REGIONAL IMPACT REPORT
2020 CALENDAR YEAR
Disruption and innovation have redefined the labor market and the economic landscape of our region and our nation. The Pacific Mountain WorkForce Development Council has taken stock of the organizational and environmental changes to the workforce development system and acknowledges both internal and external transformations, changes in services delivery, and improvements to our virtual platforms system-wide.

Some challenging areas were universally felt – by staff and citizens alike – such as inadequate home office arrangements; lack of childcare; unfamiliarity with virtual meeting platforms; and feelings of isolation as a result of social distancing. There were also many positive discoveries that were cause for celebration, such as a newfound way to interface with clients while remaining socially distant and healthy; increased technological literacy; and intentional, deliberate collaboration.

The WorkSource offices – PacMtn’s office systems – statewide, closed to the public in mid-March. However, the work of serving dislocated workers, adults, youth – with ever increasing focus on equity, access and priority populations – did not cease.

Recognizing that the COVID crisis, and the economic hardship resulting from the aforementioned safety measures, disproportionately impacts communities of color and the most undeserved with our communities, PacMtn’s commitment to equity in access and service has deepened to further focus our work on prioritizing these communities. The way we serve changed; as virtual trainings came online, outreach and case management went remote, ESD partners reassigned their staff to unemployment insurance, and employer and business engagement required an ‘all-hands-on-deck’ approach with our economic development partners to provide triage and technical assistance to local businesses. And, while rapid response continues, we must look forward to prepare the road to recovery for our citizens and our businesses.

**TOTAL JOBS SEEKERS ASSISTED BY STAFF**

- 5,711 participants

**WIOA DISLOCATED WORKERS**

- 562 participants

**WIOA YOUTH**

- 251 participants

**WIOA VETERANS**

- 458 participants

**“The pandemic had a dramatic and traumatic impact on our workforce.”** Getting people re-attached to the labor market and back to work is a critical step in the recovery of our economy. Building economic resiliency requires we intensify our commitment to shorter-term, in-demand training programs that serve the needs of business and industry.” - **Cheryl B. Fambles, CEO**

Through this year’s summer DVR program, Alex enrolled in the Lewis County Summer Youth Internship Program (SYIP) and conducted his internship at Quanex Building Products which manufactures window and door screens. Alex is going to Centralia College next year, enrolling in the welding program. He was awarded a scholarship to attend.

During his internship, he learned basic workplace skills like showing up on time, following direction and working hard in the shipping department preparing card load of screens for delivery. He said, “I like it here because it is hard, honest work and I can work independently.”

Last year, Alex participated in the program and worked at Thorbeckes Athletic Club cleaning, sanitizing workout equipment and general cleaning. He is looking forward to graduating from Centralia College and getting a job as a welder.

**DISLOCATED WORKER IMPACT STORY**

A Thurston County resident was laid off and out of work when he was referred to the WorkSource office for dislocated worker assistance. He successfully completed CDL training and was hired by Sutton Metals in Lacey.

He started out at $16/hr and is now making $27/hr. He says, “I am so grateful for your program! I appreciate you people so much!”
BUSINESS IMPACT STORY

In December of 2019, the Thurston County Chamber of Commerce began working with Mason County manufacturer Belco Forest Products to develop an opportunity for their incumbent workers to gain the Adult Basic Education knowledge that they need to be eligible for promotion into supervisor and lead positions.

In partnership with Belco and Sound Learning, the local Adult Basic Education provider for the area, several workers are being provided the opportunity to increase their English and math proficiency during Onsight night classes. As an incentive for workers the business is providing a time and a half wage rate for their training time.

Once the workers complete this portion of their training program, the Thurston County Chamber of Commerce will partner with Impact Washington to provide supervisor and mentor upskill training, through the PacMtn WDC Future of Work incumbent worker training fund.

PIVOTED SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL TO A VIRTUAL SETTING

2,705 TOTAL BUSINESSES SERVED 1:1

847 TOTAL NEW BUSINESSES SERVED

3,676 TOTAL SERVICES PROVIDED

MORE THAN 125,000 BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT POINTS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PANDEMIC

MORE THAN 25,000 DOWNLOADS OF THE TOTAL TALENT MAGNET PODCAST
Did you know? The Transportation and Warehousing sector added 162 net jobs in Lewis County over the last two years. Source: PacMtn analysis of NonFarm Employment Estimates

Did you know? There are over 2,000 paid farmworkers at approximately 400 farms in Lewis County. Source: USDA Census of Agriculture
**UNDuplicated Unemployment Insurance Continued Claimants**

Top Five Industry Sectors  |  April 12, 2020-January 2, 2021  |  Pacific Mountain WDA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Sector</th>
<th>Claimants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation &amp; Food Services</td>
<td>7,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare &amp; Social Assistance</td>
<td>7,551</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>7,025</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>7,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>4,116</td>
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</tbody>
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**Did you know?** Veterans comprise 10% of the PacMtn adult population, compared to 7% of Washington population and 5% of the US population. *Source: American Community Survey, 2019 1-year estimates.*

**Did you know?** Six months into 2020, shellfish farming employment as a share of all employment remained 166 times more prevalent in the PacMtn region than in the state of Washington as a whole. *Source: PacMtn analysis of Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Q2 2020.*

**Monthly Employment & Unemployment**

Analysis by Pacific Mountain WDC of Washington Employment Security Dept. data

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Note: This data is missing early peak weeks in March. The data was not collected by the Washington Department of Employment Security until April 12.
GOVERNANCE

CHAIRPERSON
Jacquelin Earley

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Michael Cade

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Steve Rogers

CONSORTIUM CHAIR
Lisa Olsen

INCOMING BOARD CHAIR
Alissa Shay

Alissa Shay  Port of Grays Harbor  Grays Harbor County
Diana Murphy  Intermountain Staffing  Grays Harbor County
Duane Evans  Port Blakely US Forestry  Lewis County
Bill Sullivan  K-12 Education Consultant  Lewis County
Peter Lahmann  Port of Centralia  Lewis County
Jennifer Baria  Mason County EDC  Mason County
Jacquelin Earley  Sierra Pacific Industries  Mason County
Grant Lehman  Jack’s Country Store  Pacific County
Steve Rogers  Pacific County Historical Society  Pacific County
Michael Cade  Thurston County EDC  Thurston County
David Schaffert  Thurston County Chamber  Thurston County
Scott Haas  Employment Security Dept  Regional Representative
Johnathan Pletcher  Morningside  Regional Representative
Christina Riley  National Laborers Employers Cooperation Education Trust  Regional Representative
Sherry Barry  Retired LiUNA NW Region  Regional Representative
Cheryl Heywood  Timberland Regional Library  Regional Representative
Kelli Bloomstrom  Transitional Education and Centralia College East  Regional Representative
Dana Anderson  ESD #113  Regional Representative
Bob Guenther  Thurston-Lewis-Mason Counties Labor Council  Regional Representative
Jason Reed  DSHS/Community Services Division  Regional Representative
Paul Vertrees  DSHS/Vocational Rehabilitation Division  Regional Representative

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Visit us at www.pacmtn.org

MISSION
To lead dynamic regional workforce development that enhances economic success.

VISION
PacMtn is a recognized leader providing workforce solutions in Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific and Thurston Counties.

PACMTN REGION

Did you know? Job seekers can connect to services at any of the 27 Timberland Library locations?

TUMWATER  1570 Irving Street SW  •  (360) 704-3600
ABERDEEN  415 W Wishkah, Ste 2D  •  (360) 538-2350
SHELTON  2505 Olympic Hwy N, Ste 420  •  (360) 427-2174
CHEHALIS  151 NE Hampe Way  •  (360) 748-2360
BELFAIR  140 NE State Route 300  •  (360) 552-2303
LONG BEACH  2601 N Pacific Hwy  •  (360) 642-6213

WorkSource and Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council are an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Washington Relay 711.