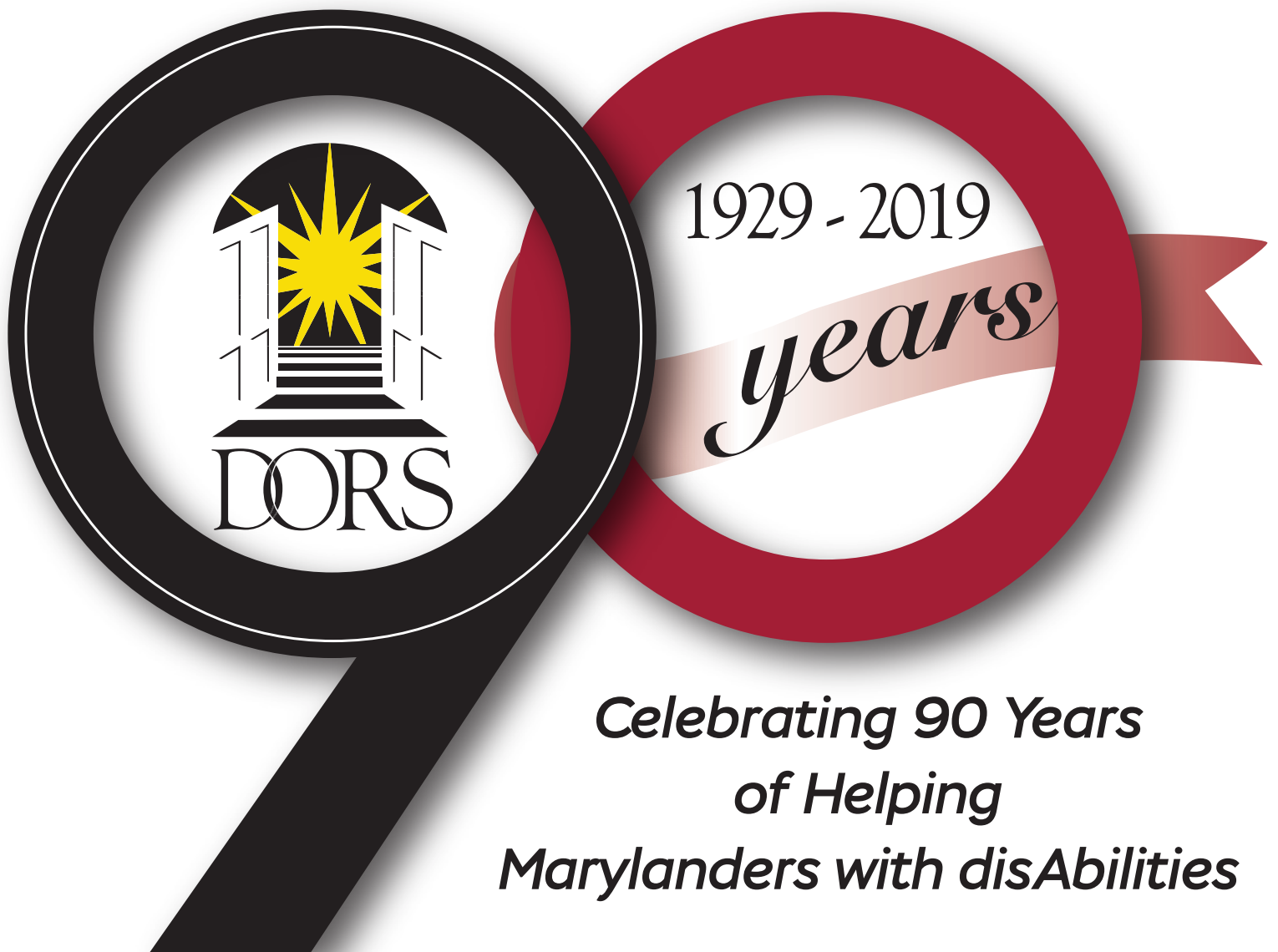


Maryland State

Department of Education

Division of Rehabilitation Services

2019
ANNUAL REPORT



*Celebrating 90 Years
of Helping
Marylanders with disAbilities*

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



2019 was a special year for the Maryland State Department of Education's Division of Rehabilitation Services (MSDE DORS) as we celebrated our 90th Anniversary.

On April 2, 1929, Maryland Governor Albert C. Ritchie signed SB 174 into law, creating the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) under the Maryland State Board of Education. The new law provided a budget of not more than \$5,000 for each of the first two years, nor more than \$15,000 for any year thereafter to provide for the vocational rehabilitation (VR) of the physically disabled. In its first year of operation DVR had two employees, Director Dr. R.C. Thompson, who also served as the VR counselor, and a secretary. DVR's first reported rehabilitation was on June 30, 1930.

DORS has come a long way since those humble beginnings. Today our two main programs, the VR program and the Disability Determination Services, have a combined staff of approximately 625, and we provide services to more than 90,000 Marylanders through an operating budget of over \$120 million.

The national VR program, the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), celebrates its 100 anniversary in 2020. Over the years, changes to law and RSA policy have helped DORS evolve to better serve Maryland. In 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) broadened the Division's focus to address issues of independence, access, discrimination and inclusion, and we were re-named the Division of Rehabilitation Services to reflect these changes.

Most recently, the 2014 Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) formalized and expanded our collaborations with workforce partners, the Departments of Labor and Human Services and local workforce agencies. DORS also worked to continue our collaboration with the Behavioral Health Administration, Developmental Disabilities Administration, the Department of Disabilities, MSDE's Division of Early Intervention/ Special Education, local school systems, and community rehabilitation providers. The "no wrong door" philosophy embodied in these partnerships helps us all better serve people with disabilities, as well as Maryland businesses seeking qualified employees.

Another essential resource is the Maryland State Rehabilitation Council. The Council provides invaluable insight and guidance regarding DORS' programs, policies, and processes.

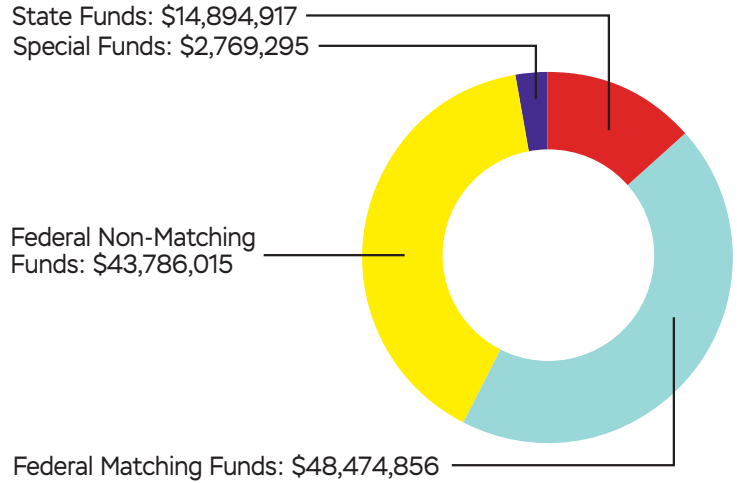
We are proud of all that has been accomplished the past 90 years and look forward to continuing to fulfill our mission of providing leadership and support in promoting the employment, economic self-sufficiency and independence of Marylanders with disabilities.



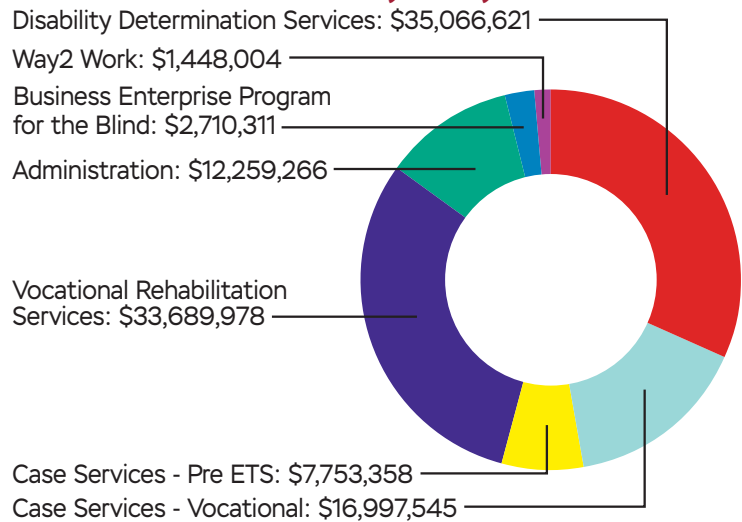
Scott Dennis
Assistant State Superintendent with
DORS' 90th Anniversary Cake

The Numbers

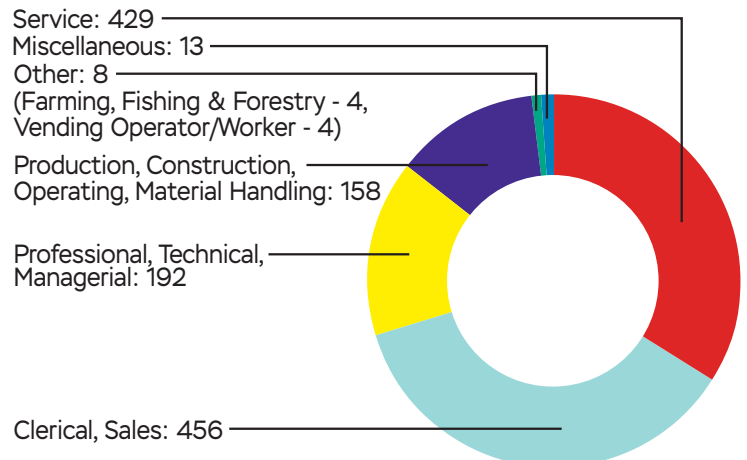
SOURCE OF FUNDS Total \$109,925,083



EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS Total \$109,925,083



PERSONS REHABILITATED BY OCCUPATION AT CASE CLOSURE Total: 1,256



APPRENTICESHIP THINK TANK UPDATE



Maryland Apprenticeship 2.0
marylandapprenticeship.com

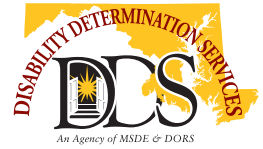
- Building on the 2018 Apprenticeship Think Tank partnership, DORS' Workforce & Technology Center (WTC), the Maryland Department of Labor and Department of Disabilities, the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC), and community partners GRACE, Project Jumpstart, and TranZed provided an April 2019 training on apprenticeship opportunities in Maryland. More than 40 staff, vendors, transition coordinators, and evaluators attended.

- CCBC Randallstown held an apprenticeship open house during National Apprenticeship Week (November 11–17). More than 60 people attended and learned about careers as electricians, plumbers, HVAC technicians, welders, and carpenters.
- Heritage Mile One (a state-wide business partner and WTC Automotive Services Advisory Board member) began the process of becoming an apprenticeship sponsor site for the WTC Automotive Service and Auto Body Shop Technician training programs.
- WTC expanded a partnership with TranZed to connect DORS' consumers to IT apprenticeship programs.
- CVS Health became an official Registered Apprenticeship sponsor and in June 2020, a 20-week CVS Pharmacy Technician Program will begin at WTC. The training is designed to serve as a pathway to state and national certification via Registered Apprenticeship with CVS.



CVS Mock Pharmacy Counter

DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICES (DDS)



DDS is the part of DORS that evaluates the eligibility of Marylanders who apply for Social Security disability programs and benefits.

DDS strives to provide education about the application process and access to disability benefits. As part of these efforts, DDS Medical Relations Director, Caroline Mason, appeared on the Montgomery Municipal Cable TV talk show, *Social Security...Securing Today and Tomorrow*, to discuss the Disability Determination Process. She also represented DDS at more than 20 outreach events, including:

- Baltimore County Child & Adolescent Behavioral Resource Fair
- Baltimore County Health Fair
- Charles County Public Schools Annual Special Education Expo
- Maryland Speech Language Association
- Maximus
- National Alliance on Mental Illness Maryland's Annual Conference
- School Health Interdisciplinary Program

DDS moved to Hunt Valley in 2019, and even with all the disorder of managing the move, DDS adjudicated 61,286 disability claims and the Scheduling Unit generated 47,955 cases.



Diana Varela, Public Affairs Specialist, Social Security Administration & Caroline Mason



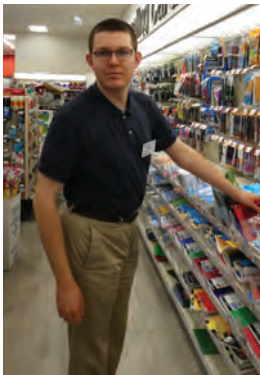
Marc Elich, Montgomery County Executive, Caroline Mason, & Lydia Chevere, Public Affairs Specialist, SSA Office of Central Operations

MORE & MORE DORS CONSUMERS ARE YOUTH/STUDENTS

In FY 2019:

- **42%** were between 14 and 24 years of age
 - **7,479** students received services
 - DORS spent **\$8,458,193** on services for youth/students
- **8.6%** of DORS Workforce & Technology Center consumers were **16-19 years of age**, and **40.3%** were **20-29**.

Additionally, the number of students receiving **Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)** has again increased, from **3,778** in FY 2018 to **5,737** in FY 2019.



Quinn Simpson, Floor Associate, Kent Island CVS Store



Starbucks Graduates, May 2019, (L - R) Alexandra Boone, Hannah Smith, Keont'e Wright, Brandon Mimms



WTC October 2019 Graduates (L - R) Keith Montgomery, Tara Fewster, Harley Davidson, & WTC Academics Supervisor, Melissa Hulst-Mokros



WTC Food Services student, Layla Bint-Zakariya, on Krispy Kreme Tour

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

changed and improved how DORS, and other workforce system partners, assist Marylanders.

For **JOBSEEKERS**, this means:

- Help with immediate job placement and/or supportive services
- No wrong door; Marylanders receive assistance at any workforce partner agency
- Getting career path guidance to find employment and fulfill career goals

DORS and WIOA **workforce partner staff will strive to:**

- View each person with a holistic, broad perspective
- Collaborate on efforts to help Marylanders go to work
- Serve Marylanders better by working as an integrated system
- Help Marylanders find employment/careers to achieve self-sufficiency

The State WIOA Partnership will **help Maryland businesses:**

- Better understand workforce system resources, services and benefits
- Find and hire people who are ready to meet employers' needs

Maryland's WIOA partners include: the Governor's Workforce Development Board, DORS, the Department of Labor, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Workforce Association, and the Department of Human Services



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Larry Hogan, Governor

Justin M. Hartings, Ph.D., President, Maryland State Board of Education

Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D., State Superintendent of Schools

Scott Dennis, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Rehabilitation Services Maryland State Department of Education

DORS Administrative Office & Headquarters, Office of Field Services, Office for Blindness & Vision Services and the Workforce & Technology Center are located at: 2301 Argonne Drive, Baltimore, Maryland 21218-1696

Phone: 410-554-9442 · Toll-free: 1-888-554-0334 · Video Phone: 1-866-371-3614 / 443-798-2840 · dors@maryland.gov

DORS field and OBVS counselors are located in over 20 field offices throughout Maryland.

To find the nearest one, contact DORS headquarters or visit dors.maryland.gov

Disability Determination Services P.O. Box 1810, Cockeysville, MD 21030-1810, Phone: 410-308-4500

· Toll-free: 1-800-492-4283 · md.dd.timonium.dds@ssa.gov

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The Division of Rehabilitation Services does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion or disability in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs.

The Vocational Rehabilitation program receives 78.7 percent of its funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For Federal fiscal year 2019, the total amount of grant funds awarded were \$47,197,460. The remaining 21.3 percent of the costs \$12,773,900 were funded by State appropriations.