



# PACIFIC MOUNTAIN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

*building community prosperity*

## Welcome to CONNECT!

Welcome to **CONNECT!**, PacMtn's quarterly newsletter for business and our community partners! This is your customized view of our data, current industry trends within the region, new program partnerships and impact programs. All of this information is to meet our ultimate goal of connecting employers with job seekers at your local Worksource site.

## Current Data and Industry Trends

### REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT SNAPSHOT

PacMtn 5-County Region



SERVING OVER  
**7,000**  
SQUARE MILES

### 2nd Quarter Regional Employment Snapshot

The five-county Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Area is a diverse economic region that supports thousands of jobs. Here, you will find key economic indicators that provide a glimpse of the state of our regional labor market, as well as links to other sources of labor market information, for those that wish to dive deeper into the data.

## Career and Technical Education in Action in Kalama



In 2017 the PacMtn Workforce Development Council invited the Pacific Education Institute (PEI) to attend a Forest Products Workgroup meeting. PEI listened to the needs and challenges people in the forest products sector faced with respect to employment and combined that understanding with our work in secondary schools across the region. It became clear that there was a need to gather high school and post-secondary educators to align course offerings with employment opportunities and to improve students' knowledge and skills so that they can successfully be employed in a forest-based career. In spring of 2018 PEI, our partner school districts, Grays Harbor College and Forest Products employers with support from PacMtn drafted a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Forest Management Framework. The course has the potential for students in high school to earn college credit toward an Associate's Degree at Grays Harbor College and it includes opportunities for students to incorporate work site visits and learn forest management skills.

PEI was successful in partnering with PacMtn, ESD 113 and Capitol STEAM to receive Career Connected Learning funding to support implementation of this new coursework during the 2018-2019 school year. Three districts - Kalama, Shelton and Yelm - all offered forest management as part of their course work. Kalama High School teacher, Chris Stone has been part of this project from the beginning. His students, working with Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and with training from the Oregon Department of Forestry, and Future Natural Resources Leaders' Fire School, have thinned and planted trees on the Kalama Forest - land owned by the school district - using saplings donated by Weyerhaeuser. This summer Chris will attend Trail College with the Pacific Crest Trail Association, where he will be trained in Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation, Wilderness First Aid, and certification in chainsaw use. As Chris says, "This is training that I am taking to gain skills to bring back to my natural resources class and possibly provide some level of chainsaw training/certification to my students." Chris's classroom exemplifies PEI's career connected, locally relevant, hands-on, outdoor-based approach to learning.

## Green Hill School Construction Boot Camp Graduation



Because of a successful partnership between ANEW, the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JR) and PacMtn, eight young men celebrated their graduation from the Construction Pre-apprenticeship Program at Green Hill School on July 8, 2019.

These young men had the support of ANEW, the PacMtn programs such as the Opioid Use Reduction & Recovery Alliance, JR, MyJOB (Journey Out Beyond), Career Connect Programming as well as the staff at Green Hill. The four week program helps set the students up to succeed after being released. Additional supports will be available to them upon release, such as assistance with tools, transportation, work clothes and apprenticeship placement. While in the program they received:

- Comprehensive Career Plan
- Resume Building Class
- Adult Mentoring
- Job Readiness
- Leadership training
- CPR / First Aid
- Flag / Forklift training
- OSHA 10 certification
- ANEW Certification of Completion

Kristen Torrescano, ANEW Program Manager, led the ceremony and shared unique characteristics of each student and was able to showcase their personalities and talents very clearly. The afternoon was celebrated with snacks and cake. There was also family support for the students as well as the staff who have worked personally with them.

PacMtn is proud to be a partner with JR and ANEW and look forward to future cohorts!

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## Creating a Future for Youth



### Photo and Article by Heidi Smith

Now that opportunity has arrived. Through a federal Department of Labor grant focused on providing services to address the opioid crisis, PacMtn is facilitating Prepping Employment Plans and Possibilities for Youth/Young Adults (PEPPY), a pilot program that connects homeless youth and those at risk of becoming homeless with job training and work-based learning opportunities through the City of Olympia.

To read the rest of the article, go to [Thurston Talk Article](#).

To hear the program at the meeting, listen from the eight minute mark. The discussion lasts ten minutes. Go to [Olympia City Council Meeting June 18, 2019](#)