

THE COMMITTEE OF 100



January 22, 2015

Business support needed for Wilmington environmental jobs grant

The City of Wilmington, West End Neighborhood House, and DNREC are applying for a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency workforce development grant that will give job training to selected City youth. BrightFields is providing assistance with the preparation of the application. The \$200,000 grant will fund training for 10 city youth. Since 2002, DNREC has trained 180 students, of whom 177 obtained jobs. This year, the program could have an outsized impact on the City of Wilmington - providing an employment opportunity for those who most need it and giving the community a positive story to tell.

Please take a couple moments today or tomorrow and dash off a letter of support for the application to Paul Calistro at West End Neighborhood House. They must have the letters of support by Monday, January 26.

Here is a link to a <u>sample letter</u> you can easily adapt to your company. For more information, here is a link to a <u>fact sheet</u> on the application and contact information for Kathy Stiller at BrightFields.

General Assembly awaits Governor's Agenda

The 148th Delaware General Assembly convened on January 13, 2015 and are now awaiting Governor Markell's State of the State speech this afternoon and his Budget press conference next Thursday. These two messages set forth the Governor's priorities for the Session and start the discussions on spending that will occupy the legislative session through June. Today, the Governor is widely expected to address the issue of infrastructure spending, making the case for additional revenues without putting forth a specific plan. He is also likely to focus on the City of Wilmington and a broad range of needs from education, neighborhood redevelopment, and public safety.

Today's State of the State speech will be at 2:00 PM before a joint session of the General Assembly in Legislative Hall and will be streamed live on the state website www.delaware.gov.

Next week's budget roll out will be held next Thursday, January 29 in a Dover press conference.