

WHALEWORKS

PUBLICATION SERIES

VOLUME I

THE WHALEWORKS STORY

From Community Business to Community Institution

PART 02

Opportunity - Innovation - Community - Belonging

Publication Overview

WhaleWorks Community Innovation Campus

From Community Business to Community Mission WhaleWorks grew from years of serving families through Whale of a Cone in Westport, Washington. While operating the business, founder Jahesyrell J. Griffin saw that many young people needed more than a place to visit-they needed safe spaces, trusted mentors, opportunities to learn, and pathways to meaningful careers. That realization became the foundation for WhaleWorks. A Vision Rooted in Community WhaleWorks was created to strengthen Grays Harbor County by connecting education, technology, entrepreneurship, workforce development, creative arts, recreation, and wellness into one coordinated system. Rather than offering isolated activities, WhaleWorks creates connected experiences that help youth discover interests, build skills, and grow into confident leaders.

Why Grays Harbor County

Rural communities possess tremendous potential but often have fewer opportunities in advanced technology, creative industries, and career exploration. WhaleWorks is designed to complement local schools and existing organizations by expanding access to innovation, mentorship, and workforce preparation while celebrating the strengths of coastal Washington communities.

Community Partnerships

A cornerstone of the WhaleWorks vision is collaboration. Existing relationships with the Ocosta School District, local businesses, community organizations, volunteers, and Whale of a Cone provide a foundation for future partnerships. WhaleWorks seeks to work alongside-not replace-the outstanding efforts already serving the community. The WhaleWorks Pathway Every program is intentionally connected. A student may begin in the Safe Haven Youth Center, learn computer technology, explore music production, develop entrepreneurial skills, participate in workforce training through Whale of a Cone, receive mentorship, and eventually return as a volunteer or mentor. This continuous pathway is designed to create lasting community impact.

Looking Ahead

WhaleWorks' long-term goal is the Community Innovation Campus-a welcoming destination where education, technology, creativity, wellness, and workforce development come together under one roof. By building strategic partnerships and sustainable funding, WhaleWorks aims to become a regional model for youth development and community innovation.