



In Demand

GWIB's Newsletter for Workforce Development In and Around Maryland

Governor's Workforce Investment Board

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June, 2007

GWIB Welcomes New GWIB Chair, Executive Director

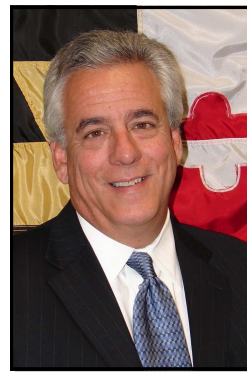
The Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB) is pleased to welcome William G. Robertson as the GWIB's incoming chair and Eric M. Seleznow as the GWIB's new executive director.

Mr. Robertson has worked as a healthcare executive for 21 years, serving as President and CEO of Adventist HealthCare since 2000. A member of the GWIB since 2002, Bill Robertson has been instrumental in leading the successful Healthcare Industry Initiative Process. He is also an active member of a number of community organizations including the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Board, the Maryland Hospital Association Health Care Systems Governing Council and the Greater Washington Board of Trade.

Mr. Seleznow is the former



Bill Robertson,
GWIB Chair



Eric Seleznow,
GWIB Executive Director

director of workforce services for the Montgomery County Department of Economic Development. In this position, Mr. Seleznow oversaw the County's workforce development system, including the local Workforce Investment Board and two One-Stop workforce centers, which service more than 10,000 jobseekers and employers each year. Prior to this, he

served as the workforce manager for the Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation. Mr. Seleznow has forged numerous partnerships with small businesses, corporations and training programs that have provided employment and training opportunities to numerous residents in Maryland. He is also a former member of the Montgomery County Workforce Development Board.

Raising the Bar: 2007

On June 11-13, 2007, the Maryland Workforce Development Association hosted their "Raising the Bar" conference, with the theme, "Evolution = Opportunity: Where are YOU in this Equation?" This annual event serves as one of the Mid-Atlantic region's premier conferences for the workforce development field. Numerous workforce professionals, such as: agency directors, economic

development staff, employment and training specialists and workforce investment board members, attended this year's conference. Keynote speakers included Freeman Hrabowski, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. He shared his vision for workforce development in the 21st century, citing the challenges that global rapid and dramatic technological and demographic changes present for

the United States and Maryland. DLLR Secretary Thomas Perez also shared important information about Maryland's workforce development system.



Maryland Workforce Development Association (MWDA) is a coalition of Maryland's Workforce Investment Areas.

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By the Numbers:

707,117 = Maryland residents who were born in a foreign country (2005 American Community Survey)

299,182 = Maryland residents who speak English less than "very well." (2005 American Community Survey)

450,554 = Maryland residents who commute to work outside of Maryland, compared to 182,727 that commute into Maryland from other places (2000 Census Bureau Report)

MSDE Receives National Excellence Award



Project Lead the Way introduces high school students to engineering, via a four-year sequence of courses.

The Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Career Technology and Adult Learning recently received the Joseph H. Oakey Excellence in Education Award at Project Lead the Way's (PLTW) first annual national conference in New York celebrating its 10th anniversary. The award recognizes visionary and innovative educational leadership on behalf of students, teachers and citizens. Project Lead the Way is a national pre-engineering program which facilitates partnerships between high schools, institutions of higher educa-

tion, and businesses to increase the quantity and quality of engineers graduating from two- and four-year colleges. In Maryland 43 high schools in sixteen school systems are participating in the pre-engineering program. "This award demonstrates the on-going commitment the Department has to ensure there are pre-engineering programs for Maryland students," said Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools and a GWIB board member. "I am impressed by the opportunities

Maryland schools are providing to produce stellar pre-engineering students through programs like Project Lead the Way."

Maryland and six other states are partnering with Project Lead the Way in the development of a new Biomedical Sciences program that will be piloted in seven schools this fall. PLTW administrators plan to spend the next decade forging the future of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education.

Local Workforce Areas' Best Practices

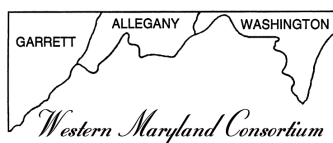
Susquehanna

Maryland's Susquehanna region is expecting to see about 30,000 new jobs as a result of the most recent Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). In response, the Susquehanna Workforce Network (SWN) recently hired a firm to analyze its local labor shed. The analysis thoroughly examined the region's labor force, which SWN used to bolster the region's preparations for the expected impacts of BRAC. This is one of several planning efforts by the Susquehanna Workforce Investment Board to align implementation activity in the region.



Western Maryland

When GST AutoLeather outsourced operations from Williamsport, MD to Mexico, hundreds of Western Maryland's leather workers were displaced from their jobs, with obsolete skills. The Western Maryland Consortium (WMC) responded quickly to help reconnect them to employment. WMC used federal Trade Adjustment funds to broker remedial education and skills training for 140 workers, enabling the workers to prepare for high demand occupations in healthcare, transportation, manufacturing, and customer service. Ninety-six of the workers found jobs as of June 2007.



Northrop Grumman Names 24 Engineering Scholars

On May 11, 2007, Northrop Grumman Corporation announced the 24 statewide winners of its fifth annual Engineering Scholars program, providing a total of \$240,000 in college scholarships this fall to Maryland high school seniors interested in studying engineering. "Again this year, Northrop Grumman is pleased to sponsor this unique engineering scholarship effort, which is intended to motivate some of Maryland's best and brightest students — with a background and interest in math and science — to pursue engineering professions," said James F. Pitts, corporate vice president and president of Northrop Grumman's Electronic Systems sector, and also a GWIB member. Candidates must plan to attend an accredited college or university as a full-time student in

an approved engineering curriculum. The funds can be used for tuition, books, lodging and meals. Northrop Grumman, one of the state's largest private employers, is a significant financial and in-

The scholarships will provide \$240,000, this autumn, to Maryland high school seniors interested in studying engineering.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

kind contributor to educational out-reach programs aimed at encouraging young people throughout Maryland to consider engineering and science-related career fields. The awards ceremony will take place on June 15, 2007. Source: Northrop Grumman Corp.

BRAC Subcabinet Convenes

On May 30, 2007, Governor Martin O'Malley and Lt. Governor Anthony Brown held the first Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Subcabinet meeting in Annapolis and announced the new executive director for the subcabinet. During the organizational meeting, subcabinet members set forth a schedule for future meetings and discussed a timeline for developing a state plan for legislative and budgetary BRAC priorities. The comprehensive strategic plan will be delivered to Governor

O'Malley by December 1, 2007.

Over the next six months, the Subcabinet will hold meetings throughout Maryland with local officials to get an understanding of each jurisdiction's priorities as well as lessons learned by previous BRAC experiences. The subcabinet's members are agency heads: David W. Edgerley, DBED, Shari T. Wilson, MDE, Dr. James E. Lyons, Sr., MHEC, Raymond Skinner, DHCD, Thomas E. Perez, DLLR, Richard Hall, MDP, John Porcari, MDOT

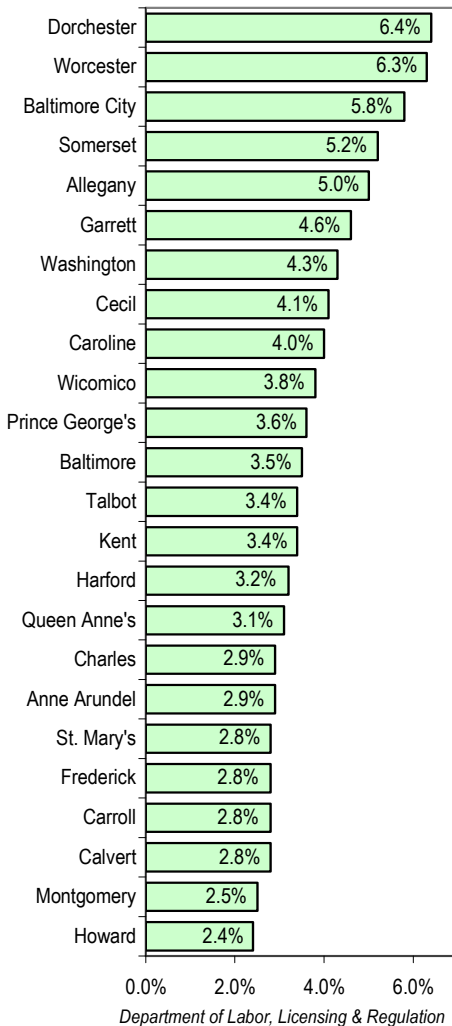
and Nancy S. Grasmick, Ph.D., MSDE. Asuntha Chiang-Smith is the new executive director of the Subcabinet. As passed by the General Assembly, it coordinates and oversees the implementation of all state action to support the missions of BRAC-impacted military installations. The Subcabinet also coordinates and oversees the development of BRAC-related initiatives in a wide variety of areas including K-16 and workforce development.



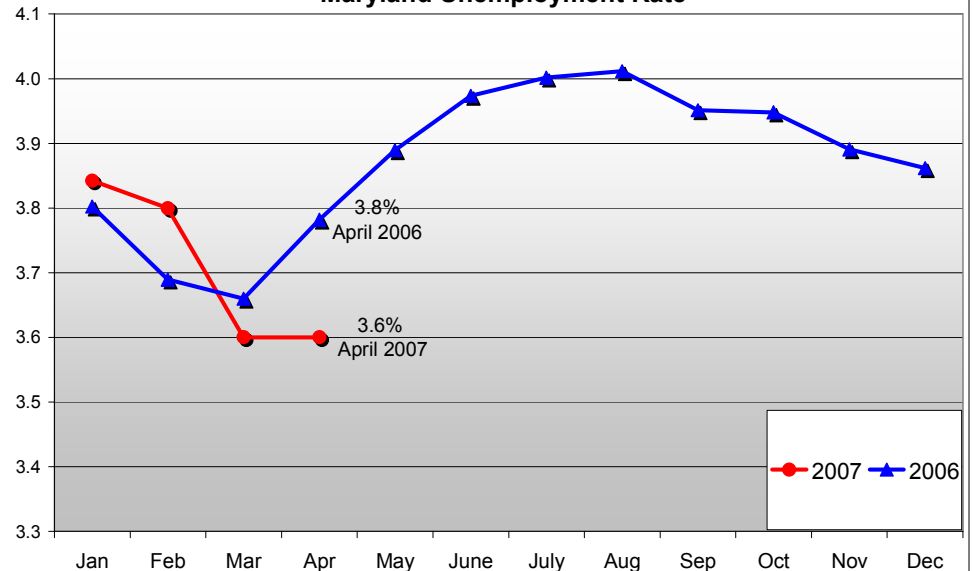
Asuntha Chiang-Smith is the newly appointed executive director for the BRAC Subcabinet.

Unemployment Information

County Unemployment Rates—April 2007



Maryland Unemployment Rate*



*Seasonally Adjusted
Data Source: Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation

For the second consecutive month, Maryland's unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) held steady at 3.6%, its lowest rate since March 2001. Compared to the rest of the nation, Maryland ranked 14th lowest in unemployment rates, at nearly a full percentage point lower than the national rate of 4.5%.

Unemployment rates (unadjusted) for Maryland's counties ranged from a high of 6.4% in Dorchester County to lows of 2.5% in Montgomery and 2.4% in Howard County.

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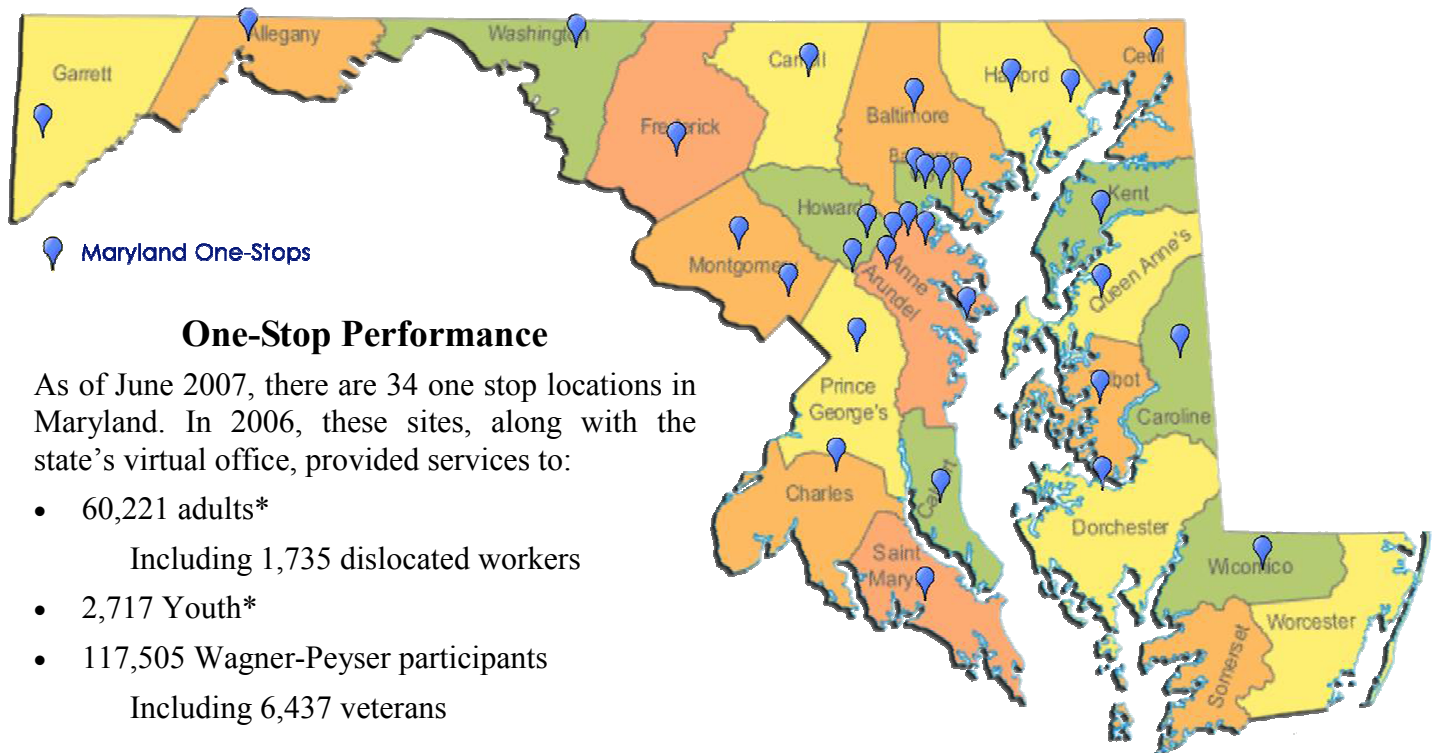


The Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB)

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB) is the state's chief coordinating body on workforce development. It is composed of 43 members, a majority from business. It is responsible for developing a strategic plan and policies to help forge a coordinated workforce system from a multiplicity of education, employment and training programs. GWIB brings together and focuses various workforce development partners and stakeholders on an outcome: a properly prepared workforce that will meet the current and future demands of Maryland employers.



Maryland's One-Stop Career Centers



One-Stop Performance

As of June 2007, there are 34 one stop locations in Maryland. In 2006, these sites, along with the state's virtual office, provided services to:

- 60,221 adults*
Including 1,735 dislocated workers
- 2,717 Youth*
- 117,505 Wagner-Peyser participants
Including 6,437 veterans

*Eligible for Workforce Investment Act Funds