

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



Newsletter | Summer 2015

Growing Local Company Utilizes IRCO for Successful Staffing Solutions

Cedar & Moss is a small but growing company owned and operated by Michelle Steinback. Recently relocating to Oregon City from Lake Oswego, they manufacture high-end modern and midcentury lighting. Michelle contacted IRCO after opening her new company in hopes of fulfilling her staffing needs. She has established a strong relationship with Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) and many immigrant and refugee job seekers have been placed into stable manufacturing jobs at this company.

In November 2014, Gladys sought job search assistance from IRCO's Clackamas Works Program which is funded by Workforce Investment Council of Clackamas County. Gladys had been unemployed for more than a year when she enrolled in IRCO's program. She had not worked in the US since relocating here from Mexico. Although she had past manufacturing experience, her low English proficiency and lack of familiarity with the US job search process proved challenging. IRCO helped Gladys create a resume, complete online applications, and practice basic interview skills. The IRCO Job Developer interpreted for Gladys during her interview at Cedar & Moss and she was hired for a full time manufacturing position. After her hire a fellow co-worker was able to provide her job training in Spanish. Gladys enjoys her new job, is performing well, and is making \$14.00/hr with benefits. She is improving her English skills rapidly on the job.



The relationship between IRCO and Cedar & Moss is thriving and continues to bridge the gap between job seekers and employers. In March 2015, two more immigrant women from Mexico were hired from the

Oregon Home Care Commission Job Fairs

Thanks to former board member Brenda Durbin, late last year the Workforce Investment Council began a dialogue with the [Oregon Home Care Commission](#) regarding current and upcoming workforce demands for in-home workers in Oregon. This closely aligns with the Workforce Investment Council's efforts in the Long Term Care Industry, which includes regional efforts with the other workforce boards that make up the [Columbia Willamette Workforce Collaborative](#) (CWWC). Since the initial conversations with the Home Care Commission, the Commission has adopted the [Long Term Care Workforce Plan](#) goals developed by the CWWC and industry partners. Julia Metz, the Business Services Project Manager, also participates in the Commission's newly formed Workforce Workgroup to provide input and support on workforce issues.



Additionally, in June the Workforce Investment Council partnered with the Oregon Home Care Commission to host two recruitment events. The events were designed to streamline the registration process for persons interested in becoming home care and/or personal support workers – a process that includes application

IRCO Clackamas Works Program. Cedar & Moss' owner, Michelle Steinback, is committed to maintaining high ethical standards, offering competitive wages, and empowering women which makes this an outstanding employment opportunity for Clackamas Works' participants.

www.cedar&moss.com
www.irc.org



Dave's Killer Bread Invitation to "Second Chance Summit"

On behalf of Dave's Killer Bread, Workforce Investment Council Board members are invited to attend the annual "Second Chance Summit" in Portland on October 16th.



"At Dave's Killer Bread, we believe that everyone is capable of greatness. For this reason, we have been employing and promoting people with criminal backgrounds for the last 10 years. We do this because we recognize the tremendous need in our country for businesses to acknowledge that the nation's crime and incarceration rates are holding us all back. And we know that employment can change all of that. We know it works, because we see it every day."

This important event will provide a unique opportunity to learn what [Dave's Killer Bread](#) and others businesses have discovered about employing people with criminal backgrounds.

- Date: Friday, October 16, 2015
- Time: 8:00am – 4:00pm
- Location: DoubleTree Hotel and Conference Center – Portland, OR
- Registration:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/second-chance-summit-2015-tickets-17178335865>
- Event Password: secondchances
- For questions about this event, please contact Lesley Nelson:
lnelson@daveskillerbread.com

completion, orientations, and a background check. By bringing all of these processes to one location it made it much easier for someone to complete the entire process in a day rather than over several days or even weeks. Once an applicant's background check has been processed, they will be given a provider number and can then sign up on the state's registry to be matched with someone looking for a worker. The events served as a pilot that is anticipated to be used statewide to help increase the number of registered, available, home care and personal support workers. Between the two days, 51 applicants attended. Many attendees applied to become both home care and personal support workers, and as a result, over 80 workers have been approved with several more pending finger print completion. Partners that supported the event included Worksource Clackamas, SEIU, DHS, Clackamas Community College Customized Training and Workforce Development.

For more information on the Oregon Home Care Commission, you can [visit their website](#) or contact Lindsay Vanderworker (lindsay.r.vanderworker@state.or.us).

Clackamas Workforce Development Community Forum Recap

The Oregon Workforce Investment Board and Workforce Investment Council co-sponsored a Clackamas Workforce Development Community Forum on July 15th at the Al Kader Shrine Center. The forum was an opportunity for local partners, stakeholders and business representatives to provide input for a new round of strategic planning currently underway at the state level. Similar forums are taking place this summer in each of the nine workforce regions through the state of Oregon. Information gathered from each local community forum will be compiled and utilized in the development of a state, regional and local strategic plan.



The Workforce Investment Council will have further discussion on its local strategic plan at the October 15th Board meeting.

Workforce Investment Council Welcomes New Program Manager

Please welcome Greg Goloborodko to our team! Greg will be working as both a Youth Program Manager as well as with Business Services/Sectors.

Greg has most recently worked with veterans through



www.daveskillerbread.com
www.dkbfoundation.org

Message from the Executive Director

And, so it begins.

After much anticipation, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is our new, guiding star. WIOA took effect on July 1, 2015. There is much to do to bring our organization into full compliance with the new regulations and thanks to the tremendous leadership from our Board, committees, community partners and staff we are well underway to meet those goals.



Without a doubt our organization has many more important and exciting programs and endeavors it is working on to expand beyond our scope under WIA. It is a busy time here at Workforce Investment Council as we roll in all that is new and revise all that we get to keep. I am grateful to be surrounded by so many amazing people who consistently breathe new life and energy into the work we do. This year of change has proven to be one that has pulled us together and provided expansive opportunities for growth and renewal. I look forward to continuing our good work together.

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a federal-funded grant as a Program Coordinator, providing technical assistance to grantees, training and development to direct service staff, and assisting with internal QA efforts to ensure grant compliance for several grantees within the Santa Clara and Alameda Counties in California. Prior to his work with the SSVF Grant, he was involved in the political field working for numerous state-wide and local candidates/issues throughout the State of Ohio, working with organized labor, lobbying for local and state-wide support from elected officials, assisting with fundraising efforts and crafting campaign strategy and communication efforts throughout the region. He is a graduate from Ohio State University with an Economics and Political Science degree, and has been a longtime supporter of the Detroit Red Wings as well as an avid Chiver (KCCO).

Personal message from Greg: *"I look forward to getting to know the community, the providers and the partners in the coming weeks and months, and look forward to my opportunity to assist the community in any way I can. If there's any way I can assist you, please don't hesitate to reach out to me."*

Greg has a commitment to building strong partnerships across industry, education and community organizations to support vibrant growth in our regional economy. You can reach Greg at 503.657.1727 or greg.goloborodko@wicco.org.

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