



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Bright Beginnings' Workforce Week Provides Homeless Parents with a Fresh Start**

WASHINGTON, DC -Bright Beginnings is a nationally accredited child and family development center for homeless families with young children in Washington, D.C. Its mission is to provide homeless children with a safe, nurturing, educational environment, prepare children to enter kindergarten ready to learn. In addition to programming for children, BBI also provides services dedicated to the development of homeless parents.

To enhance the services that are provided daily in the BBI Parent Resource Center, staff each year coordinate a full week dedicated to Workforce Development. *"Bright Beginnings is committed to building a workforce week schedule per school year– in order to connect and re-connect BBI families and its community directly with jobs/and or education services that will re-enforce self-sufficiency and begin the transition process from homelessness."* –Tamara Perez, Bright Beginnings' Family and Community Engagement Manager.

Taking place Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> –Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, Bright Beginnings will partner with the following local organizations to provide effective and diverse programming for unemployed parents: **OIC, UPO, SOME, Samaritan Ministry, DC Central Kitchen, DHS (Office of Work Opportunity & Family Resource Center), Trinity University, DOES, Neighborhood Legal Services.** Workshops include: Job Readiness and Career Expectations, Resume Development, Mock Interviews, and Social Media, do's and don'ts.

On Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, BBI Workforce Week will culminate with a job fair where employers from a variety of companies discuss job opportunities and speak with potential candidates they may be interested in hiring. Over twenty BBI parents participated in 2014 Workforce Week with nine parents securing employment. Bright Beginnings anticipates an even larger turnout this December. For more information regarding Workforce Week, please contact Bright Beginnings' Employment Specialist Breda Jones at [bjones@brightbeginningsinc.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:bjones@brightbeginningsinc.onmicrosoft.com).



A BBI parent applies for a job online with BBI social work intern.



BBI father completes paperwork in the parent Resource Center.



# BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

*Sunny starts. Bright futures. Where homeless children grow.*



BBI father speaks with staff regarding employment and education updates.