

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

250 City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

July 25, 2008

Honorable Stephanie Rawlings-Blake  
President of the City Council  
100 North Holliday Street, Suite 400  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: 08-0033R (Investigative Hearing - Hospitality Industry - Employment of the Homeless and Ex-Offenders)

Dear Council President Rawlings-Blake and Members of the Council,

Baltimore Homeless Services supports this City Council action that could lead to additional job opportunities for the homeless and ex-offenders.

*"The Journey Home,"* Baltimore's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, calls for the creation of job opportunities for homeless individuals. A significant number of homeless individuals have marketable skills that could benefit employers. This legislation will help us towards our goal that by 2018, all Baltimore workers will earn a wage sufficient to afford housing.

We are partnering with the Mayor's Office of Employment Development (OED) to provide job training and opportunities to homeless individuals. A number of our clients have participated in programs offered by OED's One-Stop Career Centers such as employment preparation and job search and placement assistance. In addition, OED placed outreach staff at last year's Winter Shelter and now provides assistance to homeless individuals at the Homeless Staging Area under the JFX between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Diane Glauber  
President, Baltimore Homeless Services

cc: Deputy Mayor Andrew Frank  
Angela Gibson

