

# IN THE LOOP | Issue 16, May 2025

Hello {{ contact.FIRSTNAME }},

As spring unfolds, we're seeing partnerships strengthen and policy conversations gain traction. Workforce development takes coordination and persistence, and your support continues to make a difference. We're tracking key legislative efforts and will share updates as they develop. In the meantime, you'll find a few simple ways to stay engaged below.

Thank you,

Lisa Romine, CEO

**Board Member Spotlight** 



Irasema Ortiz-Elizalde has served on the SkillSource Regional Workforce
Board for 11 years. "I enjoy being part of a team that oversees programs
and ensures they are meeting everyone's needs in the rural communities
that we serve. As a liaison and advocate for DSHS, I have had the
opportunity to work with WIOA, EcSA, BFET and TANF and know how they
fit into workforce development."

Fun fact: Irasema's first job was at Rexall Drug Store when she was 16 years old. From stocking, working in the jewelry department, to making milkshakes, Irasema did it all, and she's been saying "yes" to serving others ever since. We're grateful for Irasema's years of leadership, advocacy, and insight on the board. Thank you for your dedication to SkillSource and the rural communities we serve.

#### **Meeting Reminders**

Please mark your calendar to attend the next committee meeting in your area. Lunch will be provided.

Okanogan Committee – June 9, 12 pm Grant/Adams Committee - June 10, 12 pm

### **Opportunities to Engage**

Thank you to each of you who were able to respond to the calls to action in April to help advocate for continued funding of workforce programs. Every letter, email and conversation makes a difference!

**OPPORTUNITY:** Consider attending a Workforce Collaboration Summit to learn more about partnerships and offerings throughout our local workforce systems.

- May 9: Chelan-Douglas at Wenatchee Valley College -<u>Register Here</u>
- May 13: Okanogan at Okanogan Fairgrounds Register Here
- August 1: Grant-Adams at Big Bend Community College Register Here

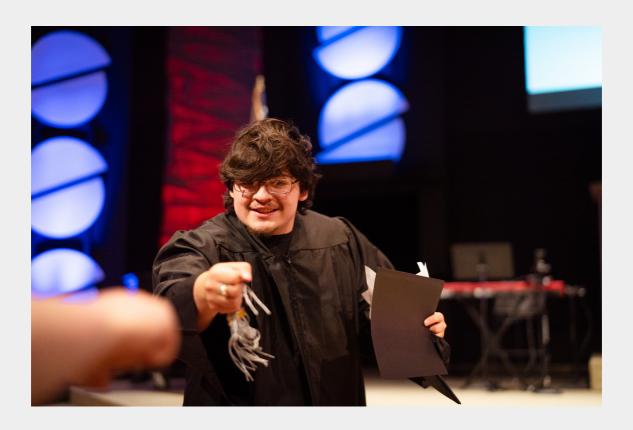
**OPPORTUNITY:** Share an upcoming SkillSource event or opportunity in your sub-area. Click links for details:

- May 12 September 22: Moses Lake Entrepreneurial
   Workshop Series This free Entrepreneurial Workshop
   Series is designed to take new business leaders through all
   the aspects of starting, running, and growing a successful
   business in and around Moses Lake. Hosted by the Moses
   Lake Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with SkillSource,
   the Small Business Development Center of Washington, and
   in thanks to funding through the WA State Department of
   Commerce Community Reinvestment Project.
- May 13 28: Leading in a Lean Environment Workshop
   Series These 4-hour modules focus on team-building skills
   that are imperative to leading people in a manufacturing
   environment. This workshop series will be held in Okanogan
   County. Contact Mayra for details.

#### **Celebrating Success**

Save the date to attend one of our Learning Center graduation ceremonies to celebrate SkillSource graduates! *You do not need to RSVP to attend a graduation.* 

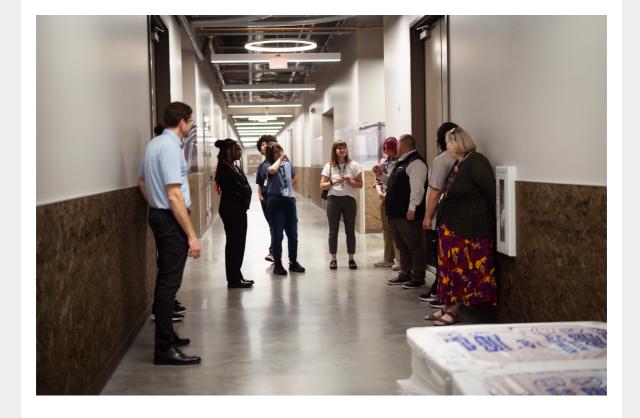
GRANT-ADAMS - June 6, 7:00 pm, Othello High School OKANOGAN - June 9, 6:00 pm, Dawson Gym Okanogan High School CHELAN-DOUGLAS - June 12, 7:00 pm, Wenatchee First Assembly of God



#### **Employers Wanted**

Host a youth work experience or worksite tour! Our Chelan-Douglas team is looking for more employers to host opportunities for the summer Pre-ETS program. Contact <u>Laura Cale</u>, (509) 293-4837.

Below: A tour from last summer at Sabey Data Center in East Wenatchee which provided students and staff an inside peek to data center career opportunities.



## **Internships & Apprenticeships**

In April we shared several stories about local internships, as well as a feature on a new registered barber apprenticeship offered through The Man Shops.

#### How you can help:

- Read, comment on, and share the Internship Awareness story to Linkedin.
- Read, comment on, and share <u>The Man Shop's Apprenticeship</u> story to Linkedin.
- Reach out if your business or organization is interested in hosting an internship!



## **Board Member Sightings**

It is always wonderful to run into our Board Members out in the community! Thank you to Brant Mayo, Sara Thompson-Tweedy, and Faimous Harrison for their engagement in the recent Data Center Career Summit at Big Bend Community College and Wenatchee Valley College.





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#### **Contact Us**

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