

Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Work Group Members: Paul Benz, Breanne Elsey, Antonio Ginatta, Julia Gorton, Karen Lewis, Sandra Rodarte, Kristin Kershaw Snapp, Rich Stolz

Commerce Staff: Rick Anderson, Tammy Deets, Chris Green, Tracy Schreiber, Cheryl Smith

Governor's Office: Alejandro Sanchez, Special Assistant to the Governor

Guests – Dan Maycock, Glenn Davis

Objectives

1. Learn about programs managed by Commerce that support immigrant populations and people who work in the farm industry.
2. Learn about workforce development and independent contractor opportunities and challenges.
3. Develop workplan for the legislative report.

Commerce Programs Update

Network supporting small business owners presented by *Cheryl Smith* (State seeks to address economic inequality by increasing culturally and linguistically relevant help for small-businesses owners, page 7)

Small business recovery efforts by DOC presented by Chris Green

- 2 rounds of Small Business Grants at \$10 million each
- A third round at \$5 million using the community partners to provide technical assistance to small business owners.
- Small Business Resiliency Assistance (p.7)
- Broadband (p.3)
- A program that covers workers' leave including public health concerns.

Broadband, Childcare, Commerce Dashboard (p.3-6)

Nontraditional Workers and Creative Sector Study presented by Tracy Schreiber

- Typically low wages
- Typically have less means to access information
- There's a disconnect between the needs and what's available
- Building trust is essential to connect the dots

Workforce Development Opportunities in Rural WA

Dan Maycock presented his idea of creating accelerated "boot camp" style programs that can quickly scale up the knowledge and abilities of people from any background, and provide an on-ramp to technical careers regardless of an individual's academic background. At places like Galvanize, people from very

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different backgrounds learn data and software skills which put them in a job paying upwards of \$50+ an hour.

Dan hopes to bring the same types of programs to areas such as Yakima valley, and help train a new generation of technical workers to fulfill the local and remote needs for technical talent that we are currently sending overseas.

Dan's contact information is:

Dan Maycock

425-223-2358

dmaycock@gmail.com

Review the RCW & the 3 focused areas

The group reviewed the RCW 43.330 and the three focus areas:

- Re-skilling or Pathways & Pipelines (Workforce development is too general)
- Small Business Recovery & Support
- Independent Contractors (Non-traditional Workers)

Each area touches on at least one or more of the four tasks identified in the RCW. (p. 8)

The group reviewed the timeline for the legislative report (p. 8)

Next Steps

- Tammy will send meeting notes out by Monday, 10/12/20
 - Individual groups will refine outline and send it to Tammy and Rich by 10/16/20.
 - Re-skilling/Pathways & Pipelines (Workforce development) - Karen Lewis & Sandra Rodarte will work with the rest of the group.
 - Small Business Recovery & Support – Julia Gorton, Kristin Kershaw Snapp, Bre Else, and Tammy will work with the rest of the group.
 - Independent Contractors (Non-traditional Workers) – Rich will work with the rest of the group and some assistance from Tracy's report.
 - Rich, Kristin, Rick, and Tammy will coordinate the writing of the first draft
 - First draft to be presented to the group at the October 29 meeting.
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BROADBAND

State effort to expand rural broadband gets boost from Better Health Together

BHT grant supports Washington Broadband Office efforts to secure competitive federal funding for broadband projects in eastern Washington

OLYMPIA, WA – The Washington State Broadband Office is celebrating a partnership with Spokane-based nonprofit Better Health Together (BHT) that will provide up to \$207,000 to fund development of 18 broadband grant applications for projects in eastern Washington: two projects in each of Spokane, Adams, Lincoln, Stevens, Ferry, and Pend Oreille counties, and two projects each for the Spokane Tribe of Indians Reservation, Kalispel Tribe of Indians Reservation and Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.

<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/news-releases/community-programs-facilities/state-effort-to-expand-rural-broadband-gets-boost-from-better-health-together/>

To see the broadband access and speed survey results:

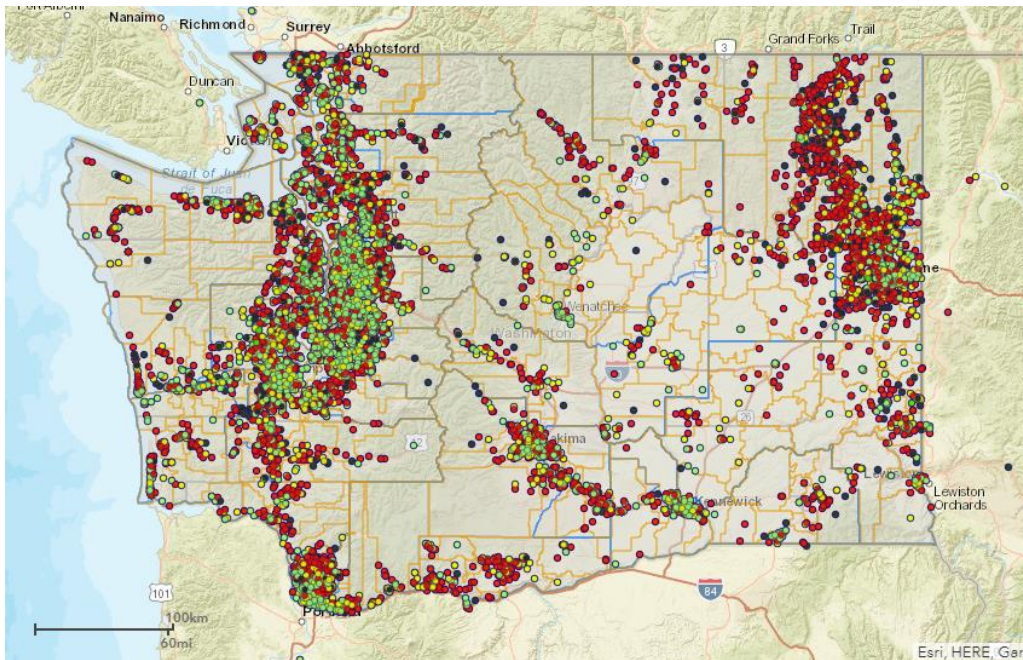
<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/building-infrastructure/washington-statewide-broadband-act/>

As of October 2, 2020

Total no. of surveys: 27927

Those with broadband access: 26,078 – 93.4%

No broadband: 1,849 – 6.6%



To take the survey:

<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/building-infrastructure/washington-statewide-broadband-act/speedtestsurvey/>

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CHILDCARE

Commerce awards \$1.36 million in community child care partnership grants

State collaboration with Safe Start Fund provides 16 grants to nonprofits, local governments and educational service districts to develop community-based plans for expanding child care capacity

OLYMPIA, WA – The Washington State Department of Commerce today announced \$1,368,000 in grants to 16 organizations to fund collaborative efforts to expand child care capacity in 14 communities throughout the state. Grantees will receive 50% of the award from state general funds administered by Commerce, and a 50% match from the Safe Start Fund for a Healthy Economic Transition and Recovery.

<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/news-releases/community-grants/commerce-awards-1-36-million-in-community-child-care-partnership-grants/>

This first round of community partnership grants will fund projects through June 30, 2021 in Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Island, King, Klickitat, Pend Oreille, King, Snohomish, Spokane, Stevens, Thurston and Whatcom counties.

A second round of grant applications opened Aug. 17 and will close on Sept. 11, 2020 at 5 p.m. PST. More information and all application materials are posted here.

<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/about-us/boards-and-commissions/child-care-collaborative-task-force/child-care-partnership-grants/>

- First round child care partnership grantees are:
- City of Airway Heights, \$57,200 – Airway Heights Child Care Feasibility Study project serving the city of Airway Heights and West Plains community in Spokane County
- Community Minded Enterprises, \$100,000 – Zone Child Care Partnership project serving The Zone neighborhood of Northeast Spokane in Spokane County
- Cowlitz Community Network, \$60,000 – Child Care Access Report project serving Cowlitz County
- Granite Falls Community Coalition, \$60,000 – Smart Start Partnership project serving Granite Falls community in Snohomish County
- Greater Trinity Academy, \$98,500 – Child Care Assessment and Expansion of Service Planning project serving Everett and Mukilteo school district communities in Snohomish County
- Island County, \$100,000 – Island County Child Care Collaborative project
- Jasmin Ministries, \$63,300 – Quality, Culturally Appropriate and Affordable Child Care/Early Learning for Black Families project serving neighborhoods in Spokane
- Jefferson Healthcare, \$91,500 – Caring For The Future: East Jefferson County Rural Child Care Partnership project
- Pend Oreille Public Utilities District, \$100,000 – Pend Oreille Child Care Feasibility Study project
- Positive Learning Assistance Network, \$100,000 – African-American Coalition for Early Learning project serving communities in Seattle and King County
- Rural Resources Community Action, \$100,000 – Colville Valley Early Childhood Campus Planning Grant project serving Stevens County

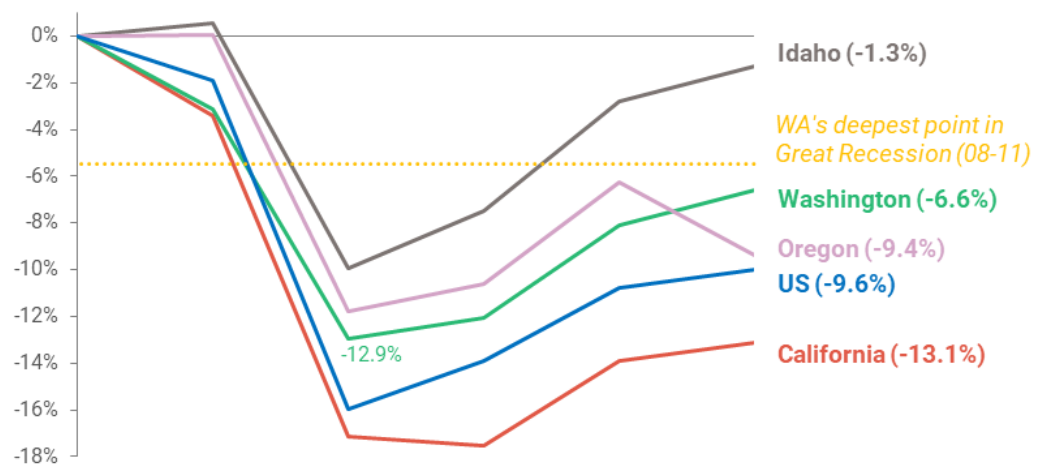
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- Support for Early Learning & Families, \$100,000 – Southwest Washington Child Care Partnership: Increasing Neighborhood Care project serving Vancouver, Clark County
- Thurston Economic Development Council, \$60,000 – Grays Harbor, Mason and Thurston County Child Care Collaborative project
- United Way of Whatcom County, \$82,500 – Child Care Collaborative of Whatcom County project
- Washington Gorge Action Programs, \$100,000 – Child Care Committee of Klickitat County – Goldendale Child Care project serving the greater Goldendale community
- White Center Community Development Association, \$95,000 – White Center Children’s Coalition project serving White Center and North Highline communities in King County

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- **DATA – Economic Recovery Dashboard**
- State launches interactive data tool to help leaders plan and track recovery efforts across regions, sectors and demographics
- “The economic impact of COVID-19 is like nothing we’ve ever seen before.” *Lisa Brown, Washington State Department of Commerce Director.*
- <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/news-releases/community-programs-facilities/state-launches-interactive-data-tool-to-help-leaders-plan-and-track-recovery-efforts-across-regions-sectors-and-demographics/>

Dashboard screenshot: % change in total employment vs. February 2020 by geography (seasonally adjusted)



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) - Seasonally Adjusted, Bureau of Labor Statistics (Includes all workers in the labor force)

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

- <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/datadashboard/>

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SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY

State to provide \$300K in emergency grants to Washington shellfish growers

Departments of Commerce and Agriculture partner with Impact Washington to create Shellfish Seed Bank, offering up to \$5,000 to shellfish growers severely impacted by COVID-19.

<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/news-releases/community-grants/state-to-provide-300k-in-emergency-grants-to-washington-shellfish-growers/>

State seeks to address economic inequality by increasing culturally and linguistically relevant help for small-businesses owners

Commerce partners with 20 community-based organizations statewide to provide technical assistance and other resources to underserved small businesses affected by COVID-19

<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/news-releases/community-programs-facilities/state-seeks-to-address-economic-inequality-by-increasing-culturally-and-linguistically-relevant-help-for-small-businesses-owners/>

Small Business Resiliency Assistance

Culturally and linguistically relevant assistance for business owners affected by COVID

The effects of COVID-19 have negatively affected all Washingtonians, but Washington's small businesses, especially those from marginalized communities, have been hit especially hard. Commerce strongly supports an equitable recovery for all Washingtonians. We are investing in and partnering with organizations that can provide assistance.

<http://startup.choosewashingtonstate.com/small-business-resiliency-assistance/>

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RCW 43.330.510

Keep Washington working statewide work group.

(1) A keep Washington working statewide work group is established within the department. The work group must:

(a) Develop strategies with private sector businesses, labor, and immigrant advocacy organizations to support current and future industries across the state;

(b) Conduct research on methods to strengthen career pathways for immigrants and create and enhance partnerships with projected growth industries;

(c) Support business and agriculture leadership, civic groups, government, and immigrant advocacy organizations in a statewide effort to provide predictability and stability to the workforce in the agriculture industry; and

(d) Recommend approaches to improve Washington's ability to attract and retain immigrant business owners that provide new business and trade opportunities.

Keep Washington Working

2020 Legislative Report Plan

