

Workforce Investment Council Highlights 2009-2013



Business Services

- Several businesses benefited from the Employer Workforce Training Funds (EWTF) grant including Willamette Falls Health Center, Oregon Iron Works, Pioneer Pump, Benchmade Knife, and the Canby Manufacturing Consortium.
- The Back to Work program since 2012, in Clackamas County helped 138 workers find employment with on-the-job training funds, exceeding the goal of 109, for 39 local employers. Area businesses surveyed indicated great satisfaction with the program and would recommend it to others.
- The Workforce Investment Council has a strong connection and partnership with the Clackamas County Business and Economic Development and Clackamas County Business Alliance.

Services to Adults and Dislocated Workers

- Over 60,000 jobseekers were served during Program Years 2008-2012.
- Since 2010, the workforce system helped:
 - Almost 27,000 Clackamas County residents entered employment with average annual earnings of \$33,082.
 - 270 people entered employment through On-the-Job Training Program.
 - Barriered populations such as the long-term unemployed, individuals with background issues, English-language learners, and individuals with mental health issues received services to help them find employment and attain self sufficiency.
 - Adult and Dislocated Worker WIA program have met and/or exceeded all program performance measures, in the midst of the economic downturn.
- Through National Emergency Grants and Additional Assistance programs hundreds of laid-off workers from companies like Blount/Carlton, Joe's Outdoor and More, CleanPak, Hollywood Video, and Blue Heron, were given support for wraparound services, training and reemployment.

Services to Youth

- Since 2009, Over 2,700 youth ages 14-21 accessed education, employment and training services.
- Clackamas Career Road Trips have been hosted by the Workforce Investment Council since 2006. Students have the opportunity to tour local businesses and learn about careers in a variety of industries such as healthcare, trades, public service, arts and communication, manufacturing, and utilities. Over 30 businesses have

opened their doors to hundreds of youth and high school staff, giving them the opportunity to explore a range of occupations.

Administrative

- Workforce Investment Council has contributed over \$21 million to WorkSource services in the community over the past 5 years.
- Low overhead, lean & efficient—84% of expenditures go to direct service providers.
- Ability to raise funds from competitive grants, and good stewardship of existing funds has allowed Workforce Investment Council to hold service providers harmless from federal funding cuts for the current year.
- 5 years of annual independent A-133 federal audits express unqualified opinions.

Partnerships

- The Workforce Investment Council, invested in finding efficiencies and reducing duplication while maintaining the integrity and value of employment services for the individuals, identified a sense of urgency due to shrinking state and federal budgets, and reduced funding anticipated for many of the represented partner organizations. It was recognized that job seekers with criminal backgrounds, drug and alcohol addictions, mental health issues, experiencing poverty and long term unemployment were benefitting from the one- on- one intensive employment coaching and job readiness activities the various organizations offered.

What transpired was a commitment to pool human and financial resources; and integrate staff and job seeker services for their respective clients in, what is now known as, **WorkSource Clackamas Annex** since July of 2011. The Annex has been identified as a model and best practice around the State. Last year alone, the Annex served over 9,000 visits.

- **The Columbia-Willamette Workforce Collaborative** is a partnership of the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council, Workforce Investment Council and Worksystems, Inc. The successes of this Collaborative include receiving over \$8.5million in competitive grants, increasing staff interaction and awareness, and developing a sector approach with major industries of Health Care, Advanced Manufacturing, and IT/Software. The target objectives are to enhance business engagement/input, coordinate activities and resources, increase access and opportunities for business and job seekers, and aligning more intentionally workforce and economic development.
- The Workforce Investment Council is taking the lead on the **Certified Work-Ready Community Initiative** in Clackamas County. There are 123 signed letters of support from businesses and over 1000 National Career Readiness Certificates earned in Clackamas County.