



SERVING CHELAN, DOUGLAS, GRANT, ADAMS, OKANOGAN COUNTIES



Nearly 100 guests attended the Business After Hours event in Wenatchee on 8/22.

IN THE LOOP | Issue 8, August 2024

Hello {{ contact.FIRSTNAME }},

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

Fall is nearly upon us, and before we know it, winter and spring will soon follow. Please hold the dates March 13 - 14, 2025 for our board retreat. We would love to have each one of you there, and we'll share more details soon.

In gratitude,

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

Lisa Romine, CEO

Board Member Spotlight

The SkillSource Regional Workforce Board is comprised of local leaders across industries who lend balanced oversight in how we serve our customers. Randy Curry is the President and Business Manager of IBEW LU 191, representing nine counties in Washington. Randy has served on our board since 2020, and we are grateful for his contributions and guidance.

Fun fact: Randy's first job was when he was 15 years old. He worked for Top Foods as a courtesy clerk, bagging groceries and collecting shopping carts.

We all started work somewhere! Thank you, Randy, for your support in developing today's workforce!



"I am a union electrician. In 2020 I became president of IBEW LU 191 and the North Central Washington Labor Council. That's when I learned of the amazing resources offered through Skillsource, so I joined the board in order to help and lift up others, and support the development of our workforce."

Randy Curry
IBEW Local #191

Board Member Spotlight

Community Reinvestment

SkillSource has selected **13 small businesses** to receive investment grants thanks to funding through the Washington State Department of Commerce. We received 110 grant applications from Latino, Black, and Tribal-owned businesses in Okanogan, Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and

Adams counties. Their proposals were reviewed and scored for qualifications and potential impact by three internal rating teams, and a final determination was announced on August 15, 2024.

We will be sharing their success stories in the coming months as they utilize the grants to strengthen their businesses and improve economic viability in our communities. When small businesses prosper, we all win.

[Read Story](#)



Carlos Corrales owns The Crepe House in Wenatchee and is one of 13 small businesses to be awarded investment grants.

Leg Work

Washington State legislators will be invited to tour local businesses in Moses Lake on October 8 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. We'll meet at the WorkSource Center in Moses Lake and then proceed to tour Samaritan Hospital and Genie Industries for an in-depth look at the community impact of Economic Security for All (EcSA) and to hear from program participants who are now employed by these businesses. We would love for our local board members to join! **Please mark your calendars for 10/8/24.**

Invitations will be emailed soon.



An inside peek on the factory floor at Genie Industries in Moses Lake.

Performance & Outcomes

Here's a little teaser of some of the good news we'll have to share in a presentation at our upcoming board meeting on September 24.

For Adults, as of Q4 we have achieved the highest employment rate (81%), the highest performance rate (114%), and the highest target (71%). Median earnings for Adults for Q2 were \$9692, which exceeded the target of \$6442 by 151%.



For Dislocated Workers, as of Q4 we have achieved the highest employment rate (84%) and highest target (81%), exceeding our target by 104%. Median earnings for Dislocated Workers for Q2 were \$12024, which exceeded the target of \$8458 by 142%.



Upcoming Events & Reminders

COMMITTEE MEETINGS -

- Okanogan: Monday, September 9, 12 pm to 1:30 pm at the Wenatchee Valley College - North Campus, Hazel Burnett Hall - Room 401
- Grant-Adams: Tuesday, September 10, 12 pm to 1:30 pm at The AeroTech Flight Center in Moses Lake
- Chelan-Douglas: Wednesday, September 11, 12 pm to 1:30 pm at the North Central Educational Service District building in Wenatchee

BOARD MEETING - The next board meeting will be held virtually over Zoom on Tuesday, September 24 at 5:30 pm. You can review the **Draft Minutes from the last board meeting here.**

WWA CONFERENCE - The Washington Workforce Association will host its annual conference in Tacoma on **November 12 -14**. Several SkillSource staff members will be attending and presenting. If any board members are interested in attending, **please reach out to Lisa.**



Staff Core Values

Our all staff summer training concluded in Moses Lake on August 28 and 29. The four-part training proved to be time well spent as employees shared best

practices, received answers to burning questions, and collaborated on ways we can continually improve to meet the needs of our customers. We began the training in June with a discussion on Core Values, getting to the heart of why we show up every day for this work, or in other words: our North Star.

The exploration led the team to identifying these Staff Core Values:

Integrity, Collaboration, Compassion, Performance & Impact, Learning & Growth

These core values are the foundation of our team culture, guiding our actions and decisions as we strive to build a more equitable and prosperous future through workforce development.

INTEGRITY - We are committed to the highest standards of ethics and accountability in all that we do. We are honest, transparent, and strive to build trust with our participants, partners, and community.

COLLABORATION - We believe strongly in the power of working together. We actively seek out diverse perspectives and opportunities to partner with other organizations, employers, and community members to achieve our mission.

COMPASSION - We approach our work with empathy, kindness, and a deep care for the individuals and communities we serve.

PERFORMANCE & IMPACT - We are driven by measurable results and a steadfast commitment to creating positive, lasting change.

LEARNING & GROWTH - We foster a culture of curiosity, innovation, and ongoing improvement. We are eager to learn from our successes and challenges, and we empower our team to develop new skills and explore creative solutions.





Staff participated in four summer training sessions in Moses Lake and Wenatchee to learn, collaborate, and connect.

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