

Memorandum

то:	MLDS Governing Board
FROM:	Ross Goldstein, Executive Director
	Angela Henneberger, Research Branch Director
DATE:	May 28, 2021
SUBJECT:	Morgan State University - Research Branch Amendment

Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is to update the Board on the expansion of the MLDS Center Research Branch to include expertise from faculty, staff, and students at Morgan State University (MSU).

Background

The partnership with MSU will increase the Center's research capacity and diversify its expertise. State agencies that have interagency agreements with institutions of higher education are required to meet a HBCU participation goal, which this partnership will fulfill.

Update

To establish the partnership, the Center and the University of Maryland, School of Social (SSW) amended the interagency agreement establishing the Research Branch of the Center to allow the SSW to subcontract with any Maryland public institution of higher education (instead of only USM institutions). The amendment also added \$30,000 to the three year budget to include funds for MSU researchers. Dr. Henneberger worked with UMB administration officials to establish a subcontract with MSU, similar to the other subcontracted institutions (University of Maryland College Park).

With all of the contractual and financial details worked out, MSU is ready to begin partnering with research activities. The <u>School of Education and Urban Studies</u> appointed <u>Dr. Omari Jackson</u> to serve as the Associate Director for the Research Branch and to be the primary point of contact for MSU.

Action

Information only.