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SWWDC Hires Alyssa Joyner as Cowlitz Wahkiakum Outreach Specialist

Kelso, WA (March 22, 2016) – The Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC) has hired Alyssa Joyner as its Cowlitz Wahkiakum Outreach Specialist to increase partnerships and improve the access of businesses, education providers and community organizations to public workforce system programs and services.

A little-known fact: the workforce system, including WorkSource, provides no-cost employment, education and training services to businesses and individuals. Joyner is seeking opportunities to present workforce development program information to businesses, education and community groups so they can benefit from these services.

“As the administrator and distributor of federal workforce funds, SWWDC is looking for ways to create or support programs that will help businesses hire the skilled workers they need and help individuals get the training and education to become the skilled workers companies want to hire,” said Jeanne Bennett, SWWDC CEO.

“Alyssa will be making connections and seeking opportunities for SWWDC to be at the table as a partner and 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,” continued Bennett.

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. In the past year, SWWDC has provided Cowlitz companies more than \$109,000 in grant funds to improve the skills of their existing employees, thereby helping the companies remain competitive.

Prior to joining SWWDC, Joyner was a Vet Corps Navigator with the Washington Department of Veteran Affairs. Based at Lower Columbia College, she assisted returning veterans and their families with reintegration, including helping them develop education goals, enroll in training and education programs, gain experience through community service volunteering and make connections to support groups.

A Navy veteran, Joyner grew up in Rainier and after leaving the service moved back home to Longview, where she continued her education and began her career working in Veteran 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.

Contact Joyner at ajoyner@swwdc.org or 360-921-2966 to schedule a meeting, to learn of opportunities for business to benefit from public workforce system no-cost employment and training services or to send her information about upcoming events and opportunities.

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