



SERVING CHELAN, DOUGLAS, GRANT, ADAMS, OKANOGAN COUNTIES



La Pera Radio broadcast live from the Grant-Adams Hiring Event on June 7.

## IN THE LOOP | Issue 6, July 2024

Hello {{ contact.FIRSTNAME }},

Welcome to our sixth issue of In The Loop, a monthly newsletter just for SkillSource Board Members and County Commissioners.

Board chair, Zach, asked in the board meeting last week how members can help support SkillSource outreach efforts, and our communications manager responded "Start with just one thing." Please scroll below for updates, announcements, and reminders. And we hope that you can find *at least one thing* that you are able to help share with your networks.

I am grateful to each of you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa".

Lisa Romine, CEO

## Board Member Spotlight

Annette Herup joined the SkillSource Regional Workforce Board in 2019, representing Genie, one of the largest manufacturers in the North Central region. We are so grateful for her contributions over the last several years.

"I see workforce development as an integral part of my profession and essential to all businesses. Throughout my career in Grant County, I have worked with SkillSource on a variety of workforce development projects to build the organizations where I worked. The SkillSource team's assistance has been immeasurable in many aspects of workforce training and team member development. Being on the Board allows me to not only be heard as a business partner regarding the needs of businesses but also provides an avenue for me to support the organization that offers so much to the community. "

Fun fact: Annette's first adult job was as a bank teller!



"SkillSource fills important employment gaps through programs that enable people to succeed in obtaining family living wage employment with industries that are in need of employees. At a time where workforce development is essential to the success of businesses, SkillSource partners with them to find flexible solutions to filling critical positions."

**Annette Herup**

Genie

## Board Member Spotlight

**OPEN NOW: Small Business Investment Grants**

Local area businesses that are Latino, Native American, or Black-owned can now apply for small business grants *up to \$15,000*. These small business grants are possible through a community reinvestment initiative with the Department of Commerce with the intention to address disparities, strengthen small businesses, grow local talent, and improve local economies.

[View and Share Application](#)

# SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT GRANTS



- APPLICATION NOW OPEN
- BUSINESSES MUST BE LATINO, BLACK, OR NATIVE AMERICAN-OWNED & IN CHELAN, DOUGLAS, GRANT, ADAMS, OR OKANOGAN
- GRANTS RANGE FROM \$5,000 to \$15,000
- FUNDS TO BE USED TO HELP SCALE & SUSTAIN SMALL BUSINESSES
- APPLICATION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE
- AWARDS DETERMINED NO LATER THAN AUGUST 15, 2024

[SKILLSOURCE.ORG/SMALL-BUSINESS-INVESTMENT-GRANTS](https://SKILLSOURCE.ORG/SMALL-BUSINESS-INVESTMENT-GRANTS)

## Wenatchee Valley College Community Survey

Wenatchee Valley College is developing its next strategic plan and they want community voices to be a significant part of its development. Your input is wanted! The college's new Strategic Plan will be released this fall.

[Complete the community survey here.](#)



## In Case You Missed It

We had two presentations in our last board meeting. In case you missed it, those presentations are included here. The first was on [Work-Based Learning](#). The second was a SkillSource [Communications Report](#). If you have any questions or comments, or things you would like to see included in the future, please contact Programs Manager, [Aaron Parrott](#), or Communications Manager, [Kelli Martinelli](#).

[Download and Share the Work-Based Training Flyer](#)

# Work-Based Training

... is a Win-Win

Local talent is the best-kept secret for businesses. SkillSource helps employers find and train great candidates through programs that defray the cost to the business. When we invest in people, we all win.



A tech apprenticeship led Noah to a full-time Computer Tech job with Wenatchee School District.



#### Client Testimonial

Moses was hired through On-The-Job Training, and it has been awesome. The program paid for a portion of his wages through the training period and this made it possible for us to bring on another employee. He is now a key part of our team and I would absolutely use this program again.

- Steve Ott, Wenatchee Wind

#### Incumbent Worker Training

- Upgrade training for current workers
- Retain employees & avoid layoffs
- Promote from within for vital roles
- Paid training assistance up to \$4,000 per employee

#### On-The-Job Training

- Increase skilled workforce
- Increase profitability
- Reduce turnover & training costs
- Wage reimbursement from \$3000 - \$6000

#### Registered Apprenticeship

- On-the-job learning with related classroom instruction
- Fosters employee loyalty
- Improves employer bottom line

#### Work Experience

- Trainees gain work readiness & job skills
- Businesses gain job support prior to making a commitment to hire
- Wages paid by SkillSource, \$16.28/hr

#### Internship

- Occupational skills training for an existing position
- Employers agree to hire upon successful completion
- Training wages paid by SkillSource

more details >

#### VISIT OUR WEBSITE & GIVE US A CALL!

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[www.skillsource.org](http://www.skillsource.org)



## Newsworthy

Learning Center graduations in Othello, Omak, and Wenatchee took place in June. The Wenatchee World interviewed graduate and SkillSource apprentice, Ayden Oseguera, and featured him on the front page of the Saturday, June 8th print edition of the Wenatchee World. Other media partners were also present for the commencement ceremony. It has been a challenge in the past to get SkillSource graduations recognized alongside other graduations in local media, so this feature sets a promising precedent for future inclusion.

[Read And Share LinkedIn Post](#)



## Rapid Response Training

Rapid Response services helps local businesses prepare their teams for business closure or layoffs. Colleagues from around the state gathered in Leavenworth for a 2-day Rapid Response and Businesses Services Forum sponsored by the WA Workforce Association. Staff attended the training which provided presentations on Building and Maintaining a Positive Workplace (Nash Consulting), Taking the Lead in working through trauma and difficult workplace situations (Stu Freed), Labor Economics (WA State Chief Labor Economist), 12 local workforce peer presentations on best practices, and training on the roles and responsibilities as the local Rapid Response teams.



## Upcoming Events

**SAVE THE DATE** - SkillSource will host the Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours event on August 22 at the SkillSource

center in Wenatchee. We'll be sending out invitations to local board members and commissioners soon. We hope to see you there!



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### Contact Us

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[Learn how SkillSource is funded.](#)

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