

Office of Volunteer Services

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The Tutorial Project has served the citizens of Baltimore City since 1958. During the nearly forty years of service, procedural modifications have been made in response to changing times. At the program's inception, Hopkins students traveled to the homes of high schools students, serving as big brothers/sisters. This model continued until the riots of the 60's when the program was modified and high school students began coming to Hopkins. In the early seventies the program was modified once again as a result of published research that targeted the need to begin intervention in the elementary school years. The program has continued in this model unit now. However, changing times have once again necessitated a modification.

Since the seventies the City of Baltimore has funded Urban Services Center throughout the city. These centers served as contacts for the Tutorial Project, referring children for tutoring. Furthermore, these centers, having extended hours in order to serve the community, provided a safe environment for the children before and after tutoring. Unfortunately, in the early 90's these centers were closed. This has left children and families without a safe place to wait for transportation to the program. With this knowledge and with additional current information from several sources in the city, we feel we can no longer ask children and families to wait on street corners when we are unable to specify the precise time that the bus will arrive. The safety of the children, their families, and others has compelled us to make the irrevocable decision to discontinue bus service.

As we begin our thirty-eighth year of service, we look forward to continuing our program. To assist families with the present change, with their permission we will publish a list of enrolled children to facilitate the formation of carpools. Additionally, we have updated our referral list of citywide tutorial programs which is available to all families. Lastly, preliminary discussions have been held with two schools in the hopes of establishing after-school tutorial programs in elementary schools in East and Southwest Baltimore.

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