

# Rural Economic Development Session

SOUTHERN MARYLAND EDITION

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## DRAFT AGENDA

**MEDA and PNC Southern Maryland Rural Regional Session**  
*Future-Ready Workforce: Connecting the dots in Southern Maryland*  
December 5, 2024, from 8 AM – 2 PM  
The Club House at Chesapeake Hills Golf Course

8:00 – 8:30 AM **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 – 8:50 AM **Welcome Remarks**

- Richard Griffin, CEcD, MEDA President
- Pamela Ruff, Executive Director, MEDA
- Frank McNeil, Vice President and Community Development Officer, PNC Bank

8:50 – 9:00 AM **Opening Remarks**

- Julie Oberg, Economic Development Director, Calvert County

9:00 – 9:30 AM **Opening Keynote**

- Dr. Yolanda Wilson, President, College of Southern Maryland

9:30 – 9:45 AM **Break**

9:45 – 10:30 AM **Panel 1: Private Sector Perspective on Workforce of the Future**

- *Moderator:* Chris Kaselemis, St. Mary's County Economic Development
- Laural Brinkley, Chief Nursing Officer, CalvertHealth
- Laura Wright, Apprenticeship & Training Representative, Maryland Department of Labor
- Wayne Taylor, President, JF Taylor

10:30 – 10:45 AM **Break**

10:45 – 11:30 AM **Panel 2: Workforce Development Successes**

- *Moderator:* Kelly Robertson-Slagle, Charles County Economic Development
- Cindy Greb, Executive Director for Center for Career & Professional Development, St. Mary's College of Maryland
- Ellen Flowers-Fields, Vice-President for Continuing Education and Workforce Development, College of Southern Maryland

- Kevin Switick, CEO, Avian Holdings LLC

11:30 – 11:45 AM **Break**

11:45 AM – 12:30 PM **Panel 3: Implementation of Blueprint**

- *Moderator:* Erin Roth, Assistant Secretary of Workforce Development & Adult Learning, Maryland Department of Labor
- Chris Abell, Workforce Development Director, Patuxent Partnership
- Michelle McGuffin, Work-Based Learning Program Specialist Work-Based Learning Program Specialist, Calvert County Public Schools
- Christina Miller, Coordinator of District Innovation, Charles County Public Schools

12:30 – 1:15 PM **Lunch**

1:15 – 2:00 PM **Panel 4: Insights and Perspectives from Today's Young Professionals**

- *Moderator:* Christina Taylor, Chair of Emerging Leaders (LEAP) Committee, Leadership Southern Maryland
- Daisha Jones, Student, St. Mary's College of Maryland
- Martin Proulx, State Value-Added Agricultural Specialist, Maryland Department of Agriculture
- Sarah Weems, Holistic Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

2:00 PM **Conclusion**