



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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PacMtn Workforce Development Council Awarded \$1.49 Million Pathways Home 3 Grant

Tumwater, WA - PacMtn is thrilled to announce that the organization has been awarded a Pathways Home 3 Grant for \$1.49 million. The grant comes through the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA). Funds will help continue PacMtn's Community Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) and expand the Preparing for Reentry Employment Program (PREP) to provide pre-and-post release services for justice-impacted individuals in Lewis and Thurston counties.

Lewis County Corrections Chief Chris Sweet said, "The long-standing partnership that we've had with PacMtn has been extremely beneficial for individuals housed in our facility. This partnership with PacMtn has positively impacted many individuals in providing them the ability to seek employment after incarceration. I look forward to continuing this program at the Lewis County Sheriff's Office Jail and I'm very pleased PacMtn was awarded the Pathways Home 3 grant. Let's get to work and continue making positive differences in individuals' lives!"

The official grant start date is July 1, 2022 and will run through December 31, 2025. PacMtn understands how the stigma of a criminal conviction can cause a ripple effect on a person long after their release from court-mandated time in jail or prison.

PacMtn CEO, William Westmoreland said, "Justice-impacted individuals face an uphill battle, and a conviction can keep them from obtaining housing, employment, student loans, or social welfare programs. PacMtn and other Pathways partners recognize that justice-involved individuals are disproportionately vulnerable to poverty and need additional support services to be successful. The job seekers invested in Pathways will ultimately be less likely to live in poverty, less likely to return to jail, and more likely to contribute to the economic success of the PacMtn region."

PacMtn will release a Request for Proposals later in July inviting community-based organizations and other qualified partners interested in providing services for career coaching, financial mobility, and basic education.

For more information, don't hesitate to get in contact with Kelly Fujimoto, Community Relations Analyst, kelly@pacmtn.org.

This project is funded with Federal grant funds. The total cost of the program is \$1.49 million. There are no other non-governmental project or program costs associated with this project.

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About PacMtn Workforce Development Council (PacMtn):

PacMtn is a nonprofit organization that is the recognized convener of regional workforce development efforts. The PacMtn Board of Directors, PacMtn elected Official Consortium, and all staff are dedicated to the development of a workforce system that supports business, industry, and all levels of employers and job seekers. PacMtn oversees the regional network of American Job Centers, called WorkSource, which house the demand-driven and integrated system of partners dedicated to developing community prosperity, one job seeker and one employer at a time.