

## Okanogan Quarterly Performance Report July 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025

## **Generational Craftsmanship Creates Community Care**

Step-A-Loop Creek Caskets in Okanogan County creates more than just beautiful, custom pine caskets — they've built a legacy of craftsmanship and care for the tribal community. Thanks to a small business investment grant through the Washington State Department of Commerce, owner Dale Palmanteer has increased inventory and improved efficiency to support the family-run business in Omak, WA. To date, SkillSource has committed \$200,000 to small businesses throughout the five-county area.

The grant enabled Dale to purchase a trailer full of essential lumber from nearby mills in Washington and Idaho, a new Makita saw, finishing materials, and piles of Pendleton wool blankets from Oregon. Dale proudly



serves the local tribal community and beyond, a tradition started by his brother when he began the business in 2006, and one Dale hopes will continue with his son and grandchildren.

"This has been a huge help," Dale shared, gesturing to a stack of lumber against the wall of the workshop. Being able to reliably provide families with a beautifully crafted pine casket is



a balm during difficult times of loss, and a statement of honor for the family member who has passed. This investment does more than support a small business. It's fostering generational continuity and strengthening the heart and vitality of the Okanogan County community.

Congratulations Dale and Step-A-Loop Caskets!

Registration & Exit	YTD Actual	Annual Goal						
Total Served	223	345						
Adults								
Registered	53	59						
Placement Rate (% employed at exit)	88%	80%						
Credential Rate (% trained in voc ed who earn a credential)	83%	82%						
Dislocated Workers								
Registered (includes 5 incumbent worker trainees)	24	24						
Placement Rate (% employed at exit)	67%	81%						
Credential Rate (% trained in voc ed who earn a credential)	75%	81%						
Youth								
Registered	21	36						
Placement Rate (% of youth employed or in post sec ed)	50%	65%						
Credential Rate (% youth who achieved a HSD or GED)	100%	51%						

Discretionary Grant Enrollments/Goal: Federal EcSA: 7/6; State EcSA 43/22

Participants in Occupational Education	24-25 Students (YTD)				23-24 Students (Year Total)			
	Big Bend	WVC	WVC Omak	Other	Big Bend	WVC	WVC Omak	Other
Health Care	22	24	17	14	17	17	13	15
Office / Misc	9	6	0	7	6	5	0	9
Industrial & Technical	14	8	1	61	12	6	0	63

Workforce Investment Fiscal	Budget	Expenditures	Expenditure Rate	Obligation Rate
Career Services	799,060	533,358	67%	89%
Work Based Training				
On-The-Job/Incumbent Worker Training	69,660	17,035	24%	69%
Work Experiences/Project Learning	94,028	40,615	43%	71%
Occupational Education	104,500	81,040	42%	79%
Healthcare		36,686		
Office/Other		3.000		
Industrial/Technical		41,354		
Basic Education				
Secondary Education	120,649	50,960	42%	79%
Computer Basics	49,485	38,934	79%	99%
Support and Incentives	330,475	205,541	62%	93%
Total	1,567,857	967,483	62%	89%