



Newsletter | Fall 2012

Hello!

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Statistics

- From July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012, **18,001 new jobseekers** were enrolled through WorkSource Clackamas.
- From July 1st, 2011 - June 30, 2012, **617 youth** were served through C-TEC.

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Our mission is to develop a highly skilled workforce that creates sustained economic prosperity in Clackamas County.

Message from the Executive Director



Greetings!

As the Governor unveiled his budget late last week, the workforce world was on pins and needles! Given the overwhelming success of the Back to Work Oregon program funded by the legislature last session, we were wondering how workforce investments would fare in the Governor's recommended budget this year.

We were not disappointed! During the 2011 legislative session \$3.28M was dedicated to On the Job Training and support for the National Career Readiness Certificate through the Back to Work Oregon program. To date, this amount has been matched by local workforce investment boards and put 1,325 people into long term jobs. The projected income tax resulting from these Oregonians at work is \$3.8M – not a bad return on investment!

The great news is that the Governor has included \$10M in his recommended budget to support the local workforce system. This recommended investment would allow the Back to Work Oregon program to expand and put more Oregonians back to

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work and meet employer needs. Clearly the Governor has confidence in us and wants to continue investing in the great work that is being done.

The work now begins with our state elected officials. I am cautiously optimistic that this increased state investment will become a reality, but we need to make sure our elected representatives and senators know how we are supporting local business. If you are interested in more information or want to help in the effort to inform and advocate for this investment, please let me know!

As we enter the holiday season I wish you all peace, patience and appreciation for the little things in life!

Happy Holidays,
Kim

Workforce Investment Council's Adult Program Receives Three Competitive Grants

The Workforce Investment Council has received funding through three competitive grants. The Housing Works grant is a regional grant in collaboration with our local Workforce Investment Board partners in Multnomah and Washington Counties and SW Washington. In our region, 50 Clackamas County Housing Authority Residents will be provided intensive services for job training and placement.



The Workforce Investment Council is also a recipient of a collaborative grant which will focus on manufacturing in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties in Oregon and Clark and Cowlitz counties in Washington. The region is one of 10 across the U.S. to receive a combined \$20 million as part of the Advanced Manufacturing Jobs Innovation and Accelerator Challenge. The three-year Innovations in Advanced Materials and Metals grant will target small and mid-sized businesses and help them enter new markets.

Solutions to Work was awarded directly to the Workforce Investment Council and will provide support for 250 ex-offenders. This \$1.5 million federal grant focuses on adults leaving jail and offers job training and mentoring opportunities as well as a connection to housing, substance abuse and mental health services. The program will emphasize job training that gives ex-offenders in Clackamas County credentials for high-demand industries, and will also help participants reunite with

their children and families. The Workforce Investment Council was one of nine organizations from across the country to receive a total of \$12 million in grant money from the U.S. Department of Labor.

Getting Residents Back to Work through On-the-Job Training

Between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012, 138 on-the-job training contracts were signed with 39 local employers, exceeding our goal of 109 contracts total. Through formula funds and Back to Work Oregon funds, \$425,000 is being reimbursed to employers who participated in the program. On-the-job training funds reimburse the employers for 50% of an employee's wages during the time the new employee is being trained, or up to \$5,000.



The program benefits both employers and unemployed people during these difficult economic times. As one participant states, "I am proud to be working with a small business owner who gives much to the community and have the opportunity to advance to a service manager position in the future which is what I plan to do. My life has meaning again and is headed in a positive direction...I would recommend this program to anyone and everyone who is looking for work."

Youth Program Receives Two New Grants to Assist Youth in Finding Jobs

The Workforce Investment Council received a grant from the Bank of America Foundation for \$7,500 that will help serve youth with barriers in our summer program. The Summer Youth Academy (SYA) helps youth achieve work readiness skills and job training. The first two weeks of SYA is a Boot Camp that helps youth explore their values, leadership skills, career opportunities, basic workplace expectations and skills, and offers industry specific training. We would like to thank Bank of America for their generous donation in helping get Clackamas County youth work ready.



The second grant is for our most vulnerable youth, including those that are pregnant/parenting, homeless

and/or have an identified disability. The funds will purchase support services such as bus tickets, school tuition, identification cards, and copies of birth certificates. These are found to be key barriers to youth getting an education and obtaining a job. This is a \$5,000 grant, funded by Clackamas County Special projects.

Students Learn about Manufacturing & Health Care Jobs with Clackamas County Employers

In October, 32 students, teachers and advisors toured Blount, International to learn about the company and jobs in manufacturing. There were 9 different Clackamas County high schools represented and all attendees enjoyed their time touring the facility



and learning about the manufacturing of chainsaws and other products from Blount. A special thank you to Julie Hugo, Blount Training Coordinator and Workforce Investment Council Board member, who planned the event for us.



In November, 37 students and advisors toured Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center with an emphasis on the large variety of careers within the hospital. Gary Peterson, Workforce Investment

Council Board Member and Chief Operating Officer, Surgical Services and Ancillary Operations at Kaiser Permanente, spoke to the attendees about the amazing opportunities for one starting out in the healthcare field. The tour took the participants through various departments including the lab, simulation lab and the warehouse where hospital professionals discussed their careers and education. Thank you to Gary and the staff at Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center who made this an important road trip for all!