

Communications Office

Jillian Lader, Manager of Communications
410-588-5203 • Jillian.Lader@hcps.org

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Harford County Students Raise More Than \$216,000 for American Heart Association

Students and staff across Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) came together again this year to support heart health education and lifesaving research by participating in the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge and American Heart Challenge. Eleven schools participated during the 2025-2026 school year, raising \$216,032.

Students registered online, shared heart-healthy messages, and raised funds to help combat heart disease and stroke. Nearly 3,900 students registered for the challenge and more than 750 families took part in Finn's Mission, an initiative designed to teach Hands-Only CPR and the warning signs of stroke.

More than 300 schools across Maryland partnered with the American Heart Association this school year.

"I am incredibly proud of these eleven schools for their outstanding commitment to the Kids Heart Challenge and American Heart Challenge this year," said Kate Poole, Senior Development Director, School Engagement for the American Heart Association. "Students, families, and educators came together to support heart health, build lifelong healthy habits, and make a meaningful difference. Their passion and dedication continue to inspire and create lasting impact in our community."

Six HCPS schools were ranked among the top 25 fundraising schools in Maryland:

- **Homestead-Wakefield Elementary School** – \$57,579 raised (Ranked 1st in Maryland for second year in a row, and 14th in the Nation)
- **Hickory Elementary School** – \$41,947 raised (Ranked 2nd in Maryland, and 34th in the Nation)
- **Fallston Middle School** – \$33,950 raised (Ranked 4th in Maryland and 3rd middle school in the Nation)
- **Churchville Elementary School** - \$18,511 raised (Ranked 17th in Maryland)
- **Joppatowne Elementary School** - \$16,239 raised (Ranked 23rd in Maryland)

- **Patterson Mill Middle School** - \$15,933 raised (Ranked 25th in Maryland, and 6th middle school in the Nation)

“I am consistently amazed and impressed by how much Harford County Public Schools students think about the needs of others day in and day out,” said Interim Superintendent Dr. Dyann R. Mack. “Their care about others is a testament to our community. I appreciate the educators, families, and community members that supported this service-learning project. By learning today about the importance of service, our students are building a foundation to become strong leaders for our future.”

Below is a breakdown of each participating school’s impact:

| School | Funds Raised | Registered Students | Finn’s Mission Participants |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Homestead-Wakefield Elementary School | \$57,579 | 582 | 166 |
| Hickory Elementary School | \$41,947 | 421 | 116 |
| Fallston Middle School | \$33,950 | 865 | 53 |
| Churchville Elementary School | \$18,511 | 179 | 42 |
| Joppatowne Elementary School | \$16,239 | 306 | 45 |
| Patterson Mill Middle School | \$15,933 | 224 | 34 |
| Emmorton Elementary School | \$13,037 | 139 | 41 |
| Red Pump Elementary School | \$9,426 | 127 | 25 |
| Old Post Road Elementary School | \$6,508 | 130 | 12 |
| Darlington Elementary School | \$1,922 | 32 | 3 |
| Fallston High School | \$920 | 239 | 0 |

For more information about the American Heart Association and how to get involved in the Kids Heart Challenge or American Heart Challenge, visit www.heart.org.