



2023 MEDA Fall Conference Agenda
Innovations in Manufacturing
Wednesday, October 25, 2023 from 8 AM - 4 PM
Antrim 1844 in Taneytown, MD (Carroll County)

Maryland boasts a thriving manufacturing industry that ranges from value-added agricultural to advanced biopharmaceutical manufacturing. This conference will provide insights to aid the economic development community in effectively supporting and nurturing this vibrant ecosystem.

8:45 – 9:15 AM **WELCOME AND MEDA BUSINESS MEETING**

Welcome:

- Richard Griffin, CEcD, MEDA President
- Denise Beaver, CEcD, Acting Director, Carroll County Economic Development
- The Honorable Ed Rothstein, President, Board of County Commissioners
- Jay Meashey, Director, Economic Development, Town of Taneytown
- The Honorable Christopher Miller, Mayor, Taneytown

MEDA Business Meeting:

- **Approval of July Business Meeting Minutes:** Kelly Robertson Slagle, MEDA Secretary
- **Membership Report:** Denise Beaver, CEcD & Ebony Stocks, MEDA Membership Co-Chairs
- **Economic Development Week Proclamations:** Richard Griffin, CEcD
- **Proclamation from Governor Moore:** Secretary Kevin Anderson
- **Tribute** to Jack Lyburn, Carroll County Economic Development, and MEDA Past President

9:15 – 9:45 AM **Keynote: Kevin Atticks, Secretary, Maryland Department of Agriculture**

Kevin Atticks, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, will delve into the essential role of ag-technology and value-added agriculture in Maryland's manufacturing industry. Secretary Atticks will shed light on the changing agricultural landscape and its influence on the state's economy by exploring the strategies and initiatives propelling Maryland to the forefront of agricultural innovation.

9:45 – 10:00 AM **BREAK**

10:15 – 10:45 AM **Manufacturing Myths in Maryland 2023**

Susan Chambers, CEO and President of Strouse Corporation

Susan Chambers will provide valuable insights into the state of manufacturing in Maryland. Her presentation aims to dispel common myths and misconceptions regarding manufacturing, both nationally and locally. Diving into the essential facets of the manufacturing sector, she will explore defining industry attributes, cultural diversity, robotics, career pathways, strategies for training, and the key factors contributing to overall success.

10:45 – 11:45 AM **PANEL: Let's Talk Talent**

Bringing together industry experts, HR professionals, and innovators, this panel will explore the critical aspects of talent acquisition, development, and retention within modern manufacturing. Our panelists will share their insights on strategies for attracting top talent, fostering diversity and inclusion, upskilling the workforce, and creating a culture of innovation that moves the manufacturing industry forward.

Moderator: Latrice Lewis, Frederick County Workforce Services

Cheryl Riviere, Living Classrooms Foundation

Jennifer Stiles, Director of Human Resources, H&S Family of Bakeries

Sarah Jones, Career Connections Coordinator, Carroll County Career and Technology Center

Ryan Arvin, Operations Manager, Flowserve

11:45 AM – 12:15 PM **Fireside Chat**

In this insightful conversation, Philip Tulkoff, President of Tulkoff Food Products, Inc., and Thereasa Black of Bon AppéSweet will discuss food-based manufacturing and its role in today's economy. They'll also share personal stories behind their family-owned businesses, offering unique insights into how these enterprises have shaped their communities. Additionally, they will explore strategies for fostering economic development and job creation through food-based manufacturing.

Moderator: Alex Austin, Prince George's Chamber of Commerce

Philip Tulkoff, President, Tulkoff Food Products, Inc.

Thereasa Black, Bon AppéSweet

12:15 PM – 1:00 PM **LUNCH**

1:00 – 1:45 PM

Introduction: Mark Anthony Thomas, President & CEO, Greater Baltimore Committee

Keynote: Maureen Donohue Krauss, President and Chief Executive Officer, Detroit Regional Partnership

Led by the Detroit Regional Partnership, the Global Epicenter of Mobility, known as GEM, is strategically designed to foster the growth of an inclusive 21st-century mobility sector. Backed by a substantial \$52.2 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, learn how the Detroit region is positioned to pioneer cutting-edge technology, create top-tier job opportunities, and optimize prime business sites – offering an inspiring model for Maryland’s economic development efforts.

1:45 – 2:00 PM Closing Remarks

- Richard Griffin, CEcD, MEDA President

2:15 – 4:00 PM Tour of Taneytown

The City of Taneytown has experienced record growth in the last five years as more than 300 new homes were added. At the same time, some of its largest employers and manufacturers are also in expansion mode, and the City has converted its Façade Improvement Program into a Commercial Interiors Improvement Program. Join City Economic Development Director Jay Meashey for a Taneytown walking and bus tour. We’ll see the interior of two Main Street commercial spaces that have been transformed with DHCD Community Legacy funding and learn about the national and international manufacturing that takes place in this town of just 8,000 people.