



Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Hybrid Location: Luminis Health Doctors Hospital-8118 Good Luck Road Lanham, MD 20706

Zoom Meeting – [Click Here to View the Recording](#)

Attendees

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Allynn Powell^ | 15. Joshua Harrold^ |
| 2. Amanda Wagner* | 16. Kari Pompilii^ |
| 3. Angie Rodgers^ | 17. Kendrick Kenny II^ |
| 4. Ardy Kamali* | 18. Khadijah Allen* |
| 5. Brad Frome, Chair^ | 19. Millard House III^ |
| 6. Dawn D Carter^ | 20. Pat Philippe^ |
| 7. Dawnn Leary^ | 21. Patrick Combs* |
| 8. Dr. Mia Riley^ | 22. Samuel DeVonish^ |
| 9. Dr. Tamika S. Hood* | 23. Senator James “Jim” C. Rosapepe^ |
| 10. Erica LeMon^ | 24. Sinkinthia Holly^ |
| 11. Ericka Stevens* | 25. Stacey Butler^ |
| 12. Jacqueline Moore^ | 26. Walter L. Simmons* |
| 13. Jeffrey Dufresne* | |
| 14. Jeffrey Swilley* | |

*Board Staff ^Board Members

Welcome

Brad Frome

The meeting was commenced by Brad Frome at **9:05** am.

Roll Call

Dr. Tamika S. Hood

The meeting began with a roll call of attendees, including elected officials, staff, and board members.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Brad Frome

Brad Frome presented the April 2025 meeting agenda.

A motion to approve the meeting agenda was made by Troy Green; seconded by Senator Jim Rosapepe and carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Brad Frome

Brad Frome presented the minutes of the meeting in February 2025.

A motion to approve minutes was made by Millard House III; seconded by Senator Jim Rosapepe and carried unanimously.

EPG Intelligence Demo

Ryan Flach

Ryan Flach presented a real-time job matching system developed for the Employ Prince George's team, which became operational in January. This system employs web scraping to gather job listings from six different sources and integrates with Empyra Oneflow to access job seekers' information in real-time. Utilizing AI tools, the system aims to efficiently match job seekers with appropriate job opportunities while also offering information on career training and educational programs. The system's taxonomy incorporates NAICS, SOC, and O-NET codes to effectively align companies, job roles, and potential candidates.

Looking ahead, the vision centers around utilizing real-time data regarding job markets and streamlining processes. Ryan Flach emphasized the importance of using AI to automate repetitive tasks and improve the overall efficiency of job matching efforts. Meanwhile, Walter L. Simmons discussed the progress on a proprietary system that analyzes business data to enhance engagement and predict job placements, noting the possibility of licensing this technology for external use.

Additionally, Ryan Flach addressed the AI's proficiency in uncovering implicit skills from resumes and improving their quality with the guidance of career coaches. Conversations also revolved around the need for employer feedback regarding successful hires and ensuring job seekers receive alerts for suitable job matches.

Chairman's Report

Brad Frome

Ardy Kamali highlights the successful approval of legislation that significantly expands apprenticeship ratios for non-hazardous occupations, fostering greater opportunities for aspiring workers. In a further testament to support for career development, funding for essential career counseling programs in schools has been extended, ensuring that students receive vital guidance in navigating their future paths. Additionally, after facing initial budget cuts, a pioneering pilot program that deploys workforce professionals in rental courts has been successfully reinstated, aimed at bridging the gap for individuals facing housing challenges. Ardy Kamali also achieved a noteworthy milestone by securing a bond bill dedicated to establishing a commercial kitchen training partnership in Baltimore, which promises to enhance culinary skills and create job opportunities in the community.

Walter L. Simmons provides an update on several initiatives and projects. The Federal Government raised the indirect rate to 15%, and a bill was passed to allow invoicing for more back-office operations. Plans are underway to open a commercial training kitchen in partnership with a union, potentially using a hotel in DC or a private sector company in Baltimore. The organization acquired a small workforce bus and a 15-passenger van for transportation. A grant was received to provide regional services, and new board members were onboarded. The organization is launching several resources for impacted Federal workers, including a job fair, resume workshops, networking events, and mental health support. They are also working on translating Federal resumes for the private sector and sending weekly emails to UI claimants.

Lastly, Brad Frome engaged in a detailed discussion with the Board regarding the orientation process for the newly appointed board members. Brad Frome emphasized the importance of providing a comprehensive introduction to the Board's functions, expectations, and goals. As we approach spring, the Board will be actively seeking candidates to fill several open positions, aiming to bring in individuals who can contribute diverse perspectives and skills to enhance the team's overall effectiveness.

Directors' Report

Walter L. Simmons

Walter L. Simmons discussed the progress of the Local and Regional Plan, noting that it is moving forward. Walter L. Simmons briefly mentioned the Bridge Center at Adams House and the Youth Career Center, highlighting collaboration with Patrick Combs and Ericka Stevens. The budget for renovations has been confirmed, and neighborhood design centers will be established along with community sessions.

Additionally, the Federal Worker Job Resource Fair has been launched, attracting nearly 1,100 attendees. A new website has been created to facilitate career transitions, showcasing services from various organizations. Molly Bashay has been appointed as a project officer to assist impacted workers, with additional offers of employment extended.

Career transition workshops and free headshots will be provided, along with business networking events. Due to rising concerns stemming from mass layoffs, monthly mental health webinars are planned. Weekly emails will be sent to unemployment claimants to support their needs. Efforts are being made to improve resume translation with input from business leaders.

The region has seen significant engagement from impacted federal workers, particularly through email outreach, and there may be opportunities to use AI tools to help source resumes. Approximately 73,000 individuals are employed by the federal government in the county. Finally, Walter L. Simmons reviewed the Prince George's County Workforce Development Board Strategic Operations Tracker.

NEW BUSINESS

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Update

Jeffrey Dufresne

Jeffrey Dufresne discussed the progress of the finance team, noting that they were on pace with industry-wide targets. Jeffrey Dufresne also highlighted the success of the Maryland ARPA grant, which was expected to expire next fiscal year. The team also discussed the Blueprint for Maryland's future, which was approved and led to increased activity in the second half of the year. Walter L Simmons mentioned the upcoming career pathway exploration lab, which is expected to arrive in January. The Board members also discussed the issue of parent notification, with Walter L. Simmons explaining that they would focus on the primary parent of where the student resides.

A motion to approve carrying the remaining funds into the next year was made by the Finance Committee, seconded by Kari Pomplli. The motion was carried unanimously.

ADC Management Solutions Report, the summer youth employment provider that served 75 participants, with a diverse range of work sites and training based on their satisfactory performance and positive participant feedback.

A motion to renew the contract with ADC Management Solution was made by the Youth Services Committee, seconded by Erica LeMon.

Adams and Associates benchmarks. The program's progress highlights that they exceeded their enrollment goal and served 93 participants out of their goal of 60. However, they fell short in enrolling students in credential or certificate-based industry-recognized programs, with a goal of 33 and only 13 enrolled. The program also faced challenges in students completing their GED, with only 3 out of 17 active participants completing it. The number of students who completed an industry credential was also

lower than the goal. Despite these shortcomings, the program successfully placed 50 students in unsubsidized employment, exceeding their goal.

A motion to extend Adams and Associates' contract was made by the Youth Services Committee, seconded by Erica LeMon.

Meeting Adjournment

Brad Frome

Troy Green made a motion to conclude the meeting, which was seconded by Dawnn Leary. The motion was carried unanimously.

Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, June 18, 2025

Location is College Park Marriott Hotel & Conference Center



<https://pgcajc.com/workforce-board/>