What’s new? Downtown Delaware!

20th Delaware Institute for Local Government Leaders
October 20, 2008

Diane Laird
State Coordinator & Small Business Outreach Specialist
Delaware Economic Development Office
An initiative of the Delaware Economic Development Office

Building business opportunity in Delaware’s Commercial Districts!
Partners…

…and Stakeholders

• Town representatives
• Business owners
• Property Owners
• Residents
• Real Estate Brokers
• Developers
• Funding partners (banks, SBDC, etc.)
Providing Delaware’s historic downtowns, communities, and small businesses with tools to:

• revitalize their commercial districts
• increase entrepreneurial opportunity
• enhance quality of place.
Designated Main Street towns:

- Delaware City
- Dover
- Greater Brandywine Village
- Middletown
- Milford
- Newark
- Rehoboth Beach
- Wilmington (downtown)
USDA – RCDI Recipient towns and Commercial District Affiliates:

- Bridgeville
- Delmar
- Harrington
- Laurel
- Milford
- Millsboro
- Milton

Opportunity for more CDA’s statewide!
● Learn about downtown revitalization

● Engage local citizens and stakeholders in planning for the future of downtown

● Work with other towns in the region and state toward mutual benefit

● Growth by CHOICE, not by CHANCE!
Training that will help communities plan and implement strategies to:

- reduce downtown vacancy
- retain and expand existing businesses
- recruit appropriate new businesses
The Four Point Approach

- Organization
- Design
- Promotion

- Economic Restructuring
  (Economic Development Task Force)
Commercial District Affiliates:
Establish Economic Development Task Force

- Stabilize/expand existing businesses
- Create new businesses and jobs
- Reduce downtown vacancy
- Pursue future Main Street designation, if desired
Downtown Delaware Feature Presentations
November 19, 2008

Turning Downtown Vacancies Into Community Assets

8:45 AM - 2:30 PM
Georgetown, DE

Alan Mallach
John Kromer

To register E.mail: Zena.Tucker@state.de.us
National Main Streets Webinar Series
November 13, 2008 (1-2 PM)

Business Recruitment and Retention: Two Sides of the Same Coin

Presenting Delaware’s training model in business development

Registration Opens October 29th
Rick Ferrell and Diane Laird, Presenters

www.mainst.org
National Main Streets Conference
Chicago
March 2009

Presenting Delaware’s training model in business development

www.mainst.org
More training planned…

- Be sure to **give me your business card or contact me by phone/E.mail** so we can notify you of future Feature Presentations and other training opportunities.
Questions?

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