Welcome to CONNECT! This is Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council’s quarterly newsletter for business and community partners. We invite you to connect with us, check out our data on current industry trends within the region, hear about new program partnerships, impact stories, and employers connecting with job seekers at your local WorkSource site.

We have been busy throughout the region already this year! Discussions have been initiated about many things, including employer outreach, sector revitalization, and reaching non-traditional workers. Third quarter has been nothing short of exciting with new grants and programs developing. Find out more about our programs for employers, partners, and job seekers at www.pacmtn.org. Be sure to connect with us and let us know how we are doing!

A Word from Juvenile Rehabilitation:

...“We see great promise in the future for the young people who participate in MyJOB,” said Kathleen Harvey, Director of Community, Reentry and Parole Programs at DSHS, “It is truly inspiring how the students now see themselves in the world of work focused not only in a living wage job but also in a career pathway towards economic self-sufficiency”...

(Click to read more on the PacMtn website)
Educational Attainment of the Employed Workforce
July-September 2017

- Less than high school: 15% (33,295)
- High school or equivalent: 23% (49,895)
- Some college or associates degree: 24% (52,115)
- Bachelor degree or beyond: 29% (64,196)
- Data not available*: 10% (21,735)

*Workers younger than 25 years old

Unemployment Rate
July 2018

- 5.0%
- Down from 5.3% in July 2017

New Unemployment Claims
July 2018

- 1,288
- Down from 1,327 in July 2017

Total Employment
Net Change in July 2018

- Grays Harbor: 128,650 (319 Jobs*)
- Lewis: 176 Jobs*
- Mason: 59 Jobs*
- Pacific: 22,418 (207 Jobs*)
- Thurston: 31,758 (59 Jobs*)
- PacMtn: 217,162 (521 Jobs*)
- U.S. Average: 26,329 (319 Jobs*)

New Hires

Visit PacMt.org to learn more.
PacMtn Impact: Thank You Youth Services!

Echo Glen Children’s Center was recently able to expand our partnership with the MyJOB Program to include the EYF population. A young female resident who was interested in growing her skills around employability was able to enroll in the MyJOB Program. This enrollment led to case management sessions and her pursuit of two on-campus jobs, as a Barista and as a Kitchen Prep Cook, all while obtaining her GED prior to her recent August release. Prior to her release, she attended a MyJOB Speaker Event featuring Job Corps, where she felt her next career path could be leading her. The Echo Glen MyJOB Specialist and many campus partners immediately started working together to assist her in making this goal a reality. Though completing the necessary paperwork and background checks seems difficult at first, we can now successfully say that this youth enrolled, cost free, at Cascade Job Corps in Sedro Wooley, WA where she is studying web game development at the local college. Just recently, this youth reached back out and thanked the MyJOB team and her JR case manager for the efforts put toward her future. We hope to share more success stories like this in the near future.

- The My Journey Out Beyond (MyJOB) team

A group of youth enrolled in the Mason County Youth Career Services Program and participants in UpLift! work readiness training volunteered on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at the Habitat for Humanity “Block Party” in Belfair. The youth and their case manager set up all of the youth activities, lead the games and prizes, along with face painting for kids from the community who attended the event. They assisted in fundraising for the organization that has been providing youth with opportunities to gain hands-on work experience since 2016.

- Mason County Youth Career Services

Submission Deadline: November 15th at 5pm PST

Find your local WorkSource office at www.worksourcewa.com