



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 28, 2004

Contact: Kristin Lemmert
410.729.3241
klemmert@aawdc.org
Release Number 2004-07

Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation
Receives \$490,000 Grant for Anne Arundel PASS Program

MILLERSVILLE – Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation (AAWDC) received a \$490,803.00 grant from the U.S. Department of Labor’s Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (CFBCI) to establish the Anne Arundel PASS (People Acquiring Skills for Success) program in the Freetown Village and Meade Village public housing communities, and Ordnance and Jennifer Road detention centers. AAWDC is one of eleven Workforce Investment Area grantees nationwide. Of the 300 applicants, AAWDC received the highest grant application score from the DOL, thanks to the efforts of co-authors Crystal Martin (AAWDC’s Deputy Director) and Paulette Francois (Maryland Department of Social Services).

Unveiled in fall 2004, Anne Arundel PASS program creates four One-Stop Career Centers, provides career-development training (career scholarships) for 100 individuals, and services to 250 people. “We’ve partnered with the Anne Arundel Department of Corrections, the Boys & Girls Club of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County, and Faith-Based Community Organizations (FBCO’s) to operate the four sites and teach job readiness where it’s most needed,” explained Andy Moser, AAWDC president/CEO.

“Anne Arundel PASS teaches personal empowerment which is important to our County’s success. By giving people the skills they need to gain and sustain employment, we transform

-more-

lives and build better tomorrows,” commented County Executive Janet S. Owens.

“The FBCO’s will have the full range of resources offered by our organization for the grant’s 18-month entirety,” noted Martin. “We appreciate the support of this initiative by County Executive Owens and Al Collins [Chief of Staff], Richard Baker [County’s Superintendent of Detention Facilities], Larry Loyd [Executive Director of the County’s Public Housing Commission], Reginald Broddie [Area Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County], the Governor’s Workforce Investment Board, the Department of Licensing, Labor, and Regulation, and local community leaders Russell Roeding [Executive Director of Associated Builders and Contractors], Grant Shmelzer [Executive Director of Independent Electrical Contractors], and Ned Brooks [President/CEO of RELMS Landscaping Services].”

The Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation (AAWDC) works on behalf of County Executive Janet S. Owens to provide high quality, innovative workforce development products and services to all residents and businesses in Anne Arundel County. Committed to improving its community since 1974, AAWDC serves approximately 1,000 job seekers and employers each month by offering a variety of business and job seeker resources. Business services include customized recruitments, job postings, downsizing assistance, rapid response orientations, incentive programs, and funds for employee training. Job seeker resources include job listings, career counseling, workshops, resource centers, educational development, veteran services, and training funds. For more information, call 410.729.3241.

###