## REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY OF APPALACHIAN MARYLAND

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Frank C. Peto, Executive Director, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Board

153 Baltimore St. Cumberland, MD 21502

777-3525 MARCOM: 777-5982

The Regional Education Service Agency of Appalachian Maryland (RESA) works to raise the educational level of all people in Appalachian Maryland (Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties). In this way, they may develop socially, culturally, and economically. Member institutions include Allegany Community College, Frostburg State University, Allegany County Board of Education, Hagerstown Junior College, Washington County Board of Education, Garrett Community College, Garrett County Board of Education, and the University of Maryland System.

The Agency originated in 1967 as the Educational Subcommittee of the Appalachian Regional Commission. A formal organization with office and staff by 1970, it became a separate administrative unit of government in 1973. The Agency was created by Chapter 533, Acts of 1973, and by the Attorney General's approval of a joint agreement by the eight member institutions.

The chief executives of the signatory members to the joint agreement comprise the ex officio voting membership of the Board of Directors. The Board establishes policies for programs, operations, and fiscal affairs.

RESA fosters cooperation among all educational institutions and organizations concerned with the needs of the people in the region. The Agency establishes goals, policies, and procedures for regional education projects, which it plans, coordinates, and implements. It also promotes the improvement of educational, scientific, and literary

facilities and programs at and among participating schools.

The Agency provides technical assistance and recommendations to the Governor concerning plans and programs directed toward education's role in the development of the region. These recommendations are the basis for education programs funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission through the Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Agency helps member institutions identify needs that could be met by regional programs or services. Based on Board policy, the staff provides direct support and leadership for interagency/institutional liaison, project development and implementation, and project review and evaluation.

Operations and programs of the Agency are supported by budget allocations of the member institutions and from grants and contracts with local, State, and federal agencies, such as the Appalachian Regional Commission.

The Agency is described in two publications: What's a RESA? and Appalachian Maryland—A Great Place to Learn, A Great Place to Live. Both are available upon request.

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