

Work continues on the development of the **2023-2026 WorkSource Memorandum of Understanding and Infrastructure Funding Agreement (MOU/IFA)**. Brand and aligned to the One Workforce Strategy, changes found in the new version of the MOU/IFA articulate key aspects of PacMtn's local plan and its alignment to the State's Talent and Prosperity Plan (TAP Plan). Those include updates related to evolutions in the region's integrated service delivery model and a new funding approach connected to leveraging Title 1b investments. The state's deadline for a fully executed MOU/IFA, that meets polices updates outlined in WorkSource System polices 1023 R2 and 1024 R2, are due by the end of March 2023. Progress updates on negotiations are provide at scheduled Executive Finance Committee and full board meetings through March 2023. These meetings are open to the public and can be found on PacMtn website.

It is official - PacMtn is relocating to the **Heritage Building in downtown Olympia!** During the month of November, PacMtn staff will be working remotely, and the 1570 Irving Street office will close. The move will take several weeks to accomplish, but the current plan is to be fully operational 12/1/2022. Details on the new location can be found on our website. Plans are underway for an open house in late winter.

PacMtn staff attended the **Thurston County Chamber of Commerce's (TCCC) Future of Work** event in early November. The event was well attended and featured key efforts in the region related to supporting employers as they respond to market changes driven by current and prospective employees. Work experience, including apprenticeships, On-the-job training, area CTE programs, and other success efforts were highlighted - enabling employers and workforce development professionals in the region to learn more on this key economic development challenge.

William Westmoreland attended the **ACT Conference** held in New Orleans in early October. The conference focused on servicing priority populations and how the National Career Readiness Credential (NCRC) can improve employment outcomes for those individuals. Leveraging the NCRC was identified as a best practice in the LEAP trails, the foundation of the Pathways Home funding which the PacMtn region recently secured. Several programs from around the country were highlighted including those related to youth, rural and justice impacted populations. The tool can link the skills of jobseekers to those that employers are looking to secure. It can be customized by SOC code or to individual employer jobs. PacMtn will explore the use of the tool to support individuals transitioning from both the Thurston and Lewis County jails as a part the of the Pathways Home program.

The PacMtn region welcomes **Tennille Johnson as the new Regional Director - Southwest Coastal Region** for Employment Security. Tennille brings a tremendous amount of WorkSource system experience and is already engaging within our local area. She has been nominated to PacMtn's board to represent the programming efforts of ESD locally. The process will conclude in early December. She has expressed interested in serving on the Executive Committee and the One-Stop Committee. Please make her feel welcome!

Stories of Impact and Meaning

Provided by Equus-

This participant has had a rough life. She is a single mom and her child's father is incarcerated. She is struggling with raising her infant son and school age daughter alone and without a job. They were living in her car for a few weeks and got help with Sidewalk and they now live in an apartment. She has passed her final exams and will now be taking the state test to become a realtor. She has been focusing on her school and does hair on the side just to keep them afloat. She is hopeful and her future is bright.

We've been working with a client for a while now that has very specialized skills and a very particular job outlook. The client was able to get interviews but struggled to get past the interview phase. He went through workshops provided by WorkSource and worked with multiple staff on mock interviews, coaching and support. During this process, our client was very clear on the kind of position he wanted and the wages he felt he was worth. He stuck to it all the way through until he finally got a job offer with a company that matched his wants and desires. I'm happy to say this client is now employed and will be moving on towards bigger and better things shortly.