

CES NEWSLETTER

Spring 2024

WELCOME BELA!

We are thrilled to announce that Bela has joined the CES team as an Employment Specialist!

Bela embodies our mission of helping people with disabilities overcome barriers to achieve their employment goals. She has a passion for helping others succeed.



Elizabeth Yeager (left) and Vic Dalfio (right) attending the Kitsap Project Connect resource fair.

CES IN THE COMMUNITY!

Kitsap Project Connect is a series of annual services and information resource fairs that bring together local organizations all under one roof. These events are hosted in coordination with the Kitsap Point-in-Time count to ensure everyone experiencing homelessness is counted accurately for reporting to the state to receive additional funding throughout the year. Skookum attended to discuss our free employment programs.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



WOMEN AT WORK



OPERATING A HAND DRILL AT VULTEE-NASHVILLE, WOMAN IS WORKING ON A "VENGEANCE" DIVE BOMBER, TENNESSEE

March is International Women's History Month. It is a time to honor and recognize the contributions, achievements, and struggles of women throughout history. It is a month dedicated to highlighting the remarkable accomplishments of women in various fields, including politics, science, literature, arts, and social justice. This month serves as a reminder of the ongoing journey towards gender equality and the importance of empowering women to reach their full potential. It is a time for reflection, education, and celebration of the pivotal role that women have played and continue to play in shaping our world.

**First WAVES
Machine Gun
Instructors during
WW II**



Mary J. Jackson
The first African
American female
engineer at NASA



Jacqueline Cochran
The first woman to
break the sound
barrier.



In honor of Women's History Month, we're shining a spotlight on local women-owned businesses in Kitsap County.

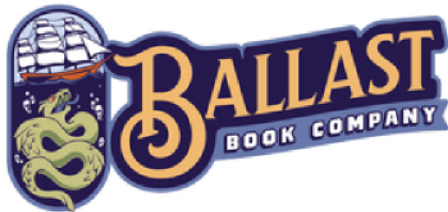
 ADMIRE MEDICAL AESTHETICS

 ADSORBIT

 COUNTRY FINANCIAL

 AMBROSIA CATERING COMPANY & BISTRO

 BAS BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY SOLUTIONS

 BALLAST BOOK COMPANY

 Blu BERRY FROZEN YOGURT

 Bella Luna Boutique

 Our GEMS

 CAFE ALARA

 Suitcases ON STANDBY TRAVEL

 VIBE COWORKS

 West Sound Dance Academy

 CAMP BOW WOW

 CLEVERLEAF

 ILLUMINATE.ME INNOVATIVE HEALING

 NOTHING bundt CAKES

 ESTD 2010 PRECISION NOTARY MOBILE NOTARY & APOSTILLE

 Simply Hear

 DOWN TO EARTH Oracle

IMPACT LOGISTICS GROUP INC.

 Leah Thompson PHOTOGRAPHY

 Mentor Company

 Live Well KITSAP!



LISA STIRRETT CREATIVE WARRIOR STUDIO INSPIRING LIFE THROUGH ART

 MONICA'S WATERFRONT BAKERY & CAFÉ

 RIDE OR DYE

 tiffanydiamond photography

 Tree Top village

Client Success Stories

David



David was referred to CES by the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) for help finding a job. David had been volunteering with his dad at Eagles Wings doing kitchen prep and cleaning on the weekends, but felt he was ready to try a paid position. His CES Employment Specialist, Vic Dalfio, worked with David to create a resume, apply for positions and practice interviewing skills while they

applied to different jobs. In February, Vic took David to The Boatshed restaurant in Bremerton to apply for a dishwasher position. David was interviewed on the spot and offered the position, with the very next day as his first day of work! Despite feeling a little overwhelmed with how quickly he was going to start work, David showed up the next day and absolutely rocked it! With an accommodation of assistance from a coworker to complete tasks above his reach so David doesn't have to use a ladder, he is doing such a great job that his Manager has offered increased hours in the summer with the chance to learn food prep duties as well. Great job David!

Larry

Larry had struggled with long periods of homelessness, justice involvement and substance-use. He was determined to build a better future for himself and persevered through in-patient treatment at Kitsap Recovery Center (KRC) three times before coming to Skookum for help finding a job.



Through the support of his Employment Specialist, Elizabeth Yeager, Larry was able to find a position at Fujiyama in July of 2023 as a busser. He has remained steadily employed since and has been diligently budgeting and setting aside money to buy a car. A barrier that Larry faced was a lack of transportation, having to rely on public transportation and his scooter to get around. Larry has not had a license since 2009 due to his justice-involved history, but was recently able to get his driver's license and purchase a 2007 Lexus. This will give him more opportunities for future work and schooling, and he is now able to visit his family more often and on his own terms. He plans to attend Olympic College in the future to study Business now that he has reliable transportation of his own. We are so proud of you Larry!

Donnetta faced periods of homelessness, justice involvement and substance-use. She struggles with PTSD and is determined to build the foundations necessary to balance her responsibilities. In the past, she consistently felt overwhelmed by the thought of needing to juggle multiple responsibilities.

Donetta



“In order to be successful you have to express vulnerability.”

Skookum’s AmeriCorps Mentor, Mitchell Isham, has been working with her on writing out her tasks and helping Donetta with problem solving. Donnetta stated that Mitchell has helped her realize it is okay to ask for help. She appreciates the support Mitchell provides in helping her stay organized, look towards the future, and framing things she considered to be “failures” as “struggles that can be worked on.” Donnetta recently went to Kitsap Community Resources to inquire about their assistance programs and mentioned she was looking for work. She happened to have one of the resumes that Mitchell helped her create and was offered an interview on the spot for a maintenance tech position, which she was selected for! If she had not been willing to ask for help at KCR, she would not have found this job opportunity. Her dream job is to become a paramedic firefighter or wildlife firefighter and she is working towards applying to the local academy in the future.

Nick

Nick's Job Coach Vic arranged for a job interview at the Kitsap County Hiring Fair for a summer helper position. The job is a five-month position recurring every year for four years. After completing his first year, Nick would be able to choose any open position in the county as a permanent employee. The duties entail landscaping, waste management and flagging.

Unfortunately, just a few days before the interview, Nick had to put down his beloved dog. Nick pushed himself to attend the interview with the support of his Job Coach. This was Nick's first job interview ever and it was a 3-person panel interview. He used the skills he learned during interview practice with Vic and did a great job!



When asked about weed eating duties, Nick said that "I'm not sure if it's healthy to consume weeds, but yes to all the other parts of the job". Nick got a big laugh and made a great impression on the interviewers!





SKOOKUM

NEED HELP FINDING YOUR DREAM JOB? 

Must have Apple Health insurance:



- Amerigroup Washington
- Community Health Plan of Washington
- Coordinated Care of Washington
- Molina Healthcare of Washington
- UnitedHealthcare Community Plan

and a mental health diagnosis, substance use disorder diagnosis, or struggle with chronic homelessness.

If you have a physical or mental disability that is a substantial barrier to employment; and you require vocational rehabilitation services to get or keep a job.



Everyone age 18 through 64 who receives Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and/or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits because of his or her disability and wants to transition off benefits by working full-time.

Contact us today to see if you qualify for services!

CES@skookum.org

360-475-0756 ext 131