

OUR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE

"Our workforce is one of our State's greatest strengths, but our future progress depends on our ability to build and sustain a workforce that answers the critical needs of our employers, while also fulfilling the needs of our most precious resource — our people."

- Governor Martin O'Malley



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Governor's Workforce Summit 2008

More than 500 workforce stakeholders assembled with Governor O'Malley at the Governor's Workforce Summit 2008 to generate ideas and develop workforce policies for Maryland. Among the summit's attendees were leaders from businesses, philanthropies, non-profits, education, and government.

Dr. Kenneth Poole, the founder of the Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness, delivered the event's keynote, which provided a framework for the summit's discussions. Beginning with an overview of Maryland's key demographic trends, Dr. Poole examined the profiles of successful global firms and key considerations for developing a competitive workforce. He also explored the role of P-20 Education in addressing skills shortages, as well as policy implications.

Governor O'Malley presented current and ongoing efforts to build a comprehensive workforce system in

Maryland, which will provide opportunities for all Marylanders and secure Maryland's position in an increasingly competitive global economy.

The first of the summit's two roundtables focused its discussion on aligning the state's education system with the Maryland's economic and workforce needs. Panelists in the second roundtable examined strategies for growing Maryland's skilled workforce, largely focusing on retaining college graduates and the importance of immigrant workers and untapped populations. The panel also explored the roles of business, government, and philanthropy.

All of the summit's materials, including presentations, handouts, videos and a photo gallery are available at GWIB's Web site:

<http://mdworkforce.com/gws2008/>

WORKFORCE CREATION HIGHLIGHTS

- Creation of the P-20 Council
- Strategic realignment of state agencies
- Apprenticeship and training programs
- Funding that addresses the state's nursing shortage



Did you know?

Challenges for Maryland's Workforce

- 346,000 new jobs will be created in Maryland between 2010 and 2020— will we have the people with the skills to fill them? (Maryland Department of Planning)
- Maryland's unemployment rate remained very low in 2007 (3.8%), an average of 113,000 people were unemployed (DLLR)
- Between 4,500 and 10,000 Marylanders lose their jobs each year due to layoffs and closures (DLLR)
- Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funding for Maryland has decreased 32% over the past 7 years



GWIB and WIN Host Legislative Breakfast

Legislators learn about the challenges for Maryland's workforce system.

Maryland's legislators learned about Maryland's workforce system at a legislative breakfast, jointly sponsored by the Workforce Investment Network for Maryland (WIN) and the Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB), on March 4th at the Governor Calvert House, in Annapolis.

The event was purposed to inform Maryland's elected officials about the state's increased need for workforce development, in order to maintain our competitive economy. Attendees were provided with an overview of Maryland's workforce development system and an explanation of how the system serves both the supply (workers) and demand (employers) of the labor market. This overview included a summary of the state's network of one-stop career centers and explanation of how federal workforce funds are distributed and spent.

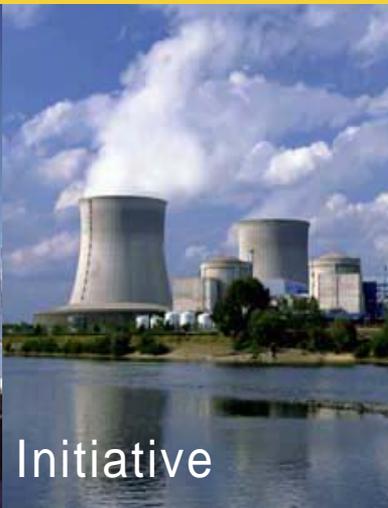
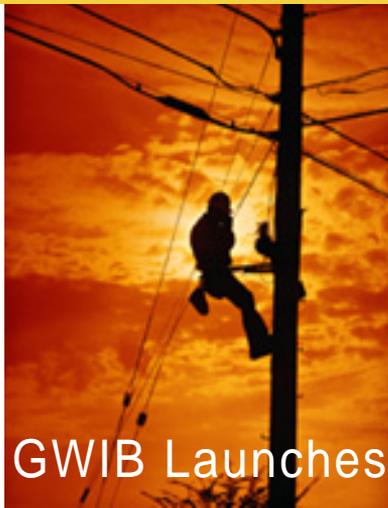
Providing the overview were: Governor O'Malley, DLLR secretary Thomas Perez, DLLR assistant secretary Andy Moser, WIN president Karen Sittenick and GWIB executive director Eric Seleznow.

The breakfast's informational session was preceded by opportunities for workforce development representatives to interact with elected officials.

The event's 90 attendees included Lieutenant Governor Brown, Maryland state legislators, local elected officials, GWIB members, the GWIB sub-cabinet, local Workforce Investment Board (WIB) members, Workforce Investment Area directors and community college representatives.

The Workforce Investment of Network (WIN) of Maryland announced their name change from the Maryland Workforce Development Association.





GWIB Launches Energy Industry Initiative

GWIB has organized an Energy Industry Initiative, as a result of several factors including the Governor's Energy Summit, USDOL interest in workforce development in energy, the Governor's focus on renewable energy and energy efficiency, and widespread interest in green collar jobs.

Planning for the new initiative began in late January. The initiative will bring together businesses, government agencies, research centers, industry associations, etc. engaged in generating, delivering, and con-

serving energy for homes and businesses. The steering committee will include utilities that produce electricity, as well as related construction, manufacturing and service organizations. The committee will also include a wide range of "green businesses", organizations that provide green products and services that improve energy efficiency and contribute to a cleaner environment.

In addition to developing a prospect list, GWIB is collecting relevant research on energy and energy effi-

ciency, green and clean technology, and the workforce issues related to skilled trades and green collar jobs. GWIB is participating in local and national meetings on energy and energy workforce development.

The energy initiative will be on fast track and may complete its work within a year. GWIB has assigned two industry coordinators to the committee and will use its experience from other initiatives to help the committee focus its time and energy.

Emerging Workforce Committee

GWIB saw a need to focus on issues effecting tomorrow's workforce.

At the December 2007 GWIB meeting, the board passed a motion to establish a committee that focuses on the development of Maryland's youth. That committee, now known as the Emerging Workforce Committee met for the first time on Thursday March 6th.

The committee's purpose is to advise the Governor and other leaders on policy and

legislation that relate to youth workforce development. To this end, they will research best practices of states and municipalities and will benchmark Maryland's youth workforce policies.

This committee is co-chaired by Karen Sitnick and George Littrell, III. Ms. Sitnick directs the Mayor's Office of Employment Development in Baltimore City and Mr. Littrell is a VP and financial adviser at Merrill Lynch.

Summer Jobs for Youth

Summer jobs are everyone's business is the theme for Mayor Dixon's YouthWorks campaign. Employers, community organizations, foundations, state and city agencies, and individual citizens are being asked to invest in Baltimore's teens by supporting YouthWorks and connecting them to meaningful summer activities.

Quick Facts

Eligibility: All city residents 14-21 years of age

Program Start Date: June 23, 2008; **Program End Date:** August 1, 2008

Cost: \$1,250 to support a youth in a six week work experience. Donations are tax deductible.

Transportation is not provided for youth

Application Locations: All Baltimore City Public Middle and High Schools, registration sites and One-Stop Career Centers





Upcoming Dates

June 16-18 Raising the Bar Conference.

The mid-Atlantic region's premier workforce development conference. Get more information at the Workforce Investment Network for Maryland's Web site: <http://www.mwda.org>

June 25 Governor's Workforce Investment Board Meeting.

3:30pm to 5:30pm
Anne Arundel Community College

September 17 Governor's Workforce Investment Board Meeting.

3:30pm to 5:30pm
Anne Arundel Community College

December 10 Governor's Workforce Investment Board Meeting.

3:30pm to 5:30pm
Anne Arundel Community College

Raising the Bar 2008

Raising the Bar is the mid-Atlantic region's premier workforce development conference. Get information at the Workforce Investment Network for Maryland's Web site:
<http://www.winformd.org>

In Demand March 2008



1100 North Eutaw Street,
Room 108
Baltimore, MD 21201
410.767.2408 ph
410.383.6732 fax