

is contributing. The third program is designed to facilitate the participation of Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties) in the various developmental programs authorized under the Federal Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965. This program is being carried out through the Department's Western Maryland Regional Development office, established in Hagerstown.

To enable the Department to discharge more effectively its responsibilities for the coordination of these three regional development programs, the position of Coordinator of Regional Programs was established in September, 1965.

Western Maryland Regional Office

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The Western Maryland Regional Development Office is an integral part of the Department of Economic Development and functions as a field arm of that Department in the local coordination of plans and projects under the Appalachian program and the provision of staff support to Maryland's Representative on the Appalachian Regional Commission. The staff of the office will also assess the economic and resource potential of the three counties, consult with Western Maryland leaders to obtain their ideas for strengthening the area's economy, and seek to enlist broad-based public support and cooperation in regional development tasks. To assist in these tasks, the Appalachian Maryland Development Council was created and consists of civic, local government and business leaders. The initial budget for the period September 1, 1965 to December 31, 1966, was \$65,576. The budget for 1967 is \$77,896. In both budgets, 75 percent was supplied by a Federal grant under the Appalachian Act, and 25 percent by the State.

The Tourist Development and Publicity Division promotes and publicizes Maryland's tourist and recreational advantages. The Division actively cooperates with and assists local, regional, and state-wide travel, historical, and recreational groups in fostering and implementing activities and programs which will increase tourist travel and vacationing in Maryland. This includes the preparation and distribution of literature on Maryland's recreational, scenic, and historical assets, and publicizing and advertising the tourist and recreational appeals of the State. The Division also answers travel and tourist inquiries from publications, tourists, vacationers, residents, students, and public and private agencies. This involves mailing out hundreds of thousands of pieces of literature yearly and preparing many special reports and articles as well as radio and TV scripts and advertising copy.

In addition, the Commission may appoint boards and committees representing economic groups within the State to advise and assist in the accomplishment of the aims and fulfillment of the duties of the Commission (Code 1957, 1965 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, secs. 257-266).

Appropriations	1967	1968
General Funds	\$680,248	\$870,282
Special Funds	7,000	2,500
Federal Funds		33,193
Staff, 1967: 45; Staff, 1968: 52.		