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Workforce Development Council Promotes Chelsea Chunn to Workforce Services Director

Vancouver, Wash. (June 2, 2015) – The Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC) announces the promotion of Chelsea Chunn to Director of Workforce Services. In her new role, Chunn will oversee SWWDC’s adult Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs, WorkSource one-stop centers in Clark and Cowlitz counties and the Youth Initiatives team.

In addition, she will serve as the organization’s Equal Opportunity Officer and manage several grants including Housing Works and a Rapid Response grant to assist the long-term unemployed.

Over the past year and a half, Chunn has provided leadership as SWWDC’s Youth Initiatives Manager, developing, implementing and managing strategies and programming to expose youth to training and employment opportunities for the region’s high-demand jobs. During that time she more than doubled the amount of funds available for youth services, secured a \$1.1 million YouthBuild grant to help 16-24 year olds obtain high school diplomas or GEDs and nationally-recognized construction certificates and a \$220,000 YouthWorks grant to build regional internship, mentorship and work-based learning partnerships among several local school districts and nonprofits.

Chunn has more than 10 years of experience working with nonprofits to serve a variety of populations including those involved in the justice system, college access and training systems, state benefit systems, foster care and social service and homeless systems.

She serves as a member of the STEM Network, Cowlitz Wahkiakum Career Development Consortium and the Coalition of Service Providers through the Council for the Homeless. She received a bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine.

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Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC), a nonprofit organization founded in 2002, contributes to regional economic growth by providing investments and resources to improve the skills and education of the workforce in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties. SWWDC helps businesses find and hire the employees they need and provides people the skills, education and training to find work or advance in their careers. SWWDC partners with employers, community colleges and universities, labor groups, government and economic development agencies, high schools and community organizations. Learn more at www.swwdc.org.