



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Workforce Southwest Washington and LatinoBuilt collaborating to support local Latine construction companies

**Vancouver, Wash. (Aug. 1, 2024)** – Latine-owned and operated construction companies and entrepreneurs in Southwest Washington will soon have access to additional resources to help support and grow their businesses.

<u>Workforce Southwest Washington</u> (WSW), a nonprofit and the local workforce development board, is investing approximately \$3.6 million of <u>Community Reinvestment Project</u> funds into several new initiatives and launching new programs and services through WorkSource and other partners to support local Black, Latine, and tribal communities and businesses.

The new partnership will enable <u>LatinoBuilt</u> to expand its services into Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties to serve Latine construction companies and entrepreneurs through bilingual professional development classes in Contract Management, Estimating & Bidding, and Safety.

WSW's Director of Business Services, Darcy Hoffman commented on the new partnership, "Our region is incredibly fortunate to have LatinoBuilt here to serve the Latine construction community! Our region is experiencing major investments in infrastructure, and this is one way we can ensure the Latine community in Southwest Washington benefits from these investments."

<u>LatinoBuilt</u> is a nonprofit dedicated to aiding and empowering Latine construction contractors with bilingual support, mentorship and training to build a more equitable future, eliminate inequities and expand opportunities in the construction industry for Latine and other underrepresented groups.

"Advancing business opportunities and reducing barriers in construction is core to LatinoBuilt's mission, and we are excited to advance businesses in partnership with Workforce Southwest Washington," shared LatinoBuilt's Interim Executive Director Rosa Martinez.

Serving businesses, job seekers and youth in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.





To learn more about how your business can participate in LatinoBuilt training visit <u>www.latinobuilt.org</u> or contact Dulce Perkins at <u>dulce@latinobuilt.org</u> or 503.889.0511.

The Washington State Department of Commerce's <u>Community Reinvestment Project</u> goal is to support communities impacted by the "war on drugs" with a strong focus on Black, Latine, and tribal communities and businesses.

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Workforce Southwest Washington is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Washington Relay Service: 711

WSW's PY24 Economic Security for All (EcSA) program is supported by \$673,261 (18% of total) U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration federal funding and (82% of total) State funds distributed by Washington State Employment Security Department: \$775,000 State Economic Security for All program funding and \$2,295,788 Department of Commerce's Community Reinvestment funding.

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