

## 2022 Board and Elected Officials Consortium Annual Retreat

**PacMtn kicks off 2022 with new program funds.** In the Justice impacted category, the Washington State Department of Commerce funded PacMtn's Community Transitions Assistance Program (CTAP) proposal at \$250,000 to provide transitional services for individuals reentering the workforce from incarceration. This program will support 30 individuals with case management, housing, employment, family reunification, transportation, communication, education, civil legal services and basic needs. Contracts are in place and enrollment has begun. Program ends May 2022.

**Department of Labor awards PacMtn a 3<sup>rd</sup> round of Opioid funding** to provide individuals impacted by the Opioid epidemic in the PacMtn region with services. The award of \$1.4mil will provide Peer Support Counselors for 80 participants in a wide array of services, including support services, training, and work experience. The program will build upon and expand justice impacted services provided under PREP, CTAP and MyJob.

**PacMtn's Construction Cohort Training finds success with a 4<sup>th</sup> round of training** in Grays Harbor. Thurston County Chamber of Commerce (TCCC), PacMtn's Business Services and Sector Development partner, had this to share:



"Danny Doyle of Doyle Construction came and spoke with our Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Boot camp students recently at Satsop regarding the construction industry. He talked about his drive and pathway establishing his own construction

company. Growing up watching his father Daimon work hard running his own construction business, he had firsthand experience with the pressures of owning a business, and the responsibility of the crew's livelihoods. However, Danny knew it was incredibly rewarding work to help not only his crew but his clients as well. Putting a roof over someone's family, keeping them warm and safe a key reason he continued his construction journey. Understanding the craft of home building, inside and out is rewarding in itself. Danny loves to inspire and educate his employees. He understands that everyone has a story and a history, and encourages each person to keep one foot in front of the other and continue the construction journey.

To see a younger person who is an entrepreneur encouraging the students in our class was great to see. He gave great advice and shared his journey with the students. He is coming back for our graduation on March 4<sup>th</sup>."

Funding for this training is provided by the Department of Labor through a competitive grant opportunity. PacMtn was recently awarded an additional \$480K to expand sector focused cohort training. TCCC has done an outstanding job expanding this work by collaborating with our county partners to identify and standup these trainings.

**Federal WIOA Budget Projections** forecasts a 10% funding cut for the state of Washington for a second year. While PacMtn has a sizable amount of funding outside of the WIOA category, these cuts will directly impact PacMtn, and our Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth contractors. For several years, PacMtn has been working to move away from a direct service model. This move has reduced staff significantly and put us in a better position to manage these funding cuts. In recent months, two additional staff positions have been reduced by consolidating work and outsourcing some services. Other reductions have come in the form of fleet reductions, technology and licensing changes, and other program changes.

The first look at local budgets will be in mid-April. At that time, PacMtn will know if recent cost-savings will be sufficient to bring the PY22 budget into alignment or whether additional steps will be necessary. It will also give us a clearer understanding of funds available for our PY22 WIOA contracts. Final budgets will not be available until late fall.

## Stories of Impact and Meaning

WIOA Participant was a new entrant to the work force after being long term unemployed, she was receiving public assistance benefits and had no income. WIOA program was able to fund CDL training and provide funds for fuel so the unemployed participant could drive to and from the training site. Our Work Ready Navigator and Program Lead set up an event with a local company for the whole graduating class of class A CDL drivers from Centralia Community College to have personal tour of plant, ride along and possibly, job offers. Our participant was interviewed on the spot and offered a position utilizing her newly earned credentials. The Employment Practitioner supported the participant with required industry recommended safety gear, boots and clothing for new



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position. Unfortunately, two weeks into her new job, the participant's home flooded when the community experienced record breaking local flooding. Due to the fact that she was still in her probationary period she could not, and did not miss a day; even while working 12 hour swing shifts. WIOA also paid a month of mortgage for her so she did not fall into foreclosure while waiting for her first paycheck. She is excited for her new career and is looking forward to paying it forward someday.