

Timothy Hatchett Letter of Support

My name is Timothy Hatchett, and I am elated to offer my written support to America Works of Maryland Inc., which I believe is deeply needed for the returning citizens of Maryland. After serving for 31 years, 4 months and 4 days in prison, I returned home on January 9, 2022, to the Gaudenzia program, an addiction treatment facility. While enrolled in that program I became aware of America Works and their services. They assist hard-to-place job seekers, like me.

With that in mind, I decided to give it a try. And low and behold, America Works helped me tremendously by putting a resume together and providing me with a range of job readiness trainings. Eventually, I got my first job *ever*; however, the Gaudenzia program said I would be unable to work due to the hours falling outside curfew rules. As a result, the opportunity to begin my first job was quashed. I was offered another job but was denied again due to the hours also not coinciding. At that time, I made a promise to the America Works team that I would return once I finished the Gaudenzia program. On July 22, 2022, I completed the Gaudenzia program successfully and I kept my vow; I returned to America Works and acquired a full-time position thanks to the resume made for me and the dedicated staff, willing to support me with bus passes and wraparound services. On August 26, 2022, I began working at Form Services Inc. as a Forklift Driver. I still work there in a full-time capacity *to this day*.

Just imagine for a minute that someone who has never held down a job before in their entire life now works for a living after serving three plus decades in prison; that is truly amazing and should be commended. I am in full support of the America Works team and their mission to ensure hard-to-place job seekers find full-time employment. All in all, the America Works program does indeed work! Please allow it to expand into other counties to help others like me. Thank you for your attention in this matter.