

Workforce & Career Development Division

Director's Corner

We are now less than three months away from implementing the new WorkSourceWA.com system. Program design completion and training are in full swing. It is exciting to see the level of engagement and excitement from staff and partners about the possibilities the new system brings to our service for employers and job seekers. Everyone is working diligently to determine how this new tool will fit into their service delivery re-design.

Over the last month I had the opportunity to meet with 18 staff from across the state to dream a little. We talked about what our idea office would look like. How would we want the customers to flow through the facility for services, and what are key areas for service delivery? What elements are important to our co-workers and our customers?

They came up with some exciting ideas to take back to their local offices and begin discussions about what we could do as we design new space and redesign existing space to provide a more positive customer experience.

We are on an exciting journey as we add this new technology and new office designs to serve customers and move toward increasing our customer base and market share.

Thanks for all you do, and keep those ideas flowing!

~Sandy Miller

Public Given Opportunity to Weigh in on WIOA Regions

Subsequent to a presentation at its [September 17 meeting](#), the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTECB) is soliciting input on the proposed workforce planning regions under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). A 30-day public comment period on the proposal is now underway with input due by October 18. More information on workforce planning regions can be found on the Board's [website](#), including a short fact sheet on workforce planning regions and efforts to develop recommended regional boundaries for the Governor's consideration, a map of proposed workforce planning regions, and the state policy for regional designation (WIOA Title I Policy 5615). WTECB plans to approve a final recommendation to the Governor on workforce planning regions at its October 21 meeting.

More Strategic Plan Forums Scheduled

WTECB staff continue to gather stakeholder input on the four strategic themes – business engagement, integrated service delivery, technology and access, and performance accountability – of the state's strategic plan for workforce development. Forums have been held in Vancouver, Spokane, Everett, and Mount Vernon. Others are coming up in Seattle (September 30), Moses Lake (October 14), Bremerton (October 15), and Yakima (October 27). Consult the WTECB's [website](#) for specifics times and venues. That page also has an e-mail option for stakeholders who would like to provide comment but cannot attend any of the public forums.

American Apprenticeship Grants Awarded

Two Washington applicants were among those recently awarded American Apprenticeship Grants by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL). The Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) received \$5 million to partner with Washington Technology Industry Association (WTIA), the Construction Center of Excellence at Bates Technical College and the Spokane Area Workforce Development Council to establish an information technology apprenticeship program and diversify participation among existing apprenticeship programs in the central and south Puget Sound regions and Spokane County. South Seattle College received \$4.8 million to partner with Renton and Clover Park Technical Colleges, Seattle Central and Edmonds Community Colleges, Aero-

ospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC), Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Employment for Women (ANEW), the Manufacturing Industry Council, Center of Excellence for Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing, and the workforce development councils in King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties to establish three new programs and expand 12 existing programs in advanced manufacturing and maritime apprenticeship in central Puget Sound and Spokane County. For more information on these and other awards, see the USDOL [news release](#). For information on registered apprenticeship in Washington, see the Department of Labor and Industries' [apprenticeship site](#).

Washington Service Corps Awarded National Honor

Each year, the American Association of State Service Commissions recognizes the accomplishments and leadership of state commission staff, commissioners, service programs and friends of national service as part of its Innovation and Leadership Awards. Nominations are submitted by state service commissions across the country.

At an awards ceremony held in Virginia on September 16, the Washington Service Corps was announced as the 2015 Outstanding Service Program! Out of hundreds of AmeriCorps programs currently operating across the nation, it is of the highest honor to be chosen out of so many. The WSC was nominated by our state's service commission, Serve Washington, stating "WSC is always willing to step up when needed and is often used as an example of an exemplary program within our state's national service family."

On September 23, Debbie Schuffenhauer, Serve Washington Executive Director, presented the award to WSC staff at their office in Lacey, since they weren't able to attend the formal ceremony. Also in attendance were WCDD Director Sandy Miller, ESD budget and accounting staff, and program officers from Serve Washington. "Our success is due to the skill and passion of our staff, as well as the support we receive from our agency, and the hundreds of partner agencies across the state that are awarded WSC AmeriCorps members, including WorkSource and WDC offices," stated Debbie Aoki, WSC Director. For pictures of the presentation and more information about the award and Washington Service Corps, [click here](#).

House Bill 2040 Campaign Successfully Kicks Off

On September 10th, members of Employment Security Department (ESD), Washington Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) and various business partners met with State Representative Gina McCabe 14th District Position 2 Goldendale Washington to discuss the kickoff of House Bill 2040 (HB2040).

The bill asks ESD, WDVA, the Military Transition Council and Department Commerce to work with local chambers of commerce and associate development organizations to initiate a demonstration campaign to increase veteran employment across the state. Washington is home for over 600, 000 veterans, many who are transitioning from the military to civilian careers, which is one of the main reasons HB 2040 was initiated.

Ideas discussed to ensure maximum participation and recognition regarding business community support for the hiring of veterans included:

- Facilitate and focus on hiring of veterans by way of Hiring Events, Job Fairs and Employer of the Day
- Consult with local Chamber of Commerce to promote veteran hiring
- Create and maintain close relationships with as many partners as possible
- Promote friendly competition amongst local businesses and communities
- Reward businesses with a plaque and or window decal for being veteran hire friendly
- Challenge all businesses to hire at least one veteran in their organization
- Create free media presence through local paper/radio show discussing the benefits of hiring our job ready veterans



New Policy Guidance

[WorkSource System Policy 1019 Rev1](#): Eligibility Guidelines and Documentation Requirements

October 2015 Featured Events

WorkSourceWA Job Match/Labor Exchange Training

Twice daily WebEx sessions held M-T-W, through October 14

WorkSourceWA Staff Role Training #1 (Statewide)

Week of October 26 in several locations

[Register through the Staff Development Calendar](#)

Please send us your feedback!



We want this newsletter to reflect our system and welcome your suggestions for future articles. Let us know what you'd like to see, or send us an article about something important to you! E-mail us at ESDGPWCDDTST@esd.wa.gov.