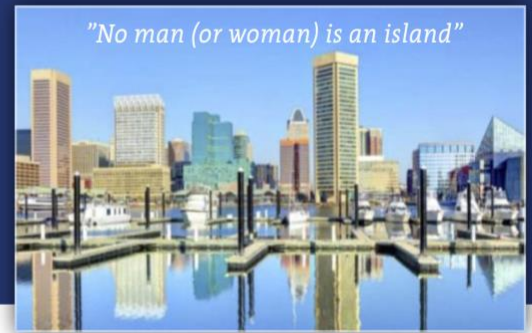




Baltimore Sister Cities  
**Esprit de Corps**  
 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
*For volunteers, committee members, and leaders*



## THE POWER OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

Dalila Khaled

Baltimore Luxor Alexandria Sister City  
 Committee

["Want to boost global economic growth?  
 Unleash the power of women entrepreneurs"](#)

Open webinar: **"Managing the COVID-19  
 Pandemic — Experiences & Best Practices of  
 China, Japan and the Republic of Korea"**

Date/Time: **July 2, 2020 (Thur.) 15:00-16:30  
 (GMT+9)**

[https://tcs-  
 asia.org/en/board/notice\\_view.php?idx=3548&pNo=1](https://tcs-asia.org/en/board/notice_view.php?idx=3548&pNo=1)

### Collaboration for Baltimore

Page 2

### Functional Championships Program – Gearing Up

Page 3

### Baltimore Sister Cities Condolences to Jin Park

Page 4

## VOLUNTEERS FIRST, VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS –

LIFE LINE OF NONPROFIT INDUSTRY

"I SAY TO YOU

THAT WHEN YOU WORK YOU FULFILL A PART OF EARTH'S  
 FURTHEST DREAM,

ASSIGNED TO YOU WHEN THAT DREAM WAS BORN,  
 AND IN KEEPING YOURSELF WITH LABOR YOU ARE IN TRUTH  
 LOVING LIFE,

AND TO LIVE LIFE THROUGH LABOR IS TO BE INTIMATE WITH  
 LIFE'S INMOST SECRET"

KHLIL GIBRAN

## FORTY YEARS OF SISTER CITIES



**Fontaine Bell**  
**BSC Acting Secretary**



**Athar Bayoumi**  
**Acting Assistant Secretary**

Like Bill Murray in 'Groundhog Day' I'm back again. 40 years ago (1980) I was a young loan officer at First National Bank of Maryland (now M&T Bank). That was the year that then-Maryland Governor Harry Hughes decided to start a Sister State relationship with Anhui Province in China. The bank's president was asked to join the delegation and, because of my military (Vietnam War) and education (MA Politics and Asian Studies at New York University) background in Asia, I was asked to leave my domestic lending position and take over management of the bank's Asia-Pacific Division. In 1985 I was asked by then-Mayor William Donald Schaefer to join his delegation to start a Sister City relationship with Xiamen, China. On return I was one of the founding members of the Baltimore-Xiamen Sister City Committee. In 2015 I was also, along with Gislin Dagnelie (BRSCC), Rachel Sengers (BRSCC) and Dan Young (BKSCC), a founding member of BSC. At year end 2019 I 'retired' from the BSC board but continue as an active member of BXSCC.

Working with me in the Secretary position will be Acting Assistant Secretary Athar Bayoumi. Athar was born in Egypt, raised in Maryland and is a member of BLASCC. She was the Advertising Assistant at *Baltimore* magazine until May 22 when they furloughed half of their staff due to COVID-19.

At *Baltimore* magazine Athar had considerable experience with G Suite. She is a graduate of Stevenson University (BS Business Administration with a double major in marketing and management). While at Stevenson Athar had internships at *Baltimore Business Journal* and Habitat for Humanity.

Initially I plan to focus on managing the G Suite program and Athar will handle board meeting administration. We will work together on G Suite Contact Lists and internal communications. We will share the [secretary@baltimoresistercities.org](mailto:secretary@baltimoresistercities.org) account. You can come to either one of us with any Secretary problems or questions. Some of the things Athar and I want to work on include improving communications with committee secretaries, making G Suite more user friendly, and encouraging more committees to use G Suite for their internal administration and record keeping. Sometime soon we will hold a second G Suite Workshop. Meanwhile we encourage any G Suite feedback or suggestions.

## Collaboration for Baltimore



Karen Leggett, Baltimore Luxor Alexandria Sister City Committee

One suggestion from a BLASCC member is growing into a multi-faceted collaboration to provide assistance and support to Baltimore's refugees and immigrants.

BLASCC member Kate Campbell Stevenson was the longtime board chair for [Empowered Women International](#), a nonprofit in the



Washington, D.C.

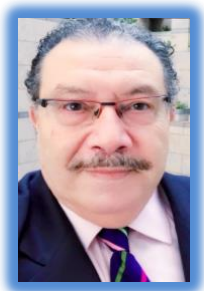
EWI provides business training and support to immigrant, refugee and other marginalized women. As EWI

expanded its services to Baltimore, Kate imagined collaboration possibilities with BLASCC. Just a few months later, two of our members – Delila Khaled and Athar Bayoumi – are using their business and advertising skills to offer feedback to EWI trainees on perfecting their business pitches and financial plans.



This led to further outreach to the [Mera Kitchen Collective](#), a Baltimore worker cooperative in which immigrant chefs work together to provide catering services. Since the pandemic began, Mera Kitchen has used a [GoFundMe](#) campaign to prepare meals for Baltimore communities and frontline health workers. BLASCC is investigating ways we can help provide these new Baltimore residents – the Mera Kitchen chefs - with training in personal financial literacy, conflict resolution and the Black Lives Matter movement. Geri Byrd, BSC Vice President and the Mayor's Chief of Staff for Administration, and Catalina Rodrigues-Lima, Director of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MIMA), have been supporting our discussions.

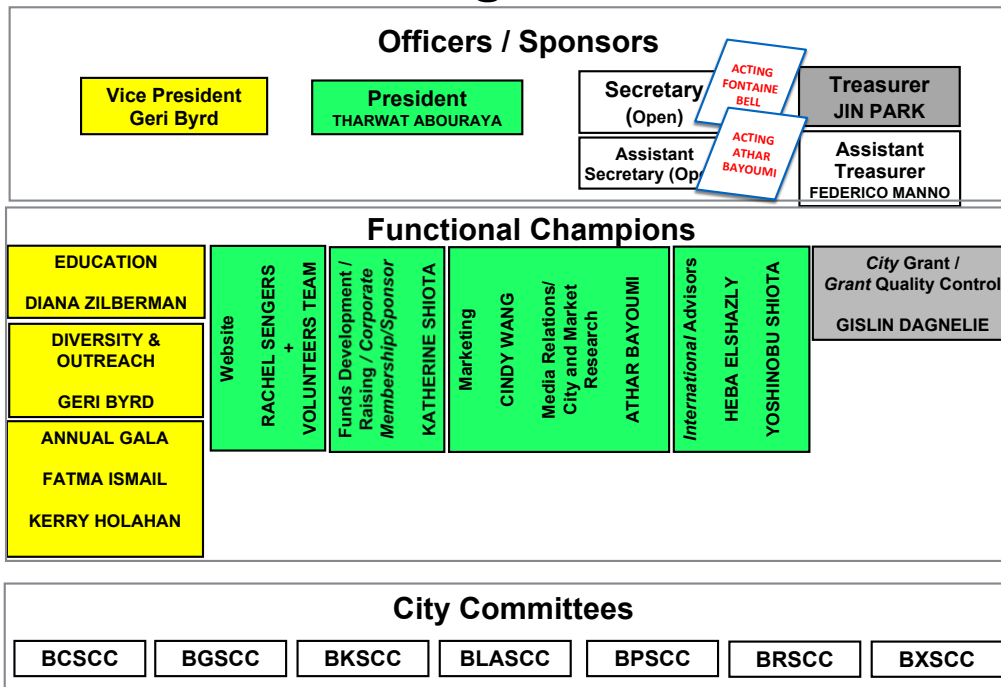
# Functional Championships Program – Gearing Up



Tharwat Abouraya,  
Baltimore Sister Cities, Inc,

At the June 10<sup>th</sup> BSC Board Meeting we reviewed the new leadership development program aimed to provide exposure and practical, hands-on experience across all BSC committees. What BSC owes volunteer-leaders is to enable them to realize their potential and their purpose in serving the organization and their personal careers.

## BSC Organization



■ ■ ■ ■ = Sponsorship

June 26, 2020

Our BSC Champions command respect by all and are motivators who will support all Sister City committees using cross collaboration among BSC members.

I held virtual G Meet with almost all Champions before the end of June. We discussed and came up with specific tasks to help BSC advance its goals and achieve our mission. We are gearing up to hit the ground running in January 2021 with three outward goals:

- 1) **Earned revenue** - fundraising, corporate membership & sponsorships,
- 2) **Visibility** - targeted marketing, donor identifications & impactful media relations & social media, etc., and
- 3) **Volunteer/Intern retaintion & recruitment.**

**Functional Education Group** is being led by Diana Zilberman. Diana will come up with a strategy and plan to give guidance to each Sister City Committee's Education Sub-group.

**Functional Marketing Group** – Cindy Wang & Athar Bayouni the Champions have created a full plan with Phase 1 beginning now and Phase 2 beginning in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

**Functional Annual Membership & Fundraising Event** – will finalize plans in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter for January 2021 Event – more to come from Fatma Ismail & Kerry Holahan.

**Functional Diversity & Outreach** – Geri Byrd is working on developing a “Diversity Webinar,” during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

**Functional Fundraising & Corporate Membership/Sponsorship** – Kathy Shiota & Tharwat are drafting a plan.

**Functional International Advisors** – Shiota Yoshinobu & Heba El Shazly are finalizing their plan for presentation to the BSC Board of Directors on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Functional BSC Website - Champion** Rachel Sengers' plan is in progress.

**Functional Internal City Grants & General Grants** - Gislin Dagnelie will publish an article about his plan in the August Esprit de Corps.



**Our condolences to Jin Park, Baltimore Changwon Sister City Committee Member and Treasurer Baltimore Sister Cities, whose father died this week in South Korea. Our deepest sympathies to all of Jin's family.**