



## 2008 RESULTS

### BACKGROUND

Each year YouthWorks makes a significant difference in the lives of thousands of young people as they experience the world of work through summer job opportunities. Baltimore City youth ages 14-21 are connected to public and private sector employers who provide the supervision and job assignments that give these youth the chance to earn wages and learn the valuable skills necessary to be successful employees.

YouthWorks provides employers with well-prepared, multi-skilled and dependable high school and college students who are eager to work. Youth benefit by exploring careers and gaining a better understanding of the value of education. Employers benefit by having access to a talented and energetic labor pool of motivated workers.

### Summer 2008 Campaign

Mayor Sheila Dixon announced that summer jobs would be a priority for her administration and asked leaders from across Baltimore City to join her 2008 YouthWorks Leadership Team. She asked them to commit to the YouthWorks theme, *Summer Jobs are Everyone's Business*, and assist her in placing 6,500 teens in summer jobs. Working in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Employment Development and the Baltimore Workforce Investment Board Youth Council, the Mayor worked diligently to recruit employers and solicit donations from businesses, philanthropic organizations, faith-based institutions, government agencies and community leaders.

These efforts resulted in raising sufficient funds and job commitments for more than 6,500 summer jobs. All segments of Baltimore's leadership played significant roles in making YouthWorks 2008 such a success. Included among the most significant contributors were:

- Mayor and City Council – more than \$2.4 million
- Businesses, foundations, government, and other organizations – more than \$2.2 million. Those organizations donating the equivalent of \$10,000 or more include:

Comcast, Legg Mason, M&T Bank, Baltimorean United in Leadership Development (BUILD), Lord Baltimore Capital Corporation, Department of Planning, Housing Authority of Baltimore, Department of Public Works, Department of Transportation, Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Verizon, Annie E. Casey Foundation, UPS, Colgate-Palmolive, the Baltimore City Foundation, H&S Properties and State Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation/ Maryland's Summer Youth Connections.

- Department of Social Services – \$1 million to serve Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), Foster Care and high school youth
- Baltimore City employees – more than \$77,000 through payroll deductions

In addition, 26 City department heads and 35 state agencies provided jobs in government offices; 960 young people were placed in these positions.

## Summer 2008 Highlights

- ❖ Provided summer work opportunities to 6,588 youth at; more than 480 community work sites across Baltimore City.
- ❖ 244 businesses hired teens directly or made contributions to support youth employment through the YouthWorks program – an increase of more than 400% from last year.
- ❖ YouthWorks teens worked in telecommunications, retail, law, hospitality, construction, healthcare, and educational classes at participating high schools and colleges.
- ❖ All YouthWorks participants, age 16 and over attended pre-employment training before placement.
- ❖ 75 private sector employers participated in a special YouthWorks Career Fair to interview pre-screened high school juniors and seniors for jobs; most hired students the same day. An additional 25 employers conducted interviews after the job fair.
- ❖ Baltimore City partnered with Colgate-Palmolive that sponsored the YouthWorks Kickoff event. Over 150 youth attended an entrepreneurship seminar and received personal hygiene products in preparation for the beginning of their work experience. Additionally, Colgate sponsored 30 youth in an Entrepreneurial Camp held at Morgan State University.

## What Employers and Youth had to say about YouthWorks 2008

“We were very pleased with the interns that shared their summer with us. The experience was beneficial to us and from discussions with the interns, also to them. We eagerly anticipate having as many of them back next year as possible.”

*Marc V. Proudford, SPHR, CCP, Director, Human Resources  
Department of Business and Economic Development*

“I have been a part of the YouthWorks Summer Jobs Program for three years. Each year I gain more work experience and new skills working at different worksites. I look forward to returning each summer to meet new people and learn about other employment opportunities available in Baltimore City.”

*Ashley Adams, YouthWorks Participant  
Good Now Pal Center*

“Mercy's participation in Youth Works has created a strong partnership that benefits students, the workplace and community by shaping and educating the workforce of the future.”

*Monica E. Marcum, Director of Volunteer Services  
Mercy Medical Center*

“This was my first time working with the YouthWorks Summer Jobs Program. It was a great opportunity for me to earn money while I learned new skills. I experienced the importance of being a team member and made new friends.”

*Diandre T. Mason, YouthWorks Participant,  
Department of Public Works*