



workforce

SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

Investing in employment and job training services
for businesses, job seekers and youth in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.



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OTHER NEWS

Board Meeting

June 12, 2019

4-6 p.m.

Bridgeview Resource
Center

Vancouver

[Click for details.](#)

Mission

March 2019

Cowlitz Organizations Recognized for Workforce Development Activities

Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW) presented its Excellence in Workforce Development Awards to four Cowlitz County organizations on March 13.

JH Kelly, the Longview School District and IBEW Local 48, in partnership with the Longview/Kelso Building and Construction Trades Council (LKBCTC), received the Excellence in Building Workforce Partnerships Award for their collaboration in developing a high school pre-apprenticeship program.

Combining classroom instruction and hands-on construction projects with field trips to regional construction businesses, students learn trade-specific skills in fabrication, construction and manufacturing to prepare them for entry into a trades apprenticeship program.

"Business investment in developing and supporting partnerships to train the next generation of workers is key to the continued growth of our region," said WSW CEO Kevin Perkey. "The Longview School District pre-apprenticeship program is helping fill a critical skills gap in our region while expanding opportunities for local youth to prepare to enter an apprenticeship or the workforce."

North American Tarp, LLC received the Innovation in Workforce Development Award for its commitment to creating opportunities for jobs and career pathway exploration for individuals with barriers to employment, especially those who have been justice involved or are recovering from addiction.

CEO Logan Hornung believes in second chances and says his business is modeled around helping people who want help. Over the years, North American Tarp has employed many that have had run-ins with the legal system or are in a recovery program. Hornung is committed to helping his employees succeed and allows them

Invest in human potential, driving the growth and development of our Southwest Washington economy.

Our Partners



flexibility to attend meetings or appointments to help them stay on track. He also mentors employees on soft skills such as arriving on time and attention to detail.

"I'm proud WSW's investments in WorkSource are enabling North American Tarp to hire local talent and invest in developing the skills of its employees," said WSW CEO Kevin Perkey. "Companies that employ individuals overcoming barriers are helping create a region where the opportunity for prosperity and growth exists for all."

[Click here to read the full article.](#)



(l to r) WSW CEO Kevin Perkey; Mike Bridges, IBEW 48 Local Representative; Gabe Gourde, JH Kelly Electrical Operations Manager; Jill Diehl, Longview School District Director of Career and College Readiness, WSW Board Chair Bill Skidmore.



North American Tarp CEO Logan Hornung describes the loyalty and dedication of his employees, many of whom have been involved in the criminal justice system or are in a substance recovery program.

Companies Connect with Next Generation at Youth Employment Summit

As the sound of hammering filled the event center, some 60 businesses, trade organizations and apprenticeship programs met with more than 400 high school juniors, seniors and young adults ages 16-24 at the third annual Youth Employment Summit (YES) on March 19.

The career exploration fair and first jobs hiring event introduced young adults to local companies in our region's high-growth, high-demand industries to help them make decisions about their future education, training and work.

As many industries face potential labor shortages due to Baby Boomer retirements, they are recognizing the importance of connecting with young adults while they're still in high school.

Companies provided hands-on learning activities, allowing students to try out tools of the trades, healthcare simulation manikins and



Comments/Questions?

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construction equipment, among other activities. During mock interviews, arranged by Partners in Careers, students practiced answering questions. A variety of companies hired for first jobs.

Special thanks to #YES2019 sponsors: Yaculta Companies, Washington & Northern Idaho District Council of Laborers, Partners in Careers, Columbia Machine, PeaceHealth, General Sheet Metal, Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local No. 1 Oregon & SW WA, and the WA State Department of Transportation.

Led by Workforce Southwest Washington, YES is a collaboration of Partners in Careers, WorkSource, nConnect, Goodwill, Columbia River Economic Development Council, Cowlitz Economic Development Council, Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce, SW WA Stem Network, Lakeside Industries, LiUNA, Northwest Laborers-Employers Training Trust Fund and the District Council of Laborers.

Thank you to all the businesses and organizations that participated in the 2019 Youth Employment Summit!

For information about participating in #YES2020, companies can contact Darcy Hoffman, Director of Business Services at dhoffman@workforcesw.org or 360.608.4949.

[Click to read a Columbian article about #YES2019.](#)

[Read more about #YES2019 on ClarkCountyToday.com.](#)



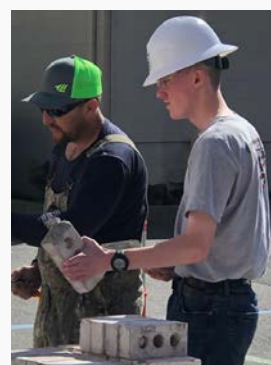
DiscoverOrg



Yaculta



Columbia Machine



Mason Trades



Manufacturing Workforce Plan



PeaceHealth



WA State Dept. of Transportation



Construction Workforce Plan



General Sheet Metal



LiUNA Relay Race

The Business Case for Hiring Young Adults

Every minute nearly seven Baby Boomers turn 65. A fifth of our region's workforce is over the age of 55 and could retire within the next decade, potentially creating labor shortages when companies are struggling to find skilled workers.



And yet, the summer jobs where prior generations got their first experience of what it meant to go to work have all but disappeared. Youth are not getting work experience to prepare them for work.

Hiring a young person for a summer job provides your company with a unique opportunity to invest in your future workforce and help create a trained and experienced candidate pool.

To help companies hire for summer jobs, Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW) recently launched SummerWorks to connect businesses to young adults for paid summer jobs.

SummerWorks handles payroll and covers wages, insurance and taxes for 90 hours of work experience with your company.



Technology Workforce Plan



Healthcare Workforce Plan

The program provides:

- Qualified, prepared and motivated talent ages 16-21 to assist with a diverse array of general tasks or project-based assignments.
- Youth that are pre-screened to fit with your company and ready to start work.

Your business could benefit in a number of ways.

1. Staff professional development. Working with young people is an opportunity for your employees to develop their management, leadership and communications skills.

2. Recruitment. Summer employment lets you see the abilities of potential candidates and train them to your standards.

3. Engage an important audience. Your company's participation increases awareness of your business with this potential customer base and talent pool.

4. Gain a fresh perspective. Young employees can bring innovative and novel ways of thinking to your business.

5. "Feel good" factor. Employee engagement could increase when they feel they've had a role in helping a young person succeed.

To learn how your business can enroll, contact Benton Waterous at bwaterous@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3182.

Manufacturing Workforce Plan Addresses Industry Needs



Nearly a quarter of the Advanced Manufacturing sector's workforce in the Portland-Vancouver Metro Area is 55 or older.

At the same time, only about five percent of the sector's workforce is under age 24, compared to 12 percent across all industries.

Retirements and career changes mean an estimated 94,000 job openings will exist through 2027.

To address these and other industry workforce challenges, WSW and its Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative partners have released the third regional **Manufacturing Workforce Plan**.

Updated through a series of sessions with industry, education, workforce, economic development and community stakeholders, the plan identifies goals and outlines strategies the public workforce system can deploy to support the manufacturing industry's workforce needs.

Three identified priority areas are:

1. Make manufacturing a career of choice for the emerging worker.
2. Connect manufacturing to the right candidates now.
3. Strengthen the manufacturing industry.

Workforce development resources and funds are available to aid manufacturing businesses. Contact Darcy Hoffman, Director of Business Services, at dhoffman@workforcesw.org or 360.608.4949.

Healthcare Hiring Event – April 24

More than a dozen healthcare companies will be interviewing to fill open positions in Clark and Cowlitz counties during a hiring event hosted by WorkSource in Vancouver.



The event is Wednesday, April 24, from 4-7 p.m. at 204 SE Stonemill Drive, Suite 215, Vancouver.

Recruiters from these companies will be interviewing candidates to fill open positions:

- Abbot & Associates
- Columbia River Mental Health Services
- HCR Manor Care
- Kaiser Permanente
- Legacy
- OHSU
- PeaceHealth
- Prestige Care
- PropacPayless Pharmacy
- Providence
- Vancouver Clinic
- Vancouver Specialty & Rehabilitative Care
- Walgreens
- Willamette Dental Group

Positions include case managers, certified nursing assistants, chemical dependency professionals, dental assistants, dental hygienists, environment services, health information management, insurance assistants, licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, medical assistants, medical office professionals, member services representatives, mental health professionals, occupational therapists, patient access specialists/navigators, patient care advocates, pharmacy technicians, phlebotomists, physical therapists and sterile technicians.

Candidates should bring copies of their resume and dress and prepare for interviews.

To learn more, contact smoore@esd.wa.gov or 360.735.4970.

Next: Building Community for Young Adults



Since opening in September 2018, more than 700 individuals have sought services at Next. Of those, 85 percent have enrolled in a program to help further their education, training or employment.

Next integrates education, training, job placement and support services—all in one place—to provide young adults ages 16-24 with a space where they can feel safe and empowered, and where they can build community and relationships.

Click this link to view a new video about Next.

Visit Next's website www.nextsuccess.org.

Businesses wanting to learn more and get involved should contact Miriam Martin at mmartin@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3183.

Workforce News

View media coverage, press releases and past newsletters at [Workforce News](#).

WorkSource Workshops

Clark County: 204 SE Stonemill Drive, Suite 215, Vancouver, WA 98684, 360.735.5000. **Click to view Clark County Workshops and Hiring Events.**

Cowlitz-Wahkiakum: 305 S. Pacific Avenue, Suite B, Kelso, WA 98626, 360.577.2250. **Click to view Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Workshops and Hiring Events.**

WSW, 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.

WSW-funded programs help businesses recruit, train and retain employees and provide people the skills, education and training to find work or advance in their careers.

You are receiving this because of your interest in workforce development. WSW is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Washington Relay 711.

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