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**April 2016**

Welcome to **News** about the region's workforce system.

**Request for Proposals: WIOA Title I Adult and Dislocated Worker Services**

SWWDC is seeking innovative and collaborative proposals from organizations or consortiums of organizations to provide delivery of one-stop services under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I Adult and Dislocated Worker programs.

Respondents must submit one proposal for delivery of both Adult and Dislocated Workers services. All WIOA services funded through this Request for Proposals (RFP) must be provided at an existing WorkSource center.

The RFP and information about the April 19 Bidder Conference are available at [www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org). **Proposals must be received by 4 p.m. on May 13.**

**Manufacturers Invited to May 5 Meeting about Strengthening the Workforce**



Manufacturers are invited to join the Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative (CWWC)\* on May 5 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. to give input on the new plan to strengthen the manufacturing workforce.

The event is free and will be held at Worksystems, 1618 SW First Avenue, Suite 450, Portland, OR.

Please register and RSVP to [sdorton@worksystems.org](mailto:sdorton@worksystems.org).

\*CWWC is a partnership of the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council, Clackamas Workforce Partnership and Worksystems. Together, the three workforce boards serve six counties in Washington and Oregon (Clackamas, Clark, Cowlitz, Multnomah, Wahkiakum and Washington).

- [SWWDC Receives \\$238,000 to Continue YouthWorks Program](#)
- [More than 30,000 Youth in Region Not in School and Not Working](#)
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#### IN OTHER NEWS

#### SWWDC Board Meeting

**June 15, 2016**  
4-6 p.m. at Partners in Careers in Vancouver  
[Click for details](#)

#### Save the Date



May 9-13  
Health Care Week

<http://www.business-after-school.org/>

## SWWDC Seeks Nominees for Board of Directors

SWWDC is seeking nominations of business, labor, nonprofit or community group representatives to serve on its volunteer board of directors.



To learn more and view the required qualifications, [click this link](#) or go to [www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org). Nominations and documentation are due **April 29 by 4 p.m.**

## Save the Date: Long-Term Care Job & Career Fair June 29

If you are a business in the long-term care field or someone interested in learning about jobs and careers in long-term care, please hold June 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on your calendar.

The Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative (the three workforce boards serving Southwest Washington and Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties in Oregon) will be hosting a job and career fair at the Holiday Inn near the Portland Airport.

Businesses with job openings will soon be able to register for table space at the event. Individuals can sign up now for free.

Learn more at <http://ltcjobcareerfair.eventbrite.com>.

## Connect to Tech & Future Workers at Expo



On April 28, the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce will bring together business, technology and 500 students from the Camas, Evergreen and Vancouver school districts at a "Digital Technology Expo" at the downtown Vancouver Hilton.

The event includes a demonstration stage to learn about and try out technologies that will help businesses streamline, grow and thrive in our changing marketplace, computer sciences education, and a luncheon showcasing marketing gurus of the Portland Trailblazers, Timbers and Hops in a panel discussion about leveraging digital technologies to engage the community.

## Mission

*To prepare and promote a skilled and adaptive workforce for a thriving economy in Southwest Washington.*

## Our Partners



For companies interested in learning more about worksite learning or internship opportunities, this is the perfect place to meet the SW WA Stem Network, YouthWorks, WorkSource and others that can connect you to youth – your future workforce.

The Expo is free to attend. The luncheon is \$50/person.

Learn more at <http://www.vancouverusa.com/digital-technology-expo-luncheon>.

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## Online Tool Enables Businesses to Connect with Youth



Catalyst is a free web-based tool that connects local businesses to students and schools.

Companies can choose the level of participation that meets their needs, from simply posting a company profile on the site to hosting company tours or providing job shadowing opportunities for young adults.

Some ways companies can benefit from Catalyst include:

- Expand recruiting pool for entry-level positions and intern programs
- Increase visibility to students and educators and highlight community involvement
- Nurture future workforce by connecting with students early in their career development
- Bridge the skill gap of students coming out of high school by communicating real-world needs

For information and to register your company, visit [www.catalystwa.org](http://www.catalystwa.org) or contact Lance Carter, Youth Business Services Coordinator, at [lcarter@esd.wa.gov](mailto:lcarter@esd.wa.gov) or 360.735.4981.

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## Alyssa Joyner, Cowlitz Wahkiakum Outreach Specialist

As SSWDC's Outreach Specialist for Cowlitz and Wahkiakum, Alyssa is building partnerships and increasing awareness of workforce development services among businesses, education and community groups so they can benefit from the local, no-cost employment and training services funded through SSWDC.





Dept. of Vocational Rehabilitation



Questions/Comments?

Julia Maglione  
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[www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org)

“Alyssa is making connections and seeking opportunities for SWWDC to be at the table as a partner to collaborate with others to develop solutions, implement programs and identify where we might potentially be able to invest resources to create, improve or expand workforce training and education programs,” said Jeanne Bennett, SWWDC’s CEO.

In the last two years, SWWDC has invested more than \$2.3 million in Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties by funding programs at WorkSource, Lower Columbia College, Educational Service District 112 and Goodwill. SWWDC provided Cowlitz companies more than \$109,000 in grant funds last year to improve the skills of their existing employees and help the companies remain competitive.

Prior to joining SWWDC, Alyssa was a Vet Corps Navigator with the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs. Based at Lower Columbia College, she assisted returning veterans and their families with reintegration, including helping them develop education goals and enroll in training and education programs.

A Navy veteran, Alyssa returned home to Longview after leaving the service and continued her education and began her career in Veterans Services. She has an Associate’s degree in business management from Lower Columbia College and is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in human development at Warner Pacific College.

Reach Alyssa at [ajoyner@swwdc.org](mailto:ajoyner@swwdc.org) or 360.921.2966 to schedule a meeting, learn of workforce services or to send her information about upcoming events and opportunities.

## Behavioral Health Services Available to ReBoot Participants



Individuals enrolled in the ReBoot program may be eligible to receive behavioral health services.

Cascade Centers will provide behavioral health resource guides and tools, triage services, assessments and referrals to individuals participating in the ReBoot NW program.

Childcare/eldercare concierge location services, life coaching, personal growth courses and financial literacy services will also be available to program participants.

Both WorkSource centers are holding information sessions for people who want to learn more about how ReBoot can help them obtain skills to get jobs in technology, software, engineering or manufacturing.

Individuals may attend a session at either location:

- **Kelso:** 2nd & 4th Mondays, 1:30-3 p.m., WorkSource, 305 S. Pacific Avenue, Suite A, Kelso. Contact Tammi Leclerc at [tleclerc@esd.wa.gov](mailto:tleclerc@esd.wa.gov) or 360.578.4256.
- **Vancouver:** Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m., WorkSource, 204 SE Stone Mill Drive, Suite 215, Vancouver. Contact Jacob Miller at [jamiller@esd.wa.gov](mailto:jamiller@esd.wa.gov) or 360.735.5084.

Learn more at [www.RebootNW.org](http://www.RebootNW.org).

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## Input from Tech Companies Sought

Is attracting talent for your tech business a challenge? This is just one of the questions the Vancouver/Camas IPZ (Innovation Partnership Zone) would like you to answer in a brief survey on the needs of the technology clusters in Vancouver and Camas.



The survey is open until the end of April and can be accessed through <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IPZNEEDS>.

[Click here to view some IPZ highlights of the last two years.](#)

To learn more about the IPZ, visit <http://www.ipzgetin.com/> or contact Rebecca Kennedy at the City of Vancouver at 360.487.7896 or [Rebecca.kennedy@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:Rebecca.kennedy@cityofvancouver.us).

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## Applications due April 29 for Philip A. Parker Memorial Scholarship for the Trades

In honor of its friend and former board member, Philip A. Parker, SWWDC will award four scholarships of \$500 each to teens and young adults ages 17-24 that have an interest in pursuing careers or jobs in the trades, have a financial need and have demonstrated success and skills to be self-sufficient.

[For all eligibility requirements, click here for the application.](#)

**Applications are due Friday, April 29.**

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# Healthcare Job Fair

WorkSource Vancouver

204 SE Stonemill Drive Suite 215  
Vancouver, WA 98684

Wednesday  
April 20<sup>th</sup> 2016  
11am to 1pm



WorkSource is hosting a Healthcare Hiring Event! We will have a variety of healthcare companies hiring CNA's in different types of environments such as hospitals, assisted living, memory care, and in home settings. All companies in attendance will have current job openings for CNA's and some will have other opportunities such as RN's, LPN's, Dietary, etc. Come prepared with your resume and talk to employers!

**Registered Employers Include:**

- PeaceHealth
- Aacres, LLC.
- ResCare Home Care
- Glenwood Place Senior Living
- Community Home Health & Hospice
- Elite Care
- A Home with Hope LLC.
- Artegan – Columbia Ridge
- ... and more!

Questions?  
Please Contact Hope Baker  
360-735-5020  
[hbaker@esd.wa.gov](mailto:hbaker@esd.wa.gov)



WorkSource is an equal-opportunity partnership of organizations that provide employment and training services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to people with disabilities. Washington Relay Service: 711.

## Youth Registration Opens for Business After School Health Care Week



Career exploration  
for today's youth and  
tomorrow's workforce

Teens and young adults (ages 16 to 24) interested in visiting local businesses to learn about careers in health care can sign up until May 3 for Business After School Health Care Week.

### Thank you Happy Kids Dental for hosting an event!

During the week of May 9-13, companies are hosting two-hour events at their locations and will provide company tours, hands-on activities and discussions of the necessary education, training, skills and future job prospects.

There is no cost to attend, but registration is required and space is limited. Youth under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

To register to attend an event and for additional information, visit <http://www.business-after-school.org/events-registration>.

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## Engineering Companies and Youth Build Relationships at Business After School

Business After School Engineering Week was February 22-26 and students attended events at local businesses to learn about careers and jobs in engineering.

Thank you to sponsors MacKay Sposito and Maul Foster Alongi for their support of the program and to CID Bio-Science, Cowlitz Public Utilities, Gibbs & Olson and SEH America for hosting events and welcoming students into their facilities.

To learn more, contact Justin McDaniels, Regional Work-Based Learning Coordinator, at [jmcdaniels@swwdc.org](mailto:jmcdaniels@swwdc.org) or 360.567.3172.

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*Students build portable solar batteries at the Cowlitz Public Utilities District (PUD).*

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*Showing off completed portable solar batteries at Cowlitz PUD.*

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*Exploring the wafer creation process at SEH America.*

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*Learning about education pathways by hearing personal experiences at CID Bio-Science.*

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## SWWDC Receives \$238,000 to Continue YouthWorks Program

Governor Inslee recently announced the second phase of funding for YouthWorks and SWWDC has received more than \$238,000 to continue the program locally.



YouthWorks, a career readiness project to help youth prepare for meaningful, living-wage careers is a collaboration between SWWDC and local school districts to provide internships and other work-based learning experiences for youth and help re-engage those who have dropped out or are at-risk of not graduating from high school.

To learn more, contact Justin McDaniels, Regional Work-Based Learning Coordinator at [jmcdaniels@swwdc.org](mailto:jmcdaniels@swwdc.org) or 360.567.3172.

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## More than 30,000 Youth in Region Not in School and Not Working

A report released by the three workforce development boards that serve the Portland-SW Washington metropolitan area finds approximately 30,157 individuals ages 16 to 24 are not in school and not employed.



These young people represent an important workforce resource for the local economy.

[Click here to download the report.](#)

[Click here for the Appendix Tables](#)

[Click here for the news release.](#)

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## Veterans Hiring Event on May 13

More than 70 companies with job openings will be looking for candidates at a free hiring event for Veterans, Guard, Reserve and their eligible spouses on May 13.

The event, a partnership between WorkSource Vancouver and Joint Service Support, will be held at the Armed Forces Reserve Center at 15005 NE 65th Street, Vancouver 98682 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Admission is free and parking is available at Walmart.

To see the list of registered employers, visit the “Job Fair and Hiring Event Calendar” at <http://www.wa.gov/esd/calendar.htm>.

Job seekers are encouraged to:

1. Dress business casual.
2. Make a plan for which companies to speak with at the event and research the types of positions they have available.
3. Bring résumés – but understand some employers may not be able to accept hard copy résumés

4. Prepare a 30-60 second commercial to introduce yourself.

For more information about this event and additional hiring event tips, contact Michael Benko with WorkSource at 360.735.5015, [mbenko@esd.wa.gov](mailto:mbenko@esd.wa.gov) or Jennifer Hibbs with Joint Service Support at 360.604.7320, [jennifer.d.hibbs2.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:jennifer.d.hibbs2.ctr@mail.mil).

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## Woodland Company is First YesVets Recipient in Southwest Washington



Hiring veterans is nothing new for Tribeca Transport of Woodland. Approximately 30 percent of its employees are veterans.

What is new, however, is a program called YesVets that recognizes the commitment of businesses that hire veterans by providing them a decal to display at their establishment.

To participate, a company signs up at [www.YesVets.org](http://www.YesVets.org) and provides information about veterans they've hired since February 1, 2016. A WorkSource representative then contacts them to arrange the details.

Tribeca recently hired three veterans (two CDL drivers and a mechanic). Working with WorkSource Cowlitz-Wahkiakum, they received on-the-job training funds to upgrade the CDL skills of one of the veterans.

YesVets is a statewide campaign to hire veterans, supported by Employment Security Department in partnership with Washington Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Commerce, Washington State Military Transition Council and local chambers of commerce, supporting House Bill 2040.

To learn more about hiring Veterans, contact Michael Benko, WorkSource Veterans Employment Representative, at [mbenko@esd.wa.gov](mailto:mbenko@esd.wa.gov) or 360.735.5015.

For information about the YesVets program, go to <https://esd.wa.gov/yesvets>.

*Photo: (l to r) Eric Thwaites, Tribeca Transport COO; former Marine, Chris DeWitt, a diesel mechanic and one of the three veterans recently hired; Mike Behrman, Tribeca President; Michael Benko, WorkSource Veterans Employment Representative.*

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## Contractors Association Accepting Scholarship Applications thru April 29

The Southwest Washington Contractors Association (SWCA) Foundation is accepting applications for its scholarship program. This scholarship is available to individuals entering or attending community colleges, vocational-technical schools or four-year colleges/universities.



Last year, SWCA awarded more than \$10,000 to 12 local students pursuing full-time post-secondary education.

A minimum scholarship amount of \$500 will be awarded to selected applicants and **applications are due by 4 p.m. on April 29.**

For more information and to download an application, visit [www.swca.org/swca-foundation](http://www.swca.org/swca-foundation) or contact Darcy Altizer at [darcy@swca.org](mailto:darcy@swca.org) or 360.694.7922.

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## DVR Connects Individuals with Disabilities and Employers

The Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is a program within the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services. Not only is it a statewide resource for people with disabilities who want to go to work and become self-sufficient, but DVR also offers a variety of services to assist businesses in hiring and retaining individuals with disabilities.

To learn more, individuals can visit [www.dshs.wa.gov/dvr](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dvr) or call: Vancouver: Toll-free 800.548.0946, Voice: 360.397.9960  
Kelso: Toll free 866.893.1047, Voice: 360.501.2499

Businesses should contact Business Specialist, Darlene Terry, at 360.397.9976 or [terryda@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:terryda@dshs.wa.gov).

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## ESD112 Youth Workforce Program: New Name & New Focus



Reflecting the switch in funding from WIA (Workforce Investment Act) to WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) and age of youth served from 14-21 years to 16-24, ESD112 has renamed its Youth Workforce Development program Connect2Careers or C2C. [Learn more, click here.](#)

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## YouthBuild Vancouver: Houses, GEDs and a Whole Lot More



The teens and young adults in YouthBuild Vancouver, a program for Clark County residents ages 17-24 who do not have a high school diploma and face barriers including being in the juvenile justice

or foster care systems and/or homelessness, have achieved many successes in the short time since the program launched.

Here are just a few:

- Two students have earned their high school diploma and 17 have earned their GED
- 20 students have completed the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Module 1 Basic Safety course, making them eligible to help build the two houses the group will be constructing for Evergreen Habitat for Humanity.
- Eight students have passed Modules 1-5 and anticipate completion of NCCER basic construction core curriculum in May.

The first house the students are building is expected to be complete by May and construction will begin on the second house soon after.

To learn more, contact Kris Barnum at Partners in Careers at [kris@swwpic.org](mailto:kris@swwpic.org) or 360.696.8417 or visit [YouthBuild Vancouver](#) on Facebook.



*YouthBuild Vancouver participants and Tim Wilmoth (in red), Evergreen Habitat's Youth Programs Project Manager, outside the home YouthBuild is constructing for a Habitat family.*

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## **Workforce in the News**

See recent [coverage of the SWWDC and workforce projects.](#)

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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 programs help businesses find and hire the employees they need and provide 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 to provide employment and training services to employers, job seekers and youth.

SWWDC is an equal opportunity employer and provider of employment and training services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. To place a relay call, dial 711.

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