

## Western WA Apprenticeship Coordinators Meeting Minutes

### Hybrid Meeting Format (in-person and Zoom)

Thursday, April 11, 2024

Chair Racheal Geyer called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.

Racheal Geyer welcomed all the coordinators, service providers, and guests in attendance.

The meeting began with participants entering their name and organization in the virtual meeting chat box. There were 24 individuals in attendance virtually and 14 in-person.

#### Guest Speaker

- A representative from the Cassandra Banks Foundation reported on their mentorship and networking program for black women in apprenticeship. The program works to connect black women in apprenticeship with people who look like them and fundamentally understand their experiences. This sisterhood allows women to share mental and emotional support, exchange advice and guidance, and network into opportunities to help advance their careers. Please encourage apprentices in your program to consider applying.

#### Reports

Several **apprenticeship programs** provided an update on their current work outlook and the status of their program.

- Racheal Geyer, Apprenticeship Director, Pierce County Roofers JATC reported 94 apprentices currently in program with 8.5% female participation. The program has recently hired a bilingual office assistant that has really helped. In January they took 3 apprentices to the Western State Roofer competition and won first, second, and third place.
- Mike Raymond, Cement Masons and Plasterers, reported he has not seen it this slow in over 6 years. These are difficult times for our apprentices.
- Jeff Reinhardt, Western Washington Sheet Metal Apprenticeship, reported things are slow right now but we are expecting a good summer. Preparing to host a regional competition at the Dupont location.
- Ryan Bradt, Puget Sound Electrical. JATC reported 1,000 apprentices in the program, down from 1,500 just a year and half ago. Female and Veteran participation are both up near 10%.
- Jamie Beethe, NWLETT, Laborers, reported 1200 apprentices across the State. Work was good in King County, slowed a little, but expect it to pick up again soon.
- Erick Sanchez, Iron workers reported 400 apprentices in the program and expecting five more to go out next week.
- Rob Bartel, Training Director, Northwest Washington Electrical JATC, IBEW 191 reported over finishing their first Pre-Apprenticeship class with ten completing the program and being offered direct entry into the program.

- Sierra Oliver, Northwest Maritime Apprenticeship reported they are a new apprenticeship looking to expand, with nine currently in the program.
- DeAnn Fields, NW Laborers reported for the southern portion of the region that things are currently slow with about 50 apprentices in the program.

Several **pre-apprenticeship programs** provided the group with program updates and announcements on upcoming activities:

- Steve Petermann, Construction Trades Manager, WA Dept. of Correctional Industries reported several programs are active around the State with about 300 men enrolled. The Women's T.R.A.C program currently has a cohort of 15.
- Reiley Clark, ANEW, reported on updated WGA grant program requirements. Apprenticeship programs will no longer need to create their own policies or provide financial information. The WGA grant program provides financial assistance to apprentices in registered programs through the WA Student Achievement Council, up to \$4,573 for each apprentice per year.
- Megan Pearson, ANEW, Development Director, reported they have a graduation tomorrow and mock interviews starting next week. The 2024 Inclusion Summit will be on May 9<sup>th</sup> in Seattle.
- Mike Raymond, Cement Masons and Plasterers, reported they are looking to start another cohort in their Pre-Apprenticeship soon.
- Marianna Hyke, (Talbot) Pre-Apprenticeship, Outreach & Retention Coordinator w/ Northwest Carpenters Institute (NWCI), reported they had two cohorts graduate recently including their first General Carpenters program with Green Awareness. The Military Veteran program is graduating on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Since inception the Carpenters Pre-Apprenticeship programs have graduated 330 individuals including 60 women, 220 people of color, and 30 Veterans.
- Eric Sanchez, Ironworkers Pre-Apprenticeship reported 15 in the WSDOT Cohort, who will all receive direct entry after completion.

### **Updates and announcements**

#### Community and Training Partners

- None

#### Regional Public Owners

- None

#### RPAC

- Marianna Hyke, Pre-Apprenticeship, Outreach & Retention Coordinator w/ Northwest Carpenters Institute (NWCI) reported that RPAC met March 29<sup>th</sup> at the Tabor 100 in Tukwila. RPAC is now able to accept payments online. RPAC meets once a month to discuss what is happening in apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship. It is a good space and network opportunity. Come and play a part.

### Construction Center of Excellence

- Christina Rupp, Director of the Construction Center of Excellence, reported an open house for The Lynden & Sumas Port of Entry, modernization projects at the Lynden Library, Tuesday, April 16 6-8pm.
  - Youth Apprenticeship week is May 5 – 11<sup>th</sup>
  - An Engineering 101 class for CTE and pre-apprenticeship instructors will be held May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - A series of twenty workshops for the DOL Mega Projects will be held the third Monday of every month.

### WA State Labor Council

- Rachel McAloon, Washington State Labor Council, Workforce Development Director reported that ESD was awarded a grant for UI navigation. Michael Pichler was hired to focus on UI issues, claims, visits, and training and is available to apprentices.

### WA State Labor and Industries, Apprenticeship Section

- Brittany Craighead, Labor and Industries, Apprenticeship Compliance Specialist, reported the council meeting is next week, April 17&18 in Bellingham at the Four Points Hotel. The Washington State Apprenticeship Coordinators Association Meeting will be held at the NW Maritime Apprenticeship Training Center.
  - Currently 17,480 active apprentices, 3,100 new registrations in 2024, and 632 completions so far.
  - \$3.3 million available for apprentice and pre-apprentice wrap-around services grant funds, awards are first come first basis – [apprenticegrants@wa.gov](mailto:apprenticegrants@wa.gov) is a good email for further information.
  - Industry sector Platforms applications are available. Email L&I in-box at [apprenticeship@lni.gov](mailto:apprenticeship@lni.gov) if you are interested because only nine applications have been received so far.
  - WA State will be host to the 2024 National Association of State and Territorial Apprenticeship Directors Conference this August in Seattle. Interested in being a sponsor? Contact Brittany.

### **Good of the Order**

- Marilyn Kennedy, Washington Women in the Trades reported on the Trade Opportunity Pennant Project (TOPP) as a way to create a closer connection between High Schools and the Trades. More information can be found at [wawomenintrades.com](http://wawomenintrades.com)
- Peter Lahmann of Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs reported, if you need outreach to vets and military spouses, please contact me, I can help!

Next Meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 19, 2024, at the Western Washington Sheet Metal JATC in Dupont.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 am.

Respectfully Submitted by: Ryan Bradt, Recording Secretary