



## CALVERT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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# News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** | September 12, 2007  
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### **Business Resource Center Now Available at Calvert County Library**

**PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – September 12, 2007** – The Calvert County, Md., Department of Economic Development, through the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), is pleased to partner with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the Calvert Library to offer a self-guided business resource center for public use at the Prince Frederick library. Featuring assorted business reference materials, the business resource center will provide local entrepreneurs with a wealth of information and tools that can answer a host of business start-up or management questions.

Kelly Robertson-Slagle, business retention specialist for the Department of Economic Development, says, "We are pleased to offer yet another tool that our community can utilize to start, grow or manage their businesses. While the business resource center does not replace the valuable counseling or training assistance that is provided by the SBDC, it provides an opportunity for people to conduct their own research or explore the answers to questions that they can then discuss with a small business professional."

Maria Dorsett, local SBDC counselor, hopes the business resource center will provide the spark that people need to start their own business. "Many people are curious about entrepreneurship," she said. "Providing the public with a one-stop place to find information, advice and ideas may give them the motivation needed to take the next step and register for a business start-up class or meet with me."

Patricia Hofmann, director of the Calvert Library, considered a number of options when deciding how to stock the resource center. "Our reference staff actually receives a lot of business start-up and management questions since many people naturally come to the library when they need information,"

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she said. "We wanted to be sure that the periodicals, journals and reference materials provided for this project would serve the public well and answer the majority of the questions they have about business; I think we've done a good job of providing a range of materials."

The SBDC offers confidential, no-cost counseling to new ventures and existing businesses in Southern Maryland with counselors on-site in Prince Frederick two days a week. They also offer low-cost training and resources. For more information, visit online at [www.sbdchelp.com](http://www.sbdchelp.com) or call 301.934.7583.

The Calvert Library consists of a main library in Prince Frederick and three branches in Owings, Lusby and Chesapeake Beach. The Prince Frederick branch is located at 850 Costley Way and is open Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Friday, 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information call 410.535.0291 or visit online at [calvert.lib.md.us/](http://calvert.lib.md.us/).

For more information on the Calvert County, Md., Department of Economic Development and the many services the County offers the business community on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, call 410.535.4583, 800.331.9771 or 301.855.1880, send an e-mail to [info@ecalvert.com](mailto:info@ecalvert.com) or visit on the Web at [www.ecalvert.com](http://www.ecalvert.com).

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*Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to over 87,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. There are more than 5,200 businesses in the County and a labor force of at least 1.8 million resides within a one-hour drive. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, energy, tourism and administrative services.*