



The  
**Baltimore**  
Convention Center

## 2022 Social Responsibility & Sustainability Recap



# Sustainability 2022

Each year the Baltimore Convention Center's team works with internal Service Partners and local organizations to research and find new technology and environmental management systems that can further enhance the Center's commitment to building a sustainably responsible venue. In 2022, we installed new products and programs to educate all staff and clients about the importance of protecting the ecosystem that feeds us.

This year our team worked on enhancing our method of sourcing and recycling materials in-house. With over 120 events and 500,000 visitors annually, the Center is consistently overflowing with post-event materials such as exhibitor booth supplies, food, furniture, wood, and more. Though many preserved materials are given back to Baltimore residents and nonprofits, some supplies are recycled within the facility. By sourcing materials within the building, we are reducing waste and educating staff members on ways they can be more eco-friendly in their everyday work. Our team has recycled pallets and scraps to build new equipment for shows, food scraps for composting, plants for landscaping, and much more.

Along with readily available in-house resources, the Center researched new products that could be beneficial to the facility. The Center executed client case studies to determine which reoccurring shows tend to have the largest environmental impact. We connected with clients that hold larger events to bring awareness of how their organization can be more sustainable and show how they can leave a positive lasting impression on the City of Baltimore. This April we had the Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA) Conference that drew in more than 6,000 guests and 515 exhibitors. This event participated in the Center's Diversion by Donation Program and donated several thousand pounds of material to local nonprofit partners. Distributed and repurposed items include booth furniture, carpet, pallets, etc.

The Center's most notable and ground-breaking installments in 2022 were our garden grow towers and our urban bee farm. The Center worked with our catering team, SodexoLive! to research new viable technology that could assist our cooks in harvesting our own produce and honey.



**Total Diversion 149.44**

**All units are measured in tons**

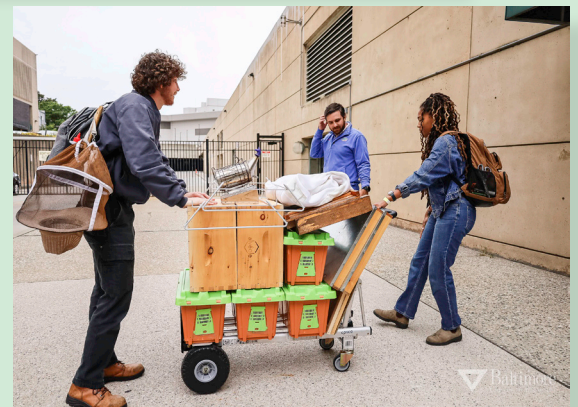
# What's New

# The Buzz At The BCC

On Friday, September 30th the Baltimore Convention Center worked with Urban Beekeeping Company, Alveole to install two beehives on the Center's roof. This organization's mission is to reconnect cities across the globe with sustainable programs such as beekeeping and educational environmental trainings. Since 2013 Alveole has connected over 100,000 people with bees creating opportunities for education as well as opportunity to increase pollinators in urban areas leading to a healthier greener environment. This group has reached cities across North America and Paris.

Two professional beekeepers were assigned to our facility for installment and maintenance visits. They brought over 70,000 bees and placed bee hotels on the roof on the east side of the building. Our bees travel within 2-3 miles of their hives to obtain resources including our green terrace. Both hives bring many benefits not just within the facility but to our community. Our bees provide:

- Education highlighting the importance of this species and all pollinators
- More pollinators growing the city's ecosystem
- Honey for our catered meals
- A repurpose of our unused space



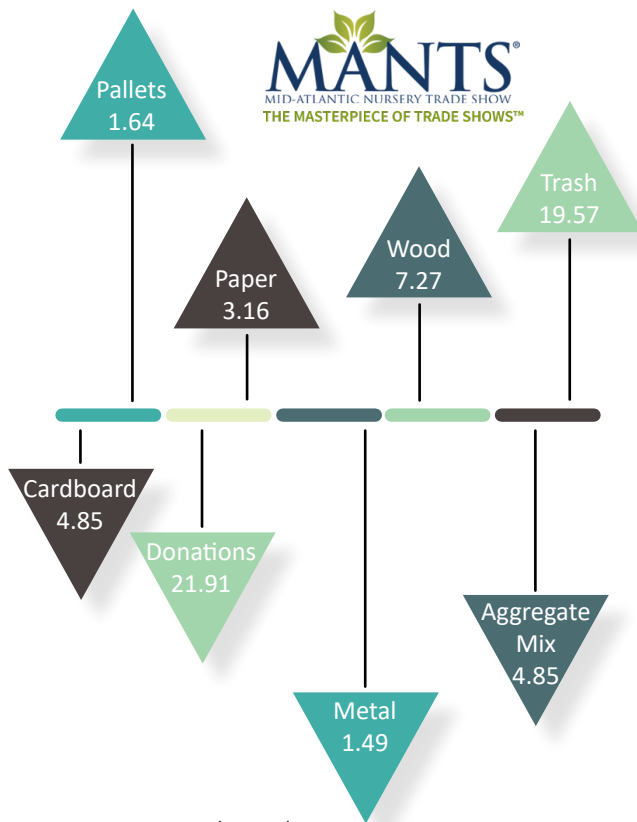
Center Deputy Director, Phil Costa, L & R are Alveole Beekeepers

# Garden Grow Towers

The Center has worked diligently to obtain fresh and delicious ingredients responsibly, and by responsibly we mean sustainably. This year our Chef installed two indoor garden grow towers. These towers were brought by Tower Garden by Juice Plus+ and were designed to make indoor farming possible and easier. Each tower consists of LED lights that help grow up to 32 plants simultaneously giving us 64 plants produced in total.

Along with installing these units, SodexoLive! Executive Chef Greg Pittman participated in trainings to learn how to use these towers, the benefits of indoor gardening, and different methods of growing produce. He is now experienced in testing PH levels and growing clean and healthy produce and will continue to share his knowledge with his staff.

# Meetings Make Big Impact



In January 2022 the Baltimore Convention Center hosted the **Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Show (MANTS)** for its 52nd year. MANTS has held its annual event at the Center for over 42 years growing the city's economy as well as bettering the community's eco-system. This year's show was greater than ever and brought over 900 exhibitors and 12,000 visitors to the City of Baltimore.

Our team worked with exhibitors to recycle and donate 6.5 tons of resources including wood, metal, pallets, cardboard, food, and mixed aggregates to the local community and nonprofits. In total, the Center donated 377 plants to Baltimore Tree Trust, The Baltimore Toolbank, Second Chance, and Midtown Baltimore which allowed these groups to save about \$39,000 in costs. The Center's catering partner, SodexoLive! donated almost 500 pounds of food scraps to local pig farm, Carriage House Farms, which in turn was fed to their livestock. MANTS continues to give back resources aiding neighboring communities in need and contributing to the environment making the city a greener place.

**ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS**



**The Association of Zoos & Aquariums** 2022 Conference was hosted at the Center bringing hundreds of professionals and more than 235 facilities across the U.S. together to learn the best practices for animal care and conservation. This group contributed to the Center's sustainability efforts by composting a total of 1,300 pounds of waste. This provided a significant donation of scraps to our partnership with a local pig farm.

**United States Institute for Theatre Technology** was held in March of this year bringing over 3,000 artists and creators to Baltimore. This group diverted over 600 pounds of material from their show and donated them to our local nonprofit partners.



- In April of 2022, the **Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA)** held its event at the Center. This event brought over **6,000 attendees** and hundreds of exhibitors.
- The Center worked closely with Shepard Exposition Services and over **10 exhibitors** to donate items to the local nonprofit, Second Chance. Over **3,000 pounds** of materials were donated.

# Community & Culture

## Mayor Scott Annual Fall Cleanup

**On Saturday, October 22nd the Center's Staff** volunteered at Mayor Brandon Scott's Fall Cleanup event. Five staff members worked from 9 am to 1 pm and joined residents, DPW waste workers, and cleaning crews in picking up debris from local Baltimore communities. This service day helped promote a cleaner environment and brought awareness of the negative impact littering has in the community.



Mayor Brandon Scott & The Center's Accounting Assistant III, Julian Baker



Sodexo Live!, Sous Chef, Genevieve White

## SodexoLive! Stop Hunger Big Soup Event

**The Center's culinary team and volunteers** came together to cook chicken noodle soup to give back to the local nonprofit, Helping Up Mission. This organization helps provide resources for the homeless community and individuals struggling with drug addiction. SodexoLive! donated 150 gallons of soup.

## Holiday Donation Drives

- **Thanksgiving Food Drive:** In November the Center and SodexoLive! donated 10 complete meal bags to Bea Gaddy Family Center. Meal kits contained mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, boxed milk, soup, green beans, yams, marshmallows, brown sugar, corn muffin mix, and apple pie filling.
- **Toys for Tots Drive:** SodexoLive! and the Center's staff came together to collect toys to donate to the Ronald McDonald House helping families in need during the holidays. 36 coloring utensils, 16 stuffed plushies, and 31 art/activity books were donated along with 34 other toys.



SodexoLive!, Director of Operations, Rebecca Scott & Banquet Supervisor, Dondra Gladden

SodexoLive!, Director of Operations, Rebecca Scott & Catering Sales Manager, Angela Kelly



# Our Partners



The Midtown Community Benefits District is a neighborhood advocacy and improvement group created by a voter referendum in the mid-1990s to strengthen the neighborhoods for all who live and work here.

**1120 N. Charles Street, Suite 220  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
[www.midtownbaltimore.org](http://www.midtownbaltimore.org)**



NOW IT'S UP TO US

Helping Up Mission provides hope to people experiencing homelessness, poverty or addiction by meeting their physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs.

**1029 E Baltimore St, Baltimore, MD 21202  
[www.helpingupmission.org](http://www.helpingupmission.org)**



Second Chance's mission is to retrain and create employment for displaced and unemployed workers; reclaim building material to reduce environmental harm and demolition debris in burgeoning landfills; and to renew both people and products to useful, purposeful life.

**1700 Ridgely St, Baltimore, MD 21230  
[www.secondchanceinc.org](http://www.secondchanceinc.org)**

## Additional Nonprofit Partners:

**South Baltimore Station  
Baltimore Outreach  
Bea Gaddy Center  
Catholic Charities**



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**1029 E Baltimore St, Baltimore, MD 21202  
[www.helpingupmission.org](http://www.helpingupmission.org)**



Our vision is an America where no one is hungry. Our mission is to advance change in America by ensuring equitable access to nutritious food for all in partnership with food banks, policymakers, supporters, and the communities we serve.

**161 North Clark Street,  
Suite 700 Chicago, IL 60601  
[www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org)**



FOOD FOR A NEW LIFE

New Life Food Pantry expanded its mission to provide hope, help, healing, and food to anyone who comes to our doors looking for food assistance so he or she can get the supplies they need to prepare and serve a healthy meal for themselves and their families.

**2401 East North Avenue, Baltimore, MD  
[www.newlifepantry.org](http://www.newlifepantry.org)**



The Baltimore Community ToolBank serves community-based organizations by providing tools, equipment & expertise to empower their most ambitious goals.

**1029 E Baltimore St, Baltimore, MD 21202  
[www.helpingupmission.org](http://www.helpingupmission.org)**