

Maryland's Benchmarks of Success

The Benchmarks of Success is a shared vision for Maryland's Workforce System. These strategic goals are focused on increasing the earning capacity of Marylanders by developing a system responsive to the needs of Maryland's jobseekers and businesses.

Strategic Goal 1: Maximizing Employment Opportunities



Strategic Goal 2: Maximizing Skills and Credentialing



Strategic Goal 5: Enhancing the Efficiency of Maryland's Workforce System

Strategic Goal 3: Maximizing Life Management Skills



Strategic Goal 4: Eliminating Barriers to Employment



DLLR – DWDAL Activity Highlights for JRA Oversight Board Meeting

Updates:

Re-entry Navigator Initiative

In keeping with Maryland's vision for Maryland's Workforce System, Benchmarks for Success focusing on increasing the earning capacity of Marylanders by developing a system responsive to the needs of both jobseekers and businesses, DLLR's Re-entry Navigator Initiative places 5 re-entry navigators in 5 jurisdictions throughout the state:

- Anne Arundel County
- Baltimore City
- Lower Shore (Salisbury)
- Prince George's County
- Western Maryland (Hagerstown/Cumberland)

These navigators will be working directly with justice-involved by providing services to link them to our AJC's, community resources, and to businesses. The navigators will work toward the benchmark of success – increasing the earning capacity of Marylanders will be accomplished through working collaboratively with local and state partners to meet **five strategic goals**

- By maximizing access to employment,
- By maximizing access to and use of skills and credentialing,
- By maximizing access to and use of life management skills,
- By eliminating barriers to employment through the use of supportive services, and
- By strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of the workforce system.

There are two navigators on board, one in Anne Arundel County and one on the Lower Shore (Salisbury)

Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing – Licensing Learning Consortium

The Learning Consortium has formed 5 Committees to identify and remove barriers for individuals who have experienced difficulty obtaining their license or employment once licensed in their respective field.

1. Low Hanging Fruit Committee – review procedures, policies, or regulations where quick changes can be made to remove barriers to licensing
2. Identifying Barriers Committee – identify specific barriers for each target population i.e. immigrants, those with criminal records, military family members and veterans, and the long term unemployed
3. Community Relations Committee – identify community-based organizations that have services and/or funding to assist the targeted populations
4. Business Needs Committee - work with businesses and/or trade groups in the focused occupations (barbers, cosmetologists, plumbers, HVAC contactors, and real estate agents) to identify what their current and future needs are
5. Data and Research Committee – research and compile data from various sources

Justice-involved Individuals Served PY 15 – June 27, 2018

- 8, 353(unduplicated count) justice-involved job seekers were enrolled in MWE and received employment services, training, and support services.
- Approximately 2,300 incarcerated individuals received information regarding employability skills, effective job search strategies, employer incentives, federal bonding, apprenticeship, community resources, and AJC services. The # of incarcerated served refers to direct services from MRI/AJCs and does not include Correctional Education programs. In addition.
- 1100 justice-involved individuals living in their local communities were provided with information regarding AJC services, apprenticeship and federal bonding.
- Over 200 employers received information regarding federal bonding, understanding and effective using background checks, and meeting their need for skilled workers when hiring justice-involved individuals.

Local AJC Activities

- **Southern Maryland** American Job Center has a newly formed Re-entry Program and will hold its first Re-entry Job Fair Boot Camp July 30, 2018 and Re-entry Job Fair & Expo August 2, 2018.
- **Prince George's County** continues to provide excellent services to justice-involved citizens. Every March the AJC hosts Prince George's County Re-entry Month Events:
 1. March 6 Community Re-entry & Employment Discussion at Prince George's Community College in Largo 65 + stakeholders attended
 2. March 9 Expungement Clinic at the AJC with the Maryland Legal Aid staff providing expungement services 85-90 job seekers attended
 3. March 20 Re-entry Service Provider Networking Breakfast at Double Tree by Hilton 25 providers attended
 4. March 27 Re-entry Entrepreneurship Seminar at Prince George's Community College 60 attended
 5. March 27 & 28 Re-entry Career readiness Seminars at the AJC 30-40 at each session
 6. March 29 2nd Chance Job Fair with over 20 businesses 125 job seekers attended

Prince George's County Re-entry Program through its partners provides training for CDL, HVAC, Carpentry, Building Maintenance Engineering, Auto Mechanics, Welding, and Electrical. AJC staff go to the Upper Marlboro Correctional Facility where they provide Employability and Career Assessments and Job Readiness workshops. On July 25, 50 inmates will graduate from this program.

Maryland Legal Aid has a staff attorney assigned onsite to the AJC who provides expungement services

- **Baltimore City** Re-entry Center located at the Northwest Career Center AJC reports that during FY 18, **1,952 returning citizens** were registered and **received 10,465 employment and training services**. There were **408 individuals** placed in unsubsidized employment with an **average hourly wage of \$12.13**.

DLLR AJC is forming a partnership with the Enoch Pratt Library to operate as a hub/satellite site

1. Veteran Outreach for Veterans at the Enoch Pratt Library – 2x month providing additional support services for those with barriers
2. Job Service Specialists go there to assist with resumes and identify any other resources needed by the job seekers.
3. Working with key partners to offer support services for justice-involved citizens offering support services (partners) to provide wrap-around services eliminating barriers to successful employment
4. SCSEP will be providing services weekly for senior citizen seeking employment

2018 State Workforce Plan

Governor Larry Hogan announced that the **2018 State Workforce Plan** has been **approved by the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education**. The new plan, which went into effect on July 1, includes **updates on Maryland's progress with implementing strategies to build a steady pipeline of talented workers qualified with the skills employers need**. The plan will also expand access to opportunities for Marylanders who need them the most and calls on agencies to break down silos and work together to **implement innovative approaches to working with Marylanders who need them the most...** The updated 2018 State Workforce Plan **builds on the partnerships represented in the 2016 plan** and adds **three new programs**:

1. **Community Services Block Grant, overseen by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)**; and the
2. Unemployment Insurance Program and
3. Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), both administered by the Maryland Department of Labor. The inclusion of these new partner programs enhances the workforce system's effectiveness in delivering coordinated, integrated services that move Marylanders into good jobs and career pathways.

USDOL for the NHE Opioid Grant

DLLR was awarded \$1.975 million by USDOL for the NHE Opioid grant. Maryland is one of only 6 states to receive the USDOL NHE Opioid grant which will be used to provide reemployment services for individuals impacted by the health and economic effects of widespread opioid use, addiction, and overdose.