

The #1 Stop For Your Employment Needs!

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2006 A publication of the One-Stop Job Market Partner's Association

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The 2006 Job Fair Season By Greg Eberts Lower Shore DLLR Labor Exchange Administrator

The 2006 job fair season started early this year for the Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation (DLLR) with the Ocean City Job Fair on Saturday, March 4, 2006. The fair was sponsored by the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Ocean City, and DLLR. Seventy-five employers and over twelve hundred job seekers participated in the fair at the Ocean City Convention Center. DLLR greeted and welcomed all the job seekers to the 2006 version of the job fair. The Maryland Workforce Exchange (MWE) and the services available at the Job Market were promoted to all in attendance. DLLR's business services unit also canvassed the employers in attendance, and took job orders which were immediately posted in the Maryland Workforce Exchange for all Job Market consumers to view. Sandee Sharp of the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce said, "Positive comments were given by all businesses who checked out with us. The Chamber has received phone calls from businesses that were impressed with both the number and caliber of applicants."

The job fair in Ocean City was quickly followed by a job fair sponsored by Wor-Wic Community College on Thursday, March 23, 2006. This job fair was focused on connecting Wor-Wic students and alumni with area employers, and fifty businesses attended this event. DLLR again worked the front door and promoted the MWE and Job Market to employers, job seekers, and the college. Job openings from the participating employers were listed in the Maryland Workforce Exchange for the use of all our Job Market consumers. Currently, Brian Veditz and I are negotiating an agreement with the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce and the Centre of Salisbury to hold a job fair on Thursday, October 19, 2006 at the Centre. The job fair will

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be the kick off event to the 2006 Salisbury ChamberFest. Brad Bellacicco, Salisbury Chamber, and the Centre officials are expecting approximately 2,000 job seekers and 75 employers to participate. We will need Job Market staff volunteers for a host of tasks to make this one a success. It's not too early to volunteer by sending an email to me at <u>geberts@dllr.state.md.us</u>



DLLR employees (pictured left to right are Wanda Mumford, Dan Church, Paul Anderson) assist Wor-Wic Community College job fair participants on March 23, 2006.

Photo by Brian Veditz

Role of the Disability Program Navigator By Kaye Holloway, Disability Program Navigator

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I accepted the job as Disability Program Navigator. Those of you who know me, know that I have a passion for working with individuals with disabilities and I have been an advocate for all individuals with disabilities for the last 25 years. The knowledge, expertise and experience that I gained while working with DORS has already proven to be an enormous benefit in this position. I have been around to talk to all of the partners in the OSJM and update myself on any new developments that have taken place since I left DORS, and also to answer any guestions that staff may have regarding what I do. The DPN's function is to address the needs of people with disabilities seeking training and employment opportunities through the One-Stop Job Market. The Navigator will expand consumer choice in addressing the needs of people with disabilities seeking training and employment opportunities through the One- Stop Job Market. It is also important for staff of the OSJM to understand the nature and needs of individuals with disabilities. I plan to offer training in the very near future to provide relevant information. I will be sending out a survey to all staff in the OSJM to identify what your needs are and then identify a trainer and time to provide this training. In order that you will have a clearer understanding of my role in the OSJM, I would like to take this opportunity to describe what the responsibilities of the DPN are and what they are not. The DPN is to be a resource to the One-Stop Job Market staff, be a facilitator, a problem solver, a systems change agent and a relationship builder. The DPN is not a case manager, nor a front line staff person in the OSJM, not a Benefits Planning and Outreach Specialist nor a Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist. Within the scope of responsibilities of the DPN. I can provide resources, assistance, referrals, talk with

Our Mission

To provide a strategic blend of comprehensive services that support workforce development for the communities of the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland.

Lower Shore Workforce Investment Board

Nola Arnold Ambrose Bishop **Derek Bland** Peggy Bradford David Donohoe Ted Doukas Lawrence Elsey Paula Erdie Harry Gemmell William Greenwood William Harris Walter Kissel Linda McCann **Robert McIntyre** Karen Megronigle Freddy Mitchell Bruce Morrison **Gabriel Purnell** Linda Southerland **Renee Stephens Daniel Thompson** E.C. Townsend

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Lower Shore Workforce Alliance Offers Enhanced Services to Area Youth By Meredith Mears, LSWA Workforce Planner

Beginning in March 2006, the Lower Shore Workforce Alliance will offer in-depth career development services to area youth through the newly developed *ShoreWorks* Program. Those in the program will receive a free career assessment, occupational skills training, work-based learning opportunities via paid and unpaid internships, job placement and job retention assistance.

Recent changes to Workforce Investment Act Regulations allow youth to obtain individual training accounts (*ITA's*) for tuition while furthering their education. An *ITA* can be used for occupational skills training in the areas listed below:

Certified Nursing Assistant Medical Office Assistant Licensed Practical Nurse Medical Coding and Billing Phlebotomy Dental Assisting Electrocardiogram Technician Commercial Driver's License Electronic Technology Manufacturing Technology Heating/Ventilation and Air Conditioning Hotel/Motel/Restaurant Management Early Childhood Education Criminal Justice

Youth enrolled in the program must be between the ages of 18-21 and not currently enrolled in high school. Income eligibility requirements are also a factor. For information on becoming involved, please contact the Lower Shore Workforce Alliance at 410-341-3835 and ask for a *ShoreWorks* information packet.

English in the Workplace Program

By Jennifer Shahan Pusey , Telamon Special Projects Coordinator

Since November of 2005, the Telamon Corporation, in collaboration with the Family Support Center, has been offering English language classes to non-native speakers on the Lower Eastern Shore who want to improve their communicative skills and enhance their employability through the English in the Workplace Program (EWP). The purpose of the program is to help customers who need English Language classes in order to maintain, obtain or upgrade employment. The EWP is currently funded through a pass-through grant from LSWA and the Community Reinvestment Fund. These classes have attracted students from five different language backgrounds. The majority of the students are native Spanish speakers followed by adult students from Haiti, Brazil, South Korea and China. The students will be learning English for every day communication, and the classes will also focus on vocabulary that is useful and necessary for the workplace environment. The classes at the Family Support Center are held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:00 PM-3:00 PM. There are currently three classes held at the One Stop Job Market. There are two beginning English classes at 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. and from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. An intermediate class, developed in partnership with the Somerset County Board of Education, Adult Ed program, meets from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The classes run for twelve consecutive weeks and students may continue to attend all four sessions. The classes have been well attended. A total of 111 students were enrolled or placed on a waiting list for last semester's classes, and 134 are enrolled in the current classes. Each semester reviews some of the vocabulary and grammatical structures from the previous semesters, however, each semester will also include instruction in new topics of conversation. The classes have a modified open enrollment. The classes are also supported with computer software that

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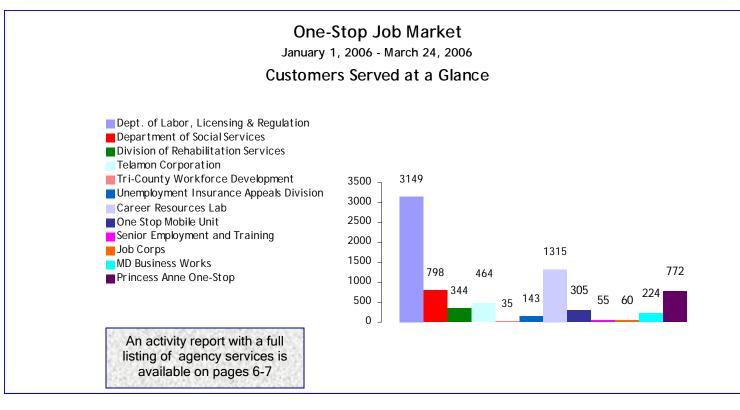
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allows students to improve their English skills as independent learners. This component of the classes has also provided students with the opportunity to learn basic computer skills which are transferable to the desired employment outcomes. Additional funding is being sought for the program in order to continue its expansion. One successful grant has been secured from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore which will be used to purchase the CASAS battery of assessment tools. These tools will be used to help comply with WIA standards.

To refer someone to the EWP program, please contact Stephanie Shultz, ESL Facilitator at Telamon Corporation at (410) 546-4604, Ext. 243 or via e-mail at <u>sshultz@telamon.org</u>. The next class will begin May 31, 2006. Telamon looks forward to continuing the expansion of this much needed program in order to help customers obtain their employment goals. A language barrier is not an insurmountable obstacle, just one that will take dedication and perseverance on behalf of the customer and opportunity and funding options provided by community resources in order to be overcome. Together, we can strengthen our community and make a more resilient workforce.

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individuals and staff regarding any disability related issues or questions. My regular schedule is Monday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. I will work other days if there are meetings, job fairs, training, etc. I look forward to working with each one of you and my door is always open. My phone number is 410-341-8533, Ext. 237 and my email address is <u>kholloway@lswa.org</u>. Please contact me at any time and I welcome visitors to my office.



Tri-County Non-Custodial Parent Employment Program

By Doug Andrews, Dept. of Social Services Work Opportunities Supervisor

Starting April 3, 2006, Debra Dotson will be joining The One Stop Job Market as the supervisor for the Tri-County Non-Custodial Parent Employment Program. The goal of this program is to assist non-custodial parents in becoming a reliable source of income for their dependents. Debra hopes to achieve this goal by assisting non-custodial parents, who have been delinquent in paying their child support, in obtaining and retaining full-time employment. Working closely with the Child Support Enforcement Agencies from the three lower counties and the Tri-County Workforce Development Initiative, her primary objective will be to implement this new job readiness program for non-custodial parents in Wicomico, Worcester and Somerset counties. Employment services and related job readiness training will be provided using the same resources available to custodial parents as part of the Welfare to Work program. Debra's office will be located within Wicomico County Department of Social Services at the One-Stop Job Market. Starting in July, Debra will begin supervising a case manager and, between the two of them, they will offer the following services:

> Case Management Self-Directed and Assisted Job Search Employment Assessment Clinical Assessment and Intervention

Life Skills Training Supportive Services Job Development and Placement

We look forward to the addition of Debra and her new, exciting program. The addition of this new resource will further enable the One-Stop Job Market to assist the residents of the lower shore in achieving their employment and training needs.

Quarterly Web Stats January – March 2006 www.onestopjobmarket.com Number of Visits 11,002 Number of Hits 533.000 Average Time on Site 4 minutes 9 seconds **Most Viewed Pages** Job Seeker Services **Business Services** Job Market Agencies Job Skills Training Most Downloaded Files One Stop Brochure Job Outlook Job Market Phone Numbers Dislocated Worker Guide Mobile One-Stop Brochure **Customer Satisfaction Reviews** Employon Jobs Report Start Your Own Business Flyers

Want To Receive Our Newsletter?

Our newsletter is now available by email in PDF format. To request a copy of this issue or to join our mailing list to automatically receive future issues, please send an email to Greg Eberts at geberts@dllr.state.md.us

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One-Stop Job Market Activity Report January 1, 2006 – March 31, 2006 (actual cut-off date March 24, 2006)

AGENCY	January 1, 2005 – March 31, 2005	January 1, 2006 – March 24, 2006
MD Workforce Exchange		
Early Intervention	184	134
Job Openings Received	1056	828
Workforce Exchange Walk-ins	3554	3015
Department of Social Services		
Job Search Class	96	79
Purchase of Care	125	61
Orientation	149	147
Transit Tickets Issued	399	662
Transit Photos Issued	*	19
Transit Photos Extended	*	28
Curb to Curb	*	7
Customer Walk-ins	946	798
Transit Expiration	*	0
Transit Cancellation	*	0
Taxi	*	1
Div. of Rehabilitation Services		
Customers Served	219	344
Telamon Corporation		
Employment/Training	96	127
Emergency Assistance	15	6
Housing Counseling	17	20
Translation	16	11
Food Pantry	272	242
Other Services	3	58
Tri-County Workforce		
Development		
Referred to Life Skills	140	86
Enrolled Into Life Skills	75	35
Completed Life Skills	56	21
Assessment	54	20
Work Experience/Community Services	34	10
Job Developer	19	10
Other Referral Services	*	2
Unemployment Insurance Appeals		
Appeals Hearings	173	143

* Denotes activity not tracked this period

One-Stop Job Market Activity Report January 1, 2006 – March 31, 2006 (actual cut-off date March 24, 2006)

Agency	January 1, 2005 – March 31, 2005	January 1, 2006 – March 24, 2006
Career Resources Lab Activity		
Total Number of Clients	797	1315
WIA Training Information	*	306
CASAS	*	204
CS Interest	*	192
CS Aptitude	*	194
Career Clips	*	190
O*Net Interest/Values	*	1
Resume Assistance	128	199
Employon	*	0
TCWDI	*	201
Career Counseling	*	185
Job Search	24	100
Career Guide	*	15
Other	*	19
Total Services	*	1801
<u>One-Stop Mobile Unit</u>		
Total Number of Clients	*	305
MD Workforce Exchange	*	152
MD Workforce Exchange Resume	*	104
O*Net Interest Profiler	*	107
Career Clips	*	123
Online Applications	*	5
WinWay	*	35
GED Pathways	*	0
Other	*	10
Senior Employment & Training		
Total Participants Served	*	55
Job Search Inquiries	*	140
Job Search & Training Inquiries	*	30
Providing Service to General Community	*	32
Providing Service to the Elderly Community	*	23
Unsubsidized Placements	*	4
New Participants During Quarter	*	4
Exits During Quarter	*	2
Job Corps		
Youth Interviewed	*	60
Applications Completed	*	37
Pending Approval	*	9
Enrolled in A Job Corps Center	*	23
MD Business Works		
Projects Initiated this Quarter	*	20
Funds Awarded	*	\$11,985.54
Participants Trained	*	224
Industries Served	*	manufacturing, healthcare, various small businesses
Princess Anne One Stop Walk-ins	770	small businesses 772

* Denotes activity not tracked this period