JULY - SEPTEMBER 2026

AAWDC 25 YEARS
ANNE ARUNDEL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Q1 QUARTERLY REPORT



Reception at Live! Casino & Hotel Maryland

Workforce Impact Awards Reception & 25th Anniversary Celebration

AAWDC hosted its inaugural Workforce Impact Awards Reception & 25th Anniversary Celebration in September, honoring six workforce partners for their contributions to workforce development in Anne Arundel County. The event sold 200 tickets, with guests including county and state elected officials, and received support from 18 sponsors, led by Legacy Sponsor Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE). Together, these efforts helped raise more than $45,000 for AAWDC's Endowment Fund, established with the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County to support AAWDC's long-term sustainability and ensure its continued impact in the community for the next 25 years and beyond.

Learn more about AAWDC's history and Endowment Fund on the back cover.

Unemployment Rate SEPTEMBER 2026

MARYLAND	3.5%	ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY	3.0%

BUILDING SUCCESS

First referred to AAWDC in 2020 while preparing to transition out of foster care, D. Jones participated in the Career Jumpstart Program, developed essential workplace skills, and secured employment. In 2025, she returned to AAWDC with a renewed goal of entering healthcare, working with her Career Coach to address employment barriers, complete the expungement process, and develop a career plan. With individualized coaching, training support, and continued encouragement, Ms. Jones earned her Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT) credential after completing hands-on training with an 87% score. She also secured a Room Attendant position at the University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center, allowing her to gain hospital experience while positioning herself for advancement. Now exploring a potential part-time phlebotomy opportunity within the hospital, Ms. Jones continues to demonstrate the determination, confidence, and commitment needed to advance toward her long-term career goals.



FutureSuccess

AAWDC's 2026 FutureSuccess summer internship program connected 76 Anne Arundel County youth and young adults ages 16–24 with meaningful, paid work-based learning opportunities through six local businesses. University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center served as the largest business partner, hosting 43 interns across multiple hospital departments, while new partnerships with Fort George G. Meade and Wander with Wande expanded interns exposure to diverse career pathways. Other host sites included Anne Arundel County Government, The Salvation Army, and AAWDC. The program concluded with a celebration recognizing interns' achievements and the collective impact of the businesses and workforce partners helping prepare the next generation of talent.

Volunteer Program Launch

The SNAP Volunteer Pilot Program launched in August to increase capacity for the county to provide residents with services that meet the work activity requirements for SNAP under H.R. 1. The pilot screened 16 SNAP recipients, with five being placed at the Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities. The volunteers will support the nutrition program run at various senior centers across the county. This program represents a partnership between AAWDC and the Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services (DSS). AAWDC and DSS anticipate increased participation and demand for services in the fall.



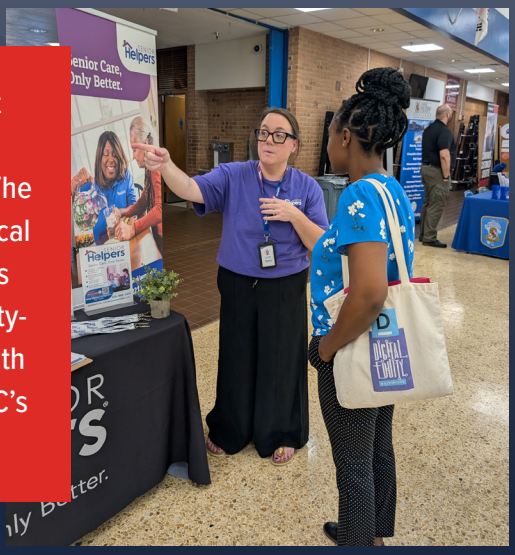
Presentations & Awards

Between July and September, AAWDC staff shared their expertise at conferences across the country. At the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP) Business Services Academy, the Director of Apprenticeships, Business, and Industry Solutions and the Vice President of Program Operations and Strategic Initiatives presented "From Impact to Insight: Creating Talent Pipelines through Strategic Industry Partnerships."

At the Maryland Workforce Association's annual Raising the Bar Conference, more than 10 AAWDC team members led workshops on topics including disability inclusion, re-entry, industry pathways, career coaching, and outreach. Two team members also received awards recognizing their contributions to workforce development: Carl Kushinsky for Raising the Bar in Business Services and Autumn Meyers for Raising the Bar in Blueprint Career Coaching.

Annapolis High School Community Hiring Event

AAWDC successfully launched its first hiring event at Annapolis High School, expanding business and job seeker engagement within the Annapolis community. The event connected 136 job seekers with more than 20 local businesses, who identified a total of 64 candidates as potential hires. The event established a new community-based approach for connecting Annapolis residents with employment opportunities while strengthening AAWDC's relationships with local businesses.





NAPA & Skillmaker.AI Apprenticeship

AAWDC's Apprenticeship Manager partnered with NAPA and Skillmaker.AI to design, register, and launch a Maryland Registered Apprenticeship Program for Automotive Technicians. Serving as the technical advisor and apprenticeship subject matter expert, the Apprenticeship Manager guided partners from initial workforce strategy and program design through registration and implementation. The Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Council approved the program in July, establishing a new technology-enabled pathway for developing skilled automotive technicians across the state.

AASCE MLW Visit

In July, the entire Anne Arundel Student Career Excellence (AASCE) team, including the Director and two Program Managers, traveled to Washington College to observe and participate in the Maryland Leadership Workshop (MLW) summer program. Through AASCE, 70 middle and high school students were sponsored to attend the weeklong residential leadership program. The experience provided the AASCE team with valuable student-centered insights that will inform ongoing program implementation, career coaching practices, and efforts to strengthen individualized student engagement.



AASCE Back to School

During the summer, AASCE Career Coaches focused on professional development, team building, and community partnerships in preparation for the 2026–27 academic year. Career Coaches returned to their assigned schoolhouses with a focus on building relationships with school staff and establishing a visible presence within their school communities. At Back-to-School Night events, Career Coaches introduced families to AASCE, shared information about career exploration and coaching services, and connected with parents interested in helping their students explore future career opportunities.

Celebrating 25 Years of Building Success

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25 Years of Building Success

For 25 years, AAWDC has worked alongside businesses, residents, and community partners to strengthen Anne Arundel County's workforce. We're proud of how far we've come and excited for what lies ahead! Explore our history and discover how you can help support our future by visiting:

www.aawdc.org/25YearsOfAAWDC

Connect with Us Now!

www.aawdc.org

AAAWDC's Services are funded in part by federal funds. Please visit www.aawdc.org/fundingsource for the current program year funding levels. AAWDC is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities, call the Career Center or Maryland Relay 711, 72 hours in advance or email CareerCenter@aawdc.org to request reasonable accommodations. Translation Services are available upon request.