW, UMB's executive director of community engagement and strategic initiatives and a resident of West Baltimore, said at the November grand opening. "Together, we have imagined, planned, brainstormed, and convened many residents to deliver a new center that will be a fun, educational, relaxing, respectful, and transformational space for our neighbors."

The CEC Sustainers Society will build on the nearly seven years of programming that predates the CEC's new location at 16 S. Poppleton St. It is a giving society open to all friends of the CEC, near and far. Building on the proven impact that small, monthly contributions can make — and how easy it is for anyone to participate, no matter their personal financial resources — the CEC Sustainers Society is focused on mobilizing everyone who would like to help provide low- and no-cost services for the greater good of Baltimore.

"This center is everything to the neighborhood," said Charlotte McGoines, a resident of Franklin Square. "We meet friends here, we develop relationships here, and it's just so nice. I've met so many friendly and nice people, and I wouldn't do anything else but come here if I could, because it's just that much fun and there is so much to do and experience."

Read more about the community reactions, including remarks from Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott; University System of Maryland Chancellor Jay A. Perman, MD, who launched the CEC during his tenure as UMB president; and 10-year-old A'rya Myers, a West Baltimore neighbor.



Through the CEC Sustainers Society, donors are invited to make a recurring or one-time gift at the Neighbor, Supporter, Advocate, or Champion level. Learn more about the contribution minimum for each level and how much impact you can have by choosing your recurring donation to fund community empowerment, health and wellness, or programming. Or, if you prefer, you can give to the overall CEC Fund.

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#### **Brandon Desiderio**

Brandon Desiderio is a writer and editor in the Office of Philanthropy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

# **Spotlight on UMB Foundation Board Trustee Samantha Mellerson**

Kate Ostrowski 🖰 February 2, 2022 2 4 min read

Samantha Mellerson is an executive director with the W. Haywood Burns Institute. She has more than 15 years of experience working with issues of social justice, racial and ethnic equity, education, diversity, youth justice, child welfare, and well-being. She also brings a wealth of knowledge about nonprofit capacity building and is a certified empowerment and diversity coach. Mellerson has worked across public and private sectors in areas such as nonprofit direct service and management, local and state government, and philanthropy. A graduate of the University of Toronto, she has served on the UMB Foundation (UMBF) Board of Trustees since 2018.



SPOTLIGHT: Can you tell me a little bit about your professional background? It seems like you've worked across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. What is one thing these environments have in common?

**SAMANTHA MELLERSON:** I have been very fortunate to have had the opportunity to work across sectors in various capacities. My work has always focused on improving quality of life outcomes for children, families and communities. So, I think the area of focus around human service has been the through line for what they have in common, but each has very different approaches in application. This has been an important perspective for me to gain — it has all helped shape my perspective and vision for true transformative change to create a more just and equitable society where all people and communities can thrive.

How can we create better partnerships between UMB and other anchor institutions in Baltimore? Are there areas for potential beneficial partnership that we are overlooking?

Anchor institutions are really important for local economies. Oftentimes, people overlook the economic power of these institutions and their potential relationship to community wealth building. In a city like Baltimore, with the right targeted focus, leveraging this type of economic power could be transformative. Prioritizing partnerships with local Black businesses, vendors, and contractors is critical. Providing training, incubation, and capacity building also is a great way to partner and can be leveraged to support job creation strategies. A great anchor institution benefits when the community thrives.

What gaps do you see in the current higher education landscape when it comes to racial and ethnic equity? How do we overcome these challenges to build a more equitable landscape?

Higher education faces many of the same challenges as other sectors and institutions. Structural racism has played a prominent role in higher education history. We all need to increase our historical competence of this, because it serves as an important background to understanding the current-day manifestations of racism. We need to examine higher

education policy through a racial equity lens and consider how it shapes policy decisions, processes, and emerging priorities, and how these decisions increase or decrease access to opportunity. Through this type of examination, we can begin changing the policies and practices that we know contribute to racial and ethnic disparity.

### How did you first get involved with UMB?

I have worked on social justice issues in the city for years, so naturally I have crossed paths with several different departments, programs, and people connected with UMB working on various community initiatives. In terms of the Board of Trustees, there was a very intentional effort to begin diversifying the board across race, ethnicity, gender, age, etc., and that is when I was introduced to the idea of participating on the board.

### Do you have any advice for UMB students as they enter the workforce?

I try not to really offer advice, but I love to share things that I know have helped me. I really believe our purpose in life is to recognize our superpower — that thing that you do so well and so naturally that you may not even realize what an incredible skill it is — and share it with the world. We get to choose our relationship with our past, present, and future, so fulfill your purpose, because that is the path that brings you joy.

### Why do you give to UMB?

Because I see its potential to impact the lives of some of Baltimore's most marginalized communities. My hope is to serve as a bridge.

UMBF, Inc. is a tax-exempt corporation, exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and recognized by UMB's governing board as an affiliated foundation of UMB, Maryland's only public health, law, and human services university. UMB is composed of six professional schools (dentistry, law, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, social work) and the interdisciplinary Graduate School. Its mission is to improve the human condition and serve the public good of Maryland and society at large through education, research, clinical care, and service.

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### Kate Ostrowski

Kate Ostrowski, MPP, is the associate director, foundation operations and compliance, and board relations, in the Office of Philanthropy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

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Called to Service: Community-Minded Alumnus Dickerhoff Never Forgets His Maryland and School of **Dentistry Roots** 

## **UMB** on the Move

UMB Staff 🖰 February 2, 2022 ② 4 min read

The Office of Philanthropy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) is pleased to present engaging stories of newsworthy events and milestones happening across the University that are bringing about change in Baltimore and beyond.

Highlights in this issue include:

### University of Maryland Strategic Partnership Establishes MPower Professorships

The University of Maryland Strategic Partnership, a joint collaboration between UMB and the University of Maryland, College Park that operates under the banner name of *MPowering the State (MPower)*, unveiled four MPower Professorships, which have been established to promote and advance collaborative, groundbreaking research efforts between the two institutions. Each professor will receive \$150,000,



allocated over three years, to apply to their salary or to support supplemental research activities. To learn more about the specific research focus areas and the inaugural cohort of MPowerProfessors, *click here*.

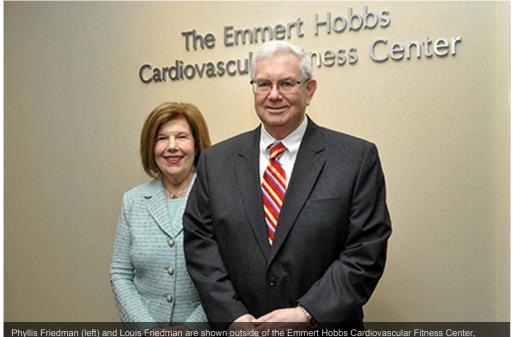
'Virtual Face-to-Face with President Bruce Jarrell': A Conversation with Eric Weintraub, MD, on the Evolving Opioid Crisis



Eric Weintraub, MD, professor of psychiatry at the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) and medical director of University of Maryland Medical Center Psychiatric Emergency Services, sat down with UMB President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, to discuss the importance of medication-assisted treatment as the silverbullet antidote to the deep and troubling opioid crisis, after a challenging year in which upwards of 100,000 lives were claimed by drug overdose — two-thirds of which were attributable to opioid misuse. *Click here* to hear more about Dr. Weintraub's pioneering, peer-reviewed

telemedicine approach to serving the rural front lines of those areas hardest hit by the opioid crisis.

Louis J. Friedman, JD '65, and Phyllis C. Friedman, JD '77, Honored as 2021 Distinguished Service Award Recipients by the UMB Foundation



Phyllis Friedman (left) and Louis Friedman are shown outside of the Emmert Hobbs Cardiovascular Fitness Center, located within the facilities of the League for People with Disabilities, Inc., in Baltimore, just one recipient of their longstanding philanthropic support.

Louis and Phyllis Friedman have been generous supporters of UMB for more than 20 years through their Louis and Phyllis Friedman Foundation, as well as other foundations they manage. The Friedmans have truly made a lasting impact at UMB by making foundational contributions to medicine and science. We salute their dedication as community philanthropists for decades, and we are grateful they have chosen to partner with us across our mission areas. To read more about their extensive philanthropic support, including the professorships and fellowships they have established at UMB, *click here*.

# Starring Roles: 10th- and 11th-Grade UMB CURE Scholars Featured in Documentary

This documentary is the fourth installment of a docuseries that follows the life journeys of five students from West Baltimore who are part of the nationally recognized UMB CURE Scholars Program. In the film, students Shakeer, Princaya, Tyler, Courtney, and Davioin are challenged like never before, as they prepare to apply to colleges during the COVID-19 pandemic — a path to a brighter future which their families could only dream of happening. To read more about the documentary and these remarkable students, *click here*.



### Why Ellin & Tucker's Ed Brake Believes in Baltimore and UMB's CURE Scholars

Ellin & Tucker, an accounting and business consulting firm headquartered in downtown Baltimore for over 75 years, focuses on serving the community to build a stronger Baltimore. In the opinion of its CEO, Edwin "Ed" Brake, this work can't be done in a silo or



by one person. It takes a team of business leaders with the wisdom and experience to carry out a long-term approach that delivers results to make a difference. The UMB CURE Scholars Program represents a pivotal part of Brake's vision for a better city for all. To read about the transformative role Brake and Ellin & Tucker continue to play in Baltimore, click here.

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