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**December 2015**

Welcome to **News** about the region's workforce system.

## Space Available in Technology and Manufacturing Job Training Program



Information sessions for ReBoot NW, a training program to help individuals unemployed for more than 27 weeks get jobs in technology or manufacturing, are being held at the WorkSource centers in Kelso and Vancouver.

- **Kelso:** 2nd & 4th Mondays, 1:30-3 p.m., WorkSource, 305 S. Pacific Avenue, Suite A, Kelso. Contact Tammi Leclerc at [tleclerc@esd.wa.gov](mailto:tleclerc@esd.wa.gov) or 360.578.4256.
- **Vancouver:** Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m., WorkSource, 204 SE Stone Mill Drive, Suite 215, Vancouver. Contact Jacob Miller at [jamiller@esd.wa.gov](mailto:jamiller@esd.wa.gov) or 360.735.5084.

To be considered for the program, an individual must:

- Be unemployed for at least 27 consecutive weeks or underemployed, meaning they lost a job and have not been able to obtain a new one with similar pay
- Be at least 18 years old with a high school diploma or GED
- Be a resident of Clark, Cowlitz or Wahkiakum counties
- Be interested in pursuing training or education for information technology, software, manufacturing or engineering positions
- Be an unemployed veteran or eligible spouse, out of work for any length of time

RebootNW offers individualized training, job shadowing, education and networking opportunities. Learn more at [www.RebootNW.org](http://www.RebootNW.org).

## Coordinator

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## IN OTHER NEWS

### SWWDC Board Meeting

March 9, 2016  
4-6 p.m. at Cowlitz County Administrative Building in Kelso  
[Click for details](#)

### Save the Date



Feb. 22-26  
Engineering Week

<http://www.business-after-school.org/>

Strategic Plan 2014-17

Read [SWWDC's Strategic Plan](#)

[Workforce 101 Website](#)

## SWWDC Seeking Behavioral Health Services Provider; Proposals due January 15

SWWDC is seeking proposals from service providers with experience in mental, behavioral and vocational counseling to provide behavioral health training and counseling services in partnership with WorkSource centers in Kelso and Vancouver.

Services would equip staff with tools and skills in outreach, referrals, case management and retention services and provide workshops and/or counseling to individuals that have been out of work for long periods of time to help them obtain tools and skills they need to succeed in obtaining and keeping a job.

Download the Request for Proposals (RFP) at [www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org).

Proposals must be received by SWWDC no later than 3 p.m. Pacific Time on Friday, January 15, 2016.

## YouthBuild Vancouver Accepting Applicants

**YouthBuild Vancouver**

# YouthBuild Information Sessions

**ARE YOU:**

- Between the ages of 17-24 years old?
- Not enrolled in high school?
- Needing to get your diploma or GED?
- Interested in preparing yourself for the future?

**Join YouthBuild!**

- Obtain your GED or high school diploma
- Gain nationally recognized construction certifications
- Participate in a home building project
- Develop leadership skills
- Receive college and career planning services
- **AND MUCH MORE!**

**Where:**  
Partners in Careers  
3210 NE 52nd St.  
Vancouver, WA

**When:**  
4:00-5:00 pm

**Attend a YouthBuild Information Session!**  
Tuesday, December 29 - Wednesday, January 6 - Friday, January 15

**Contact SAM CAPELATO to RSVP: CALL (360) 696-8417 OR EMAIL: [sam@swwpic.org](mailto:sam@swwpic.org)**

The Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC) and its partners are equal opportunity employers and providers of employment and training services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. To place a relay call, dial 711.

Resources to help job seekers, youth and veterans improve skills to get a job.

#### Mission

*To prepare and promote a skilled and adaptive workforce for a thriving economy in Southwest Washington.*

#### Our Partners



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## Cass Parker Promoted to Employer Services Manager

SWWDC is pleased to announce Cass Parker has been promoted to Employer Services Manager overseeing the manufacturing and technology sectors.



In her new role, Cass will work with employers to determine likely areas of growth in job openings and skills and assist employers with funding and training resources to enhance the skills of their existing employees. She will coordinate with WorkSource and training partners to create strategies to match resources to employer needs.

Cass joined SWWDC in early 2015 and has been assisting with contract management for manufacturing and technology grants and overseeing the Business After School program. She has more than 10 years of human resources and office administration experience. Her prior positions include office manager with New Castle Photography, benefits administration with RS Medical and staff assistant at the Vancouver Public Schools.

She recently served on the board of Good Shepherd Montessori preschool. She has held various positions with the Sarah J. Anderson Elementary School PTA and been a Junior Achievement instructor and Cub Scout Pack treasurer.

She has a passion for learning about and teaching emergency preparedness and recently earned her amateur radio technician license and is looking forward to enrolling in Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training in the spring. Her family enjoys learning about other cultures and frequently hosts students from abroad.

Cass holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of California Riverside and has done post-graduate work in management and development.

Reach Cass at 360.567.1076 or [cparker@swwdc.org](mailto:cparker@swwdc.org).

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## Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Outreach Specialist Job Opening

The Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Outreach Specialist (CWOS) is responsible for workforce development outreach and coordination with community groups in Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties. The CWOS



#### Questions/Comments?

Julia Maglione  
Communications Manager  
[jmaglione@swwdc.org](mailto:jmaglione@swwdc.org)

#### [SWWDC](http://www.swwdc.org)

360.567.1070  
360.567.1054 Fax  
[www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org)

will generate and support partnerships with business and community organizations, represent the SWWDC at events and meetings, facilitate connections between business and community organization staff and SWWDC staff and seek opportunities to present and share SWWDC/WorkSource programs and services. The position **closes December 30, 2015.**

For the job description and application instructions, [click here](#) or visit [www.go2worksource.com](http://www.go2worksource.com) and search for job **WS452630326.**

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## Orientations December 22 & 29 for Free Manufacturing Skills Training Program

*Training classes start in January*

Individuals interested in gaining skills to help them obtain jobs in manufacturing should attend a free orientation about the Certified Production Technician (CPT) program.

Information sessions will be held December 22 and 29 at 3 p.m. at WorkSource, 305 S. Pacific Avenue, Suite A in Kelso. To RSVP and for more information, contact Crystal at WorkSource at 360.578.4212 or [cgarcia@esd.wa.gov](mailto:cgarcia@esd.wa.gov).

The Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC) is funding the program and individuals will receive the training at no cost to them.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a GED or high school diploma. Manufacturing experience is not required but applicants should have an interest in working in manufacturing.

Attaining a CPT certificate may increase an individual's chances of getting hired by demonstrating to employers that the individual possess the core competencies required in manufacturing. Participants who complete training will be certified in safety, manufacturing processes and production, maintenance awareness, quality practices and measurement.

Participants who complete the training will be eligible for no-cost career coaching and job placement services through WorkSource.

The CPT training classes will be held at Lower Columbia College January 11 through March 4, Monday – Thursday, from 3 – 7 p.m.

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## Certified Production Technicians (CPT) Available for Hire

After completing training and earning certifications in Safety, Maintenance Awareness, Quality Practices & Measurement, and Manufacturing Processes & Production, WorkSource will have Certified Production Technician (CPT) candidates available for hire toward the end of December. Learn about the certification at <http://www.msscusa.org/cpt-courses/>.

To arrange an interview with a candidate or learn more about the program, contact John LeMarte at WorkSource Vancouver at 360.735.5060 or [Jlemarte@esd.wa.gov](mailto:Jlemarte@esd.wa.gov).

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## Thank You, Business After School Technology Week Sponsors!

On December 8 and 9, **PLEXSYS Interface Products** and **Rebound Orthopedic & Neurosurgery**, hosted young adults, ages 16-24, at two-hour events, gave company tours, led hands-on activities and showcased their businesses and employees.

At PLEXSYS, students learned about the exciting work of aircraft simulation and enjoyed the challenge of a Scala software application coding project.

Rebound staff gave participants an in-depth look at the vast expanse of technology used in their daily work, from patient records and inventory control to testing and surgery.

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## Firms Sought to Participate in Business After School Engineering Week



Engineering Week is February 22-26, 2016 and SWWDC is seeking engineering firms and

companies with STEM-related jobs, including industrial engineers, structural analysts, test engineers and more to host a two-hour event at their location.

Participating businesses will provide company tours, hands-on activities and discuss types of jobs available, education and training requirements, salary ranges and opportunities at their company for job shadowing, summer employment, internships and/or mentoring.

Engineering Week **applications are due by January 21** and may be obtained at [www.business-after-school.org](http://www.business-after-school.org) or by contacting Justin McDaniels at [jmcdaniels@swwdc.org](mailto:jmcdaniels@swwdc.org) or 360.567.3172.

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## YouthWorks Program Receives Grant to Help Connect Business and Youth



**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
SOUTHWEST  
WASHINGTON

The Community Foundation for Southwest Washington has awarded SWWDC \$15,000 towards procurement of a web-based career exploration and business connection

technology tool. Called Catalyst, the online system will enable school districts and community-based organizations participating in the YouthWorks grant to interact with businesses and students for mentorship, internship and other work-based learning opportunities.

Through Catalyst:

- Companies will publicize career development activities to students who have indicated interest in careers they employ.
- Educators will communicate with employers to coordinate field trips, co-op placements, scholarship applications, mentorships and other engagement opportunities.
- System administrators will be able to communicate with all parties in a coordinated and secure way.

Initially, the technology will be available to school districts in Vancouver, Camas and Battle Ground and to Longview Goodwill, Partners in Careers, Educational Service District 112 and Innovative Services NW to recruit and guide students.

The YouthWorks program will increase employer connections to their future workforce and increase youth awareness of viable career pathways and employment opportunities with local employers.

To learn more, contact Justin McDaniels, Regional Work-Based Learning Coordinator at [jmcdaniels@swwdc.org](mailto:jmcdaniels@swwdc.org) or 360.567.3172.

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## Kim Cheatley, Administrative Coordinator

As Administrative Coordinator for SWWDC, Kim Cheatley provides office and administrative support services for the organization and staff. She also serves as Fiscal Administrator to the Columbia River Economic Development Council (CREDC).



Prior to joining SWWDC, Kim held Human Resources positions in manufacturing (including paper, aluminum and steel) and in real estate administration.

A Longview resident, Kim graduated from Central Washington University in Ellensburg with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

Kim enjoys spending time with her adult sons, Tyler and Reese, her daughter-in-law, Rana, and her dog, Dexter. She likes to attend plays, read and crochet and is a big fan of Washington State Cougar football, the Seattle Seahawks and Seattle Mariners. Go Cougs!

Reach Kim at [kcheatley@credc.org](mailto:kcheatley@credc.org) or 360.694.5006.

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## WorkSource Vancouver in New Location

In mid-November, WorkSource Vancouver moved to a new location at **204 SE Stone Mill Drive, Suite 215** in Vancouver.



WorkSource provides no-cost employment and training services to help employers find the workers they need and help individuals find the jobs they want.

Services for business include candidate recruiting and screening, job fairs and hiring events, training and skills acquisition for existing workers, labor market data and engagement and development opportunities with youth workers.

Individuals who have been laid off from a job, are rethinking their career or are just starting out can go to WorkSource for help searching for work, assessing and building skills, exploring careers and connecting with employers that are hiring.

The WorkSource centers in Kelso and Vancouver are open Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. To learn more, visit [www.go2worksource.com](http://www.go2worksource.com) or [www.facebook.com/worksourcesw](https://www.facebook.com/worksourcesw).

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## Leadership Series Begins January 21 at Lower Columbia College

### BUILDING HIGH PERFORMANCE TEAMS



Teams are the force that drive most organizations. Whether it's a functional team, a team of managers, or a project team, people get most done when they work together effectively. Does your organization want better quality, higher productivity, greater sensitivity to customers and improved profitability? People make these things happen. This series will provide team leaders and team members a solid foundation to build stronger and more efficient teams in the workplace.

**JOIN LCC FOR THIS 6 PART SERIES:** *Fundamentals of High Performance Teams, Myers-Briggs in Team Building, Emotional Intelligence in the Workplace, Motivation & Coaching, Customer Centered Service, High Performance Leadership.*

**THURSDAYS**  
**8 A.M. TO NOON**  
**January 21 – February 25**  
**Lower Columbia College**  
**Administration Building, Heritage Room**

**FIRST REGISTRATION - \$675**

**Additional registrations from your organization - 50% off!**

Want more information? [lamundson@lowercolumbia.edu](mailto:lamundson@lowercolumbia.edu)

Call (360) 442-2840 or (360) 442-2600 to register.

Online registration will be available SOON at <http://lowercolumbia.edu/ce>



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## Patient Navigation and Advocacy Training at Clark College



**Clark College**  
**ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
*Expand Your Potential.*

Clark College is offering a development program for health care employees this winter and spring. The Patient Navigation and Advocacy program will prepare

individuals entering or currently working in care navigation and coordination roles such as:

- Medical Assistants
- Peer Specialists
- Behavioral Health Workers
- Home Health Aides
- Nursing Assistants
- Community Health Workers
- Medical Interpreters
- Social Workers
- Patient Care Representatives
- Care Coordinators
- Nurses

The program will be offered for credit in a blended learning format, with a combination of online learning and live classroom instruction. The online portion can be completed from participants' own computers, and the classroom training will be delivered on Clark College's main campus. Classes will be offered in winter and spring quarters, starting in January and April, respectively.

To learn more, contact Trish Hamann at [thamann@clark.edu](mailto:thamann@clark.edu) or 360.992.2925.

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## Dr. Steven Webb Nominated for National Superintendent of the Year



Dr. Steven Webb is among four finalists for National Superintendent of the Year. The winner will be announced in February at the American Association of School Administrators' national conference.

Recently, Dr. Webb was named 2016 Superintendent of the Year by the Washington Association of School Administrators. Since 2010, the four-year on-time graduation rate in the district has risen from 64 percent to more than 80 percent.

Vancouver Public Schools enrolls approximately 23,500 students annually at 37 schools and specialized program sites. Dr. Webb first joined the district as deputy superintendent in 2006 and was appointed to serve as superintendent in 2008.

For details, contact Tom Hagley at [Tom.Hagley@vansd.org](mailto:Tom.Hagley@vansd.org).

*Photo credit: Katharine Kimball*

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## Sharing Holiday Cheer



For the second year in a row, SWWDC and CREDC staff adopted a family for the holidays through SHARE Vancouver.

The groups purchased nearly \$900 worth of toys, clothing, gifts, food and a grocery store gift card for a mother and her three children.

Learn more about Share at <http://sharevancouver.org/>.

*Photo by Susan Pagel: Some of the items donated by CREDC & SWWDC*

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## Fully-Funded Tuition for Training Available to Manufacturers

The Make it in Washington program provides fully-funded tuition for online training for manufacturers.



Offered through Washington State University and Shoreline and Highline community colleges, manufacturers have access to accredited online academic training to advance their manufacturing, logistics, supply chain and management skills. Eligible employees receive college credit toward an undergraduate or graduate degree. Manufacturers can also qualify for a business assessment to plan for improvement and growth.

To find out how your business can benefit, contact Max Ault, Business Development Manager, at the Columbia River Economic Development Council at [mault@credc.org](mailto:mault@credc.org) or 360.567.1055 or go to <http://wtb.wa.gov/MakeitInWashington.asp>.

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## In the News

See recent [coverage of the SWWDC and workforce projects](#).

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SWWDC, a nonprofit organization founded in 2002, contributes to regional economic growth by providing investments and resources to improve the skills and education of the workforce in Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties.

SWWDC programs help businesses find and hire the employees they need and provide people the skills, education and training to find work or advance in their careers.

SWWDC partners with employers, community colleges and universities, labor groups, government and economic development agencies, high schools and community organizations to provide employment and training services to employers, job seekers and youth.

You're receiving this because of your interest in workforce development. SWWDC is an equal opportunity employer and provider of employment and training services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. To place a relay call, dial 711.

Southwest Washington  
Workforce Development  
Council  
805 Broadway, Suite 412  
Vancouver, WA 98660  
[www.swwdc.org](http://www.swwdc.org)