



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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April 2017

Long-term Care Companies Sought for April 25 Industry Panel



To help long-term care companies address the challenges of hiring and retaining employees, Workforce Southwest Washington invites long-term care companies to participate in a regional initiative taking

place to address the industry's workforce development and training needs.

The next meeting is April 25 from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Worksystems, 1618 SW 1st Avenue in Portland.

To attend the meeting or learn more about workforce development programs for health care, contact Employer Services Manager Melissa Boles at mboles@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3185.

Construction Industry Meeting May 12 about Strengthening the Workforce

Leaders in construction and related industries are encouraged to attend the regional construction workforce development meeting on Friday, May 12.

Workgroups are seeking input on several topics, including:



- [WorkSource Offering Free Manufacturing and Technology Training for Jobseekers](#)
- [WorkSource Vancouver Wins Best of Clark County in Employment Services](#)
- [Employers and Students Connect at Career Fair](#)
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OTHER NEWS Board Meeting

June 14, 2017, 4-6 p.m.
Partners in Careers in
Vancouver. [Click for details.](#)

Mission

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

Our Partners



- Connecting to Youth
- Advancing Equity and Diversity
- Improving Retention for Existing Apprentices and Workers

The event is 9-11 a.m. To learn more, contact Melissa Boles, Employer Services Manager, at mboles@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3185.

Manufacturing Businesses Invited to May 4 Meeting about Developing the Workforce



The next meeting of the Manufacturing Workforce Panel is May 4, 7:30-9 a.m. at Benchmade, 300 Beaver Creek Road in Oregon City.

Manufacturers are encouraged to attend to discuss the industry's workforce development needs with the Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative (CWWC).*

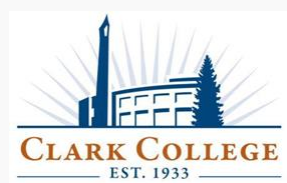
Companies interested in participating should contact Cass Parker, Senior Employer Services Manager, at cparker@workforcesw.org or 360.567.1076.

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

Summer Jobs for Youth – Companies Needed for Youth Employment Summit on May 23



Remember your first job? Perhaps you were a teenager and it was a summer job. Think about what you gained from that job – learning responsibility and problem solving, gaining communications skills to interact with co-workers and more – skills that helped you in subsequent jobs.



You can provide similar opportunities by participating in the Youth Employment Summit on May 23.

In the morning, hands-on activities led by local companies will help teens learn about career pathways. The afternoon is an opportunity for businesses to meet with and hire high school juniors and seniors for summer jobs. You may participate in one or both sessions.

[Click this link to participate](#) or contact Hans Erickson with Partners in Careers at hans@swwpic.org or 360.696.8417 ext. 113.

Request for Proposals: IT Maintenance and Support Services, due April 25

Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW) is seeking proposals for full-range IT maintenance and support for workstations, network server and switches, network maintenance and more.



Bidders must be licensed to perform work in Washington State and have a minimum of six years of experience providing remote and on-site IT support for businesses with 20 or more workstations.

Proposals are due Tuesday, April 25 by 5 p.m. PT.

[Click here to view the Request for Proposal \(RFP\)](#) or go to www.workforcesw.org and click the "RFP" button in the lower right corner of the home page.

Tech Talent & Strategy Plan Launch - June 1

Technology employers are invited to attend the launch of the Tech Talent & Strategy Plan on June 1 from 4-6:30 p.m. at Perka Inc., 808 SW 3rd, Suite 800 in Portland.

The plan will address the technology industry's need for skilled workers and will focus on ways to attract, develop and advance the region's technology talent.

It was developed by industry workgroups in conjunction with the Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative and the Technology Association of Oregon.

To RSVP or for additional information, contact Senior Employer Services Manager Cass Parker at 360.567.1076 or cparker@workforcesw.org.



Comments/Questions?

Julia Maglione
Communications Manager
jmaglione@workforcesw.org

Social Media Boot Camp Begins May 12



2017 Small Business BOOT CAMP

2017 Series continues Friday, May 12

Friday Mornings ★ Lower Columbia College
7:30 am - 9 am ★ Heritage Room at LCC - Admin. Bldg.

★ SOCIAL MEDIA SIX PACK ★

- May 12 **Website vs. Facebook**
Facilitator: T.B.A.
- May 19 **Everything you need to know about Facebook.**
Facilitator: Tom May, May52, Inc.
- May 26 **Advertising with Facebook**
Facilitator: Tom May, May52, Inc.
- June 2 **Media Panel**
Facilitators: Panel from Radio, TV and Newspaper
- June 9 **Integrated Digital Marketing Strategy**
Facilitator: Fox Wu, Northwest Innovation Works
- June 16 **Technology, Computers, Data Security**
Facilitator: Jayson Rogen, Technalytix

Sponsored by:



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SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

Pricing same as 2013!

\$100 Members ★ \$160 Non-Members

“The Boardmanship Boot Camp is perfect for those boards who want to go to the next level. From basic board principles to finances to strategic planning, it has everything your board needs to make the next year what you want it to be. If you're sick of just getting by and want to be an active board of directors to help your non-profit, I highly recommend this Boot Camp for you.”

Gary Chapin
KLTV Board President



KELSO LONGVIEW

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

360-423-8400

www.kelsolongviewchamber.org

To register, call the Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce at 360.423.8400 or [click here](http://www.kelsolongviewchamber.org).

Online Tool Connects Businesses with Youth



Catalyst, a free online tool connects local businesses and community members interested in serving as mentors with young adults ages 16 to 24 who are seeking work-based learning experiences.

Mentors and companies can choose the level of participation that meets their needs, from posting a company or mentor profile on the site to hosting company tours or providing job shadowing.

Some ways companies can benefit from Catalyst include:

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

To register, visit www.catalystwa.org or contact Max Crismon at WorkSource at mcrismon@esd.wa.gov or 360.735.5081.

Tribeca Transport Honored for Commitment to Hiring Veterans



On Tuesday, March 21, representatives from WorkSource presented Tribeca Transport of Woodland with the Employment Security Department (ESD) Commissioner's 'Hire-A-Veteran' award. The award recognizes Tribeca's commitment to hiring veterans, as demonstrated by their participation in the YesVets program. Tribeca was the first YesVets recipient in Southwest Washington when the program launched last year.

Hiring veterans is nothing new to Tribeca. Approximately 30 percent of its workforce are veterans and the company plans to expand that to 40 percent. According to Tribeca COO Eric Thwaites, a veteran of the Army, "We don't look at hiring veterans, guard and reserve members as a choice. We look at it as our duty and honor."

YesVets developed out of a partnership with the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Commerce, Washington State Military Transition Council, and chambers of commerce across the state to encourage hiring of veterans and to recognize businesses that intentionally hire veterans. To participate in the program, employers go to www.YesVets.org and provide information about the veterans they have hired. A WorkSource representative then contacts the company to schedule presentation of a YesVets decal.

[To read more of the story, click here.](#)



Mike Behrman, President of Tribeca Transport receives an award from Nona Mallicoat, Administrator of WorkSource Cowlitz/Wahkiakum
Photo credit: Lynell Amundson, LCC

Photo above: L to R: Nona Mallicoat (WorkSource Cowlitz/Wahkiakum, Administrator), Mike Behrman (Tribeca Transport, President), Tamra Bell (Lower Columbia College, Dean of Instruction), Heidi Hamer (Lower Columbia College, Program Coordinator – Continuing Education), Lynell Amundson (Lower Columbia College, Program Manager – Continuing Education), Eric Thwaites (Tribeca Transport, COO), Garrett Behrman (Tribeca Transport), Steve Pattison (Lower Columbia College, CDL Instructor)

Photo credit: Michael Benko, WorkSource

Meet William Westmoreland, Workforce Systems Manager

A recent transplant from Indiana, William Westmoreland joined Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW) in November.

As Workforce Systems Manager, he is responsible for ensuring our region's WorkSource centers and affiliated sites comply with federal mandates of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).



In addition to building partnerships and bringing additional services and resources into the WorkSource centers, William oversees the Operator who is responsible for operations, facilities, outreach and staff training at the WorkSource centers in Kelso and Vancouver.

Before joining WSW, William was director of workforce development at Mid-America Science Park, where he handled program development, outreach and recruitment. His experience also includes managing development of eLearning products, oversight of market support staff, inventory management, human resources and customer service.

William received his bachelor's degree in visual arts from Purdue University in Indiana.

In his free time, William enjoys hiking, gardening and traveling.

Contact William at wwestmoreland@workforcesw.org or 360.487.0134.

WorkSource Offering Free Manufacturing and Technology Training for Jobseekers



Individuals seeking jobs in technology or manufacturing may qualify for free training through WorkSource.

Those interested should contact a career coach immediately and attend a free information session as soon as possible.

Information sessions are held:

- Kelso: Mondays, 1:30-3 p.m., WorkSource, 305 S. Pacific Avenue, Suite B, Kelso. Contact Stacie Manley at smanley@esd.wa.gov or 360.578.4256.
- Vancouver: Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m., WorkSource, 204 SE Stonemill Drive, Suite 215, Vancouver. Contact Jacob Miller at jamiller@esd.wa.gov or 360.735.5084.

WorkSource Vancouver Wins Best of Clark County in Employment Services



For the second year in a row, the public selected WorkSource Vancouver as Best Employment Service in Clark County. Congratulations!

See all the winners at <http://bestofclarkcounty.com/>.

Employers and Students Connect at Career Fair

2017 Wahkiakum County

CAREER DAY

MANUFACTURING + HEALTH CARE + TRANSPORTATION + MORE

MARCH 29, 1:30-3 p.m. @ WAHKIAKUM HIGH SCHOOL



Wahkiakum
Chamber of
Commerce



WorkSource
A partner of the americanjobcenter network



High school students were introduced to companies, industries and future career possibilities at Wahkiakum Career Day on March 29.

Led by Workforce Southwest Washington's Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Outreach Specialist Alyssa Joyner, the event drew more than 25 companies and included trucks and equipment from the Wahkiakum Public Utilities District and the City of Longview water and sewer department.

Workforce Southwest Washington, WorkSource, Wahkiakum School District, Wahkiakum Chamber of Commerce and the Marine Resource Committee planned and hosted the event.

Click to read the [***Wahkiakum County Eagle story about the event.***](#)

Photos courtesy of Paige Lake, Wahkiakum Chamber of Commerce; Julie Miller, WorkSource Cowlitz/Wahkiakum; William Westmoreland, Workforce Southwest



Youth Learn Construction and Work Skills in Hands-on Program



The South Kelso Construction Project, a collaboration between Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW), Lower Columbia CAP, Goodwill, ESD112, Habitat for Humanity and Building for Youth provided nine young people with work experience and job skills.

The youth rehabilitated several homes in the South Kelso neighborhood and worked on construction projects with Habitat. Many of them engaged in apprenticeship exploration activities and attained multiple certificates in flagging, forklift and OSHA 10.

While participating in the program, they received a living wage and services to help them overcome barriers that have prevented them from obtaining employment.

A \$15,000 grant from Weyerhaeuser and funds provided by WSW and community partners made the program possible and helped purchase construction materials, supplies, home assessments and paid for wages and supportive services for the youth.

To get involved or learn more about workforce development programs for young people, contact Youth Initiatives Manager Miriam Martin at mmartin@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3183.



Hands-on activities during an apprenticeship field trip to IBEW Local Union 48 in Portland.

Clark College Announces Six-week Summer NAC Program

Clark College has made some changes to its Nursing Assistant Certified (NAC) program, offered by the Economic & Community Development (i.e., continuing education) department.



Some of the changes include:

- Lowered price: \$995
- CPR is included (not an additional charge)
- Books, HIV certification, NAC patch and name badges are also included
- Streamlined enrollment process

These changes have not compromised the program's quality. Clark College has the same instructors, state-of-the-art classroom, 120 total educational hours, clinical sites at nursing care facilities, additional DSHS certifications and continuing education classes.

For additional information, visit the [NAC webpage](#) or call 360.992.2939.

Companies Share Knowledge of Growing Industries with Young Adults

The YouthWorks program provides opportunities for young people ages 16-24 to become acquainted with in-demand sectors in our region. Through Knowledge Fairs, youth have engaged with businesses in manufacturing, construction and technology, gaining knowledge about these industries in a welcoming, open and no-pressure environment.

Employers at the events explain what they do through hands-on demonstrations and talk about career opportunities within their companies and industries. Youth are able to ask questions and interact with the presenters. Through these events, YouthWorks has served more than 300 young people in Southwest Washington this school year.

If you would like to become involved in YouthWorks, contact Hans Erickson with Partners in Careers at 360.696.8417 or hans@swwpic.org.



WIOA Title I Out-of-School Youth Services Contractors Selected

A consortium of ResCare Workforce Services, Partners in Careers, Educational Service District 112 and Goodwill was selected to provide services to out-of-school youth ages 16-24 in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I.

To learn more, contact Miriam Martin, Youth Initiatives Manager, at mmartin@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3183.

Email Address Changes for Workforce Southwest Washington

Please check your contacts and distribution lists for newsletters, e-blast groups, etc. to be sure email addresses for Workforce Southwest Washington and the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council end in "@workforcesw.org."

The old "@swwdc.org" email addresses no longer work.

Staff email addresses are first initial followed by last name @workforcesw.org. For example, jmaglione@workforcesw.org.

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 find and hire the employees they need and provide people the skills, education and training to find work or advance in their careers.

WSW 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 businesses, job seekers and youth.

WSW is an equal opportunity employer and provider of employment and training services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Washington relay: 711.

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