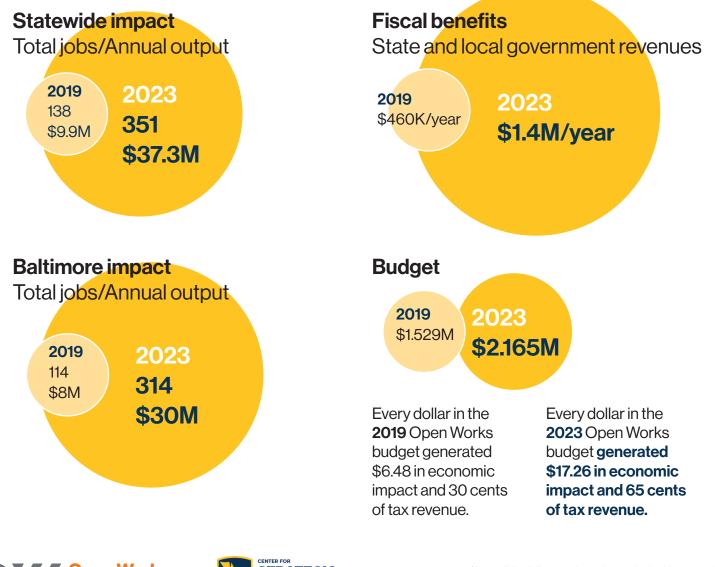
## Making the Future The Economic Impact of Open Works Baltimore

In 2016, Open Works and Coppin State University signed an agreement that became the first partnership between a community-embedded makerspace and an HBCU in the nation. Three years later, the Coppin State University Center for Strategic Entrepreneurship (CSE) published *Turning Makerspaces into Greater Places*, the first comprehensive economic impact analysis of a makerspace in the literature. In 2020, CSE published *A Makerspace's Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic*, a case study of Open Works' face shield manufacturing efforts. The third study in this trilogy is *Making the Future*, a followup study to examine Open Works' economic impact as of 2023.

*The results are stunning.* From 2019 to 2023, Open Works' overall statewide economic impact grew nearly 4X, creating 213 jobs in the process. To put this in context, investing in makerspaces generates a 3.6X higher return on investment than the Baltimore Orioles, who have received \$712M in state subsidy since 1992<sup>1</sup> while generating just \$600M in tax revenue<sup>2</sup>. While large, topdown public projects are popular, they do little to stimulate durable, grassroots economic growth. Makerspaces are a key tool for boosting economic growth, startup dynamism, and equality of opportunity for all Marylanders.







coppin.edu

<sup>1</sup> https://thedailyrecord.com/2023/10/13/the-state-ismaking-a-bad-stadium-deal/

<sup>2</sup> https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/cmte\_testimony/2022/ app/1vKF0\_iJ4xdSFa-D6tX6UifcllZ9NleF3.pdf