

Marion Francis

Anne Arundel County Public Library Administrator

AACPL, AAWDC team up to help county job seekers find employment

I am very pleased to announce that the Anne Arundel County Public Library (AACPL) and the Anne Arundel County Workforce Development Corporation's (AAWDC) One Stop Career Centers have formed a partnership to provide job seeker and career assistance to all County residents.

Since October, more than 400 people have sought help from AAWDC Job Search Specialists who are available at the West County Area Library in Odenton between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and 4 and 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and on alternating Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 or 4 to 8 p.m. (The Friday/Saturday schedule changes from week to week.)

In addition, hundreds more have availed themselves to workshops hosted by AACPL and AAWDC, including a program titled "Demystifying the Federal Employment Process," held on January 26, 2010, which attracted more than 100 participants.

Based on the overwhelming demand for such services, officials from AACPL and AAWDC recently announced that the partnership will be expanded into the Southern end of the County, as well as to additional locations in the Western area.

Our staff has been increasingly called upon to assist patrons with locating job listings, compiling resumes and filling out online job applications, among other tasks. So we are thrilled to have yet another resource to offer those individuals who are seeking job and career assistance.

Kirkland Murray, President and CEO of AAWDC is also excited about the benefits of the existing partnership and its expansion for his agency's clients.

"This partnership is designed to help us reach more County citizens who need help gaining employment," Murray notes. "It will allow our agency to reach out to citizens in areas where our One Stop Centers do not currently exist."

AAWDC Job Search Specialists will be available at the Crofton, Maryland City at Russett, Edgewater and South County Branch Libraries in the coming months.



Glen Spitzer (center) a 2007 graduate of University of Maryland - Baltimore Campus, is furthering his training to make himself more marketable to prospective employers with the help of a new partnership between Anne Arundel County Public Library (AACPL) and Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation. Spitzer is joined by AACPL Administrator Marion Francis and Kirkland Murray, AAWDC President and CEO.

I recently had the opportunity to meet Glenn Spitzer, one of the many individuals who has directly benefited from the partnership. Mr. Spitzer is a dislocated worker with a BS in Mechanical Engineering who has been looking for work since last April. His goal is to become a Professional Engineer in the area of HVAC/Construction with an emphasis on energy consumption.

After seeking assistance at the West County Area Library, Mr. Spitzer, with the help of AAWDC, has enrolled in several training sessions at a number of local higher education institutions that will better position him for achieving his career objectives.

In addition to the services offered through the partnership, AACPL offers many online job seeker resources that can be accessed online from the library's website, www.aacpl.net. These include job searching tools, resume support, career and college information, and skills building and test prep tools.

Many branches also offer basic computer instruction, one-on-one computer training, and print materials for career and college training and test preparation.

At AACPL, we are proud to be part of the economic recovery solution for the County and its residents.

—Marion W. Francis

