

## NEWS

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## February 2016

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

## Companies Invited to Showcase Job Openings at Hiring Event for Veterans



WorkSource Vancouver  
Veterans, Guard, Reserve and Eligible Spouses

# HIRING EVENT

Employers:

- Admission is free
- Register at:  
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Veteran\\_Event\\_05-13-16](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Veteran_Event_05-13-16)

May 13, 2016  
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Armed Forces Reserve Center  
15005 NE 65<sup>th</sup> Street, Vancouver, WA 98682

Parking at WalMart

Sponsor:



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.

**WorkSource**  
A partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network

Companies - Register for free at

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Veteran\\_Event\\_05-13-16](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Veteran_Event_05-13-16)

## Team

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## IN OTHER NEWS

### SWWDC Board Meeting

**March 9, 2016**

4-6 p.m. at Cowlitz County Administrative Building in Kelso  
[Click for details](#)

### Save the Date



Feb. 22-26  
Engineering Week

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

**Strategic Plan 2014-17**

Read [SWWDC's Strategic Plan](#)

[Workforce 101 Website](#)

Resources to help job

## Businesses Benefit by Connecting with Youth



Part-time and summer jobs are not available for many youth, so it's important to expose them to jobs and career options in other ways. WorkSource's Youth Business Services Coordinator, Lance Carter, (photo at left) partners with companies to develop learning opportunities for young adults ages 16 to 24 to help them gain exposure to local industries and develop the skills necessary to succeed in today's workforce.

Businesses can partner with WorkSource to provide internships, job shadowing, company tours and/or summer employment opportunities for young people. WorkSource is also looking for individuals to speak to school classes, be mentors and/or conduct mock interviews.

By working with young people, businesses benefit by being able to:

- See the talents and abilities of the incoming workforce and identify potential new employees
- Teach young workers industry-specific standards needed to do the job correctly
- Coach prospective employees on additional skills or education they need to get hired
- Gain fresh perspectives on their business and work environment
- Benefit from the technology knowledge and experience of younger workers
- Use student insights to improve or expand products or services to meet the needs of this future customer base

To find out how your company can get involved, contact Lance Carter, WorkSource Youth Business Services Coordinator, at [lcarter@esd.wa.gov](mailto:lcarter@esd.wa.gov) or 360-735-4981.

## WorkSource Vancouver Hosting Orientation on February 18 for Free Construction Training

Individuals interested in learning about training and employment opportunities in the construction trades are encouraged to attend a free information session at WorkSource Vancouver on February 18 at 1:30 p.m.

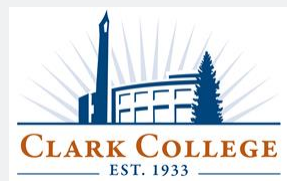
Representatives from Constructing Hope will be onsite to talk about their free construction pre-apprenticeship program. In addition, attendees will learn about the Pacific Northwest Carpenters Institute's (PNCI) new pre-apprenticeship for women as well as other options for gaining entry into a building trades apprenticeship program.

seekers, youth and veterans improve skills to get a job.

### Mission

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

### Our Partners



Applicants should be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or GED.

The information session will be held at WorkSource, 204 SE Stonemill Drive, Suite 215, Vancouver 98684. To RSVP and for more information, contact Constructing Hope at 503-281-1234 or visit [www.constructinghope.org](http://www.constructinghope.org).

## YouthBuild Celebration on February 12



You're Invited

Celebrate with the young adults as they find out if **they've got what it takes** To be part of the YouthBuild Vancouver program on

Friday February 12, 2016

12:45 pm – 2:00 pm

Partners in Careers

3210 NE 52<sup>nd</sup> St.

Vancouver, WA 98663

Please join us as these young adults begin the YouthBuild program that will help them complete their GED and learn construction skills which will lead to employment at the end of the program.

Please RSVP to Sharon at [sharon@swwpic.org](mailto:sharon@swwpic.org) or 597.2060.



Please RSVP to Sharon at [sharon@swwpic.org](mailto:sharon@swwpic.org) or 360.597.2060

## Applications Being Accepted for Technology and Manufacturing Job Training Program



Both WorkSource centers in Southwest Washington are holding information sessions for individuals interested in obtaining skills to get jobs in technology, software, engineering or manufacturing.

Unemployed Veterans, eligible spouses and individuals out of work for more than six months are encouraged to attend a session at either location to learn more.

- **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.



Dept. of Vocational  
Rehabilitation



#### Questions/Comments?

Julia Maglione  
Communications Manager  
[jmaglione@swwdc.org](mailto:jmaglione@swwdc.org)

#### [Swwdc](http://www.swwdc.org)

360.567.1070  
360.567.1054 Fax  
[www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org)

Applicants must be a resident of Clark, Cowlitz or Wahkiakum counties, at least 18 years old and have a high school diploma or GED.

RebootNW offers individualized training, job shadowing, education and networking opportunities. Learn more at [www.RebootNW.org](http://www.RebootNW.org).

## Youth Registration Closes February 16 for Business After School Engineering Week



Teens and young adults (ages 16 to 24) interested in visiting local businesses and learning about careers in engineering have until February 16 to register for Business After School Engineering Week.

**Thank you MacKay Sposito and Maul Foster Alongi  
program sponsors!**

Companies are hosting two-hour events at their locations and will be providing company tours, hands-on activities and discussions of the necessary education, training, skills and future job prospects.

- Feb. 22, 3-5 p.m. – Maul Foster Alongi, Vancouver
- Feb. 23, 4-6 p.m. – Gibbs & Olson, Longview
- Feb. 24, 2-4 p.m. – Cowlitz Public Utilities District, Longview
- Feb. 25, 2-4 p.m. – CID-Bioscience, Camas
- Feb. 26, 3-5 p.m. – SEH America, Vancouver

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

There is no cost to attend, but registration is required (no drop-ins) and space is limited. Youth under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Participants will arrange their own transportation.

## WorkSource Vancouver Open House March 10



WorkSource will host a ribbon cutting and open house at its new location at 204 SE Stonemill Drive, Suite 215 in Vancouver on Thursday, March 10.

Festivities kick off at 3 p.m. with a ribbon cutting with the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, followed by refreshments and a chance to see the new location and learn about the no-cost employment and training services available to businesses and individuals.

**RSVP by March 7** to Lindsey Summerhill at WorkSource  
[lsommerhill@esd.wa.gov](mailto:lsommerhill@esd.wa.gov) or 360.735.4952.

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## SWWDC Seeks Grant Writer

SWWDC is seeking a professional with strong written, organization and communication skills to develop and manage an annual grant application plan. The grant writer will be responsible for researching and tracking opportunities, developing, writing and managing proposals, writing letters of inquiry and letters of support.



Applications are **due to WorkSource by March 6.**

View the job description and application instructions at [www.go2worksource.com](http://www.go2worksource.com) and search for job number **WS453949243** or visit SWWDC's website [www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org).

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## Jeanne Bennett to Chair Washington Workforce Association



SWWDC's CEO, Jeanne Bennett, has been elected chair of the Washington Workforce Association (WWA) for a two-year term, beginning January 2016. WWA is a nonprofit association of Washington's 12 workforce development council chief executive officers.

As chair, Jeanne will work closely with the other workforce board executives to coordinate the state's workforce system, which includes multiple state agencies, community colleges, community-based organizations, businesses and labor unions.

Learn more about WWA at [www.washingtonworkforce.org](http://www.washingtonworkforce.org).

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## Plant of the Future: Trends, People, Processes - Event on March 3



### *Plant of the Future: Trends, People, Processes*

**Thursday, March 3, 7-11:30 a.m.  
Cowlitz Conference and Event Center**

Changing demographics, IT systems and factory automation.  
Tighter production cycles and the need to deliver higher quality and technically challenging products at a competitive cost.  
The need for employers and employees to be agile and flexible in gaining new skills in order to move forward at a faster pace.

#### *Topics:*

**The Power of Innovation**  
Bill Huseby, President, SIGMA Design

**Manufacturing Trends: Implications for Talent Development**  
Rebekah Hutton, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, Manufacturing Skill Standards Council

**Multiple Generations in the Workplace: Managing the Age Gap**  
Andrea Ballard, Owner and Consultant, Expecting Change LLC

**Columbia Willamette Workforce Collaborative: Regional Strategies**  
Cass Parker, Project Manager, Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council

\$25 per person includes full breakfast

**Register Now**

Hosted by Lower Columbia College, Cowlitz Economic Development Council and Impact Washington. Questions? Contact Lynell Amundson, [lamundson@lowercolumbia.edu](mailto:lamundson@lowercolumbia.edu); Scot Walstra, [walstra@cowlitzedc.com](mailto:walstra@cowlitzedc.com); or Kristen Kautz, [kkautz@impactwashington.org](mailto:kkautz@impactwashington.org).

*iPad donated by the Lower Columbia College Foundation*

**Win a free iPad!**

**Click here to register**

## Companies Invited to Host Events During Health Care Week



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

Business After School  
Health care Week is May 9-  
13 and SWWDC is seeking  
companies in the health care

field to host two-hour events at their locations for teens and young adults ages 16 to 24 so they can learn about the types of jobs employed in health care.

Participating businesses will provide company tours, hands-on activities and discuss types of jobs available, education and training requirements, salary ranges and opportunities at their company for job shadowing, summer employment, internships and/or mentoring.

Applications can be downloaded from [www.business-after-school.org](http://www.business-after-school.org) and must be **submitted by April 8** to Justin McDaniels at [jmcdaniels@swwdc.org](mailto:jmcdaniels@swwdc.org).

## “Digital Technology Expo” Seeks Vendors

The Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce (GVCC) is looking for exhibitors for the **April 28** Digital Technology Expo and luncheon event at the Hilton. This is your chance to be part of our region’s biggest single-day technology event.



If you are a technology company interested in interfacing with small-to medium-sized businesses that are looking for technology solutions in Online Presence, Mobile, Business Software Solutions and IT Support, this is an opportunity for you to make connections.

Vendor spaces start at \$149. To learn more and to register, go to <http://www.vancouverusa.com/digital-technology-expo-luncheon>.

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## Meet SWWDC's Youth Team

**Andrew Westlund**, Youth Initiatives Manager, is responsible for implementing strategies for youth workforce development and management of the youth provider projects and contracts that expose young people to training and employment opportunities.

Before joining SWWDC, Andrew was an Educational Assistant for day treatment and re-entry programs with the Evergreen School District. He has experience working with at-risk youth and a desire to help them develop the skills to be successful in their education and the workplace. He has worked with a variety of youth programs at organizations including Cheney Public Schools, YMCA of Walla Walla and College Place Public schools.

Andrew received a master's of Business Administration from Eastern Washington University and bachelor's degrees in English and Kinesiology from Whitworth University in Spokane.

Reach Andrew at [awestlund@swwdc.org](mailto:awestlund@swwdc.org) or 360-567-3183.

**Justin McDaniels**, the Regional Work-Based Learning Coordinator, collaborates with school districts and community partners to enhance education and employment opportunities for youth by connecting them to businesses for internships, mentoring, job shadowing and other experiences that give them insight into the world of work and increase their awareness of career options and education.

Justin has a passion for social justice and helping individuals overcome barriers. He has partnered with radio stations to produce and host social justice broadcasts and collaborated with nonprofit organizations on grant writing, program and outreach campaign

development, event planning and organizing mentorship programs. Justin will receive a bachelor's degree in political science with a focus on international affairs and social policy from Oregon State University.

Reach Justin at [jmcdaniels@swwdc.org](mailto:jmcdaniels@swwdc.org) or 360.567.3172.



Andrew Westlund  
Youth Initiatives Manager



Justin McDaniels  
Regional Work-Based Learning  
Coordinator

## Small Business Boot Camp Begins March 4

**ALL NEW FOR 2016!**

# 2016 Small Business BOOT CAMP

2016 Series begins Friday, March 4  
Friday Mornings ★ Lower Columbia College  
7:30 am - 9 am ★ Heritage Room at LCC - Admin. Bldg.

★ **BOARDMANSHIP SIX PACK** ★

March 4 Strategic and Succession Planning  
Facilitator: Erin Zeiger, Executive Director LCC Foundation

March 11 Handling Conflict  
Facilitator: Jennifer Leach, WSU Extension Faculty and President of the Longview School Board.

March 18 Financial Accountability  
Facilitator: Scott Davis, CPA, Davis and Associates, CPAs


March 25 Working as a Team  
Facilitator: Frank McShane, Cascade Networks

April 1 Facilitating and Leading Meetings  
Facilitator: Terry McLaughlin, Cowitz County Assessor

April 8 Role of the Board vs the CEO  
Facilitator: TBA

**BUSINESS BASICS 201**  
★ **SIX PACK** ★  
Starts May 6

Pricing same as 2013! \$100 Members ★ \$160 Non-Members

 **Kelso Longview**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
The Voice of Business

**360-423-8400** [www.kelsolongviewchamber.org](http://www.kelsolongviewchamber.org)

Register at <http://www.kelsolongviewchamber.org/>  
or call 360-423-8400.

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## South Kelso Homes Sought for Youth Construction Training Program



The South Kelso Neighborhood Association, in partnership with the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council, City of Kelso, Cowlitz County, Lower Columbia CAP, Goodwill, ESD112 and others, is seeking South Kelso homes in need of repair for a youth workforce training program.

The group is looking for homes in need of rehabilitation (i.e., new roof, weatherization and/or other structural problems, seniors and individuals with disabilities needing accessibility ramps, etc.) that can be worked on by local youth as a way to develop their construction skills and aid South Kelso neighbors in need.

Home owners in the South Kelso neighborhood that have significant home repairs that are beyond their means and ability to fix should **call 360-425-3430, ext. 207** and leave a detailed message that includes: their full name, address of the proposed site, phone number and email, length of residency at the project location, reason for need and type of assistance needed.

The project is funded through SWWDC and community partners as part of its youth workforce preparation program and there are no costs to home owners. Property to be rehabilitated must be occupied by the owner.

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## Applications for College Scholarships for STEM due February 29

If you work with students interested in pursuing a degree in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics or health care, encourage them to apply for the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship to receive up to \$22,500 in funding and additional professional development support.



Applicant must be a Washington state resident with a GED or high school diploma from a Washington high school or institution and pursuing first bachelor's degree in a STEM or health care field at a college or university in Washington State.

Applications are due February 29. For more information, visit: <https://www.waopportunitiescholarship.org/New-Applicants/Overview>

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## YouthBuild Vancouver Accepting Applications



YouthBuild helps young adults who have dropped out of high school obtain high school diplomas or GEDs and learn leadership and other work-related skills through academic trainings, on-site work experiences and community

service activities. Participants have access to apprenticeships and industry certifications in the construction trades as well as transitional housing opportunities.

The program culminates with participants building an energy-efficient home for a family enrolled with Evergreen Habitat for Humanity.

Contact Kris Barnum at Partners in Careers, [kris@swwpic.org](mailto:kris@swwpic.org) or call 360-696-8417.

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## GVCC Business After Hours - March 8

**BUSINESS  
AFTER HOURS**

*An Evening of Connections*

**5-7PM TUESDAY, MARCH 8TH 2016**  
**THE QUARRY AT COLUMBIA TECH CENTER**  
415 SE 177TH AVENUE VANCOUVER WA 98683  
\$10/MEMBER \$20/NON-MEMBER  
**NETWORKING • PRIZES • FOOD/DRINK**

**CLICK TO RSVP**

[Click here to register](#)

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## Building Bridges Business & Tourism Expo - March 9

The Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce is accepting booth and table registration for its fifth annual Business and Tourism Expo on

Wednesday, March 9 from 3-8 p.m. at the Cowlitz County Regional Conference Center.



Be one of 80 businesses to showcase who you are and what you do. Get the **best rates before February 19** (booth space \$250, table \$150; after Feb. 19 \$550 and \$350).

Register at <http://www.kelsolongviewchamber.org/> or call 360-423-8400.

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## Guest Speakers Sought for Middle School and High School Events



nConnect is looking for professionals in science, technology, engineering and math to volunteer to speak with high school and middle school

students about their career and education paths and experiences. Events are a lot of fun for both volunteers and students and generally take only an hour or two.

To learn more and get involved, contact: Matthew Goosen, nConnect Program Coordinator, at [Matthew.goosen@nconnect.org](mailto:Matthew.goosen@nconnect.org) or 360.952.3609. Learn more at <http://www.nconnectnw.org/>.

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## 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.

You're receiving this because of your interest in workforce development. 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.

Southwest Washington  
Workforce Development  
Council  
805 Broadway, Suite 412  
Vancouver, WA 98660  
[www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org)