



June 3, 2026

For Immediate Release



BALTIMORE RAVENS VOLUNTEER DAY AT PATTERSON PARK

Annual 'Signature Project' Funded by Ravens Foundation Helps Transform Catalyst Center & Virginia S. Baker Rec Center

The Baltimore Ravens are hosting an organization-wide volunteer day today (Wednesday, June 3) alongside Heart of America and Baltimore City Recreation & Parks to help renovate and beautify various spaces throughout Patterson Park in East Baltimore. The day is part of the Ravens' annual "signature project," fully funded by the Ravens Foundation, Inc.

Ravens players will contribute to the enhancement projects during the day of service, which begins with a 9:30 a.m. kickoff ceremony led by Ravens president **Sashi Brown**, Heart of America staff members and representatives from the Patterson Park neighborhood.

Much of the day's volunteer efforts will focus on refurbishing two buildings within the park – the Catalyst Center and Virginia S. Baker Recreation Center. Representing a forward-thinking investment in Baltimore City's youth, the Catalyst Center is designed to ignite curiosity and expand opportunity, providing hands-on STEM programming for school-aged children and a nature-based preschool program. The Virginia S. Baker Recreation Center remains one of Baltimore's primary neighborhood recreation facilities, reflecting Ms. Baker's legacy of public service, community strength and equitable access to recreation.

The volunteer project includes building picnic tables, gardening, outdoor landscaping, painting, furniture assembly and setting up new tech equipment throughout the areas.

Below are statements from parties involved in Wednesday's project:

Sashi Brown, President, Baltimore Ravens:

"Patterson Park is a vital part of the Baltimore community, and we are proud to invest in its future in a meaningful way. The Ravens Foundation is committed to creating and expanding opportunities for youth across Maryland, and we are confident that the renovation of the Catalyst Center and Virginia S. Baker Recreation Center will have a lasting positive impact for years to come."

Jill Hardy Heath, President & CEO, Heart of America:

"At Heart of America, we believe the spaces where young people learn, gather and explore matter. This project is about more than improving buildings. We are creating environments that help young people feel welcomed, supported and inspired. We are proud to partner with the Baltimore Ravens Foundation and Baltimore City Recreation & Parks to invest in spaces that will serve Baltimore families and youth for years to come."

Previous Ravens “signature project” sites include:

- Green Street Academy, 2025
- The Historic Samuel Coleridge-Taylor Elementary School, 2024
- Morrell Park Elementary, 2023
- Franklin Square Elementary / Middle School, 2022
- Curtis Bay Elementary School, 2021
- Edgecombe Circle, 2020 and 2021
- Webster Kendrick Boys and Girls Club, 2019
- Douglass Homes, 2018
- Mary Ann Winterling Elementary School, 2017
- Ravens Bookmobile, 2016
- Charles Carroll Barrister Elementary #34, 2015

About the Ravens Foundation:

[The Ravens Foundation, Inc.](#) is committed to improving, encouraging and enabling the healthy development of youth in Maryland. The foundation focuses on programs that help youth and their families with various needs, including housing, hunger, education, athletics and mentoring.

About Heart of America:

[Heart of America](#) is a 501c3 nonprofit that transforms learning spaces and helps bridge resource gaps. Our work focuses on the whole student, knowing that the physical spaces where young people learn are just as important as *what* they are learning. Since 1997, we’ve worked towards education equity by renovating nearly 1,400 spaces in classrooms, libraries, STEAM labs, college/career centers, school gymnasiums, community centers, and more. We have provided current resources, including over 4.4 million books, and infused over \$14.3 million in technology.