



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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December 2018

Interject Data Systems and Greater Vancouver Chamber Receive Workforce Awards

Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW) presented the Excellence in Workforce Development Awards to two Clark County organizations at its December board meeting.

The [Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce \(GVCC\)](#) received the Innovation in Workforce Development Award for its stemCONNECT program that introduces students in grades 6-12 to high-demand career pathways through structured onsite visits to local businesses. GVCC partnered with the Southwest Washington STEM Network, DIY Marketing Center and nConnect, with support from Banfield Pet Hospital and SEH America, to launch the program.

[Interject Data Systems](#) received the Excellence in Building Workforce Partnerships Award for its efforts to help individuals in our community learn about, embrace and use technology.

CEO Jeff Honsowetz and his team work closely with Washington State University Vancouver to mentor and apprentice college students, helping them develop real-world professional experience while completing their last two years of study.

Jeff introduced a kids coding club six years ago to provide free instruction and help children gain confidence to create with technology. Chris Hight, a Data Engineer with Interject, started Future of Code clubs and classes that occur in multiple locations throughout Vancouver.

“Local employers are a critical piece of our regional educational partnerships, ensuring our young adults are ready to work in high-demand fields across our community,” said Workforce Southwest Washington CEO Kevin Perkey. “We can accomplish much more together than individually.”

[Read the full article.](#)

[Linking School to
21st Century Skills](#)

- [Happy New Year from
WSW!](#)
- [Workforce News](#)
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OTHER NEWS Board Meeting

March 13, 2019
4-6 p.m.
IBEW 48

[Click for details.](#)
Mission

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



(l to r) GVCC Community Partnerships Director Teresa Lawwill and WSW Board Chair Bill Skidmore



(l to r) Bill Erickson; Jonathon Carothers; Robby Boney; Chris Hight; Interject CEO Jeff Honsowetz; Derek Olson; WSW Board Chair Bill Skidmore

Power of Partnership

In recognition of their dedication to partnership and leadership and commitment to innovation, WSW's Board presented Power of Partnership Awards to our Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative partners [Clackamas Workforce Partnership](#) and [Worksystems](#).



(l to r) Clackamas Workforce Partnership Executive Director Bridget Dazey, Worksystems CEO Andrew McGough, WSW Board Chair Bill Skidmore and WSW CEO Kevin Perkey.

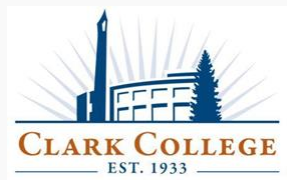
Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Business Nominations due January 11 for Workforce Awards



Nominations of Cowlitz and Wahkiakum businesses for the Excellence in Workforce Development Awards are due by January 11, 2019.

Awards are given in two categories:

- **Innovation in Workforce Development:** This business has demonstrated strong commitment to help youth and adults develop professional and technical skills to find jobs through the creation of innovative workforce opportunities including internships, career-related learning experiences, mentoring,



Comments/Questions?

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[Workforce Southwest
Washington YouTube](#)

apprenticeship and/or participation in workforce events such as Manufacturing Day and/or the Youth Employment Summit.

- **Excellence in Building Workforce Partnerships:** This business has demonstrated strong engagement and investment in the community through the development of partnerships with community-based organizations, nonprofits, community colleges, other businesses and/or workforce entities to create employment and career-pathway opportunities for youth and adult job seekers.

[Click here for details and the nomination form.](#)

Awards will be presented during WSW's March board meeting in Cowlitz County.

Requests for Proposals

Workforce Southwest Washington is seeking four proposals:

1. Provide **Adult/Dislocated Worker and Business Solutions Services** that help people get and keep jobs and assist businesses to find the talent they need to succeed and grow in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.
2. **Act as Operator** of the WorkSource comprehensive one-stop, affiliate and connection sites in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.
3. Assist with the development of a **Communications Plan** that will enable WSW to clearly tell our story, compellingly show our value, and raise our profile with key audiences.
4. Audit WSW's **Personnel Policy** as it pertains to current Human Resources best practices/policies. Recommend revisions to ensure federal, state, and county personnel compliance.

The Request for Proposals (RFPs), including information about how to submit questions, a bidder conference for RFPs 1 and 2, due dates, and other requirements can be downloaded by clicking the links below.

[WSW WIOA Adult-DW-Business Solutions RFP 2019-2022](#)

[WSW WorkSource Operator RFP 2019-2022](#)

[Communications Plan](#)

[Personnel Policy Review](#)



Manufacturing Workforce Plan



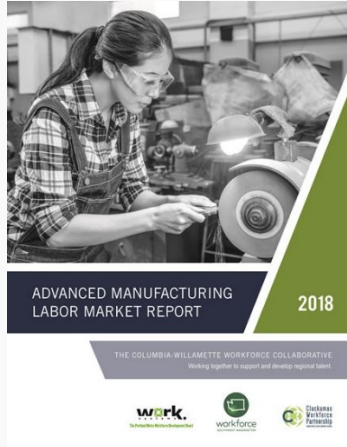
Construction Workforce Plan



Technology Workforce Plan



Employment in Advanced Manufacturing Better than Pre-recession Levels



With more than 96,000 jobs and a payroll of \$8.4 billion, Advanced Manufacturing accounts for nine percent of the Portland-Vancouver Metro Area's private sector employment and 14 percent of payroll.

This information and more is contained in the [Advanced Manufacturing Labor Market Report](#) recently released by WSW and its Columbia-Willamette

Workforce Collaborative (CWWC) partners.

To learn about workforce programs and services for the manufacturing industry, contact Darcy Hoffman at dhoffman@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3172.

Companies Sought for Youth Employment Summit

The Youth Employment Summit (YES) on March 19, 2019 is **THE** place to engage with your future workforce, promote your company, industry and job opportunities.



Preparing youth with skills and options is vital for our local economy and crucial to filling your company's workforce needs.

The YES event provides young adults an opportunity to explore careers in our region's high-growth, high-demand industries AND find first jobs! We are expecting 600 students from school districts in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.

Your company has three opportunities to participate:

1. **Host a table.** Healthcare, Tech, Manufacturing and Construction companies can host a table to share information about your company, education and training needed to do the jobs at your company, open jobs, etc., answer questions and provide hands-on activities. *Let us know if you need help designing an activity.*

2. **Hire a student.** Businesses in ANY INDUSTRY that would like to hire students (particularly 16-18 year olds) can request a table. Work experience is where individuals build the foundation that will propel them forward throughout their careers and where they learn what it means to be a good employee.
3. **Be a sponsor.** Your support ensures as many young people as possible have an opportunity to participate.

If you would like to host a table or hire a student, please register at <https://bit.ly/2BArYwi>. Registration is free.

Want to sponsor the event? Contact **Darcy Hoffman**, Director of Business Services at Workforce Southwest Washington.

The event is a collaboration between Workforce Southwest Washington, Partners in Careers, Lakeside Industries, Northwest Laborers-Employers Cooperation Education Trust (LECET), LiUNA, Goodwill Job Connection, Columbia River Economic Development Council, Cowlitz Economic Development Council, Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce, nConnect, WorkSource, SW WA STEM Network and dozens of businesses.

We look forward to seeing you in March!

Series: Driving Performance Through Leadership



Clark College
ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

How you lead impacts your workforce's productivity.

This **four-part series** is designed for managers, directors and high-potentials transitioning into a leadership role. Gain best practices and practical strategies for influencing and motivating others, maximizing team performance, delegation and conversation.

- Influencing/Motivating Others, 2/7/19
- Maximizing Team Performance, 2/14/19
- Delegation, 2/21/19
- Engaging with Conflict, 2/28/19

All classes in this series are offered independently or save \$50 when you enroll in all four classes at once. Learn more at <http://ecd.clark.edu/go/leadership-training.php>

Questions? Contact Francois Wevers at fwevers@clark.edu or 360.992.2466.

No-Cost Construction Training Available

Clark College is accepting applicants for its 10-week construction training program—offered at no charge to participants.

Occurring March through May 2019, the program includes flagging, forklift, and OSHA 10 safety and certification. Prior to the start of the training, construction companies will pre-hire selected program participants.



Learn more at ecd.clark.edu or call Tina Cruz at 360.992.2749.

CloudOne Honored with Hire-a-Vet Award



CloudOne, a Vancouver-based company that offers marketing solutions to the automotive industry received a Hire-A-Vet Award from the Washington Employment Security Department (ESD) for its track record of hiring veterans.

In 2018, CloudOne increased its focus on hiring veterans and boosted its veteran workforce to 10 percent. The company coordinates its veteran recruitment through WorkSource and advertises its openings on military job boards and veteran social media sites. It also participates in the state's YesVets program to promote the hiring of veterans.

Rep. Brandon Vick (on right in photo) of the 18th Legislative District presented the award to CloudOne co-founder Bryan Hunter at a ceremony on November 14.

ESD created the Hire-A-Vet Award to call attention to unemployed veterans and recognize companies with a good track record of hiring, retaining and celebrating veterans in their workforce. A winner was selected from each of the state's 12 workforce development areas.

[Click to view the winners.](#)

Meet Benton Waterous

As a Program Manager at WSW, Benton oversees several initiatives including the development of Summer Works paid internships for young adults and sector-driven curriculum for the Next youth center. He is also identifying opportunities to collaborate with affordable housing partners to integrate employment and training programs.



Prior to joining WSW, Benton was an intern at the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies, a Washington D.C. think tank, where he provided research support and wrote articles to inform the public and decision makers about security policy issues.

As a Trade Analyst Intern with the World Trade Center Denver, Benton organized and planned events, coordinated community outreach, facilitated educational programming, managed membership development and assisted in trade and gap analysis research.

He has held positions with Gonzaga University's Center for Global Engagement and with Startalk Chinese Language Camp. As a Center for Community Action and Service Learning volunteer he worked as an afterschool mentor for at-risk elementary school students and participated in a mission trip to collaborate with students on the Makah Indian Reservation.

Benton has a passion for the education and empowerment of youth and has served as a volunteer at the Oregon Historical Society, and as a National Park Service educational interpreter.

He has a Bachelor's Degree in International Studies from Gonzaga University and certificates in policy research and international business.

In his free time, Benton is an avid skateboarder, artist, and consumer of written materials on history and politics.

Reach Benton at bwaterous@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3182.

Companies Benefit from Youth Internships



Work experience at a young age contributes to higher graduation rates, better future employment prospects and increased earnings later in life.

Through programs funded by WSW, paid internships are available for students ages 16-18. They will have the opportunity to earn money, gain valuable work experience and develop soft skills to help them become ready for a job, additional training or college.

For assistance hiring young adults for part-time or summer jobs, contact Benton Waterous at bwaterous@workforcesw.org or 360.567.3182.

Accomplished and Under 40

Congratulations to Miriam Martin, WSW's Program Director, and Morgan Parker, Director of Next, on being selected by the Vancouver Business Journal as part of its Accomplish and Under 40 Class of 2018. [Click here to read the article and see the other honorees.](#)



Miriam Martin
WSW Program Director



Morgan Parker
Next Director

Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Workshops & Hiring Events



A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network

and the [Longview Public Library](#).

Numerous job search workshops and hiring events are coming up in the next few months at WorkSource Cowlitz/Wahkiakum

- Longview Library Workshop on Resume Writing and Cover Letters - January 4 & 18, February 1 & 15, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. For information on library workshops, call 360.577.2250.
- Mock Interviews at WorkSource Cowlitz-Wahkiakum - January 11 and February 8 at 1:30 p.m.
- Veterans Hiring Event at WorkSource Cowlitz/Wahkiakum - January 24, noon to 2 p.m. For information, contact Daniel Ledgett at dledgett@esd.wa.gov.
- Hiring Event at Longview Public Library - February 28, noon to 2 p.m. Contact Donna Hughes at dhughes@esd.wa.gov or 360.578.4259.

Job seekers attending hiring events should bring copies of their resume and dress for an interview.

To prepare for hiring events, free workshops on resume writing, interviewing skills and other topics are held at the WorkSource centers.

[Cowlitz/Wahkiakum workshops calendar](#)
[Vancouver workshops calendar](#)

A New Look at Apprenticeship: Linking School to 21st Century Skills

The Center for Public Education (CPE), a research arm of the National School Boards Association (NSBA), has released "[A New Look at Apprenticeship: Linking School to 21st Century Skills](#)," which examines

apprenticeships, finding them to be an effective, key

element in helping students acquire the knowledge and skills needed to be successful after high school graduation. [Click here to read the study.](#)



Happy New Year from WSW!



2019 in sky photo by NordWood Themes on Unsplash

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.

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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