

Maryland's WORKFORCE SYSTEM



Welcome to the Maryland WIOA Convening

Ten Oaks Ballroom and Conference Center
July 21, 2016

#WIOAinMD



Opening Remarks

James E. Rzepkowski
Assistant Secretary

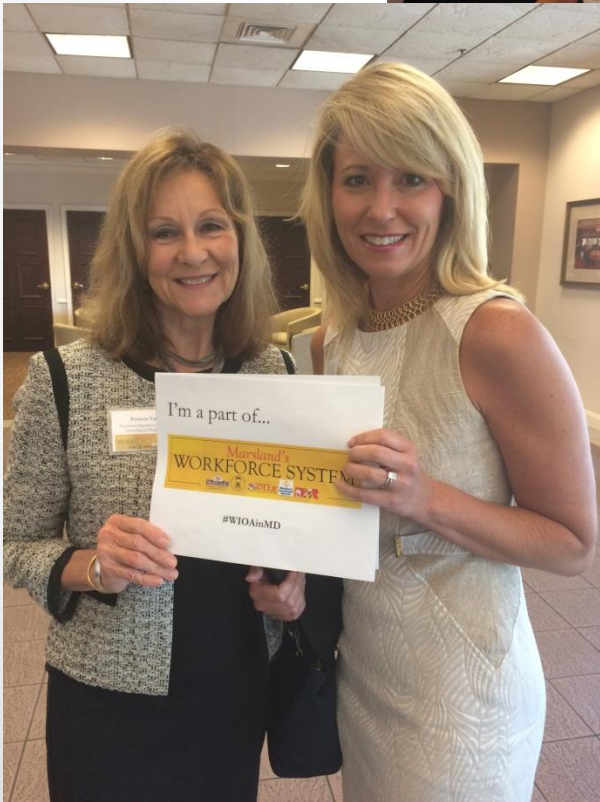
Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning
Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

We are a part of...



#WIOAinMD







By the numbers...

Registered Attendees

Local Areas	42	DLLR (Wagner/Peyser)	15
DSS/DHR	31	DORS	14
Adult Education	18	Community Colleges	15
Local Workforce Development Boards	6	Community Service Organizations	9
Public School System	3	SCSEP	2
Job Corp	1	Corrections	1



Maryland's State Workforce Plan

- First time in Maryland's history that the workforce development activities of three State agencies are in one plan
- Emphasizes customer-service, government efficiency, and how Maryland can meet the needs of businesses and *all* of the State's jobseekers
- Governor's Workforce Investment Board approved the plan February 11, 2016
- Submitted to federal agencies on April 1, 2016





Governor Hogan's Strategic Vision

- (1) Economic Development and Jobs
- (2) Improving Quality of Life
- (3) Reduce Taxes and Fees
- (4) Fiscal Responsibility
- (5) Government Reform

Economic Development and Jobs

“Maryland thrives as the economy flourishes. As businesses grow, jobs are created. As jobs are created, qualified workers are needed to meet the demand. As workers become more highly skilled, innovations occur resulting in the emergence of new economic drivers. A sound and thriving economy creates quality careers, provides financial stability for Maryland’s families and communities, and reduces dependency on government programs. **In short, business must play a key role in Maryland’s workforce system.**”

Improving Quality of Life

“The State of Maryland is geographically diverse. From the mountains of Western Maryland, to the Interstate 95 corridor, to the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland is truly ‘America in miniature.’ The people who call Maryland home are just as diverse. They come from a large array of backgrounds, education, and social and political perspectives. They carry with them unique life stories and experiences that can contribute greatly to Maryland’s economic well-being.

A jobseeker from Cumberland may face different barriers to employment than the same jobseeker in Tacoma Park faces. **The State’s workforce system must be responsive to the needs of both jobseekers.** Thus, **collaboration** on both the State and local levels is key to ensuring that customers who enter any American Job Center, local social services office, or any other entry point into the Maryland workforce system is provided with specific, customized services.”

Reducing Taxes and Fees

“Maryland’s workforce system must partner with its Unemployment Insurance counterparts to ensure that **reemployment strategies are fully integrated and proactively implemented** for both the benefit of the Unemployment Insurance claimants and Maryland’s businesses. Unemployment Insurance claimants benefit from reduced unemployment duration, increased reemployment and likely increased earnings. Businesses benefit by even lower Unemployment Insurance taxes and a robust pool of candidates ready to work to meet the workforce needs of business and industry.”

Fiscal Responsibility

“Maryland’s workforce system must be effective and efficient. **If the focus is truly on the people and businesses that are served through the system, Maryland’s workforce partners will naturally seek to create, coordinate, and revise systems to ensure greater delivery of services.** Maryland’s WIOA Partners must continuously coordinate efforts, finding efficiencies not only within their own agencies, but also finding ways in which they can coordinate efforts with their sister agencies.”

Government Reform

“While the path toward government reform is not an easy one, it is nonetheless **a necessary journey** Maryland’s workforce system must take. Maryland’s WIOA Partners must be innovative. They must find new ways in which they can provide services to Maryland’s businesses and jobseekers. Just because something was previously done a certain way does not mean that it must continue to be done that way....

“The renewed focus on serving these deserving populations requires a change in philosophy. Maryland’s workforce system can no longer place a label on a jobseeker as merely a customer of one single agency. Rather, under this **new customer-centric workforce system**, the agencies together, with their respective local partners, will identify the services that are needed for the customer. This will be done not by shuffling the customer from one referring agency to another, but through collaboration and **increased communication**. In doing so, the system **focuses on the person** before the performance measures an agency reports to federal agencies.”



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Kelly M. Schulz, Secretary, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Gregory S. James, Deputy Secretary, Department of Human Resources

Suzanne Page, Assistant State Superintendent, Department of Education's
Division of Rehabilitation Services