



NEWS RELEASE

Department of Communications and Community Outreach
6901 Charles Street Towson, MD 21204
443.809.5908 (English) 443.809.1250 (Español) www.bcps.org

FOR RELEASE: March 18, 2024

[BCPS press releases are available online](#)

Education Foundation Executive Director Deborah Phelps to be inducted into The Daily Record's Circle of Excellence

Honor signifies that she has been named among Maryland's Top 100 Women a third and final time

Towson, Md. — [The Daily Record](#) has named Deborah Phelps, executive director of The Education Foundation of Baltimore County Public Schools, Inc., to its 2024 listing of Maryland's Top 100 Women. In honor of receiving this award for a third and final time, she and nine other women also will be inducted into the publication's Circle of Excellence.

Phelps has served as the executive director of The Education Foundation for nearly a dozen years. Under her leadership, the foundation has greatly expanded its capacity to raise funds, build partnerships, and provide grants and resources to Baltimore County Public Schools' educators and schools and to provide scholarships and opportunities to BCPS students. Prior to leading the foundation, Phelps held several other positions with BCPS, including principal of Windsor Mill Middle School; assistant to the executive director of schools/southwest area; and coordinator/administrative facilitator of the Health, Finance, and Law Magnet program at Loch Raven Technical Academy. Beyond BCPS, Phelps is the author of "A Mother for All Seasons" and a popular motivational speaker and mentor.

In its 29th year, Maryland's Top 100 Women was founded to recognize outstanding achievements by women demonstrated through professional accomplishments, community leadership, and mentoring.

Nominees were asked to complete an application outlining their educational and career history, professional and community involvement, corporate and nonprofit board memberships, and mentoring experience. They were encouraged to submit letters of recommendation from those who are familiar

with their accomplishments professionally, in the community, and through mentoring.

A panel of business and legal professionals, previous Maryland's Top 100 Women honorees from throughout the state, and a representative of The Daily Record reviewed the final applications and selected this year's honorees.

"The 2024 Maryland's Top 100 Women are exemplary leaders from a variety of professions across the state. They make significant contributions to their organizations and communities and are committed to mentoring to elevate future women leaders," said Suzanne Fischer-Huettner, managing director of BridgeTower Media/The Daily Record. "We are so pleased to honor this year's Circle of Excellence winners for their incredible achievements and for their support and encouragement of other women. Congratulations to all the 2024 Maryland's Top 100 Women."

Maryland's Top 100 Women will be honored at a reception and awards celebration on May 6 at The Lyric Baltimore, 140 W. Mount Royal Avenue in Baltimore. The VIP reception begins at 4 p.m. Doors open for the general networking reception at 4:30 p.m. and features heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks. The awards celebration starts at 6 p.m., runs for approximately an hour, and is followed by a dessert reception.

Winners will be profiled in a special magazine that will be inserted into the May 7 issue of The Daily Record and will be available [online](#).

The Circle of Excellence Sponsor is GBMC Healthcare. The Reception Sponsor is Notre Dame of Maryland University. The Leadership Sponsor is Towson University. An updated listing of sponsors maybe found on [The Daily Record's website](#).

(Editor's note: A photo of Phelps can be found on [Flickr](#).)

###

[Baltimore County Public Schools](#), the nation's 22nd largest school system, engages and empowers its talented students, teachers, staff, and stakeholders and strives to build an innovative and collaborative learning community where all students excel and reach their highest potential.

Engage. Empower. Excel.