

## MDASF AA Report for the EASF AA Executive Board Meeting

21 February, 2022

Due to the sudden resignation of the Maryland President in late Fall, 2021, I became President of MDASF AA. Although we have not had any in-person meetings or activities because of pandemic restrictions, we were able to present a request to the Maryland Community College Financial Aid Directors Committee. The object was to spread the word to students who might be eligible for SNAP benefits but don't know how to apply, those who tried to apply but needed extra help, or those who didn't even know they were eligible to apply. We partnered with an organization in Maryland called "Hunger Solutions", which has been working with staff from college food pantries, to let students know that they offer free help to apply for SNAP and other food-related benefits. We sent e-mails to our eligible students at AACC, and the Financial Aid Director at Garrett College sent e-mails to their eligible students, as well, directing students to contact "Maryland Hunger Solutions". Because of privacy issues, "Hunger Solutions" is not able to tell us if any of our students applied, or received benefits, but hopefully they did.

We are also working with the rest of Tri-State to schedule Webinars or other training later this Spring, and to increase membership and participation, as we try to get back to some semblance of what used to be "normal".

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Shoemaker

MD President