

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**EMPLOY PRINCE GEORGE'S AWARDED \$175,000  
NATIONAL DISLOCATED WORKER GRANT TO STRENGTHEN  
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY WORKFORCE POST COVID-19**

(LARGO, MD) – Employ Prince George's, Inc. has received a \$175,000 grant from Maryland Department of Labor, through the United States Department of Labor's COVID-19 Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grant. Employ Prince George's is using the funding to launch the Covid-19 Workforce Development Recovery Program to strengthen and revitalize Prince George's County's workforce after significant job losses and business closures due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). This could be the initial installment of funds as the Maryland Department of Labor could receive additional federal funding due to Maryland's severe economic impacts from Covid-19.

Over 100,000 Prince George's County residents, specifically hourly and low-wage workers, have been laid off due to Covid-19. With these funds, Employ Prince George's Covid-19 Workforce Development Recovery Program will feature a COVID-19 Response Specialist that will work closely with the Maryland Department of Labor, Maryland Department of Commerce, Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation, Prince George's County Department of Social Services, and various community partners to engage employers and connect out of work residents to training and reemployment opportunities. These efforts will transpire with support from the Prince George's County Local Workforce Development Board and the Prince George's County Public Workforce System.

"We are in unprecedented times, including times of great economic uncertainty. Employ Prince George's goal is to ensure that we continue to be the bridge between job seekers and businesses, no matter the circumstance," said Employ Prince George's President & CEO, Walter L. Simmons. "During the months that we face ahead, ensuring that we are supporting and growing the economic vitality of our Prince George's County community is our main priority."

Many Prince George's County residents travel outside of Prince George's County to work each day; therefore, Employ Prince George's Covid-19 Workforce Development Recovery Program will engage employers throughout the DC Metropolitan Region. Employ Prince George's Covid-19 Workforce Development Recovery Program will provide outreach, intake, free skills training and general workforce development services to laid off workers throughout Prince George's County.

"In a worst-case scenario, Employ Prince George's is expecting thousands of residents to still be unemployed months after the County reopens. We hope that double digit unemployment rates will decrease, but it will be a long period before we see record low unemployment again." stated Simmons, "The funds received from the Maryland Department Labor are a first for Employ Prince George's, related to economic recovery funding, and much needed to help get businesses back open and residents back employed."

For more information or for questions regarding the Covid-19 Workforce Development Recovery Program,, please contact Employ Prince George's at [EPGCD2@co.pg.md.us](mailto:EPGCD2@co.pg.md.us) or visit [www.EmployPG.org](http://www.EmployPG.org).

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*Employ Prince George's (EPG) provides workforce development services for job seekers and businesses. EPG's mission is to improve the local economy by creating a demand-driven workforce system in Prince George's County with workforce development programs that deliver qualified workers to businesses, improves the productivity of businesses, and provides job seekers with opportunities for careers in high demand/high growth industries.*

*For more information, please visit [www.Employpg.org](http://www.Employpg.org).*