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**Executive Director of the OIC of
Anne Arundel County**

Adopt A Community



Introduction

OIC of Anne Arundel County, Maryland is an Adult Education GED, Job Readiness Class, Computer Literacy Program, English as a Second Language, and Re-entry Services organization.

We offer Free Online Virtual classes in English and Spanish in GED Preparation, Career Pathways, Introduction to Computer Literacy, and English as a Second Language classes. We believe in improving our community by empowering people to help themselves.

The OIC of Anne Arundel County has been meeting the needs of economically disadvantaged individuals throughout the community for over 45 years, since 1977.

Community Needs:

The high number of minorities in Annapolis living in poverty, as well as the increasing immigrant population, creates a need for this project. OIC provides training to increase the job readiness and education level of low-income city residents. OIC also provides English training to the ever-increasing number of immigrants who needs to be able to effectively communicate if they are to obtain employment. With your funding support, OIC takes individuals from being in need of resources to being resourceful tax-paying members of the community.

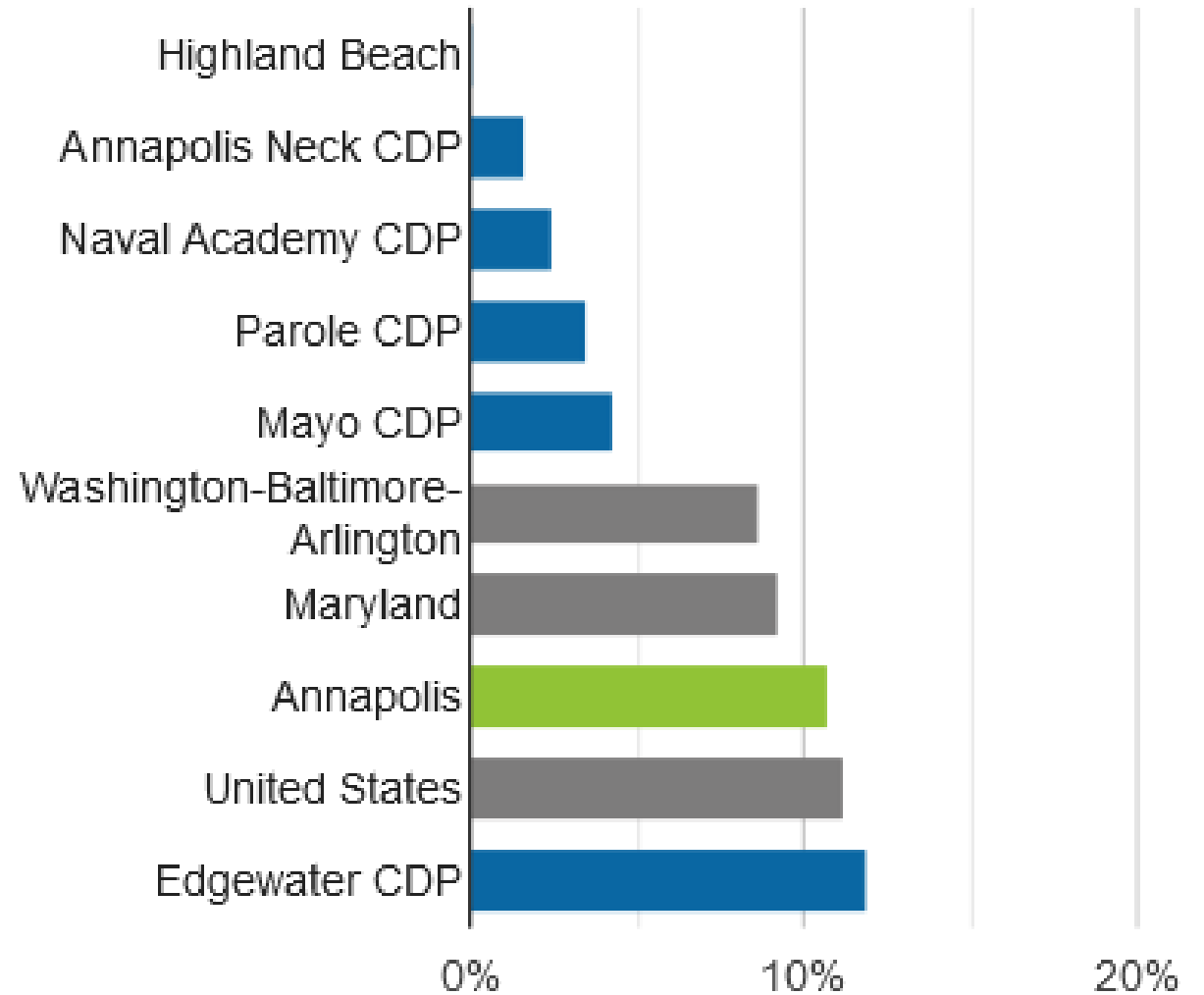
- [Figure 4](#) shows the percentage of people 25 years of age or older who either have no schooling at all or dropped out of school before being able to complete high school.

Additionally, these are people who also do not have a Graduate Equivalency Degree (GED) or some other high school level type credential/student achievement.

- [Annapolis](#) has a School Dropout Rate of 11% which is the second most percent who dropped out of school of all the places in the greater Annapolis region. The city with the highest percent who dropped out of school in the area is [Edgewater CDP](#) which shows a percent who dropped out of school of 12% (9.9% larger).

The percent who did not finish the 9th grade of Annapolis, MD was 6.00%.

Figure 4: Annapolis, MD School Dropout Rate





Community Connections:

For the past 3 years we have gone above and beyond our normal funding and capacity. We never want to turn anyone away. We get funding to serve 50 participants and we serve an average over 120 annually. We are also raising our number of people being served to 100. This year we are asking for more funding to help cover the cost of our staff and teaches who work very hard to help our students improve the quality of life for their families and become productive tax paying citizens for Anne Arundel County.

The OIC helps enhance the quality of life and economic vitality of the Anne Arundel community by helping people trapped in low-paying jobs for lack of education and related employee skills to improve their situation by providing free evening instruction in GED Preparation, Spanish GED Preparation (GED Prep), Introduction to Basic computers, (IBC), and English for Speakers of other languages (ESOL): to enable them to hold jobs that will support their families.



How we document our participant?

Collection of household and income data. Monitor trainee's progress while enrolled. Follow subsequent success. (Dynamic assessment is conducted weekly to monitor progress in the Math portion of the GED Prep class). We conduct surveys along with phone calls to continue to follow up with all trainees.

The target population that this project serves:

Persons who are homeless

Persons with physical disabilities

Persons with mental illness

Persons with HIV/AIDS

Elderly persons

At-risk children and youth

Re-entry population and Hispanic Non-English-speaking Population



How this program/project differs from what is offered or how it meets a need that they cannot.

There are no other organizations like ours. All of our programs are 100% virtual. This is our new normal moving into the future.

We Eliminate the number one obstacle with all non-profits: TRANSPORTATION

All GED Tests are taken online through www.ged.com. Our students are not overwhelmed when they test. They've already become comfortable with the technology.

All jobs have moved on from applying in-person with a hard copy application. You have to apply online through a company's website or portal. We pride ourselves on making sure that our students are confident and ready to move forward in their Career Pathways.

Key Accomplishments

We had our very first post Covid-19 Online virtual graduate.



GOAL

Our goal is to substantially improve the quality of life for Anne Arundel County families who are suffering from poverty. The Career Pathways/ GED and Job Training program is implemented in two phases. Phase one pre-employment classes are offered Monday and Thursday Online. Phase two links clients to training for technical certifications and coaching newly hired workers. We also have a Spanish Literacy Class where we teach our Hispanic participants how to read and write in their own language before we can teach them how to read, write and speak English. Afterwards we help them find employment.

OBJECTIVE

Equip our participants with industry recognized credentials and transferable job skills to help them and their families out of poverty.

OUTCOME

Help reduce rates of re-incarceration, reduction in unemployment, increase career pathways

IMPACT

Education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty within the community as a whole



Last year out of our 120 participants, we enrolled 7 participants from the Clay Street, Obery Court/College Creek Apartments (21401 / 21403) in our program.

This year so far in the 2nd quarter we have enrolled 81 total registered

GED-ENGLISH: 20 REGISTERED

GED-SPANISH: 15 REGISTERED

35 ATTENDING CLASSES ARE FROM 21401 AND 21403 ZIP CODES

We are doing our best to address the needs of this community and we appreciate your help and support. When making your decisions for the future please keep in mind that we need more funding to continue to serve this community.

We can not do it alone. None of us can, we need each other.

Some of our Partners include:

The County executive's office

City of Annapolis

A.A. Co. Partnership for Children, Youth & Families

Community Action Agency

Center of Help

Charting careers

CFAAC

ACDS

CDBG

United Way of central Maryland

We are funded annually to serve 50 participants per year. After we went Virtual our enrollment doubled.

Last year we ended up serving 120 participants. This year in just our 2nd quarter we are currently at 81 enrolled participants.

<https://msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/01glance/economy/html/wages.html>

The minimum wage in Maryland reached \$13.25 on January 1, 2023.

If we were able to get all 120 students, their GED and employed

13.25 x 40 hours = \$530 per week

That's \$2120 per month

\$27,560 per year

27,560 x 120 = \$3,307,200 going back into our community



Thank you

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