



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Maryland's Social Services Agency



MEDIA ADVISORY

For immediate release:

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For more information:

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**STATE AGENCIES SEEK SMALL, WOMEN AND MINORITY OWNED
BUSINESSES FOR POTENTIAL HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
CONTRACTS**

Second Niche Marketing Fair Scheduled

BALTIMORE – The Department of Human Resources (DHR) in collaboration with the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs (GOMA) and the Departments of Transportation (MDOT), Health & Mental Hygiene (DHMH), Juvenile Services (DJS) and Public Safety & Correctional Services (DPSCS) will host a Small and Minority Business Outreach on June 18, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mount Washington Conference Center.

“The Department of Human Resources is pleased to partner with our sister agencies to increase our roster of quality providers of health and human services,” said DHR Secretary Brenda Donald.

“This is the second outreach designed specifically for state government health and human services agencies to promote business opportunities, expand partnerships and provide information to small, minority and women-owned businesses” said Luwanda W. Jenkins, Special Secretary for the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs.

Dr. Robert Wallace, author and keynote speaker, will address critical issues for building strategic partnerships in this challenging economic environment. Because MBE Certification is critical to ensuring certified MBEs compete for procurement opportunities, representatives from the Maryland Department of Transportation's Certification Unit will be on hand to discuss the top 10 steps for securing MBE Certification. This outreach will conclude with a networking session for all participants and attendees.

This event is FREE, however registration is required. For more information, please contact Donna Foster at (410) 767-7861 or email at dfoster@dhr.state.md.us.

WHO:

Department of Human Resources (DHR)
Governor's Office of Minority Affairs (GOMA)
Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DHMH)

- Martin O'Malley, Governor
- Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
- Brenda Donald, Secretary

Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services (DPSCS)

WHAT:

Niche Marketing Fair

WHEN:

Thursday, June 18, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WHERE:

Mount Washington Conference Center

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The Maryland Department of Human Resources is the state's social service provider. The agency collaborates with 24 local jurisdictions to: provide foster care, adoption and protective services to children; collect and distribute child support payments; and provide temporary cash, food stamps and medical assistance to families. It also funds programs for homeless persons, refugees, migrant workers, victims of crime and women who are displaced, battered or assaulted. Last year, DHR served 638,000 people in need. In terms of its annual budget, DHR is Maryland's fourth largest state agency.