



Summer Jobs Program - 2009

Report to the Community

OVERVIEW

The Northwest Workforce Council (NWC) managed the Summer Jobs Program which provided 351 young adults the opportunity for a paid summer job, through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Employers were quick to respond, with very little lead time, and offered meaningful internships (jobs) at 175 different worksites. These 128 Northwest employers provided work and training to area young adults, ages 16 - 24.

The Summer Jobs Program provided paying jobs for youth, opportunities for them to develop good work ethics, learn and practice Workforce Skills, and learn specific job skills. Ninety-eight percent of the participants improved their basic work readiness skills.

Young adults worked as Interns in a variety of jobs during the summer, helping public, private and non-profit businesses through this rough economic period and put \$1.2 million into the local economy.

Interns averaged 200 hours of paid work experience at 52 public sector and 123 private sector worksites. The internship jobs were very diverse and included: clerical, information technology, health care aide, custodial/groundskeeper, recreational leader, agricultural farm worker, data scrubber, park aide, waste reduction specialist, MIS technician, camp counselor, climbing wall instructor, and a wide variety of assistant positions, including: human resources, museum, swim lesson instructor, recreation therapy, AutoCad, kitchen, childcare, library, animal care and office management.



The Building Performance Center's Weatherization Technology workshop was one of the "green" activities

Success by the Numbers

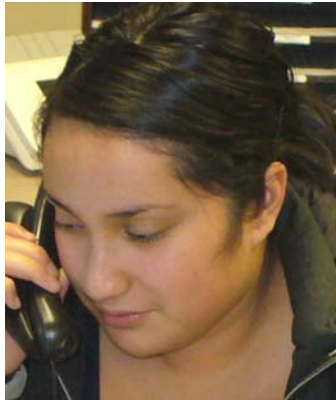
Average Job Duration	8 weeks
Average Hours Worked Each Week	25
Average Earnings	\$1,700
Percentage Work Readiness Gain	98%
Supervisors rating their experience as excellent to good	95%
Interns rating program as useful in developing their skills	98%



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SUCCESS OF INTERNSHIPS

Carla is a 16 year old single mother. Although still in high school, she is looking forward to her future as well as that of her son's. Carla's dream is to go to college. However, she recognized a more immediate need to build her experience and gain the skills training necessary to support herself and her son.



Carla had never had a job and sought help from WorkSource, where her interests were assessed. Carla had some office skills but not enough to secure an office internship. WorkSource provided her an e-learning voucher to learn Microsoft Office software. She completed that training, was coached on her interviewing skills, and obtained an internship at Visiting Angels as a receptionist.

Carla worked hard to improve her skills and value to her employer. When her internship came to a close her supervisor said: *"We love Carla and would love to keep her!"* And that is exactly what has happened; Carla is now a part-time employee. Carla continues to attend high school full-time and is a member of AVID, a college preparatory class. She is well on her way to becoming a college student with new skills and experience to assist her in achieving success.

"Carla does her job quickly and efficiently, and is quiet, professional and polite. We appreciate that she is part of our team."

- Carla's Supervisor

Congressman Rick Larsen Visits Interns

Congressman Rick Larsen took the opportunity to meet with a number of young adults in the Summer Jobs Program and learn firsthand how ARRA funding was at work in local communities. Intern worksites included the Lynden Pioneer Museum, the City of Lynden, Lynden Senior Center, the Lynden School District, and the WWU Vehicle Research Institute.

WorkSource interns enjoyed sharing their employment experiences and thanking him for his support of ARRA. They also had the opportunity to speak about their personal stories of how their jobs have made a valuable contribution to their families, and their communities.



Congressman Rick Larsen with Interns at Lynden Pioneer Museum

WorkSource is an equal-opportunity partnership of organizations that provide employment and training services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request.



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The Workforce Council would like to thank and acknowledge the skilled and dedicated businesses, professionals and volunteers who made the Summer Jobs Program happen. The Council salutes our host employers who have shown their commitment and concern to young adults by providing meaningful work, on-the-job training and coaching as well as for mentoring these young adults to be productive workers.

Allstate Insurance - Stanwood
 American Museum of Radio and Electricity
 Anacortes Chamber of Commerce
 Anacortes Family Medicine
 Anacortes School District
 Animals as Natural Therapy
 Appliance Depot
 Archdiocesan Housing Authority - Bellingham
 Archdiocesan Housing Authority - Mount Vernon
 Ashley Gardens of Mt. Vernon
 Aurora Rents
 Bellingham Bay Community Boating Center
 Bellingham Farmers Market
 Bellingham Food Bank
 Bellingham Railway Museum
 Bellingham School District
 Bellingham Technical College
 Bellingham/Whatcom Chamber of Commerce & Industry
 Bellingham/Whatcom County Housing Authorities
 Birchview - Memory Care Community
 Black Drop Coffeehouse
 Burlington-Edison School District
 Burton Care
 Car Quest
 Cascade Vocational Services
 Catholic Community Services
 City of Anacortes
 City of Bellingham
 City of Everson
 City of Ferndale
 City of Lynden
 City of Mount Vernon
 City of Nooksack
 City of Oak Harbor
 City of Sedro Woolley
 Clouds Canine
 Conway School District
 Country Meadows Village
 Coupeville School District
 Creekside Retirement Community
 Deception Pass Tours
 Eagle Ridge Assisted Living
 Economic Development Association of Skagit County
 Evergreen AIDS Foundation
 Explorations Academy

Ferndale Community Service Cooperative
 Ferndale School District
 First Stop Thrift Shop
 Friday Harbor Chamber of Commerce
 Girl Scouts of Western Washington
 Granite Fabricators
 Greenbank Farm
 Greg Aanes Furniture
 Heath Tecna
 Homeplace Special Care - Burlington
 International House of Pancakes - Bellingham
 Josephine's Sunset Home
 Just as I Am Early Learning Center
 Life Care Center of Skagit Valley
 Lopez Valley Nursery
 Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center
 Lydia Place
 Lynden Community/Senior Center
 Lynden Pioneer Museum
 Lynden School District
 Marblemount Fish Hatchery
 Marianne's House
 Max Higbee Center
 Meridian Haggen
 Meridian School District
 Merrill Gardens
 Mira Vista Care Center
 Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce
 Mount Vernon Downtown Association
 Mount Vernon School District
 Nooksack Valley School District
 Northwest Therapeutic Riding Center
 Old Sun Farm
 Physician's Care Center
 Port of Anacortes
 Port of Skagit
 Port of South Whidbey
 Preview Properties - Stanwood
 ReElectronics
 Re Sources for Sustainable Communities
 Rite Aid - Sedro Woolley
 Rite Aid - Stanwood
 Saint Francis Extended Health Care
 Saint Joseph Hospital - Peace Health
 San Juan Island Library

San Juan Island Visitors Bureau
 Second Chance Thrift Shop
 Sedro Woolley School District
 Skagit County
 Skagit County Historical Museum
 Skagit County Humane Society
 Skagit Habitat for Humanity
 Skagit Valley Family YMCA
 South Whidbey Youth Connection
 Spring Creek Retirement & Assisted Living Community
 Stanwood School District
 Stanwood/Camano Fair
 Stilly River Mechanical
 The Bridge
 The Hub
 The Whale Museum
 United General Hospital
 Upper Skagit Tribe
 Visiting Angels
 Washington State Parks and Recreation
 Western Washington University
 Westside Pizza
 Whatcom Counseling and Psychiatric Clinic
 Whatcom County
 Whatcom County Council on Aging
 Whatcom County Disposal of Toxics Facility
 Whatcom Day Academy
 Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center
 Whatcom Family YMCA
 Whatcom Hills Waldorf School
 Whatcom Land Trust
 Whatcom Museum Foundation
 Whatcom Peace and Justice Center
 Whatcom Volunteer Center
 Where the Heart Is-Assisted Living & Alzheimer's Care
 Whidbey Animals' Improvement Foundation (WAIF)
 Whidbey General Hospital
 Whidbey News Times

16% of the Internships were Green Jobs





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ABOUT THE NORTHWEST WORKFORCE COUNCIL

The Northwest Workforce Council (NWC) is a 27 member board responsible for oversight of the workforce development system in Island, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom counties. It is led by a business majority, including representation from labor, education, economic development and government. The Council, in partnership with local elected officials, operates using a strategic plan whose regional strategies support the state's strategic workforce plan while addressing local issues and economic development priorities.

NWC has identified health and allied services, marine industries and advanced manufacturing (including energy-related and wood products) as key industries in the region's economy. NWC funds approximately \$2.6 million in workforce programs annually which are delivered through community partners. This year, as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, an additional \$1.2 million supported the Summer Jobs Program and an additional \$1.5 million supports training for low income adults and dislocated workers.

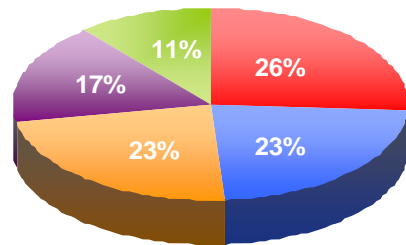
PROGRAM EXCELLENCE PRAISED

"...the monitors noted the quality of work that was able to be produced in organizing the vast variety of ARRA worksites (internships). For the youth, the value of the job experiences was evident by the enthusiasm conveyed by those youth interviewed.

It was clear that these work experiences were having a positive impact on their lives and increasing their work readiness skills for their future employment."

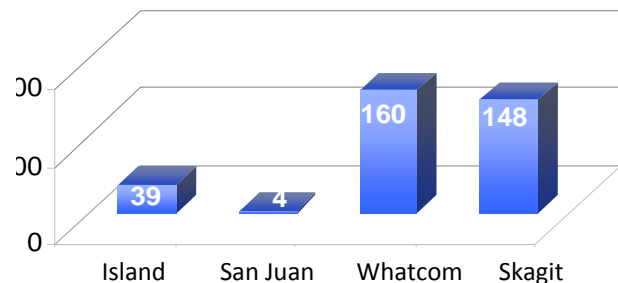
from the Monitoring Oversight Report, 9/25/2009.

Placements by Sectors



- Government
- Healthcare and Social Assistance
- Other Services
- Educational Services
- Arts, Entertainment and Recreation

Number of Young Adults Having a Paid Summer Job



351 Young Adults Served Were Low Income, and

