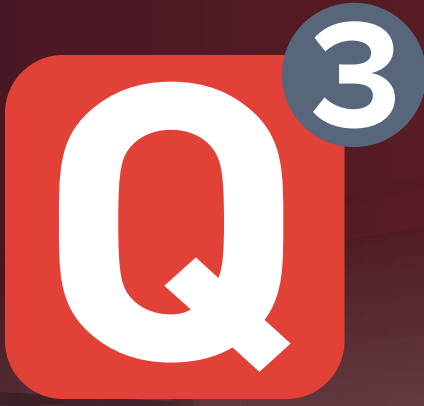




QUARTERLY REPORT

Federal Career Transition Hiring Event

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FEBRUARY 2025

MARYLAND 3.4%

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY 2.9%

Responding to Federal Workforce Changes

In response to recent federal downsizing, AAWDC implemented a multi-faceted strategy to support affected workers and connect them with critical resources and new employment opportunities. These efforts included the creation of targeted support materials, the coordination of a dedicated hiring event, and the development of specialized programming to assist former employees in navigating the career transition process.

continue reading on Page 2



ANNE ARUNDEL
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION



Eliza Handschuch, Devin Lucas, Sylvia Wei, and Evan Wright applied for the 2024 FutureSuccess program in search of internships aligned with their participation in the International Trade, Transportation, and Tourism (IT3) program at North County High School. Each student was matched with an employer offering hands-on experience in their field of study—Eliza with the Anne Arundel County Mailroom, Devin with Bouncy Rentals, Sylvia with Hope for All, and Evan with AAWDC's BWI Business Solutions Center. Throughout the program, they demonstrated enthusiasm, professionalism, and personal growth. Their dedication to both FutureSuccess and the IT3 program earned all four students a Certificate in Transportation, Logistics, and Cargo Security from Anne Arundel Community College in January 2025. They will each receive 15 college credits upon graduating high school in June.

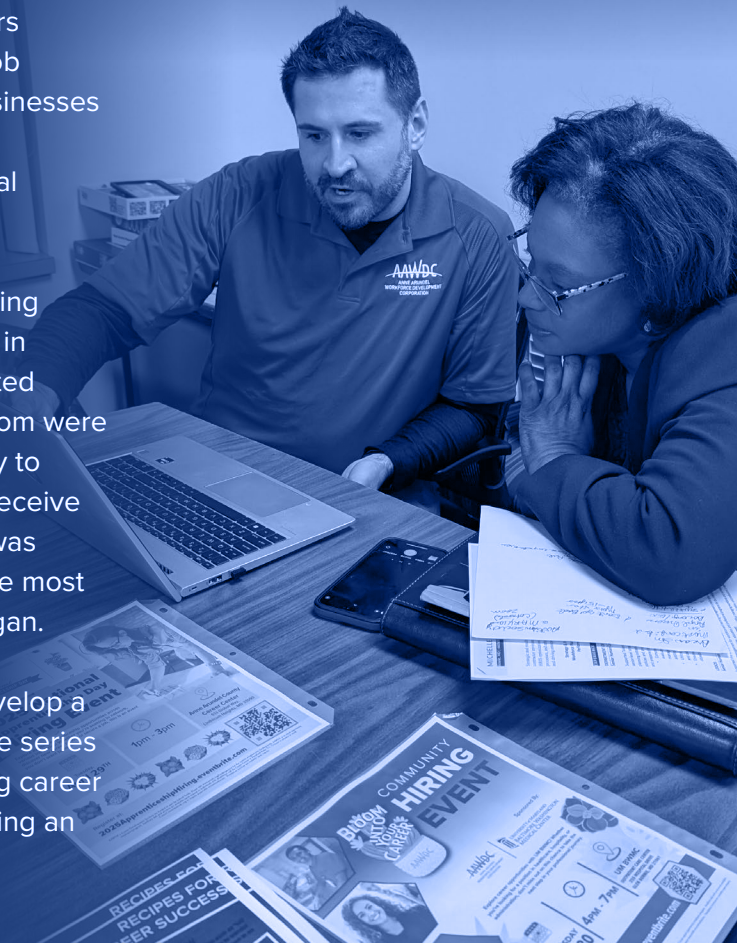
Responding to Federal Workforce Changes (continued)

As part of the response, AAWDC launched a dedicated job board through our recruitment portal to connect displaced workers with employers seeking experienced, highly skilled talent. This platform enables job seekers to find roles aligned with their expertise while offering businesses direct access to a valuable talent pool. Additionally, we developed both digital and print resources to help individuals shift from federal employment to the private sector.

A key highlight of our efforts was the Federal Career Transition Hiring Event, organized in partnership with the County Executive's Office in March at the O'Malley Senior Center in Odenton. The event attracted more than 50 businesses and nearly 370 job seekers, many of whom were directly impacted by federal layoffs. Attendees had the opportunity to connect with employers, explore essential career resources, and receive resume reviews from AAWDC's Career Services team. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many participants describing it as the most impactful hiring event they had attended since the downsizing began.

Building on this momentum, AAWDC has also been working to develop a workshop series tailored specifically to former federal workers. The series will cover topics such as managing stress and emotions, identifying career goals and values, crafting a resume for the private sector, developing an action plan, and mastering key self-marketing strategies.

Featured Highlight



Re-Entry Collaborative

The Anne Arundel Re-Entry Collaborative met at the Anne Arundel County Career Center in February to bring together community partners dedicated to supporting justice-impacted individuals. The meeting focused on fostering stronger collaboration among departments and organizations to improve resources and services throughout the county.

Transportation & BWI Hiring Event

AAWDC's Transportation & BWI Hiring Event drew 175 individuals seeking employment in the transportation industry and at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport. Businesses were able to connect with a large pool of qualified, unique candidates and reported a 100% satisfaction rate. "Overall, the event was great—we were surprised with the amount of people that showed up and have a good candidate pool to sort through," said the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works.

Blueprint for Maryland's Future Hearings

In March, members of the Anne Arundel Student Career Excellence (AASCE) team—joined by students, Maryland Workforce Association Executive Director Brandon Butler, and AAWDC President & CEO Kirkland Murray—testified before several Maryland General Assembly committees on the significance of career counseling under the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. Their advocacy helped secure language in the Governor's Blueprint reform bill extending funding for workforce board-led partnerships through FY28. This win protects over 200 workforce jobs and ensures continued career support for Maryland students.

Read Across America

On March 6th, AASCE Career Coach Liz Ogudugu coordinated a field trip to the Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services (DSS) to Read Across America. Participants included students from the Teen Parent Education Program (TPEP) and Hispanic Adult Learners enrolled in GED and ESL programs through DSS, along with their children. Several community leaders, including County Executive Steuart Pittman, attended and read to the children.

Few of Many Awards

AAWDC President & CEO Kirkland Murray was one of several community leaders recognized at the 2025 “Few of the Many” Awards, County Executive Steuart Pittman’s signature Black History Month event in partnership with the Caucus of African American Leaders. Held at Maryland Hall, this year’s awards theme was “African Americans and Labor” and celebrated individuals who have “contributed exceptionally to the community through their work and service.”

Empower Your Business for the 2025 Tax Season

AAWDC partnered with the Northern Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce to host an event for local businesses focusing on important tax updates and information. IRS Tax Specialist and Stakeholder Liaison Christopher K. Green shared insights on tax filing, data security, and strategies to help businesses maximize their benefits. The event sparked engaging discussion and equipped attendees with practical tools to enhance their tax planning efforts.

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