

HHS COMMITTEE #1
February 3, 2011
Briefing

MEMORANDUM

February 1, 2011

TO: Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Vivian Yao, Legislative Analyst *VY*

SUBJECT: Briefing - Support Programs for Older Youth and Young Adults

The Health and Human Services (HHS) Committee will receive a briefing on programs delivered in the County that support at-risk older youth and young adults who have dropped out of high school or are in transition. During consideration of the FY11 mid-year savings plan, Committee members requested information about programs that serve the same constituency as the Conservation Corps program, which was targeted for a savings. The Conservation Corps program provided job, GED, and life skills training for at-risk 17-24 year olds.

The following individuals are expected to participate in the briefing:

- Kate Garvey, Chief, Children, Youth and Families, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- Barbara Kauffman, Manager, Division of Workforce Services, Department of Economic Development (DED)
- Paula Matuskey, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Services, Montgomery College
- George Payne, Vice President for Workforce Development and Continuing Education, Montgomery College
- Donna Kinerney, Instructional Dean, Montgomery College

Other representatives from participating departments and agencies are also expected to attend the briefing.

COUNTY-SPONSORED PROGRAMMING

The Committee will hear about the following programs delivered or supported by the County that address job, education, and life skills needs for the target population. Additional supporting information about the programs is attached to the packet and includes, to the extent made available, information on eligibility requirements, partners in service delivery, service data, outcomes, operating budgets, and sources of funding.

| Program | Lead County Agency | © | Description |
|--|--------------------|-----|---|
| Crossroads Youth Opportunities Center | DHHS | 1 | Case management, mental health, GED, workforce services, recreation, youth development (Takoma/ Langley). Service to 120 (ages 17+) in FY10. |
| Upcounty Youth Opportunities Center | DHHS | 1 | Case management, mental health, GED, workforce services, recreation, youth development (Gaithersburg). Service to 67 (ages 17+) in FY10. |
| Street Outreach Network | DHHS | 1 | Gang prevention and intervention, youth and leadership development, mediation, crisis intervention (County-wide). Service to 98 (ages 17+) in FY10. |
| Child Welfare Independent Living Program | DHHS | 1 | Life skills, education, training, and financial support, employment, behavioral and somatic services and case management (County-wide). Service to 70 (ages 17-21) in FY10. |
| St. Luke's Career Transition Program | DHHS | 1 | Vocational development, assessments, job training and placement (Bethesda). Service to 60 in FY10. |
| Latin American Youth Center (LAYC)-Gang Prevention Program | DHHS | 1 | GED preparation, job readiness, life and leadership skill development (Takoma Park). Service to 56 (ages 17-19) in FY10. |
| Maryland Multicultural Youth Center (MMYC) --LAYC | DED | 2 | Goal setting, case management and counseling, Pre-GED and GED, mentoring, life skills, job readiness, job placement services (County-wide). Services to 210 (ages 14-22) in FY10. |
| Gateway to College | Montgomery College | 4-5 | Life skills, job and education support, academic advising, tutoring, career exploration, disability support (County-wide). Services to 160 in FY10, GED program info at ©6-8. |

YouthBuild Grant Application

The Division of Workforce Services also submitted a grant application to the U.S. Department of Labor in December 2010 for a YouthBuild program. See ©3. The application proposes the delivery over a three-year period of academic support, employment skills and training, and job placement assistance services to 60 youth who have dropped out of high school. The disposition of the application is not known at this time.

OTHER PROGRAMS SERVING COUNTY RESIDENTS

The packet also includes information about several programs serving Montgomery County residents that are not supported by the County.

| Program | Sponsoring Organization | © | Description |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|------|---|
| Job Corps | U.S. Department of Labor | 9-17 | Hands-on career technical training and education program with GED, life skills, job readiness and social skills support. Programs nation-wide enrolled 119 youth from County zip codes in 2009. Closest Maryland programs in Laurel and Woodstock. Additional information on Laurel (Woodland) program is attached at ©12-17. |
| Youth in Transition Grants | Trawick Foundation and HSC | 18 | \$238,000 grant to MMYC-LAYC for INSPIRE program -- workforce readiness for youth ages 16-24 who are pregnant, parenting or aging out of the foster care system. \$62,000 to Family Services in partnership |

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------|--|
| | Foundation | | with the GUIDE Program to support TRACKS transition to adulthood psychiatric rehabilitation program. |
| NET Program | Future Link | 19-20 | Self-advocacy education and academic, job readiness, vocational and career support. Current enrollment of 12 students with 60 young adults on wait list. |

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

The Committee may want to direct the following questions to briefing participants:

- **Coordination and Outreach:** What effort is made to let young people know about opportunities across agencies and department sand in the community? How do individual programs within County Government coordinate their efforts with other programs that provide similar services? Are there any mechanisms for programs to collaborate on assessing needs, recruitment strategies, or sharing program information?
- **Unmet Needs:** To what extent are programs meeting the needs of young people in our community? Are there identifiable gaps in service or services where the demand significantly exceeds the program's capacity? Have the departments engaged in strategic planning to address unmet needs or identify service priorities.
- **Funding Issues:** For a number of the County programs described above, the FY11 budget is lower, not surprisingly, than previous fiscal years. Is it anticipated that any of the funding streams that support these programs are likely to be reduced or eliminated in FY12? Are there other potential funding opportunities that can support the operation of these programs?

The packet contains the following attachments:

| | <u>Circle #</u> |
|--|-----------------|
| DHHS Chart - Support Programs for Older Youth and Young Adults | 1 |
| Workforce Services for Youth Charts | 2 |
| YouthBuild Grant Notification | 3 |
| Montgomery College-Gateway to College Summary | 4-5 |
| Montgomery College-GED Program Overview | 6-8 |
| Job Corps Website Description | 9-11 |
| Woodland Job Corps Information | 12-17 |
| Youth in Transition Grant Award Press Release | 18 |
| Future Link and NET Program Descriptions | 19-20 |

Support Programs for Older Youth and Young Adults

| Program | Key Services and Location | FY09 | Budget | | Total | Youth Served FY10 | | | Youth Served FY09 | | | |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | FY10 | FY11 | | 17-19 | 20-21 | 22-24 | Total | 17-19 | 20-21 | 22-24 |
| Street Outreach Network | Gang prevention and intervention, youth and leadership development, mediation crisis intervention (County-wide) | \$178,502 | \$353,201 | \$319,220 | 235 | 72 | 16 | 10 | 118 | 60 | 10 | 8 |
| Crossroads YOC | Case management, mental health, GED, workforce services, recreation, youth development (Takoma/Langley) | \$651,935 | \$663,850 | \$562,283 | 292 | 31 | 61 | 28 | 174 | 43 | 73 | 40 |
| UpCounty YOC | Case management, mental health, GED, workforce services, recreation, youth development (Gaithersburg) | 0 | 0 | \$450,000 | 120 | 61 | 5 | 1 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Child Welfare Independent Living Program | Life skills, education, training, and financial support, employment, behavioral and somatic services, and case management. Staffing—1 supe/5 SW. (County-wide) | \$104,400 | \$57,877 | \$84,152 | 70 | 48 | 22 | 0 | 58 | 20 | 32 | 6 |
| St. Luke's Career Transition Program | Vocational development, assessments, job training and placement (Bethesda) | \$129,336 | \$129,752 | \$126,842 | 60 | -- | -- | -- | 81 | -- | -- | -- |
| LAYC Gang Prevention Program | GED preparation, job readiness, life and leadership skill development (Takoma Park) | \$140,000 | \$140,000 | \$130,200 | 103 | 56 | -- | -- | NA | NA | NA | NA |

Other Key Partners/Programs

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| NET Program | Montgomery College | Pride Youth Services |
| Job Corps | Maryland Choices | Future Bound |
| Lead for Life | Collaboration Council | Family Services |

Sources of Funds

| | FY 09 | FY 10 | FY 11 |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| WIA Youth | \$335,917 | \$267,485 | \$ 558,284 |
| WIA ARRA | \$343,884 | | |
| State Summer Connection | \$4,203 | \$6,968 | \$9,865 |
| ARRA WIA Youth Statewide | | | \$29,033 |
| County Youth Gang reduction program | \$62,500 | \$62,500 | \$62,500 |
| County Summer youth program | \$50,000 | \$50,000 | \$50,000 |
| Country General youth program | \$50,000 | \$50,000 | \$50,000 |

Workforce Youth Served

| FY 09 | # | Age ranges |
|--------------|------------|-------------------|
| WIA Youth | 55 | 15-21 |
| Total | 55 | |
| | | |
| FY 10 | | |
| WIA Youth | 82 | 15-21 |
| ARRA Youth | 128 | 14-22 |
| Total | 210 | |
| | | |
| FY 11 | | |
| WIA Youth | 11 | 16-20 |
| ARRA Youth | 33 | 14-22 |
| Total | 44 | |

GRANT APPLICATION – COUNCIL NOTIFICATION

DATE of Notification to Council : _____

Deadline for Application Submission: December 3, 2010

Per Council Resolution No. 16-1373, the following notice of grant application is transmitted

| |
|---|
| Department Submitting Grant: Department of Economic Development |
| Department(s) to Receive Grant Award: Department of Economic Development |
| Name of Grant: Montgomery YouthBuild Works! |
| Granting Agency: US Department of Labor |
| Summary of Grant Purpose: The grant will support 60 youth in Youthbuild. The YouthBuild model balances achievement of a high school diploma or passing the General Education Development (GED) test, and construction skills training that prepares youth for career placement. |
| Summary of Need to be Addressed with Grant Funds: The primary target populations for YouthBuild are high school dropouts who may also be adjudicated youth, youth aging out of foster care, youth with disabilities, and other at-risk youth populations. They will receive academic and construction skills in a combined classroom, online, and hands on settings. At the conclusion of the participation in the training, they will receive assistance with job placement and be on their way to self-sufficiency. |
| Amount of Request by Fiscal Year (show non-county grant and any required county funding, i.e. hard "match" separately) The overall amount of the grant for the three years is \$ 1,057,674 with an in-kind contribution of \$272,924. We are unable to provide the amount by fiscal year because we do not know when the announcement will be made. We anticipate four months of planning and hiring contractual staff prior to starting the first training class. |
| Will the grant require the creation of new position(s)? If so, please list how many, the position classification, and the year the position will be created? No; The all positions are contractual and dependent on grant funding |
| Will the grant be used to fund any existing county position(s)? If so, please list the position classification. No |
| Is this a Formula Grant or a Discretionary Grant Program? Discretionary |
| Grant Term: Three years |
| Is the Grant renewable: No |
| Is there an expected future fiscal impact (after the grant period)? If so, provide a brief description of the ongoing cost. If able, provide an estimate. If the grant includes equipment that will require eventual replacement, estimate the useful life of the equipment. No impact; if there is no funding there will be no opportunities for this population |

Revised 9/17/10

Montgomery College --- Gateway to College

- I. A description of the program including the hours and locations of service, eligibility requirements, types of services offered, partners in service delivery;
- Program Description: Gateway to College program is for MCPS high school dropouts as well as students who are significantly behind in credits for their age and grade. Students are able to complete their MCPs high school diploma requirements on the college campus while simultaneously earning credits toward a college degree or certificate.
 - Hours of program : First term – Takoma Park/Silver Spring is a M-F program that runs predominantly in a.m., with Rockville and Germantown Campus first term experience program, M-F, mainly in the p.m.
 - Second and following terms – students will be following their individualized educational plan and will be following a college course schedule that fits their needs.
 - Eligibility Requirements:
 - 16- 21 years old
 - Behind in credits for their age and grade and have earned no more than 17 high school credits and/or lacking five credits for graduation
 - Current or former MCPS high school students
 - Residency in Montgomery County
 - Reading at a tenth grade reading level
 - Able to complete all remaining high school requirements by age 21
 - Willingness to make a commitment of two or more years to work hard to complete their high school diploma and progress toward a college degree
 - Partners in Service Delivery:
 - The majority of services are provided on the Montgomery College campus with a small percentage of services, less than 5% provided by MCPS.
 - Services Provided
 - Resource specialist, or counselor, provides academic advising for high school and college classes and personal support, health referrals, transcript reviews as well as access to college, program and County resources and services. Guidance and assistance with problem solving, time management and stress management
 - Tuition, fees and books
 - College academic support centers (areas: writing and math)
 - Tutoring
 - Retention efforts include: academic process reports, one on one meetings, communication with student's college faculty, etc.
 - Assistance to post Gateway at MC or 4 yr. educational institutions including college search, admissions application, letters of recommendation, scholarship program identification and application
 - Resume and cover letter writing and interviews skills
 - Career exploration
 - College Disability Support Services

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- II. The approved operating budget and sources of funding for FY09, FY10, and FY11;
 - FY'09 – \$1,249,716. (\$1 million-County, \$224,716 from College & \$25,000 from the Clark-Winchole Foundation)
 - FY'10 - \$1,070,000. (\$1 million – County, \$45,000 from College & \$25,000 from the Clark-Winchole Foundation)
 - FY'11 - \$985,837 (\$970,837 – County & \$15,000 from Clark-Winchole Foundation)

- III. Service data including the number and ages of clients served, and waitlist numbers, if any, for FY09, FY10, and FY11 to date; and
 - Number served:
 - FY'09: 205, FY'10: 160. FY'11: 128
 - Average age of students upon entrance to the program:
 - FY'09: 17yr 1mth, FY'10: 17 yrs 2mths, FY'11: 17 yrs 1 mth

- IV. Outcomes data including data that demonstrates the effectiveness of the services offered.
 - As of August 2010, 89 students received their MPCS diploma through the Gateway to College Program.
 - Average graduate MC GPA: 2.72, high GPA: 3.91
 - Total college credits earned by graduates: 3,377
 - Graduates continued on at MC: 46%, continued at 4 yr inst:30%, work: 12%,tech school: 1%, unknown: 11%

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GED Program Overview – Montgomery College

Program Description

In compliance with Title II of the Workforce Investment Act, the AELG Program at Montgomery College offers classes focusing on the development of language, literacy, and numeracy skills instruction needed for daily life in the United States to Montgomery County residents, 16 and over, who do not have a high school diploma and are not enrolled in secondary school. Classes funded by the Adult Education and Family Literacy Consolidated grant include ABE Beginning Literacy and Beginning ABE Low, High Intermediate or Pre-GED, and GED preparation (Adult Secondary Education).

The AELG Program offers the following services open to the community:

- Intake, support and referrals to GED-i, a statewide effort to provide online GED instruction
- Monthly administration of the official GED practice test (OPT)
- Monthly community orientation and program information sessions

Students registered at the ASE (GED) level in the AELG Program receive the following support activities and services:

- Support and preparation for the GED exam via the GED Testing Advisor
- GED Cohort class
- Transition to employment or post-secondary education support via Transitions Coordinator and College and Career coaches.

The ABE/GED program registers four times a year (Fall, Spring, Late Spring and Summer). Orientation activities include assessment and placement practices as mandated by the National Reporting System, using State required standardized assessment systems (CASAS) and progress documented via the Literacy Works Information System (LWIS). Students are provided with social service referrals as needed, accommodations for students with disabilities. Classes for ASE/GED level are offered at the low and high levels, with schedules ranging in frequency, intensity and duration. Saturday, evening, and day GED classes offered at four public transportation-accessible locations through Montgomery County to address scheduling and transportation issues (Westfield South, Blake HS, Quince Orchard HS, and Universities at Shady Grove). Class registration information is featured in the Montgomery College non-credit class catalog, which is widely distributed via the County's local newspaper. The program also works with Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) to offer contract classes for HOC clients. Additionally, students are referred by the College's assessment office, and program partners as the Montgomery County Judicial and Juvenile Services offices, Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery Coalition for Adult ESOL and Literacy, and other public and private community groups.

Classes at the GED level charge tuition. The course cost for each 60 hr of instruction class is \$90.00, and book prices range from \$35.00 -\$60.00.

Approved operating budget and sources of funding for FY09, FY10, and FY11 for Adult Secondary Education

| | FY09 | FY10 | FY11 |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------|------------|
| Federal and State Grant funds | \$22,308 | \$22,308 | \$25,129 |
| Local Match | \$5,577 | \$5,577 | \$5,029 |
| Revenue *(estimate) | \$25,469 | \$27,940 | \$22,564 * |
| Total | \$53,354 | \$55,825 | \$52,722 |

Program Data (including the number and ages of clients served, and waitlist numbers, if any, for FY09, FY10, and FY11 to date;

Enrollment for the GED classes totaled 106 students in 2009, 134 in 2010 and 65 to date in 2011 (reflecting only summer and fall registrations). As the enrollment has increased, the program has also reported an increase in the waitlist of students seeking to enroll in the GED program, from 65 students in FY09 to 87 in FY10. The current waitlist for FY11 at the mid-year totals 72 students. During FY09 and FY10, the program was able to negotiate a limited reallocation of grant funds to offer additional sections and classes and so accommodate some of the student waitlist.

AELG student age ranges from 16-over 60 yrs old. The table below shows range of students enrolled in the ABE/GED program in percentage. Data for FY11 is complete

| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Age Range | % | % | % |
| 16-18 | 23% | 17% | 15% |
| 19-24 | 29% | 30% | 30% |
| 25-44 | 41% | 42% | 47% |
| 45-59 | 7% | 10% | 10% |
| 60 and older | 1% | 1% | 2% |

Outcomes data

Given the AELG Program success and quality in the delivery of services, fewer than 10% of learners in the AELG Program drop out in the first 12 hours of instruction. The data table below has been obtained from the Literacy Works Information System, and it reflects required grant goals and achievements for those students enrolled in the ASE (GED level) program only, to include fiscal years 2009 and 2010. FY2011 data is incomplete.

| Goals | 2009 | | | 2010 | | | 2011 (partial data) | | |
|--|----------|-----------------|--------|----------|-----------------|--------|---------------------|-----------------|--------|
| | Enrolled | Number Achieved | % | Enrolled | Number Achieved | % | Enrolled | Number Achieved | % |
| Passed the Official GED Test | 125 | 66 | 52.80% | 106 | 60 | 56.60% | | | |
| Got a Job | 80 | 26 | 32.50% | 152 | 38 | 25.00% | | | |
| Retained a Job | 240 | 147 | 61.25% | 276 | 175 | 63.41% | | | |
| Entered Post-Secondary Education | 25 | 11 | 44.00% | 41 | 4 | 9.76% | | | |
| Passed more than section of the GED | 43 | 10 | 23.26% | 86 | 25 | 29.07% | | | |
| Passed one section of the GED | 43 | 0 | 0.00% | 86 | 1 | 1.16% | | | |
| Past official GED Practice Test | 43 | 10 | 23.26% | 86 | 16 | 18.60% | | | |
| Read more to children | 1372 | 239 | 17.42% | 925 | 217 | 23.46% | 414 | 92 | 22.22% |
| Increased Parent Child Interaction | 1372 | 308 | 22.45% | 925 | 214 | 23.14% | 414 | 77 | 18.60% |
| Greater involment with child/schooling | 1372 | 370 | 26.97% | 925 | 225 | 24.32% | 414 | 95 | 22.95% |
| Entered military | 1372 | 5 | 0.36% | 2288 | 0 | 0.00% | 1179 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Gained computer skills | 1372 | 165 | 12.03% | 2288 | 218 | 9.53% | 1179 | 47 | 3.99% |
| Registered to Vote /Voted for the first time | 1372 | 12 | 0.87% | 2288 | 2 | 0.09% | 1179 | 0 | 0.00% |



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About Job Corps

Job Corps is a no-cost education and vocational training program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that helps young people ages 16 through 24 improve the quality of their lives through vocational and academic training.

Funded by Congress, Job Corps has been training young adults for meaningful careers since 1964. Job Corps is committed to offering all students a safe, drug-free environment where they can take advantage of the resources provided.

Job Corps' mission is to attract eligible young people, teach them the skills they need to become employable and independent, and place them in meaningful jobs or further education.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining Job Corps or would like more information, please call **(800) 733-JOBS** or **(800) 733-5627** today!

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Frequently Asked Questions

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Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

What is Job Corps?

Job Corps is the nation's largest career technical training and education program for young people at least 16 years of age that qualify as low income. A voluntary program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, Job Corps provides eligible young men and women with an opportunity to gain the experience they need to begin a career or advance to higher education.

To find out more about the Job Corps program, please feel free to explore our Web site, and in particular, our [About Job Corps](#) page.

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Where is Job Corps?

Job Corps has 124 centers nationwide, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Please see our [Locations](#) page to find the Job Corps center nearest you.

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What does Job Corps offer?

Job Corps offers hands-on training in more than 100 career technical areas, including: automotive and machine repair, construction, finance and business services, health care, hospitality, information technology, manufacturing, renewable resources, and many more. All training programs are aligned with industry certifications and are designed to meet the requirements of today's careers.

Job Corps also offers the opportunity to earn a high school diploma or a GED for those youth who don't have either. For youth who already have a high school diploma, Job



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Corps can help them prepare for college through partnerships with local colleges. Resources are also available for English Language Learners.

Courses in independent living, employability skills, and social skills are offered to all Job Corps students in order to help them make the transition into the workplace. For more information, please see our [Recruiting Web site](#).

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WOODLAND JOB CORPS CENTER

What We Do

Job Corps is a no-cost education and career technical training program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that helps young people ages 16 through 24 improve the quality of their lives through career technical and academic training. The Job Corps program is authorized by Title I-C of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

At Woodland Job Corps Center, we support the Job Corps program's mission of teaching eligible young people the skills they need to become employable and independent and placing them in meaningful jobs or further education.

Who We Are

Woodland Job Corps Center is overseen by the Philadelphia Regional Office of Job Corps and is operated by Adams and Associates, Inc. Our Center Director is Modesto Gloria.

(1) what services your program offers,

Career Technical Training

Woodland Job Corps Center offers career technical training in several career pathways.

Construction

- Carpentry
- Facilities Maintenance
- Electrical

Hospitality

- Basic Culinary
- Advanced Culinary
- Hotel & Lodging

Information Technology

- Network Cable Installation

Career Technical Training is delivered in partnership with Home Builders Institute for Carpentry and Facilities Maintenance. The Center partners with Anne Arundel Community College on all other technical training.

An integral part of career technical training is a requirement for students to earn industry-recognized credentials. Students with these credentials will be more competitive when entering the work force.

Academics

Woodland Job Corps offers comprehensive academic programs, including basic reading and math, Online High School Diploma, and General Equivalency Degree (GED). Diagnostic reading and math testing, administered at entry, is used to determine initial academic placement that is modified as students progress.

Two programs are offered for students to earn an academic credential. Students enrolled in the GED Program have the opportunity to test in Maryland or Virginia. The GED exam tests proficiency in writing, social studies, science reading and mathematics. Students enrolled in the Online High School Diploma Program complete remaining credits not earned in public school.

Speakers, Tutors, Achievement, Retention, Success (STARS)

STARS is a program designed to increase student retention, to improve student achievement and to support students completion of the Job Corps program. The three primary components of STARS are Speakers, Tutors, and Mentors.

- The Speakers component is designed to provide students with the opportunity to hear and interact with speakers about their participation in Jobs Corps and their future careers.
- The Tutors component provides students with volunteer tutors who assist students with academic skill development (basic reading and math and GED) and applied academics related to career technical training.
- The Mentors component is designed to provide students with mentors who give encouragement and guidance to students to support them in their personal, educational, and professional endeavors.

GED/High School Diploma

One of our top goals at Woodland Job Corps is to ensure that every qualified student obtains his or her GED/high school diploma prior to leaving the center. Students who don't already have a high school diploma upon their arrival at Woodland are automatically enrolled into our GED/high school program. Students who complete this program's core classes may participate in our high school diploma program.

Center Life

Approximately 300 students are housed in four traditional residence halls (2 male- Maple and Oak, 1 female- Holly and 1 Co-ed Aspen)

Typical Day at Woodland Job Corps Center is filled with activities which help our students prepare for the real world and engage the students with critical thinking. Students begin their day at 6:30am with a well balanced meal and from 8am – 3:30pm they participate in rigorous academic and hands-on career technical training.

After class, students return to the dorm where they can complete chores or socialize with friends before dinner in the cafeteria. After dinner students will be involved in Extended Evening training opportunities consisting of study groups, computer labs, recreational programming or Leisure Time Employment. Most students are in bed by 10 pm in order to rest and prepare for the next day task

Recreation

Woodland Job Corps Center boasts one of the best and most diverse recreation programs in the nation. Students find our recreational activities to be a fun and exciting way to meet new friends, socialize, and just relax and unwind at the end of the day

Woodland Job Corp Center's athletic teams are known as the Warriors, and they compete in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Job Corps Conference (MEAJCC). The interscholastic sports offered are Flag Football, Men's' and Women's' Basketball, Male and Co-ed Softball.

There are several other activities that will peak your interest such as our Award winning Arts and Craft program. Some of our other activities include bowling, computer lab, dodge ball, intramural sports, pool leagues and tournaments, movies, soccer club, skating, swimming, video games, volley ball, community service projects and personal development projects.

Safety

Job Corps is committed to offering all students a safe and secure environment. That's why we have a Zero Tolerance Policy for violence, alcohol, and drugs.

Benefits

Pay and Allowances

Job Corps pays each student a living allowance twice a month while in the program. But just like a real job, taxes are deducted from this allowance.

Housing

Our center can house 168 male students and 132 female students in several dormitories. Each dormitory has bathroom and shower facilities, laundry facilities, TV rooms, lounges, and vending machines.

Meals

Our students are provided three nutritious meals each day at no cost. The Center has identified as a priority, the construction of a new Food Service Building.

Wellness Center

The wellness center is open daily for basic medical, dental, and optometrist services which are provided free to our students. Weight management, smoking cessation, pregnancy prevention, and other health-related programs are also available. The purpose of the Wellness Center is to assist students with medical and mental health needs to remain in the program.

Graduate Benefits

Job Corps graduates are eligible for up to:

- \$1200 transition allowance to assist with transportation and housing
- Job placement assistance for up to nine months
- Career counseling
- Relocation counseling services
- 12 month follow-up services upon placement

(2) the length and expectations of your program

The average length of stay for students at Woodland Job Corps Center is about 11 months. Job Corps is an open entry, open exit program allowing students to learn at their fastest pace possible. Students are expected to develop career success skills, earn a HSD/GED, complete at least one career technical training program with industry recognized certification. Career success skills are commonly referred to 'employability skills.' Job Corps graduates are also expected to obtain a full time job that matches their selected career path. Staff are assigned to help them achieve this goal..

(3) program eligibility requirements and selection criteria

- Be at least 16, but not yet 25 years old, on the date they arrive at a Job Corps center.
- Maximum age limit may be waived for Individual with disabilities.
- Have signed a consent form for automatic Selective service registration (male only)
- Be a United States citizen, a United States national, a lawfully admitted permanent resident alien, refugee, asylum seeker, or parolee, or other alien who has been authorized by the Attorney General to work in the United States.
- Be a low-income individual
- A school dropout
- A individual who requires additional education, vocational training, or intensive career counseling and related assistance in order to participate successfully in regular school work or to secure and hold employment.
- Basic skills deficient
- Homeless, runaway, or a foster child
- A parent

And selection criteria:

- A signed consent form for enrollment of minors from a parent or guardian or provide documentation that no guardian exists.
- Determine that suitable arrangements have been made for the care of any dependent children for the proposed period of enrollment.
- Conduct a background check to confirm that the applicant is not on probation, parole, or under a suspended sentence, or under the supervision of any agency as a result of court action or institutionalization, unless the court or appropriate agency certifies in writing that it will approve of the applicant's release from its face-to-face supervision and that the applicant's release does not violate applicable laws and regulations. If there is a history of court involvement, a determination regarding the seriousness of the charges and whether the person should be considered for enrollment based on the guidelines in the Admissions Counselor Guide for Evaluating Applicant Behavior and Court History
- Determine further, based on observation of the applicant's behavior during the interview process and evaluation of the information provided by the applicant.

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- (4) service data from 2009 that quantifies the program's capacity, the extent of any waitlist for services, and the number of young people from Montgomery County that participate or have participated in the program

The Woodland Center serves about 450 students per year. The Center has a capacity for 300 residential students, 168 males and 132 females. There is a modest waiting list that could delay enrollment for male students due to bed space. Once approved by the center, applicants are usually enrolled within four weeks. During this last calendar year 18 students were from Montgomery County.

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- (5) Any available outcomes data and program completion rates.

Performance Outcomes (7/1/10 – 12/31/10)

| Performance Measures | Woodland Results |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Career Technical Completions | 53.5% |
| GED/High School Diploma Attainment | 48.8% |
| Graduate Placement Rate | 88.9% |
| Job-Training Match | 77.4% |
| 6-Month Placement Rate | 61.6% |
| 6-Month Wage | \$398.91 |
| Overall Rating | 95.6% |

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For Immediate Release

**TRAWICK FOUNDATION AND THE HSC FOUNDATION
ANNOUNCE TWO YOUTH IN TRANSITION GRANT AWARDS
TOTALING \$300,000.**

The Trawick Foundation and its funding partner, The HSC Foundation, are pleased to announce two grant awards focusing on youth in transition.

The Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) – Maryland Multicultural Youth Centers (MMYC) is the recipient of a \$238,000 grant for the INSPIRE program. “This is the largest grant we have made to a single organization in 1 year and it reflects our commitment to invest in innovative programs that have potential for replication” said Carol Trawick, President of the Trawick Foundation. “We are pleased that The HSC Foundation has joined us to address the needs of vulnerable youth populations transitioning to adulthood.”

INSPIRE is a workforce readiness program that helps youth ages 16 -24, who are pregnant, parenting or aging out of the foster care system. LAYC partners with arts organizations serving as internship sites and will provide an intensive level of support to these young adults. In partnership with Pyramid Atlantic, the Dance Exchange, the Montgomery County Department of Recreation and other referral and employment partners, the INSPIRE program will serve 50 young adults during critical transition periods in their lives.

A second grant of \$62,000 has been awarded to Family Services to hire a benefits counselor for the TRACKS transition to adulthood psychiatric rehabilitation program. Family Services and The GUIDE Program are partnering in this program which takes a holistic approach to assisting youth ages 14 – 24 who are uninsured or underinsured and are in need of rehabilitation, mental health, and transition services.

OUR VISION: Future Link, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit, is dedicated to the creation and implementation of a replicable model for offering community support to vulnerable yet motivated young adults aged 16-25 who want to work towards a brighter future.

OUR MISSION: The mission of Future Link, Inc. is to provide youth coaches, self-advocacy education and other academic, vocational and career supports to assist vulnerable yet motivated young adults successfully transition into adulthood.

NET PROGRAM TARGET POPULATION

The NET program is voluntary. Participants are at-risk youth aged 16 to 25. They are:

- Youth seeking adult guidance;
- Youth who want to learn self-advocacy skills;
- Youth determined to create a brighter future for themselves;
- Montgomery County residents;
- Not chronically mentally ill;
- Not violent.

Vulnerable Youth can be defined as:

- Youth emancipating from foster care;
- Runaway and homeless youth;
- Youth involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems;
- Immigrant youth;
- Youth with physical or learning disabilities;
- Young single mothers and fathers;
- High school drop outs;
- Disconnected youth who are neither enrolled in school nor working.

NET Program Philosophy:

- Volunteers can make a difference.
- NET program participation is voluntary. Students have made a commitment to devote time and effort to the work of preparing for a bright future.
- The transition to adulthood is a process that takes time. In today's global economy, youth need time and support to develop the skills necessary to make a contribution to society and to achieve self-sufficiency.

Want to Get Involved?

Contact Mindi Jacobson, Future Link Executive Director at 240-393-9443 or mjacobson@myfuturelink.net



Future Link assists youth seeking to enter and persist in post-secondary programs and to secure and retain entry-level jobs. We build a bridge between at-risk Montgomery County youth aged 17-25 and local employers by providing an intensive self-advocacy seminar, individualized career guidance, exposure to in-demand jobs and on-going support for youth committed to developing the personal, professional, and academic skills necessary to achieve self-sufficiency.

Target Population: We serve youth terming out of foster care, who come from families blown apart by chemical addiction, domestic violence, and incarceration, and high potential economically disadvantaged youth who would be the first in their family to attend college. Enrolled youth require remediation before they are eligible to take college level courses and lack academic confidence. Through a sheltered college experience, students are exposed to college-level expectations and encouraged to identify their personal strengths which typically include resiliency, commitment and motivation. We connect them with leading professionals in the field of their interest and strongly support their academic efforts. Through this effort, we hope to reduce the incidence of homelessness, substance abuse, gang involvement, and too early parenthood in our community.

How is Future Link different? Enrolled youth develop the skills necessary to enter and persist in post-secondary education and to secure and progress in entry-level jobs by participating in:

- A rigorous 14-week, 40-hour seminar taught in Montgomery College classrooms. This provides the opportunity for students to develop the mindset and readiness skills to enter college and to excel in entry-level jobs. Through role-playing, case analysis, individualized skills inventories, and mock interviews, students develop critical thinking skills, a future orientation, and increased confidence. The seminar's culminating project is an informational interview with a leading professional in the field of the youth's interest. This is a powerful and often transformative experience;
- Individualized support following the seminar that can include scholarships, academic and career counseling, assistance with enrollment, testing and financial aid/ scholarship applications, mentoring and academic tutoring;
- Ambassadors Leadership Program. This year, Future Link is piloting site visits to local corporations (MedImmune, Adventist HealthCare, Drink More Water, etc.) where the curriculum will include segments on in-demand jobs, the connection between pay and preparation, professionalism in the workplace, and financial literacy. The program curriculum is being developed with the help of a Leadership Montgomery team; sessions will be open to current and past students.

Why is this program critical? Almost 90% of the fastest growing jobs in Montgomery County require post-secondary education and training yet college persistence rates among minority youth are exceptionally low. Targeted youth typically lack an understanding of both academic and workplace expectations and need adult guidance to bridge this gap.

Demand for Future Link, Inc.: Currently, 25 Montgomery County agencies that serve youth refer students to Future Link's program; however, we receive no county financial support. Student demand for our program has swamped our limited resources. Regrettably, we have not marketed our upcoming spring seminar to county agencies because we already have a waiting list of 60 young adults requesting seminar enrollment but have space for only 12 students due to limited financial resources. We hope to expand capacity through collaboration and fundraising. Additionally, members of the Montgomery County delegation have committed to raising scholarship funds to assist Future Link students in their districts access college.